

PASTOR HEITHOLD IN THE CZECH REPUBLIC

THE TRINITARIAN

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THE NEWSLETTER OF TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod Pastor Donavon W. (Bill) Heithold, Jr. 1505 College Avenue Alamogordo, New Mexico 88310 (575) 437-1482 E-mail: <u>tlchurchlcms@yahoo.com</u> Website: <u>www.trinityalamogordo.org</u> Bible Classes and Sunday School 9:00 AM Divine Service 10:15 AM



FROM THE PASTOR

At the District convention earlier this summer I got a chance to talk to a young man who was providing information on a Lutheran Classical college in the works. I got some information and was encouraged to look into supporting its building. As many of you have heard from me of the fact that some of the classes taught at our LCMS colleges are not taught by Lutherans and I have found unbiblical information being taught.

Imagine a college where students learn

- to value marriage and family over career and money.
- that men are men and women are women, with God-given and beautiful differences and roles.
- that to be a father is greater than being the president and to be a mother is greater than being a queen.
- that the Bible is the wisdom of God far surpassing all the wisdom of men.
- that the Lutheran Church has the greatest theology, the best hymns, the most excellent music in the history of the world.
- that Bible, hymns, prayer, devotion, and talking about God belong in our homes every day.
- that children are a heritage from the Lord, the only thing in all the earth we can take to heaven with us.
- that piety is better than wealth and virtue is better than fame.
- that the Western tradition, with its literature, philosophy, music, scientific discovery, and Christian theology, is by far the greatest tradition the world has ever seen.
- that socialism is theft and wokism is bullying.
- that Christian culture grows through supporting faithful churches and leading pious homes.

This is the mission of Luther Classical College. Proudly and unapologetically Lutheran in liturgy, theology, and culture. Lutheran. Conservative. Classical. A college for Lutherans.

This college will be fully taught by LCMS Lutherans. Those attending will make congregations stronger as they support their local congregations and raise their families there. I will be asking to have the support of this college be one of our bimonthly donations and will seek to support a minimum collection for the college. See me for more information, or go online to <u>lutherclassical.org</u>

Pastor Heithold

2022 CHURCH DIRECTORY

For our 2023 church directory, we will be including photos. Your photo in the directory is purely voluntary but it helps us recognize one another, especially when we receive new members. Photos will be taken following the service, and organized to complement the information in our directory. Dick Dommers started the photo project in September. If you have a particular Sunday when you want your photo taken, please talk to Dick. He will be prepared to take photos each Sunday.

Dick Dommers, President

ELDER MESSAGE

HELP WANTED

Praise the LORD for all the blessings he has given us!

We have elections of church officers at the congregational meeting in November. The following positions are open for nominations: President, Vice President, Elders (3), Financial Secretary. Education Chair and Evangelism Chair.

Prayerfully consider volunteering to serve in these important positions that attend to the business of our church.

GOD continues to answer the prayers we offer for the loved ones who suffer disease or injury.

Please continue to be thankful for HIS GRACE, PRAY, PRAY and PRAY.

GOD is in control of all things going on in the world and in our personal lives.

JAMES R. WILKES, ELDER

BACKPACK MINISTRY

We are collecting food items for the Love INC Backpack Ministry again 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!

EVANGELISM

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Tract of the Month: "While it may feel natural in this fallen world to see some people as inherently more valuable than others, it is wrong. While we may be accustomed to treating some people better than we treat others, it is a sin." "Showing no partiality is about recognizing the inherent worth of everyone around you, and then acting accordingly. Showing no partiality means treating everyone (not just certain people) with dignity and respect. God sees everyone as a valuable gift with important gifts to share, so He treats everyone accordingly – and calls us to do the same." The tract of the month for October is "<u>Everyone is a Gift, letting God Transform How You See People</u>". Be sure to check it out.

"<u>Chosen</u>": We are excited that there were 14 people at the first showing on 9-11-22. Because the lighting and echo in the great room made it hard to see, hear, and keep up with the episode we watched, we have

decided to have future episodes in the Bible Study room. We may even rewatch the episode we watched previously. That will be determined by a vote. Due to the Pastor Appreciation Potluck being scheduled for the second Sunday of October, it was decided to move the next showing to the 4th Sunday in October, that will be the 23rd. Please put that on your calendars and don't forget to bring a lunch!

Jehovah's Witnesses: Thank you to everyone who has given us letters sent to them by the Jehovah's Witnesses. We will be sending out response letters. So, if any others are received, please continue to bring them to us. Since the field is so ripe for rebuttal it is difficult to determine where to start and where to end. We don't want to send anything lengthy, for it likely wouldn't be read. It was suggested that we send out short statement's covering different topics, for 3-4 (or more) months. For instance, starting with False Prophets, then going on to discuss Jesus as the Son of God, etc. It was further suggested that the letters we send out, be published in the Trinitarian so that the congregation can see what we are doing. Naturally each letter we send out would contain an invitation to visit/join us for worship. Finally, it was decided that we would set up a database so that we can keep track of all letters we send and any responses we receive.

The mission for September and October is <u>LCMS Disaster Response</u>: 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 Next Evangelism Committee meeting will be Tuesday October 11th at 5:30pm. We welcome anyone that may wish to attend!

In closing I would like to quote ACTS 28:19-20 (NIV) – "Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

Yours in Christ, Cheryl Sandenaw, Evangelism Chairman

STEWARDSHIP

"We Are All Beggars"

In the early morning hours of Feb. 18, 1546, Martin Luther closed his eyes forever. Before that happened, the hand that hammered the 95 Theses into the door of the Castle Church in Wittenberg on Oct. 31, 1517, penned its final words: "We are all beggars. This is true." And this is the truth that our Lord says makes you free.

Ironic, isn't it? In order to be free, you must be a beggar. You must be utterly dependent and reliant upon God. This makes us uncomfortable – the way we're uncomfortable when someone gets us a Christmas present when we haven't gotten them one. We feel we owe them. And we don't like being in someone's debt like that.

But what Luther would remind us is that we are all indeed beggars. And we're not just anyone's beggars. We're God's beggars. Christ came for sinners. He came to seek and save the lost. He came to heal the

sick and raise the dead. He came for sinners, and He dwells only with sinners.

If we are to be where He is, we must be willing to be counted among the lost, the sick, and the dead. We must be willing to be beggars. We must cry out for mercy, for grace, and for his undeserved love and kindness. We must be dependent solely on Him and what He gives.

And here's the beauty: He gives us everything. Everything. Forgiveness of sins, salvation from death and the devil, and eternal life. This isn't because of any worthiness or merit in us. It is because of His divine goodness, mercy, and grace. On account of Christ's death and resurrection, the Father forgives you, saves you, and is pleased with you. You receive His love, His righteousness, His holiness, His acceptance, and His inheritance. We are all beggars. This is true.

This is the heart and soul of Christianity and the lifeblood of the Christian Church. God justifies us and declares us innocent and righteous by His grace received through faith for the sake of Christ. This isn't because of our works but because of His work on the cross. We, who once were enemies of God, are reconciled to Him and made to be His children.

This is what Luther pointed us to when He took up his pen for the last time and scribbled "We are all beggars. This is true." We are beggars, but we are beggars of the God who does not ignore us and who doesn't pass by us on the other side. We are beggars of the One who descended from heaven to make His dwelling with sinners.

We are beggars of Him who deigns to dwell with us, among us, and – yes – still in us by grace for Christ's sake. For in the bread and cup that we bless we share together with Christ and each other the riches of God's grace. The riches of this grace – the Gospel in sermon and absolution, in Baptism, and in Holy Communion – are so inexhaustible that our cups overflow. We, who are God's beggars, are inexhaustibly satisfied, and we have something to give back in thanksgiving and praise.

- LCMS Stewardship Ministry: Icms.org/stewardship

Sandy Klose, Stewardship Chair

****** FINANCIAL STATUS REPORT

OUR MONTHLY RESPONSE TO GOD'S GRACE August 2022

 General Fund
 \$21,830.00

 Expenses
 (\$16,409.76

 Profit/Loss
 \$5,420.24

 Estimated Monthly Budget Requirement:
 \$17,866.34

\$21,830.00 (Envelope + Loose Plate) (<u>\$16,409.76)</u> \$5,420.24

YEAR-TO-DATE August 30, 2022 Giving (Actual) \$136,482.01 (Er Expenses (Actual) (\$119,194.02) Profit/Loss \$17,287.99

Budgeted

\$136,482.01 (Envelope + Loose Plate) (<u>\$119,194.02</u>) \$ 17,287.99 \$143.655.44

OUR WEEKLY RESPONSE TO GOD'S GRACE September 4, 2022

September 4, 2022	
General Fund:	
Estimated Weekly Budget Requirement: Difference:	\$6,541.00 <u>\$4,137.00</u>
	\$2,404.00
Other Designated Giving: Dollar Project – Bible Stick Ministry Flowers Total Designated Giving	\$ 23.00 <u>\$ 72.00</u> \$ 95.00
September 11, 2022	
General Fund:	
Estimated Weekly Budget Requirement: Difference:	\$2,110.00 <u>\$4,137.00</u> (\$2,027)
Other Designated Giving: Dollar Project Mission – LCMS Disaster Fund Flowers Total Designated Giving	\$ 11.00 \$ 11.00 <u>\$ 36.00</u> \$ 58.00
September 18, 2022	
General Fund: Estimated Weekly Budget Requirement: Difference: Other Designated Giving:	\$2,290.00 <u>\$4,137.00</u> (\$1,847.00)
Africa Training Dollar Project Mission – LCMS Disaster Fund Total Designated Giving	\$ 680.00 \$ 11.00 <u>\$ 365.00</u> \$ 1056.00
September 25, 2022	
General Fund: Estimated Weekly Budget Requirement: Difference: Other Designated Giving:	\$1,975.00 <u>\$4,137.00</u> (\$2,162.00)
Africa Training Total Designated Giving	<u>\$ 975.00</u> \$ 975.00

LWML RIO GRAND FALL RALLY

Twenty eight ladies (10 from Trinity) attended the LWML Rio Grand Fall Rally at Mission Lutheran Saturday, Sept 17 in Las Cruces. The Theme for Bible Study was "Every Good & Perfect Gift Comes from Above" James 1:17. Trinity President Vicki Leonard shared a devotion on the meanings of Candy Corn. RMD VP Servant, Christina Bean represented the RMD EC board & presented the District Report. Also present were EC members Margaret Blazek, Yvonne Steeby & Nora Sotak. Newly elected

officers for the Rio Grand LWML Zone are: President, Belinda Burmiester; VP, Sue Kelly; Treasurer, Hannah Keller; Secretary, Carol Moore, and serving as Christian Life, Jill Clark. Thank you to the Trinity Ladies stepping forward to serve. A baked potato luncheon with Thanksgiving theme was provided by the Mission Ladies.



LWML

On Saturday, September 10th we held our regular meeting at Trinity. We conducted our business meeting including a devotion and then shared a brunch. Please join us on Saturday, October 8th where we will share a devotion and decorate the great room for the Clergy Appreciation Potluck on Sunday, October 9th

Mark your calendars for Sunday, October 9th which is LWML Sunday, The theme is "For Us and With Us" and is based on Romans 8:31-39. This celebratory Sunday will encourage all hearers of the victory, which is already ours through Baptism, so we might live each day confidently trusting in Christ. Please join us and wear purple if you have it to celebrate LWML. Guys if you have a purple shirt or tie-you can join us too.

What Is A Mite Box and where did it come from?

Based on the Biblical account of the widow's mite (Luke 21:1–4), the Mite Box is intended for regular contributions of "mites" — offerings above and beyond the support given to congregations and the LCMS. Mite Box contributions amount to millions of dollars that fund district and national <u>mission grants</u> and implement the LWML program.



The Widow's Mite

Jesus sat down opposite the place where the offerings were put and watched the crowd putting their money into the temple treasury. Many rich people threw in large amounts. But a poor widow came and put in two very small copper coins, worth only a fraction of a penny. Calling his disciples to him, Jesus said, "I tell you the truth, this poor widow has put more into the treasury than all the others. They all gave out of their wealth, but she, out of her poverty, put in everything — all she had to live on" (Mark 12:41–43).

Over the years, many Lutheran Ladies Aid societies used a box to gather funds in support of local and synod ministries. Under the original 1928 Lutheran Women's Missionary Endeavor organizational plan,

each woman in every congregation would receive a Mite Box if she participated in the Ladies Aid. Receipts from the 92 Ladies Aid societies totaled \$6651.31 in 1930.

The Lutheran Women's Missionary League, formally recognized by the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod in 1942, required by the newly adopted constitution and bylaws, that 25% of all missionary contributions be given to the national organization, shared from the districts.

At the 1953 convention, delegates reaffirmed the policy of raising funds only through voluntary offerings. Instead of "mite boxes" some societies called their ingathering devices "blessing boxes" or "mission boxes" or "thank offering boxes." The first Mite Box design had space for districts to imprint local messages. In publications and speeches, Leaguers were reminded not to just tuck their Mite Box away out of sight and then on the day of the meeting take out a dollar bill, put it in an envelope and hand it to the secretary. Among the suggestions offered were:

- Put your pennies in the box at the end of each day
- Say "thank you" with an appropriate amount whenever calamity or misfortune has been averted
- Empty all your loose change from your kitchen coin bowl into the box on meeting day

Throughout the decades, Lutheran women have stepped out in faith, setting goals and trusting God to move the hearts of His people to give generously to LWML to proclaim the Gospel.

Yours in Christ, Vicki Leonard, President Trinity LWML

CLERGY APPRECIATION

Following the LWML service on Sunday, October 9, LWML is having a Clergy Appreciation potluck. Please join us and bring your favorite potluck dish. Let's show our appreciation to our pastor and retired pastors for all they have done for us!!

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HIGHWAY CLEANUP

Highway Cleanup Day. Saturday, October 22nd will be our highway cleanup day. Volunteers should meet at the start point alongside the highway, just past the White Sands National Park entrance at 9AM

******* BUILDING GOD'S KINGDOM

On Reformation Day, we think about Martin Luther, the 16th-century reformer of the church, we rejoice that God raises men and women in every era to lead movements which serve the kingdom of God. According to Luther, "Faith is a living, daring confidence in God's grace, so sure and certain that a man could stake his life on it a thousand times."

It was faith that helped Luther become such a daring and courageous leader. Columnist Walter Lippmann once wrote: "The final test of a leader is that he leaves behind him, in other men, the conviction and the will to carry on."

Of course, that applies to both men and women — and it certainly applied to Luther.

God calls men and women out of the world to learn the meaning of commitment, love and service. God then sends those men and women back into the world to put their commitment, love and service to work. That's how the kingdom of God is spread and how God's church remains alive and healthy.

APPRECIATE — AND ACT

October is Pastor (or Clergy) Appreciation Month, reminding church members to thank their hardworking ministry leaders. But the people in the pews — though they might lack official church titles — also play important roles in doing God's work.

In *User Friendly Churches* (Regal Books), researcher George Barna compares the behavior of people in growing vs. stagnant or declining churches. Members of growing churches actively participate in the church's ministry. "They did not divorce their faith from their lifestyle; their faith was their lifestyle," Barna writes. "They took seriously the classical Reformation doctrine of the priesthood of all believers."

By contrast, laypeople in stagnant churches tend to observe rather than participate. "They perceived their role as being in the audience in the stands," Barna notes, "nodding approvingly in efforts to demonstrate religious behavior as the clergy went through their paces."

Appreciate your pastors, but then follow their example by living out your beliefs!

----The NewsletterNewsletter 2017

OCTOBER 2022 STEWARDS FOR CHRIST

ELDERS

- Oct. 2 Matt Anderson
- Oct. 9 Jim Wilkes
- Oct. 16 Matt Anderson
- Oct. 23 Jim Wilkes
- Oct. 30 Matt Anderson

ACOLYTES

- Oct. 2 Ryan Sebring
- Oct. 9
- Oct. 16 Dylan Sebring
- Oct. 23
- Oct. 30 Macey Sebring

READERS

- Oct. 2 Dick Dommers & Lisa Collins
- Oct. 9 Gayan Moore & Cheryl Richey
- Oct. 16 Glen Schlehuser & Gerald Moore
- Oct. 23 Susan Kelly & Ruth Wilkes
- Oct. 30 Youth

HOSTS

- Oct. 2 Pastor Kerry & Ruth Buttke
- Oct. 9 Sandra Krueger & Nora Sotak
- Oct. 16 Ben & Erica Clark
- Oct. 23 Matt & Jill Clark
- Oct. 30 Laurie Di Paolo & Shirley Enyeart

TELLERS

- Oct. 2 Megan Bowman & Dick Dommers
- Oct. 9 Cheryl Sandenaw & Linde Van Cleave
- Oct. 16 Lola Abeidiner & Nora Sotak
- Oct. 23 Susan Kelly & Sandy Klose
- Oct. 30 Bob Klose & Joyce Macon

SOUND TECH

- Oct. 2 Ben Clark
- Oct. 9 Bob Klose
- Oct. 16 Matt Anderson
- Oct. 23 Jim Kline
- Oct. 30 Bob Klose

USHERS

- Oct. 2 Tom Blackmon, Jim Fladhammer Larry & Bev Van Duyn
- Oct. 9 Susan Kelly, Vicki Leonard (LWML Sunday) Yvonne Steeby, Bev Van Duyn
- Oct. 16 Robert Johnson, Trey Johnson Ray Krueger, Bob Thede,
- Oct. 23 Gerald Moore, Bob & Sandy Klose Dave Teller
- Oct. 30 Youth

OCTOBER FLOWERS

- Oct. 2 Colleen Sandenaw
- Oct. 9 Gerald & Gayan Moore
- Oct. 16 Larry & Beverly Van Duyn
- Oct. 23 Mike & Robin Haymes
- Oct. 30 Cheryl Sandenaw

OCTOBER ATTENDANCE

Cheryl Sandenaw

OCTOBER ALTAR COMMITTEE

Robin Haymes Vicki Leonard

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"Jackpot!"