



OUR POOR TREE HAD TO BE CUT DOWN BECAUSE OF A MICRO STORM

THE TRINITARIAN



THE NEWSLETTER OF
TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
 The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod
Pastor Donavon W. (Bill) Heithold, Jr.
 1505 College Avenue
 Alamogordo, New Mexico 88310
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 Website: www.trinityalamogordo.org
 Bible Classes and Sunday School 9:00 AM
 Divine Service 10:15 AM



MAY 2024 -- VOLUME 62 No. 5

FROM THE PASTOR

For our boast is this, the testimony of our conscience, that we behaved in the world with simplicity and godly sincerity, not by earthly wisdom but by the grace of God, and supremely so toward you. 1Corinthians 1:12

Some of you are like me, we have been Lutheran ever since we were born. We grew up in the Lutheran church. I started out in the American Lutheran Church (ALC) up through 2 years of confirmation classes. It was then that my Dad observed what was being taught and not being taught and kept me from taking the third year of confirmation classes to confess my desire to join the church.

Our family didn't attend church much in those years after that. Yes, the ALC was headed down the wrong road when it came to the scriptures. It eventually led to what is now the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America (ELCA) which only claims that the Bible only "contains" the Word of God and not that the Bible "IS" the Word of God.

Since I have always been "Lutheran" I have had to learn from my own study and the study of others as to why I see Lutherans, especially the Missouri Synod Lutheran Church is the Church that most closely holds to the scriptures in belief and practice.

I enjoy hearing from others who have made the rounds when it comes to churches and in the end find themselves in the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod. What did they hear, see, experience that brought them to the Lutheran Church especially the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod?

One of the most concise videos of a person's journey to Lutheranism and the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod is a video by Pastor Bryan Wolfmueller as he recalls what led him and his wife to the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod. On your computer or device search: "Wolfmueller Why I'm a Lutheran" to get the short YouTube video where he explains the path he and his wife took that ended up with he and his friend Pr Dr. Brian Kachelmeier both becoming Missouri Synod Lutheran pastors.

This discussion came up in the men's Bible study last Wednesday as we were looking at the seven churches in Revelation. John writes what the Lord gave him to write and as he addresses these churches, he first is led to write something that the church addressed is doing well but then there is what they are not doing so well.

One might say: "Just because they don't believe like we do, does that mean other churches of our day aren't Christians?" No, it doesn't mean they aren't Christians. But anytime someone or some church deviates from the pure Word, then there is always that area of belief, doctrine, that tugs at the what the scripture actually says.

If you watch the video, Pr. Wolfmueller will explain his experience well and helps us to put into words why you and I are Lutherans but like the 7 churches of Revelation, we aren't perfect either and need to look at ourselves when it comes to the pure faith we have been given.

Then the questions is, "Why are you Lutheran?"

Pr. Heithold

BOARD OF ELDERS

FOOTPRINTS

One night a man dreamed he was walking along the beach with the LORD.

As scenes of his life flashed before him, he noticed there were two sets of footprints in the sand. He also noticed at his saddest, lowest time there was but one set of footprints. This bothered the man. He asked the LORD, "Did you not promise me that if I gave my heart to you that you'd be with me all the way? Then why is there but one set of footprints during my most troublesome times?"

The LORD replied, "My precious child, I love you and would never forsake you. During those times of trial and suffering, when you see only one set of footprints, it was then I carried you."

AUTHOR UNKNOWN

PSALM 23 offers the same message of comfort. It was an integral part of Tom Macon's memorial service last Saturday.

Tom's son David remarked how beautiful the service was to him. We all felt uplifted by those words.

PRAY FOR FORGIVENESS.

Full Rely On GOD.

JAMES R. WILKES, ELDER

FINANCIAL STATUS REPORT

March 2024

Total Income	\$21,403.37
Ordinary Expenses	<u>(\$23,013.50)</u>
Profit/Loss	(\$ 1,610.13)

All of this deficit was due to the \$5,000 contribution to Pastor's Health Insurance Offset.

YEAR-TO-DATE February 29, 2024

Total Income	\$138,515.96
Ordinary Expenses	<u>(\$ 56,058.11)</u>
Profit/Loss	\$ 82,457.85 due primarily to \$80,500 gift from the Virginia Nielsen estate

Bob Klose, Vice-President

WE REMEMBER

More than 150 years ago, Memorial Day took shape amid the backdrop of the U.S. Civil War. Before it ended, women began decorating the graves of fallen soldiers. In 1868, when May 30 was designated as Decoration Day, loved ones placed flowers on the graves of Union and Confederate soldiers alike.

By 1882, Decoration Day became known as Memorial Day, and soldiers who died in other wars were honored too. Over time, it became a day to remember all loved ones who have died — in war and otherwise. In 1971, Congress declared Memorial Day a national holiday to be observed on the last Monday in May. On Memorial Day, we pause to remember people who made the ultimate sacrifice for their country and for our freedom. We also pray for those who continue serving, especially those in harm's way.

EVANGELISM

Tract of the Month: “You’ve got questions about **gender** and about **sexuality**. BIG QUESTIONS. Questions that aren’t easily answered. Is gender binary or fluid? What does the Bible say about transitioning? **How do I respond to people whose physical body doesn’t match their declared gender?** What does it mean to use the correct pronouns? How can I share the Gospel with someone who is transgender?” Our next topic in the “**A Simple Explanation Series**” is called “**In The Image of God, Gender & Sexual Identity**” “In this little book, you’ll get the **ANSWERS** you need to approach these questions from a godly, loving perspective. This is a very informative booklet. I highly recommend it.

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.

“The Chosen”: Since Mother’s Day is the second Sunday in May, our next showing of “*The Chosen*” will be on May 5th. Please plan to join us after the church service, in the Bible Study room.

The Next Evangelism Committee meeting will be Monday May 13th at 5:30pm. We welcome anyone that may wish to attend.

POTLUCK!! There will be a potluck after church on May 19th. A representative of the Lutheran Classical College will tell us about the College during Bible Study, preach the sermon that day, and give us a short synopsis of what is going on and where the College is at these days. Be sure to sign up for the potluck!

Lutheran Theological Seminary in Novosibirsk, Siberia: We received word and a big thank you from the Rocky Mountain District. The fundraising goal of \$150,000 or more that was set at the 2022 Convention has been achieved! Thanks to all at Trinity that contributed. The district would like to receive additional funding to blow the top off the “or more” part of the goal they set for 2025. I have posted the card they sent us on the bulletin board for those who are interested in sending more donations to this cause. The card tells where/how to send donations.

National Day of Prayer – This year’s National Day of Prayer will be Thursday May 2nd. Trinity will again this year commemorate the day with 24 hours of prayer. There is a sign-up sheet posted on the board in the narthex. Please pick the hour you would like to pray and sign up. If you don’t think you can do an hour, pray with a friend (each would take half of the same hour.) We will have prayer suggestions available prior to that day to help you with your prayers. You can do your hour of prayer at either the church or in your home.

Yours in Christ,
Cheryl Sandenaw, Evangelism Chair

GREEN — Green is the traditional liturgical color for the weeks after Pentecost (as well as the season of Epiphany). The Pentecost season largely overlaps with spring and summer, which is fitting because green symbolizes growth: growth of plant life and crops, and growth of the church in discipleship and faith.

EDUCATION

The Education Committee met, with three members present, to discuss Vacation Bible School (VBS).

VBS will be held June 10-14th from 9:00-11:30 am. Jill Clark is this year's Director. It was decided that registration for VBS would be done online, but paper forms would be available if needed. Registration will be done through the church's website. Pastor Heithold will take information cards, with all the pertinent information about VBS including the registration link, to the next Alamogordo Ministers Alliance meeting to share with the other churches. Members from the other churches can also volunteer to help online.

There will be a sign-up sheet on the Sunday School bulletin board in the back of church for those wanting to volunteer to help this year. All volunteers are welcome, even if you can only help for a few hours or a day or two. Questions can be referred to Jill Clark or Sue Kelly.

Stacy Johnson volunteered to be the decorating committee chairperson and Sue Kelly volunteered to oversee snacks for VBS. All volunteers are encouraged to attend the next Education meeting in early May, check the bulletin or the large calendar for the exact date and time. More details to come about each area of VBS at the next meeting.

Sue Kelly, Education Chair

LUTHERAN CLASSICAL COLLEGE

Our congregation is being invited to join a growing movement of a new/old educational approach that returns us to our Lutheran roots in the Reformation and to the time of the founding of the LCMS. Luther Classical College, Casper, Wyoming is founded on this approach and is gaining support around the country.

Luther Classical College is addressing the needs of a failing education system in our country and also helps families and churches flourish. The college...

- Immerses students in the Scriptures and the founding documents of the Lutheran Church.
- Immerses students in the best of Western culture.
- Has tracks for students in a variety of fields: the trades, teaching, music and pre-seminary.
- Has a campus culture that nourishes life-long friendships, forms the faith in students and builds up godly mothers and fathers.
- Is committed to low annual tuition (\$8,500 per year)
- Takes no government money and so is fiercely independent and strong.

The college is breaking ground this Summer on the new campus on a beautiful tract of land at the foot of Casper Mountain in Wyoming.

Come and hear this fascinating presentation about a movement and new college that is seeking to address our collapsing culture and shrinking church with the best of Western Culture and an immersion in Scripture and the Lutheran faith: Trinity Lutheran Church, Alamogordo, NM, Sunday, May 19th.

POTLUCK!! There will be a potluck after church on May 19th to welcome Pastor Timothy Rossou, a representative of the Lutheran Classical College will tell us about the College during Bible Study, preach the sermon that day, and give us a short synopsis of what is going on and where the College is at these days. Be sure to sign up for the potluck!



TRINITY LUTHERAN COOKBOOK

Do you have a favorite recipe that others have asked you to share or just something you really enjoy eating or preparing? We would like to do a Trinity Lutheran Cookbook this year. This is not going to be a quick project, but you can begin submitting either legible handwritten recipes or type written recipes by email or printed to the church office or my box. Please include your name and phone number with the recipe. The phone number will just be to confirm the recipe if we have questions. Also, if you can think of a good Name, please submit it as well. We may need volunteers at some point as well. Once printed, we will keep extras to give to new members.

Vicki Leonard/Jan Thede

CONGRATULATIONS

Louis Mauriot is graduating with a Civil Engineering degree from New Mexico State University in May. Louis is a member of our church family and is the son of Philippe and Joy Mauriot from Paris, France and the grandson of Dick and Jan Dommers. Congratulations Louie!

Sarah Clark was given an award by the New Mexico Center for Nursing Excellence. She was named winner of Rural Practice based off an organ donor patient she managed in the Emergency Department at Eastern Medical Center, Roswell, NM. Sarah is the daughter of Matt and Sarah Clark and granddaughter of Nora and Rick Sotak. Congratulations Sarah!



JOIN TRINITY LUTHERAN



for an

EPIC VBS!

June 10-14, 2024

9:00am-11:30am

1505 College Ave

Questions? Call 575-437-1482

Register here



MAY 2024 STEWARDS FOR CHRIST

ELDERS

May 5 Jim Wilkes
May 12 Matt Anderson
May 19 Robert Rentschler
May 26 Jim Wilkes

READERS

May 5 Larry & Bev Van Duyn
May 12 Jill & Matt Clark
May 19 Gayan & Gerald Moore
May 26 Shirley Enyeart & Cheryl Sandenaw

TELLERS

May 5 Yvonne Steeby & Becky Worley
May 12 Shirley Enyeart & Vicki Leonard
May 19 Dick Dommers & Merry Zumwalt
May 26 Linde Van Cleave & Cheryl Sandenaw

HOSTS

May 5 Cyndi Heithold & Wilma Jaecks
May 12 Charles & Kristi Humphrey
May 19 Robet & Stacy Johnson
May 26 Jim & Diane Kline

SOUND TECH

May 5 Vicki Leonard
May 12 Bob Klose
May 19 Matt Anderson
May 26 Jim Kline

MUSIC

May 5
May 12
May 19
May 26

MAY FLOWERS

May 5 Bob & Sandy Klose
May 12 Pastor Kerry & Ruth Buttke
May 19 Cody & Merry Zumwalt
May 26 Ray & Sandra Krueger
Tommie & Darlene Gilmore

MAY ATTENDANCE

Merry Zumwalt

USHERS

May 5 Tom Blackmon, Jim Fladhammer
Larry & Bev Van Duyn
May 12 Marvin Bunker, Susan Kelly
Glen & Christine Schlehuser
May 19 Robert Johnson, Trey Johnson
Bob Thede, Tammy Thede
May 26 Gerald Moore, Bob & Sandy Klose
Irvin Torres

MAY ALTAR COMMITTEE

Robyn Haymes
Vicki Leonard

MAY SUNDAY SCHOOL

Linde Van Cleave

THANK YOU

My thanks and deepest appreciation to all TLC members who helped in the Celebration on Life for David Tom Macon---and that many of you, all the way from contributing to the maintenance of the church to the Pastor, secretary, ushers, altar, LWML crew, sound tech, musician, and those who helped in some way that I don't know of. Many thanks and blessings to all of you.

Joyce Macon

A MOTHER'S DAY HYMN

Sing praise to our Creator God!
Earth prospers from the way
God "mothers" each new child into
This world day after day.

God fabricates in motherhood
A channel from above
That longs to share with every child
God's comfort, grace and love!

Sing praise to our Creator God,
Who "mothers" us from birth!
Providing what we truly need
Throughout our lives on earth.

**Happy Mother's Day to all our
Mothers!**

