



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



MAY 2023 -- VOLUME 61 No. 5

FROM THE PASTOR

Prov. 22:6 Train up a child in the way he should go; even when he is old he will not depart from it.

It is May again. It is a time when the school year is ending and graduations are taking place along with marriages as well. There are all sorts of celebrations with these but that means there are all sorts of changes that are likely taking place as well.

This proverb is one many of us have counted on when it comes to children in general and maybe more specifically those of our own families, as some seem to go astray when it comes to the church and the teaching they were taught. We look to the Lord to fulfill this proverb as we continue in prayer for those who have been enticed by the world and their own sinful nature.

Maybe it is a time, too, for us to see where we are compared to what we have been taught. Are we in need of a look at ourselves and if we have departed in some ways, maybe not of departure from the faith but maybe we have departed from the way that would strengthen our faith in the best way?

I know this month leads up to the summer when many things change. Maybe we could make some changes since in some cases things slow down over the summer. Might it be a time when we take more time to let the Lord guide us through His Word as we can go sit under a tree or take a little time to go up to the mountains to enjoy the scenery but also relax with THE GOOD BOOK, and not just a good book.

We might be getting together with others of our families as well this summer. Might it be a time to find out if they are still in the way they were raised as well? We will probably get a little one on one time where the subject of faith could be brought up or a time we could pray for the Holy Spirit to have it brought up with those we love and care about.

Enjoy what the Lord has for you this month as you look forward to His being with you in the summer months ahead.

Pastor

ELDER'S MESSAGE

We are blessed!

Last Sunday, April 30, we tested a new backup music program to supplement our organist/pianists. Garrett Anderson used a computer program to put together music that Pastor had approved and the liturgy from Divine Service Two to give us this option in the event Cyndi, Lisa or Lola are not available. Garrett sent the program to his father, Matt who worked out the procedure to broadcast it through our existing sound system. These efforts by Garrett and Matt to provide us with a much needed music backup are just one example of GOD's love motivating them to HIS service.(Though Garrett may be physically in Ohio, his heart and mind are very much with us.)

GOD has blessed Trinity with all the members of the congregation, who bring their time, talent and treasure to serve HIM in so many ways.

GOD'S plan for us is to spread HIS love to everyone and bring them to HIS SON JESUS CHRIST, by all means necessary..

JOHN 3:16

Jim Wilkes, Elder

EVANGELISM

Tract of the Month: “The Biblical Response series offers easy-to-read summaries of important cultural topics for people who want to know what God’s Holy Word says about cultural issues that touch our lives.” The booklet for May is “A Biblical Response to Transgenderism”. “Gender issues are less about biological urges and more about where a person finds belonging and acceptance. And there is a harmful opinion that the church is not a safe place to talk about it. However, the mission of the church is to be a safe place of *shared* struggle, where compassionate people speak the truth of Jesus Christ’s grace for *all*. God never hates people, even those caught in sin.” This booklet is very interesting and thought provoking. It points out that “the Christian’s response to transgenderism is a rescue attempt” and tells “how can we bring the light of Christ into the lives of those whose very identity is at stake”. Be sure to pick one up to read!

The mission for May and June is Luther Classical College: Luther Classical College is a college for Lutherans by Lutherans. Lutheran congregations are essential to its existence. First, because the mission of the college is to teach Lutheran men and women to value Christian culture and to live it out in their homes and their Lutheran congregations. Second, because the college relies on support from congregations to supply it with Lutheran students and to fund its building.

Lutheran Seminary, Novosibirsk, Siberia: Since the fall of the Soviet Union the opportunity of the Russian people to worship the Lord has been reestablished. At the Rocky Mountain District convention last year a financial goal was set to support the Lutheran seminary in Siberia. The district goal is \$150,000. Each congregation is being asked to establish a special fund to help support the district’s goal. The Trinity goal is \$2050. This amounts to approximately \$12 per communicant member. When making your donation to the seminary, you can denote it on your envelope as Siberia Seminary, or something similar.

“The Chosen”: Since Mother’s Day is on the second Sunday of May, the next showing of “*The Chosen*” will be on May 21st. Please plan to join us after the church service, in the Bible Study room.

The Next Evangelism Committee meeting will be Monday April 8th at 5:30pm. We welcome anyone that may wish to attend!

In closing: A quote from Mark 16:15 - And he said to them, “Go into all the world and proclaim the gospel to the whole creation.”

Yours in Christ,
Cheryl Sandenaw, Evangelism Chairman

FINANCIAL STATUS REPORT

OUR MONTHLY RESPONSE TO GOD’S GRACE

March 2023

General Fund	\$ 14,697.39
Expenses	<u>(\$14,844.20)</u>
Profit/Loss	\$ -146.81

YEAR-TO-DATE March 31, 2023

Giving (Actual)	\$71,318.90
Expenses (Actual)	<u>\$48,415.71</u>
Profit/Loss	\$22,903.19

Bob Klose, Vice-President

STEWARDSHIP

Follow Him in Generosity

Our Savior calls us to follow Him in generosity. “For I have given you an example, that you also should do just as I have done to you” (John 13:15). We cannot give our lives for the salvation of the world, of course. Praise God, that job’s already done! But with hearts full of thanksgiving for what Jesus has given us, we can follow His example of generous giving. And Jesus’ generosity is not merely an example. Our Lord also commands us to act according to our gifts: “The one who contributes, [let him give] in generosity” (Rom. 12:8).

So, when we bring offerings to the Lord, we should strive to heed His command and follow the pattern He has established for us. Jesus did not give us leftovers. He gave His best. We should not give leftovers, either, but the first and best of what He has given us. Jesus did not give as an afterthought — He gave according to the plan of salvation God established from the foundation of the world. So, when it comes to our own offerings, we should make a thoughtful plan to give generously, in proportion to the way He has blessed us. Like the Macedonian Christians, who gave according to their ability, and even beyond their ability (2 Cor. 8:3), we should honor the Lord by giving a generous portion of the income that God provides us.

We should also give freely, just as Jesus gave freely for us. There is no compulsion involved in our works of love and our offerings to the Lord. We do not give grudgingly, but willingly and cheerfully, each “as he has decided in his heart,” as the Lord says (2 Cor. 9:7). There is no New Testament ceremonial law involved here. Rather, we are free to give as generously as our Savior has given for us!

In the same way, our Lord teaches us to give generously out of our love for Him and for our neighbor. Jesus shows us that genuine love is always love “in deed” (1 John 3:18). It is love that sees our neighbor in need and gives generously to help him. It is love that hears the Word of the Lord and does what it says. If we truly love, we give generously. If we give without love, our giving is not truly following Jesus.

Finally, we follow Jesus in generosity when we support His Gospel ministry and other works of mercy. The people of Israel gave generously to construct and support the operation of the tabernacle, for that was the place where the Lord received the Old Testament sacrifices, through which He bestowed the forgiveness of sins on His people. So, they gave abundantly, so abundantly they had to be told to stop giving! (Ex. 36:5–6). In the same way, we should bring generous offerings to support the Lord’s work. We support our congregations in the preaching of His Word, Baptism and the Lord’s Supper, which bestow His gifts of forgiveness, life and salvation, and we take care of those who are poor and needy.

Our Savior calls us to follow His example in generous giving. Let us then, with thankful hearts, rededicate ourselves to following Him in generosity.

– LCMS Stewardship Ministry: lcms.org/stewardship

Sandy Klose, Stewardship Chair

Special dates in May 2023

- National Day of Prayer, *May 4, 2023*
- Mother’s Day, *May 14, 2023*
- Ascension Day, *May 18, 2023*
- Armed Forces Day, *May 20, 2023*
- Pentecost, *May 28, 2023*
- Memorial Day, *May 29, 2023*

EDUCATION

A few members of the Education Committee had a work session on Saturday, April 1st to put together Sunday School lessons for the next four weeks of Sunday School. They also put out some children's hymnals in the pews in the back of the church where the families with children have been sitting.

The theme for Vacation Bible School 2023 will be "God's Living Water" and materials will be ordered within the next week to ten days. More information to come later in the month about volunteers, donations, and when the meeting for all volunteers will be held.

We are still looking into getting 1-2 of our teens to work for 2 days during the 2 weeks after VBS as part time summer interns.

A more definite time line concerning VBS and the additional summer days will be put out after our next meeting.

Susan Kelly, Education Chair

LWML

Hygiene Kits for Runners Refuge, Homeless Shelter

The LWML is gathering Hygiene products to make into kits to donate to the Runners Refuge Homeless Shelter. We will be assembling the kits during the Retreat on May 13, 2023. Each kit will contain the products listed below. A bin is in the Narthex for your donation. The kit items will be wrapped in a bath towel. The towels were purchased with funds from a Thrivent Financial grant.

Bar Soap (full sized in wrapper); Comb, Shampoo, Toothbrush, Toothpaste, Deodorant

SAVE THE DATES:

- **MAY 13th – SPRING RETREAT** – held here at Trinity starting at 9:30a.m. Christian Growth in Journaling will be presented by Nora Sotak & Yvonne Steeby. Bring your Bible or Bible App and one ingredient of your choice to add to the Stone Soup. We Hope each & everyone of you will join us for a fun day with lots of fellowship and food planned. We will put the ingathering items together in afternoon.
- **SEPTEMBER 8-10 – ROCKY MOUNTAIN DISTRICT LWML** - Will be hosting a weekend Retreat for all Ladies at Glorietta, NM. This is always a wonderful Spirit lifting experience and fellowship with ladies from CO & NM. Please plan to attend. We will be carpooling. Registration forms are on the LWML Bulletin Board.
Questions??? See Belinda Burmeister.

BROTHERS IN CHRIST

An American army flier brought his plane to a forced landing in enemy territory. No one was hurt, and the crew immediately scattered, thinking that each man alone might have a better chance of getting back through the enemy lines to safety. One made his way along the shores of the river, hiding in the overhanging bushes as he went. Another crept right through the center of a wheat field. One found a deserted house and decided to sleep there until nightfall before trying to move. The pilot dodged through the alleys of a near by village.

Suddenly an alley door opened, and a big, burly man in the uniform of a Nazi captain stepped out. There was no chance to hide. Even though the flier knew his US uniform was a give-away, he ignored the German officer and tried to walk down the alley as naturally as if he belonged there. It didn't work.

"Halt!" ordered the captain. "What are you doing here?" "Where do you live?"

The pilot stopped abruptly. He clicked his heels in fine military fashion. He looked the German straight in the eye, then said calmly, "I dwell in the secret place of the Most High."

The captain looked at him a moment. He might have thought he referred to the secret chambers of Hitler, who was "Most High" to thousands of Nazis. He might have been angered at what appeared to be the "smart remark" of an American whipper snapper. He might have ignored his answer entirely and lifted his voice in a shout that would have brought the Nazi secret police in the flash of an eye to imprison the American.

He might have—but he didn't. He just eyed the American calmly, and then said, "And thou shalt abide under the shadow of the Almighty."

Then he saluted, turned on his heel and went back through the door, leaving the American pilot free to continue his effort to get back to safety.

One man was a German, and one was an American---but both were Christians, and both had the word of God in their hearts so that they could make use of the wonderful promise of Psalm 91 when in need. That Psalm begins with the words: "He that dwelleth in the secret place of the Most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty." (Psalm 91,1)

After his safe return, the American pilot could tell of a Christian army officer in Germany, and could pray for his brother-in-Christ.

Published in "My Chum Magazine", a Lutheran magazine for children, May 1952

MAY 2023 STEWARDS FOR CHRIST

ELDERS

May 7 Robert Rentschler
May 14 Matt Anderson
May 21 Jim Wilkes
May 28 Robert Rentschler

READERS

May 7 Larry & Beverly Van Duyn
May 14 Jill & Matt Clark
May 21 Shirley Enyeart & Gerald Moore
May 28 Lisa Collins & Cheryl Sandenaw

TELLERS

May 7 Cheryl Sandenaw & Linde Van Cleave
May 14 Lola Ableidinger & Nora Sotak
May 21 Susan Kelly & Sandy Klose
May 28 Bob Klose & Joyce Macon

HOSTS

May 7 Goldie Gressman & Robin Haymes
May 14 Cyndi Heithold & Wilma Jaecks
May 21 Charles & Kristi Humphrey
May 28 Robert & Stacy Johnson

SOUND TECH

May 7 Ben Clark
May 14 Bob Klose
May 21 Matt Anderson
May 28 Jim Kline

MUSIC

May 7 Lisa Cramm
May 14 Lisa Cramm
May 21 Lola Ableidinger
May 28 Lola Ableidinger

MAY ALTAR COMMITTEE

Robin Haymes
Vicki Leonard

MAY ATTENDANCE

Shirley Enyeart

USHERS

May 7 Tom Blackmon, Jim Fladhammer
Larry & Beverly Van Duyn
May 14 Abby Anderson, Marvin Bunker
Emily Johnson, Susan Kelly
May 21 Robert & Trey Johnson
Bob & Tammy Thede
May 28 Bob & Sandy Klose
Gerald Moore & Irvin Torres

MAY FLOWERS

May 7 Larry & Beverly Van Duyn
May 14 Wilma Jaecks
May 21 Jim & Ruth Wilkes
May 28 Tom & Darlene Gilmore
Ray & Sandra Krueger

CONGRATULATIONS

Abby Anderson was inducted into the National Honor Society at Alamogordo High School in April. She will also become a Golden Scholar at in awards ceremony at Alamogordo High School on May 10, 2023. Congratulations Abby!

Jane Anderson, Garrett Anderson's wife, auditioned for the Adrian, Michigan Symphony Orchestra and was named as the 3rd Assistant Principal Trumpet for the Symphony! Awesome job Jane!!



"Next year let's buy two carnations
for the oldest mother."

HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY
To all our mothers at Trinity!!!



**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL
TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
JUNE 12 through JUNE 16, 2023
9:00 AM --- 11:30 AM**