



TOYS FOR YSLETA GATHERED AT THE LWML RALLY AT ASCENSION IN EL PASO

THE TRINITARIAN



THE NEWSLETTER OF
TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod
Pastor Donavon W. (Bill) Heithold, Jr.
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Bible Classes and Sunday School 9:00 AM
Divine Service 10:15 AM



SEPTEMBER 2023 -- VOLUME 61 No. 9

FROM THE PASTOR

Mark 4:39 He got up, rebuked the wind and said to the waves, "Quiet! Be still!" Then the wind died down and it was completely calm. 41 They were terrified and asked each other, "Who is this? Even the wind and the waves obey him!" NIV

Growing up on a farm and looking to God to supply the water to water the ground so that the crops that were sold and used to supply the living for our family was an almost everyday thought throughout the summer. Yes, we would pray that the Lord would provide as that sun seemed never to care and only kept drying things out, curling the leaves on the corn that search deeper and deeper for the moisture to turn the Carbon Dioxide from the air into the carbohydrates that formed the kernels of corn that fed livestock and yes, even some of you frosted flakes.

The moisture we received lately, reminded me once again who it is that is in charge of the wind, the waves and yes, the clouds that release their moisture to water the ground once again. I know that we live in the desert and don't expect a lot of rain but that doesn't keep us from looking for rain and giving thanks for His mercy and grace that He would continue to bless us, even though some get more rain than another.

This brings to mind another text: "For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven and do not return there but water the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and shall succeed in the thing for which I sent it. Isaiah 55:10-11 ESV

Praise the Lord for the rain and yes, His Word that will accomplish what is needed to supply both plant and man.

Pastor

ADOPT-A-STUDENT PROGRAM

Concordia Seminary had instituted an *Adopt-A Student* program, whereby contributors can sponsor a seminarian with the costs of his education.

Contributions will go to a specific student and the donor will hear periodically from that person. The details of the program are posted on the bulletin board in the narthex.

This fund is separate from the Joint Seminary Fund that we currently support in that it is directed to a specific seminarian.

Submitted by Dick Dommers, President of the Board

ELDER'S MESSAGE

LISTEN

How many times do you remember saying "LISTEN" to a child?

I say it to cause my granddaughters, Hailey and Kaylee to get their attention or to distract them from doing something wrong. Usually I say it when a loud truck or the train passes by their house to get them to recognize the sound and associate it with the item causing it.

The "Sound of Freedom" (an F-16 passing overhead) used to frighten them to the point they would run to me and jump into my arms for protection. I would explain to them that it was only an airplane and not be alarmed by the sound. Thunder and lightning presents another 'teachable moment'. I tell them it is GOD showing us the glory of HIS natural world and that precious rain will usually follow.

GOD wants you to know that divine messages come to you all the time. They come through dreams, through snatches of songs, through things you read which resonate with you, through synchronistic conversations, and most of all, in the quiet recesses of your heart. You may not have encounters with burning bushes, but that doesn't mean GOD isn't talking to you.

We hear GOD talking to us in the sermons delivered by Pastor Bill, the Old and New Testament readings, and the lessons of the Holy Gospel. We also get GOD's messages through study of the Scriptures, both alone and in group settings.

We are all the children of GOD. Do you "LISTEN" when HE speaks to you?

James R. Wilkes, Elder

FINANCIAL STATUS REPORT OUR MONTHLY RESPONSE TO GOD'S GRACE

YEAR-TO-DATE January to December 2023

Total Income	\$134,830.31
Total Expenses	<u>(\$117,288.08)</u>
Profit/Loss	\$ 17,542.23
Bob Klose, Vice-President	

LWML

Rally Bible Verse: Psalm 16:11 You make known to me the path of life; in your presence there is fullness of joy; at your right hand are pleasures.

Once again, I was reminded how fortunate that I am to be a member of Trinity Lutheran Church. This past Saturday, 9 of us traveled to Ascension Lutheran Church in El Paso for the LWML Fall Rally. There were a total of 34 in attendance from 4 different churches. Over the years, the Rio Grande Zone which consisted of quite a number of churches is now down to only 4 churches with active LWML groups. What a blessing to share time with our ladies on the way down and back but then also during our time of bible study, devotions, and fellowship with the other churches! (And yes, even at Dairy Queen before we headed back-thanks to our gracious drivers!). Belinda Burmeister, our Zone President led the meeting. Pastor Heithold gave us the opening devotion which focused on the path of life and Jill Clark led our Bible Study-Joy in the Journey. We had an

Ingathering of Toys for Ysleta for Christmas which were dedicated at the end of the meeting. See picture on front page of newsletter.

Because Sunday, October 1st is LWML Sunday, this is a reminder that we will be performing the duties of the ushers, greeters, and readers on that Sunday. We will also have baked goods after the service so have them here prior to the start of the service. Also don't forget for all ladies-if you have any shade of purple please wear it on the first of October.

Mark your calendars as our regular meeting this month is Saturday, September 16 at 10am. We are hoping to have a speaker from a local organization that helps the homeless so please make plans to join us.

And of course, September 8 thru 10 is the Fall Retreat at Glorietta. There will be reports at the October meeting.

God bless us throughout this busy time and allow us time to stop and remember all the blessings you have given us and mostly to remember that in your presence there is joy.

Vicki

STEWARDSHIP

The LCMS Stewardship Ministry article in the Aug. 13,2023 bulletin had a great mission statement for the Stewardship Ministry.

“This is God’s house, where we come to hear His Word and worship Him in word and deed. We’re not looking for profit here-we’re looking to give back and support the preaching of God’s Word and the church’s care for the poor and needy.”

When we place the pledge cards on the tables asking people what they WANT to give back to God, we are not trying to make a profit! We simply want to plan a reasonable budget that will pay the expenses and meet the needs of our church and its members.

The stewardship potluck will be September 17, 2023. I will place cards on the table under the bulletin board on August 27, 2023. People can place them in my mailbox when they have filled them out. The cards filled out at the potluck will be placed in a woven basket by the door.

Sandy Klose, Stewardship Chairperson.

EVANGELISM

Tract of the Month: September’s booklet is “**A Biblical Response to Cults**”. “How can we identify a cult? What makes something a cult rather than an organized religion? And how can we help friends, family members, or neighbors who may be part of one? This month’s booklet details the telltale markers of a cult, including real-world examples, and shows how we can use Scripture to identify harmful beliefs in cults or any other group. With this firm biblical foundation, readers will be equipped to avoid cults themselves and to have Gospel-centered discussions with people in their lives who might be involved in a cult.” Be sure to pick up this month’s tract or any of the previous month’s tracts to read!

The mission for September and October is LCMS Disaster Response: The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod’s disaster response ministry responds to immediate and long-term needs following natural and man-made disasters, working through LCMS districts and congregations, international Lutheran churches, and other partners to respond with Christian care to needs within the church and the church communities.

“The Chosen”: The next showing of *“The Chosen”* will be on September 10th. The featured episode from season 2 will be “I Saw You”. Please plan to join us after the church service, in the Bible Study room.

The Next Evangelism Committee meeting: The next Evangelism Committee meeting will be Monday September 11th at 5:30pm. We welcome anyone that may wish to attend.

In closing I would like to quote ACTS 13:47 (NIV) – “For this is what the Lord has commanded us: “I have made you a light for the Gentiles, that you may bring salvation to the ends of the earth.’ ” Let us all go about our days in our jobs, neighborhoods, and community as the light the Lord has created us to be.

Yours in Christ,

Cheryl Sandenaw, Evangelism Chairman

EDUCATION

The Education Committee met on Monday, August 14, 2023, at 5:30 p.m. The meeting opened with prayer.

The Old Business discussed was feedback from Vacation Bible School and the 2 week Youth Summer program. Comments and suggestions were made by all about what we could do to make it better next year. The main issue for VBS was the curriculum we used. Everyone felt the curriculum to be a “one program fits all” and so lots of things had to be altered to fit our one week VBS. It was suggested for next year to start looking earlier at the curriculum to find one that fits our needs the best. The 2 week Youth Summer program was even more successful than in previous summers. The one problem area was with the teen helper (s). it was suggested to evaluate how much help the summer intern in training would need based on the number in attendance. We received a lot of positive feedback from the VBS staff and attendees when the subject of doing 2 day youth programs during the longer school breaks. Thanksgiving, Christmas and Easter were mentioned. The committee is looking into the possibility of offering such a program to the community. More information will be shared at a later date.

The topics under New Business discussed were Rally Day, putting together a survey about Sunday School to be given to the parents with children that are members/attend service at our church, Christmas Program and Confirmation.

The survey will be put together and passed out/mailed out the week of August 21st. The Education committee will get together to discuss the results when they have all been returned. In the meantime, Rally Day Sunday will in September (a date to be determined). We will be again looking for volunteers to sign up for teaching Sunday School classes for a month at a time.

The Christmas Program will be held like it has in the past years on Christmas Eve. More information to come at a later date.

Pastor informed the committee that we have 4 young people in Confirmation this year. He also informed the committee that they will be meeting on Fridays. Ideas were discussed by the committee for possible other options if Fridays don’t work out.

The last of the new business was the idea to send out cute little invitations to invite children to come to Sunday School beginning Rally Day Sunday. It was suggested to have Stacy design the invitation to be mailed to any and all children in the congregation. The meeting was adjourned at 6:40 p.m.

Susan Kelly, Education Chair

LWML Sunday is October 1, 2023

Our congregation will have the opportunity to gather together in worship under the theme “The King is Coming” based on Psalm 24:7–10. Throughout human history, God pictured the coming redemptive King through various images of His promise, providence, provision, and protection for His people. We could easily become down and out because of the evil of our world, and quickly give up because of the constant bad news; but hope, peace, joy, and love is the promise of our God for His people. Christ is the King of Glory! The Gospel is our only hope, as the King of glory comes in, with, and through the Gospel, as we were buried with Him in Baptism and raised with Him to a new life!

“The King is Coming”, Psalm 24:7–10

Lift up your heads, O gates!

*And be lifted up, O ancient doors,
that the King of glory may come in.*

Who is this King of glory?

*The LORD, strong and mighty,
the LORD, mighty in battle!*

Lift up your heads, O gates!

*And lift them up, O ancient doors,
that the King of glory may come in.*

Who is this King of glory?

*The LORD of hosts,
he is the King of glory!*



We will be celebrating LWML Sunday 2023 on October 1st. The author of this service is Rev. Dr. Roosevelt Gray, Jr., Director of LCMS Black Ministry.

Our LWML looks forward to sharing the wonderful mission of the Lutheran Women in Mission — God’s ministry around the world through mite offerings, service, and prayer. We will have a bake sale in the Great Room immediately following the worship service

BACKPACK MINISTRY

We are still collecting food items for the Love INC Backpack Ministry this school year. Please leave your donations in the tub in the south hallway. A list of items needed is posted above the tub. You may make a monetary donation if you prefer. Contact me at 575-214-9942 if you have any questions. Thank you for your support. Cheryl Richey.

Back Pack Food Suggestions

Small boxes of Cereal

Fruit cups

Cheese Crackers

Soups or stews

Juice Boxes

Cereal Bars

Shelf stable milk boxes

Small bags of Chips

Tuna or Chickens salads

Fresh Fruits

Other suggestions are welcomed and appreciated!

The following pages are submitted by Jim Kline, treasurer

**Trinity Lutheran Church Financial System
BALANCE SHEET
As of August 29, 2023**

		<u>Aug 29, 23</u>	
ASSETS	Current Assets		
	Checking/Savings		
	10000 · First National Bank - Alamogordo	71,082.79	
	10010 · LCEF Stewardship #7580019561		
	10011 · Building Upgrades	2,198.43	
	10010 · LCEF Stewardship #7580019561 - Other	<u>28,486.67</u>	
	Total 10010 · LCEF Stewardship #7580019561	30,685.10	
	10025 · LCEF VANCO #7580404322	23,840.81	
	10030 · LCEF TLC YOUTH GROUP # XX4295	<u>4,336.24</u>	
	Total Checking/Savings	<u>129,944.94</u>	
	Total Current Assets	<u>129,944.94</u>	
		<u>129,944.94</u>	
	TOTAL ASSETS LIABILITIES & EQUITY	Liabilities	
		Current Liabilities	
		Other Current Liabilities	
22000 · Designated Offerings			
22010 · African Training Fund		11,900.09	
22020 · Memorials		1,395.92	
22030 · Mission Offerings			
22034 · 4th Mission		<u>591.00</u>	
Total 22030 · Mission Offerings		591.00	
22040 · Miscellaneous		<u>3,946.84</u>	
Total 22000 · Designated Offerings		17,833.85	
24000 · Payroll Liabilities		<u>4.30</u>	
Total Other Current Liabilities		<u>17,838.15</u>	
Total Current Liabilities		<u>17,838.15</u>	
Total Liabilities		17,838.15	
Equity			
30000 · Opening Balance Equity	22,160.52		
32000 · Unrestricted Net Assets	75,263.76		
Net Income	<u>14,682.51</u>		
Total Equity	<u>112,106.79</u>		
	<u>129,944.94</u>		
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY			

**Trinity Lutheran Church Financial System
Income & Expenses
January through December 2023**

	Jan - Dec 23	Budget	\$ Over Budget	% of Budget
Ordinary Income/Expense				
Income				
40000 · Sunday Deposits				
40010 · Membership Envelopes	130,382.00	206,964.69	-76,582.69	63.0%
40015 · Loose Plate Offering	3,233.25	3,363.40	-130.15	96.13%
40040 · Benevolence Offerings				
40041 · General-Benevolence	0.00			
40043 · Dollar Project	228.00			
Total 40040 · Benevolence Offerings	228.00			
40050 · Youth Group Funds	95.00			
40068 · LWML	0.00			
40070 · Flowers	-41.25			
40080 · Rent	230.00	646.00	-416.00	35.6%
Total 40000 · Sunday Deposits	134,127.00	210,974.09	-76,847.09	63.58%
41000 · Thrivent Choice	593.00	600.00	-7.00	98.83%
42200 · Interest Income	110.31			
Total Income	134,830.31	211,574.09	-76,743.78	63.73%
Gross Profit	134,830.31	211,574.09	-76,743.78	63.73%
Expense				
60000 · District				
60010 · District & Synod	11,606.00	17,409.00	-5,803.00	66.67%
60020 · District Assessment	363.32	450.00	-86.68	80.74%
60030 · Debt Assistance-Pastors	0.00	440.00	-440.00	0.0%
Total 60000 · District	11,969.32	18,299.00	-6,329.68	65.41%
60200 · Benefits Expense				
60210 · Health Insurance Offset-Pastor	0.00	5,000.00	-5,000.00	0.0%
60220 · Retirement Fund-Pastor	2,979.56	5,593.00	-2,613.44	53.27%
60230 · Hlth Insur-Option Blue/HSA-Past	20,130.60	34,510.00	-14,379.40	58.33%
60240 · Disability-Pastor	770.59	1,447.00	-676.41	53.25%
60250 · AD&D-Pastor	4.55	7.80	-3.25	58.33%
60260 · Professional Development	0.00	500.00	-500.00	0.0%
60270 · Conference Exp	252.82	600.00	-347.18	42.14%
Total 60200 · Benefits Expense	24,138.12	47,657.80	-23,519.68	50.65%
60400 · Worship Service Expense				
60410 · Worship Supplies	1,099.52	2,000.00	-900.48	54.98%
60420 · Music Supplies	486.47	400.00	86.47	121.62%

60430 · Office Supplies	1,078.36	1,000.00	78.36	107.84%
60440 · Guest Pastor	450.00	1,000.00	-550.00	45.0%
60450 · Guest Organist	2,800.00	7,000.00	-4,200.00	40.0%
60460 · CPH Literature	224.83	500.00	-275.17	44.97%
60470 · Subscriptions	481.63			
Total 60400 · Worship Service Expense	6,620.81	11,900.00	-5,279.19	55.64%
60500 · Evangelism				
60510 · Community Outreach	249.60	2,500.00	-2,250.40	9.98%
60520 · Website	0.00	300.00	-300.00	0.0%
60530 · Annual Picnic	0.00	200.00	-200.00	0.0%
Total 60500 · Evangelism	249.60	3,000.00	-2,750.40	8.32%
60600 · Stewardship				
60610 · Stewardship	41.32	500.00	-458.68	8.26%
60620 · Love, Inc	1,600.00	2,400.00	-800.00	66.67%
60630 · Benevolence	300.00	500.00	-200.00	60.0%
Total 60600 · Stewardship	1,941.32	3,400.00	-1,458.68	57.1%
60700 · Building Expense				
60720 · Utilities				
60721 · Electricity	3,125.42	7,000.00	-3,874.58	44.65%
60722 · Gas	1,484.22	2,100.00	-615.78	70.68%
60723 · Water	1,929.64	3,300.00	-1,370.36	58.47%
60724 · Telephone	1,723.98	2,900.00	-1,176.02	59.45%
60725 · Garbage/Trash	751.57	1,500.00	-748.43	50.11%
60726 · Water Softner	19.62	500.00	-480.38	3.92%
Total 60720 · Utilities	9,034.45	17,300.00	-8,265.55	52.22%
60730 · Kitchen Supplies/Equipment	358.10	200.00	158.10	179.05%
60740 · Maintenance	1,894.32	6,000.00	-4,105.68	31.57%
60750 · Insurance & Bond	5,140.58	5,500.00	-359.42	93.47%
60760 · Alarm System	518.40	700.00	-181.60	74.06%
Total 60700 · Building Expense	16,945.85	29,700.00	-12,754.15	57.06%
60800 · Office Equipment				
60810 · Copier Service				
60811 · Copy Service Contract	1,041.82			
60812 · Copier Overage - BW	157.32			
60813 · Copy Overage-Color	1,541.31			
60814 · Tax-Copy Service	221.18			
60810 · Copier Service - Other	0.00	5,400.00	-5,400.00	0.0%
Total 60810 · Copier Service	2,961.63	5,400.00	-2,438.37	54.85%
60830 · Treasurer software	1,863.92	1,000.00	863.92	186.39%
Total 60800 · Office Equipment	4,825.55	6,400.00	-1,574.45	75.4%
60900 · Education Expense				
60910 · Sunday School-Educ Exp	254.83	250.00	4.83	101.93%

60920 · VBS-Eduation Expense	705.12	1,000.00	-294.88	70.51%
60930 · Adult Bible Study-Educ Exp	255.80	700.00	-444.20	36.54%
60940 · Youth Gathering-Educ Exp	107.68	2,400.00	-2,292.32	4.49%
60960 · Confirmation-Educ Exp	422.50	300.00	122.50	140.83%
Total 60900 · Education Expense	1,745.93	4,650.00	-2,904.07	37.55%
66000 · Payroll Expense				
60110 · Pastor's Salary	8,269.59	14,176.00	-5,906.41	58.34%
60120 · Housing/Utilities-Pastor's	25,803.15	44,234.00	-18,430.85	58.33%
60130 · Auto Allowance-Pastor's	3,430.00	5,880.00	-2,450.00	58.33%
60310 · Secretary salary	7,353.68	13,640.00	-6,286.32	53.91%
60315 · Employee Benefits - Secretary	603.95	400.00	203.95	150.99%
60350 · Summer Intern	204.00	4,000.00	-3,796.00	5.1%
60360 · Employer Tax	834.87	1,200.00	-365.13	69.57%
60370 · Payroll Expense - Workers' Comp				
60371 · Workers' Comp - Pastor	190.43			
60372 · Workers' Comp - Secretary	40.39			
60373 · Workers' Comp - General	498.68			
Total 60370 · Payroll Expense - Workers' Comp	729.50			
60710 · Custodian Salary	1,820.00	4,000.00	-2,180.00	45.5%
Total 66000 · Payroll Expense	49,048.74	87,530.00	-38,481.26	56.04%
70000 · Other Expense				
70010 · Church Library	0.00	250.00	-250.00	0.0%
70020 · BOD Discretionary Fund	42.31	2,000.00	-1,957.69	2.12%
70030 · General Administration	610.00	500.00	110.00	122.0%
Total 70000 · Other Expense	652.31	2,750.00	-2,097.69	23.72%
Total Expense	118,137.55	215,286.80	-97,149.25	54.87%
Net Ordinary Income	16,692.76	-3,712.71	20,405.47	-449.61%
Other Income/Expense				
Other Income				
10101 · Savings Transfer	-2,010.25			
Total Other Income	-2,010.25			
Net Other Income	-2,010.25			
Net Income	14,682.51	-3,712.71	18,395.22	-395.47%

JOY IN THE WORD OF GOD

Oh! How great and glorious a thing it is to have before one the Word of God! With that we may at all times feel joyous and secure; we need never be in want of consolation, for we see before us, in all its brightness, the pure and right way. He who loses sight of the Word of God, falls into despair; the voice of heaven no longer sustains him; he follows only the disorderly tendency of his heart, and of world vanity, which lead him on to his distractions.

---*The Table Talk of Martin Luther*

HANDBELL CHOIR AND ADULT CHOIR

Make a joyful noise unto the LORD, all ye lands. Serve the LORD with gladness: come before his presence with singing. Psalms 100:1,2

Summer is just about over and it's time to get back into our normal routines. Last year we had a Handbell Choir but we have lost a couple of members. I'm taking a survey to see if we have replacements. We need, at minimum, 8 people to have two octaves of bell playing. It would be great if we had another octave. Requirements are few – a love of music and dedication. Many of the skills can be learned while practicing. We meet weekly on **Thursdays**, starting **September 7 at 5:30 PM**. If this is of interest to you, please contact me.

In addition, we also are looking for someone who plays the piano who could assist the Choir with weekly practices and playing periodically on Sunday mornings. Until we find someone, we cannot have a choir.

Thank you for your consideration in serving the Lord in either or both of these blessings to our congregation.

Diane Kline, (909)648-3525, dkline@pacbell.net

SEPTEMBER 2023 STEWARDS FOR CHRIST

ELDERS

Sept. 3 Matt Anderson
Sept. 10 Jim Wilkes
Sept. 17 Robert Rentschler
Sept. 24 Matt Anderson

READERS

Sept. 3 Yvonne Steeby & Matt Clark
Sept. 10 Louis Mauriot & Jill Clark
Sept. 17 Ruth Wilkes & Dick Dommers
Sept. 24 Lola Ableidinger & Shirley Enyeart

TELLERS

Sept. 3 Joyce Macon & Bob Klose
Sept. 10 Yvonne Steeby & Becky Worley
Sept. 17 Shirley Enyeart & Vicki Leonard
Sept. 24 Dick Dommers & Megan Bowman

HOSTS

Sept. 3 Nora & Rick Sotak
Sept. 10 Dave & Mae Teller
Sept. 17 Bob & Jan Thede
Sept. 24 Tammy Thede & Irvin Torres

SOUND TECH

Sept. 3 Ben or Ericka Clark
Sept. 10 Bob Klose
Sept. 17 Matt Anderson
Sept. 24 Jim Kline

MUSIC

Sept. 3 Cyndi Heithold
Sept. 10 Lola Ableidinger
Sept. 17 Lisa Cramm or Lola Ableidinger
Sept. 24 Lisa Cramm

SEPTEMBER ALTAR COMMITTEE

Sheila Anderson
Wilma Jaecks

SEPTEMBER ATTENDANCE

Mary Leslie Schmitt

USHERS

Sept 3 Tom Blackmon, Jim Fladhammer
Larry & Beverly Van Duyn
Sept. 10 Marvin Bunker, Susan Kelly
Glen & Christine Schlehuser
Sept. 17 Robert & Trey Johnson
Bob & Tammy Thede
Sept. 24 Bob & Sandy Klose
Gerald Moore & Irvin Torres

SEPTEMBER FLOWERS

Sept. 3 Larry & Beverly Van Duyn
Sept. 10 Bob & Sandy Klose
Sept. 17 Robyn Luevano
Sept. 24 Ray & Sandy Krueger

CONTINUING EDUCATION

In September, Christian education programs are in full swing. How wonderful to see classrooms of children learning about Jesus! But what about the grown-ups? Some parents who make sure their kids get to Sunday school don't attend Bible study themselves.

Following and learning about Christ are lifelong pursuits. If we are to love God with our *mind* (as well as with our heart, soul and strength), then we must keep learning even into old age. Plus, when we are well informed about God's Word and our faith, we can share it with non-Christians and express the reason for our hope (see 1 Peter 3:15).

To love God with "all your mind" (Mark 12:30), find an adult Bible study or small group that dives into Scripture. Then humbly wear the label of lifelong learner, knowing that God still has new things to teach even the most seasoned Christian.

--From ChurchArt

