



THE TRINITARIAN



THE NEWSLETTER OF
TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod
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FROM THE PASTOR

POST-TRUTH

ADJECTIVE

relating to or denoting circumstances in which objective facts are less influential in shaping public opinion than appeals to emotion and personal belief. "in this era of post-truth politics, it's easy to cherry-pick data and come to whatever conclusion you desire" - "some commentators have observed that we are living in a post-truth age"

Post-truth was the word of the year for the Oxford Dictionary in 2016. As you can tell from the definition, Post-Truth isn't the same thing as THE TRUTH. With all that is going on in our nation, we, logically would think that if the different parties would sit down together and discuss what is happening, we would eventually get to THE Truth.

With Post-Truth seeming to rule over The Truth these days, it may not be that easy. If a person is going on emotion and personal belief (You have your truth, I have my truth) getting to THE TRUTH may take more time and work to get a person past their emotions and personal belief.

If we were to look for THE TRUTH as Christians, where would we go?

John 17:17 Sanctify them in the **truth**; your **word** is **truth**. is how Jesus defined it. Jesus when teaching the scribes and Pharisees said this about truth. John 8:31-33 So Jesus said to the Jews who had believed Him, "If you abide in My word, you are truly My disciples, 32 and you will **know** the **truth**, and the **truth** will set you free." 33 They answered Him, "We are offspring of Abraham and have never been enslaved to anyone. How is it that You say, 'You will become free'?"

Those today want to live in a Post-Truth world. In seeing Truth as what they feel and don't base it on fixed point. We all have been at a stop light and have had the vehicle next to us start moving and we have put on the brakes harder, thinking it might be us moving. Being fixed on something moving like feelings that change from one day to the next is like that.

We have a fixed point and that is the Word of God. It is truth in black and white. We look to it for THE TRUTH. In it we find the truth for life and how to live it and not live it. Because of sin, we, and everyone else are like Adam and Eve who saw their truth as better than what God provided and they fell into sin. Sin is what is wrong.

As we talk with those who are living their lives in a Post-Truth world, facts and logic have to be put in such a way that over time, the weight of them will finally tip the scales. All of us need to be in prayer for those we meet so that we can put into words and actions that we do care and yet in caring, we trust that the Holy Spirit will give us the words to say so they can understand THE TRUTH.

Pastor

ELDER MESSAGE

INDEPENDENCE DAY

What's Independence Day mean to you?

According to the Hot Dog and Sausage Council (yeah right, aren't there enough advisory boards, councils and assorted other industry promoting entities, but one for hot dogs and sausages come on), Americans consume 150million hot dogs on July 4th alone. An estimated 375 million hamburgers are also consumed on July 4th.

BUT, the most consumed food is Corn on the Cob, no figures on this, I couldn't stomach another fact finding Google quest on food. I let my own gluttony of roasting ears be my guide. Let's just say a minimum of a half dozen slathered with real butter, sea salt(healthy, eh), lemon pepper and whatever else is in the spice rack/cupboard.(A note on the butter, REAL butter from Real cows, not that yellow stuff in the plastic tub that has three lines of multi-syllable chemical names, that's about two molecules from being plastic itself). That's in addition to the hot dogs (lips lungs and gums from porky pig, yum!!!!). ENOUGH OF THE PRE-BREAKFAST BABBLE ABOUT JUNK FOOD.

Independence Day traditionally was the celebration of our country's independence from Mother England and its authoritarian rule over the colonies.

It seems as if it has become a conglomeration of 4th of July sales events for autos, riding lawn mowers, BBQ grills, summer clothing and just about anything and everything under the sun. A day of fun and relaxation capped off by OOOOHs and AAAAWs at the pretty pyrotechnics accompanied by martial music by the Boston Pops Orchestra.

Due to COVID19, it is readily apparent that we as a nation have returned to authoritarian rule in the name of public health/safety or just plain fear of the unknown. The restrictions on all things deemed non-essential has placed us back under the thumbs of

our elected omniscient leaders.

The most distressing of these restrictions was the **WORSHIP OF THE LORD AS A CONGREGATION WAS DEEMED NON-ESSENTIAL.**

Thanks to Pastor and numerous members of the congregation our worship services were available on line during this time of utmost need. While this filled the void very well, gathering again as a congregation to worship and receive Holy Communion together is truly wonderful.

Independence Day is a great celebration of our Nation. But it doesn't come close to the true **INDEPENDENCE DAY, THE RETURN OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST IN JUDGEMENT. HIS DEATH ON THE CROSS FOR OUR SINS HAS GRANTED US OUR INDEPENDENCE FROM ETERNAL DEATH IF WE ONLY REPENT AND BELIEVE IN HIM.**

JAMES R. WILKES, ELDER

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Jim Wilkes, Head Elder, reported that Lee Wood will continue as organist when it is safe for her to do so. Plans for her to get together with Sarah about playing piano and training on the organ are on hold until Lee returns. Garrett will continue as guest organist. Jim will contact Sarah Eikjer about playing piano for church services and possibly training on the organ with Garrett Anderson. Our COVID 19 restrictions as outlined in the June Trinitarian were discussed and deemed sufficient for the time being. Gerald Moore suggested our members could access the Order of Service on their personal IPAD or tablet/phone. This could take place of the printed Order of Service and save paper. It is recognized that not all members have a device to do this. The recording and posting of our service on our website has received good reviews from the congregation and several other non-members. The elders asked

they be notified any time you have a need for care, i. e. hospitalized, need transportation, etc.

Vicki Leonard, Financial Secretary, reported total income for May was \$25,736.83 of which \$24,813.83 went to the general fund and \$923.00 went to special funds.

Cheryl Sandenaw, Treasurer, reported the following: General Fund income for May 2020 was \$24,813.83 (Envelopes + Loose Plate); expenses were (\$13,899.50) giving net gain of \$10,914.33. Thanks everyone for you giving hearts. Our year-to-date financial status: General Fund Income: \$89,687.18 (envelopes and loose plate); Expenses: (\$86,848.27) income exceeded expenses by \$2,838.91. It is nice to see a positive number here.

Lisa Collins, Evangelism Chair, reported that she has received several positive comments about the video services.

Cindi Anderson, Education Chair, reported: The Summer Youth Program is going well. There have been around 10 kids attending the older youth sessions twice a week. They are doing bible studies and fun activities. They also sent 18 cards to the shut-ins and will be cleaning the church on Friday. The younger kids have met for the last two weeks doing bible study and other fun activities. There were 7 younger kids in attendance last week. Higher Things is offering a virtual conference this year due to COVID-19. The youth group plans to register and watch the conference together at the church. The dates are Aug 6 and 7.

Allen Burmeister, Trustee Chair reported: A loose shingle near entrance has been repaired; An extra roof vent for the kitchen has been removed and the area shingled; the outside cross light has been fixed so it comes on only when dark and the communion railing metal has been painted and the

flower bed in front of church needs attention. Any volunteers?

Sandy Klose, Stewardship chair, thanked several individuals and groups for their service during these hard times. (See her report elsewhere in this issue.)

New Business:

1. A suggestion has been made that we investigate installing UVC-1 lighting in our HVAC duct system to purify the air within the church. Allen Burmeister and Bob Klose will research the availability and cost.
2. Bob Klose reported the balance of the LCEF loan for the HVAC system is \$6,999.74. It matures February 3, 2022.

Bob Klose, President

STEWARDSHIP

“We give thanks to God always for all of you, constantly mentioning you in our prayers, remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ.” 1Thessalonians 1:2&3.

Stewardship is all about how we utilize our time, treasures, and talents in service to our God. During this difficult time, I feel the need to give thanks to God for all the blessings we share here at Trinity Lutheran Church. So here are some of the blessings I am thankful for.

- ✦ God Almighty, Jesus Christ His Son, and the Holy Spirit dwelling within us.
- ✦ Our Pastor, the Shepherd of our flock.
- ✦ Our Board of Directors. They take their time to conduct the business matters of the Church. Also thank you Bobby Anderson for agreeing to take on the job of Board Secretary.
- ✦ Our Board of Elders. They serve us during every worship service and adjust the service to meet the latest restrictions of the government.

- ✦ Jan Thede for her extra effort and work to send out the bulletins by e-mail and keeping the church somewhat occupied during the stay at home weeks.
- ✦ Garrett Anderson for playing the organ and to the Anderson family for working with Pastor to get our services live streamed on the website so we could still have a familiar service to follow during the most trying times. All the members of Trinity for your prayers and contributions to keep the bills paid and the church alive.
- ✦ Our church building. It is beautiful and well maintained, thanks to a group of men who come together every Tuesday morning to make any needed repairs.
- ✦ Abby Anderson and Emily Johnson. Our newest confirmands. They are the stronghold of our youth group.

There are many more people and things our church is thankful for. Please take time to add your blessings and give thanks to the Lord .

I pray God's continued blessings on each and every one of you.

Sandy Klose,
Stewardship Chairperson

"AMERICA THE BEAUTIFUL"

Katherine Lee Bates (1859-1929) wrote, edited and taught English in her native Massachusetts. Occasionally she wrote hymns, too.

On a trip to Colorado, Bates was greatly impressed by amber waves of grain, fruited plains and purple mountain majesties. She believed that God had definitely shed His grace all across this land. A visit to the summit of Pikes Peak inspired Bates to write her most famous poem-hymn "America the Beautiful"

Bates also realized that patriotism was an important part of America. She was grateful for heroes "who more than self their country loved and mercy more than life." She wanted all Americans to realize how God had shed His grace on them and had crowned what was good "with brotherhood from sea to shining sea."

Bates embodied the spirit of thankfulness to God for all she had experienced and been given.

SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAM

JR. YOUTH GROUP SCHEDULE

Day	Date	Event
W	July 1st	Jr. Art Day
W	July 8 th	Jr. Cowboy Day
W	July 15 th	Jr. Easter in July
W	July 22 nd	Jr. I Can't Believe it's not VBS Day
W	July 29 th	Jr. Water Day

SR. YOUTH GROUP SCHEDULE

Day	Date	Event
M	July 6 th	Spooky Day
TH	July 9 th	All-Business Day
F	July 10 th	Town Cleanup Competition*
M	July 13 th	Cowboy Day
TH	July 16 th	Easter in July
M	July 20 th	I Can't Believe it's Not VBS Day
TH	July 23 rd	Spy Day
F	July 24 th	Service Project Day*
M	July 27 th	Rock Day
TH	July 30 th	Water Day

✦ **Service Projects**

✦ **The July 4th Family Picnic has been cancelled this year due to the COVID-19 virus.**

Garrett Anderson, Summer intern (921-2390)

LWML

Here is a new Prayer PaTtern (at least to me) that I thought might be a new daily guide:

1. YOUR THUMB is nearest you. So begin your prayers by praying for those closest to you. They are the easiest to remember. To pray for our loved ones is, as C.S. Lewis once said, a 'sweet duty.'
2. The NEXT FINGER is the pointing finger. Pray for those who teach, instruct and heal. This includes teachers, doctors, and ministers. They need support and wisdom in pointing other in the right direction. Keep them in your prayers.
3. The NEXT FINGER is the tallest finger. It reminds us of our leaders. Pray for the president, leaders in business and industry, and administrators. These people shape our nation and guide public opinion. They need God's guidance.
4. The FOURTH FINGER is our ring finger. Surprising to many is the fact that this is our weakest finger, as any piano teacher will testify. It should remind us to pray for those who are weak, in trouble or in pain. They need your prayers day and night. You cannot pray too much for them.
5. And lastly come our LITTLE FINGER — the smallest finger of all which is where we should place ourselves in relation to God and others.

As the Bible says, 'The least shall be the greatest among you.' Your pinkie should remind you to pray for the other four groups, your own needs will be put into proper perspective and you will be able to pray for yourself more effectively.

National Mission Grants 2019—2021

National Mission #14 - Hope and Healing Hub of Downtown Lincoln University Lutheran Chapel, Lincoln, Nebraska \$50,000—God has used the ministries of the University Lutheran Chapel (ULC) to reach students with the Good News of Jesus Christ. The connection between ULC, international students, and young adults in the downtown community is an important one which will provide those in need with Christian counseling services in a comfortable, easily accessible space. Research shows young adults are especially susceptible to depression leading to suicide making it the second most common cause of death among college students. ULC sits on the very edge of the University of Nebraska campus in the heart of Lincoln. It is the hope of The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod Nebraska District to use this building and its location as a hub of hope and healing for the students and young adults in the downtown community. It is our prayer that the students and community members who use this Hope and Healing Hub might be drawn into a relationship with Jesus, leading to faithful participation in the Word and Sacrament ministry offered there. This grant will make the building more inviting while offering Christian counseling services through GracePoint Institute for Relational Health.

District Mission Grants 2020-2022

1.Kingdom Kids' Camp at Lutheran Valley Retreat - Grant amount: \$5,000—A week of camp can change the life of a child. Located in the Rocky Mountains north of Florissant, CO, Lutheran Valley Retreat's mission is to share God's grace and glory in His creation. This grant would subsidize a week of camp for 20 children in the foster care system. Activities at camp include archery, hiking, Bible studies, campfire devotions and fishing. The campers will also have the loving support of camp staff who share Jesus' love with them.

Looking Forward to Lexington

The Lutheran Women's Missionary League (LWML) invites all women and men to the 39th Biennial Convention Thursday, June 24–Sunday, June 27, 2021, Rupp Arena at Central Bank Center, Lexington, Kentucky.

Many LWML members have not had the opportunity to hug their LWML sisters this summer at LWML district conventions that have been canceled due to the coronavirus disease (COVID-19). Now is the time to plan to come to Lexington next summer and reunite with all those friends. **Mission speakers are always a highlight of LWML conventions.** Bible studies, a mission walk, special interest lunches, and networking with missionaries from around the world draw participants from across the nation. Consider organizing group travel from your district, and don't forget your Kentucky derby (hat). For more convention information go to LWML.org

SAVE THE DATE

The Annual Rummage Sale is planned for Saturday, August 15th. Setup will be from the Aug. 10-14. **Please plan on helping support this annual fund raiser with your donations and hands to help setup, sort, and attend that day.** Many hands sure help lessen the work load. Start cleaning out now to help support LWML and our mission grant goals.

Any questions? Contact: Yvonne Steeby, Belinda Burmeister, Bev Van Duyn, Hannah Keeler or Cyndi Heithold

LWML On The Go, is available through your podcast provider, at lwml.org, and on the LWML App.

A SMILE

A smile — a smile costs nothing, but gives much. It enriches those who receive without making poorer those who give.

It takes but a moment, but the memory of it sometimes last forever.

None is so rich or mighty that he can get along without it, and none is so poor but that he can be made rich by it.

A smile creates happiness in the home, fosters good will in business, and is the countersign of friendship.

It brings rest to the weary, cheer to the discouraged, sunshine to the sad, and it is nature's best antidote for trouble.

Yet it cannot be bought, begged, borrowed, or stolen, for it is something that is no value to anyone until it is given away.

Some people are too tired to give you a smile. Give them one of yours, as none needs a smile so much as he who has none to give.

God bless the good-natured, for they bless everybody else.

You'll know him if you meet him,
And you'll find it worth your while
To cultivate the friendship of
The Man Behind the Smile.

—Contributed by Sandy Krueger

Clipping was found in some of her grandmother's things

