



**Stoles made by Trinity's LWML ladies for South Sudan Pastors**

# THE TRINITARIAN



THE NEWSLETTER OF  
TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH  
The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod  
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Bible Classes and Sunday School 9:00 AM

Divine Service 10:15 AM



**FEBRUARY 2025 --VOLUME 63 No. 2**

## **FROM THE PASTOR**

*John 15:12-13 “This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends.*

We read this text and more than likely, our minds will get to Jesus and His love for us. We think of John 3:16 and how God love us so much that Jesus came to die for us and all mankind. We believe this is true and count on the love of God for us that He will forgive me in spite of our sins which should bring death to us in stead of sin.

We think of February as the month where we do those things that show love to someone close to us. In times past and maybe even today, those in grade school would fill out their valentines to give out in class and they maybe had a party on that day. Many of those valentines had those little hearts with words or phrases that revealed love for one another.

Today we have many who talk about love but with the various words for love it may be hard to tell what a person is focused on in a casual conversation. Many confuse love with lust and see it not as a sacrificial thing on their part but on what I can get out of this or what will allow you to do what you want without any judgement from me.

As we look at the text from John that Jesus provided, we see a love that looks only to another, wanting what is best for them based on God and His Word in order to show that kind of love one should know the Word of God for if you don't, love can go awry and turn into a love that doesn't look to the welfare of another with no thought for yourself.

Many this month will show their love for another with cards or flowers or candy or some other sacrifice of themselves. Yes, many will enjoy the attention from one they care very much about. Let us never forget though about the one who said the words above and proved it by literally laying His life down, not just for His friends but even for His enemies by going to the cross for us.

You may be celebrating Valentine's Day later this month. You may sacrifice a little of yourself for another that day. Give thanks for them and for Jesus who gave Himself for us.

Pastor

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## **BABY BOTTLE CAMPAIGN**

February 23<sup>rd</sup> is the end of this year's baby bottle campaign. I hope you have been donating your spare coins and/or writing nice checks to Southern New Mexico Outreach. Please return your bottles by the end date. I appreciate all the donations so far. I hope we have a really good contribution to Pregnancy Resources Plus this year. Thank you, Hannah.

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## **BOARD OF ELDERS**

### **STANDING ON THE PROMISES**

*The Lord is not slack concerning His promise, but is longsuffering toward us, not willing that any should perish but that all should come to repentance.( 2Peter 3:9)*

One of my favorite hymns has been "Standing on the Promises". Although it is not included in our Lutheran Hymnal, it has been a favorite Christian hymn about a century. Written by Russell Kelso Carter (1849-1926)

its lively tune is a wonderful stimulus to get us in the spirit. Its scriptural basis is listed as 2 Peter, 1:4, “by which He has granted us His precious and very great promises..”

As I listen to the words, particularly the second verse,  
*Standing on the promises than can not fail  
When the howling storms of doubt and fear assail,  
By the living Word of God I shall prevail,  
Standing on the promises of God.*

It occurs to me that this is a simple and strong expression of our faith. What is faith, after all? It is our trust in the promise of eternal life though the redemption purchased on the cross by our Lord Jesus Christ.

The Bible can be viewed as a promise made and a promise fulfilled. The Old Testament contains the promise of a savior, from Genesis and throughout the prophets. The New Testament tells us of the fulfillment of that promise. “*And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen His glory, glory as of the only Son of the Father, full of grace and truth.*”(John 1:14)

One day all believers will experience the full delivery on this promise as we stand before our Savior in His full glory in Heaven.

Dick Dommers, Elder

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## **EVANGELISM**

**Tract of the month:** “Whether you’ve been in church every week since you were young or you’re new to the whole worship experience, the Divine Service can be a bit of a head-scratcher. It’s beautiful and intentional and treasured—but words like *kyrie* and *pax domini* can be unfamiliar and confusing. This small volume unpacks the basic elements of the church service as you walk through it from Invocation to Benediction. Sold in convenient packs of 20, it can be placed in pews or the narthex, or given as a new member or confirmand gift.” Be sure to pick up a copy of this month’s tract to read.

**Visitor Mugs:** The evangelism committee has prepared coffee mugs for our visitors, which are conveniently located inside the Guestbook podium. This is a handy spot for you to grab a mug to offer to visitors when you invite them to sign the guest book. On the Sundays you are hosting, please remember to give out one mug per family, visitor, or group.. Thank you for your assistance with this!

**The mission for January & February is Ysleta Lutheran Mission Care, El Paso.** This very active mission needs the support of other churches to survive. Not only does the mission conduct worship services, Bible Studies, Sunday School and VBS, but it also attends to the needs of the poor through many outreach services.

**“The Chosen”:** Our next showing of “The Chosen” will be on February 9<sup>th</sup>. Please plan to join us after Divine Service in the Bible Study room.

In Closing, “*And he said to them, “Go into all the world and proclaim the gospel to the whole creation.”* (Mark 16:15, ESV)

Yours in Christ,  
Merry Zumwalt, Evangelism Chairman

## **LWML**

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 mission grants.

In February our LWML hosts a Meal for Mites to raise additional funds to support the mission grants. This year on Sunday, February the 9th, we will be serving a variety of Mexican dishes for our meal. Hosts are Diane Kline and Chris Schlehuser. Decorations will be done by Stacy Johnson and Cindi Anderson. Sign up on the bulletin board so we can get an approximate head count, we'd love to have you join us. Donations are accepted for the meal.

\*\*\*Ladies are encouraged to come Saturday, February 8th to help set up and assemble the casseroles, etc. We will begin at our normal meeting time of 10 am.\*\*\*

For our local mission project in the month of January, the LWML assembled 150 valentine themed goodie bags for the Alamogordo Public Schools to be given out to those "kids considered to be "homeless". Ten of us gathered on Thursday, January 30th to assemble. Susan Kelly delivered them to the school.

Earlier in the month we removed Christmas decorations and went to lunch at Pizza 9. It was a time for a bit of work followed by fellowship.

Bible studies continue and it's not too late to join in. See Chris for info about Tuesday mornings and Nora for Thursday afternoons.

Cathy Anderson has been heading up our LWML mailbox program and is reaching out to 40 women with bible related readings, coloring pages, bookmarks, etc.

Vicki Leonard, LWML President

### **FEBRUARY LWML EVENTS**

You are reminded of the February LWML Meal for Mites event, where contributions will fund mission grants, and the ongoing Bible studies, with a call to action for volunteers for the upcoming meal.

- Review information about the mission project for February.
- Sign up on the bulletin board for the Mexican dish meal on February 9th.
- Consider contributing to the Mite Box for February.
- Join in helping to assemble casseroles on February 8th.

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### **EDUCATION**

The Education Committee met for a short meeting on Sunday, January 12<sup>th</sup> after the church service. The main purpose of the meeting was to decide the direction and plans the committee would be taking this next year. The ideas brought up by the members present were:

1. Vacation Bible school (end of June/beginning of July)
2. Sunday School to be offered/taught the Sundays children are in church
3. Two Activity Days for children the week after VBS
4. Scheduling quarterly social/congregational events for all member of our church family to participate in.

The Committee is open to any other ideas the congregation or Board of Directors may have. These ideas will be brought up at the next board of directors meeting for their input.

The meeting was closed with the Lord's prayer.

The next meeting will be Sunday, February 16 after the worship service.

Sue Kelly, Education Chair

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### **LWML GRANT PROPOSAL LETTER**

Nora Sotak  
3214 Shawnee Trail, Alamogordo, NM 88310

Dear Nora,

On behalf of the LWML Mission Grant Select on Committee, Board of Directors, and Presidents Assembly, I want to thank you for stepping out in faith and taking the time to submit a mission grant proposal for our consideration.

I regret to inform you that your grant proposal, entitled "Dormitory for the Seminary of ELCSS/S", was not chosen for the ballot for the 2025 LWML Convention. We received a record number of proposals, and with much prayerful consideration on all were evaluated, but not all were selected for this biennium's ballot.

As the named Grant Submitter, I am contacting you, so please be so kind as to let all who were involved in the preparation and submission of this grant know the outcome.

We know that much time and effort went into the preparation of your proposal, and we know that each proposal represents a true ministry need. Thank you again for your submission and your mission heart. We trust in God's promise that says, For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future" (Jeremiah 29:11 NIV). May God continue to bless you and all that you do in His service.

In His Grace,  
Karen Morrison LWML  
Vice President of Gospel Outreach

## **FEBRUARY 2025 STEWARDS FOR CHRIST**

### **ELDERS**

Feb. 2 Dick Dommers  
Feb. 9 Matt Anderson  
Feb. 16 Robert Rentschler  
Feb. 23 Allen Burmeister

### **READERS**

Feb. 2 Jim Wilkes & Susan Kelly  
Feb. 9 George & Marianne Schweers  
Feb. 16 Cheryl Sandenaw & Jill Clark  
Feb. 23 Gerald & Gayan Moore

### **TELLERS**

Feb. 2 Sandy Klose & Susan Kelly  
Feb. 9 Bob Klose & Joyce Macon  
Feb. 16 Yvonne Steeby & Becky Worley  
Feb. 23 Vicki Leonard & Merry Zumwalt

### **HOSTS**

Feb. 2 Nora Sotak & Merry Zumwalt  
Feb. 9 Vicki Leonard & Cheryl Richey  
Feb. 16 Robert & Susan Rentschler  
Feb. 23 Glen & Christine Schlehuser

### **SOUND TECH**

Feb. 2 Vicki Leonard  
Feb. 9 Bob Klose  
Feb. 16 Matt Anderson  
Feb. 23 Jim Kline

### **MUSIC**

Feb. 2 Michael Cortez  
Feb. 9 Michael Cortez  
Feb. 16 Michael Cortez  
Feb. 23 Michael Cortez

### **FEBRUARY ATTENDANCE**

Hannah Keeler

### **FEBRUARY ALTAR COMMITTEE**

Hannah Keeler  
Gayan Moore

### **USHERS**

Feb. 2 Tom Blackmon, Jim Fladhammer  
Larry & Bev Van Duyn  
Feb. 9 Susan Kelly, Norbert Sanchez  
Glen & Christine Schlehuser  
Feb. 16 Robert Johnson, Trey Johnson  
Bob Thede, Tammy Thede  
Feb. 23 Gerald Moore, Bob & Sandy Klose  
Irvin Torres

### **FEBRUARY FLOWERS**

Feb. 2 Cody & Merry Zumwalt  
Feb. 9 Ray & Sandra Krueger  
Feb. 16 Tammy Thede  
Feb. 23 John Marquardt

### **NO REGRETS!**

If you've ever regretted a big purchase and wondered if you could return it, you're familiar with the nagging feeling of buyer's remorse.

Thankfully, our Redeemer never experienced that. As a church sign proclaims, "When Jesus bought you, He never had buyer's remorse. And He never will!"

To Jesus, the payment of suffering and death was well worth the payoff. "For the joy set before Him He endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God" (Hebrews 12:2, NIV).

-----ChurtArtPro

