

THE TRINITARIAN

THE NEWSLETTER OF TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH



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FROM THE PASTOR

Psa. 133:1 Behold, how good and pleasant it is when brothers dwell in unity!

The church gets a paper called Christian News. They have various articles on various topics that pastors and other believers submit. The July 15th edition had an article entitled Union or Unity? by a retired pastor (Rev. Daniel Fleischer) who lives in Oakdale, MN. In the article he looks at the difference between union and unity.

I have mentioned in Bible class and have looked a little at it in sermons but thought his article was a good one and put in to order this topic as I have had to deal with those churches in Alamogordo which stress an outward unity to show that the churches in Alamogordo are not at odds with each other but have the same thing in mind.

In his article he points out that Union is the activity of coming together. We think of union when a man and a woman come together in a marriage. We see man and woman joined together for life and yet are they always in unity with each other? The answer would be no. A husband and wife don't always have unity: harmony, agreement, concord singleness of heart and mind, and of expressive of mutually shared goals and purposes. (Rev. Fleischer)

He points out that the Holy Christian Church in not denominational but spiritual. It is the body of Christ, composed of believers only. Believers gather in worship and ministry not on the basis of faith which can't be seen but on the *confession* of faith. Since we can't see faith, union of churches or church bodies, according to the Word of God, must be based on *agreement in all matters* of faith and doctrine (teaching).

Paul wrote about this to the Church in Phillipi (Philippians 2:-8) as well as the church in Ephesus (Ephesians 4:1-6). In these letters he shows how there cannot be division or disunity in the Body of Christ.

The Psalm verse above, points to religious unity that is manifest among those who are of one body, on Spirit, one hope, one Lord, one faith, one baptism, and one God and Father of all.

Paul writes in Ephesians 4:13-16 which lays out what churches should shoot for.

He closed with this prayer:

Lord, keep us faithful to the truth through which You've claimed as Your own. May our whole life, and worship too, reflect our faithfulness You. May all we think and say and do reflect our unity with You, until we bid this world adieu, and spend eternity with You. Amen

Let us continue in unity in the church and strive to bring about unity with other.

Pastor

FINANCIAL STATUS REPORT

As reported by Jim Kline, treasurer: For June, total income, excluding special and designated offerings was \$20,783.13. Total expense for June were \$18,447.39, which gave us a monthly surplus of \$2,335.74. Year to date, total income is \$189,806.33 versus total expenses of \$105.095.89.

Bob Klose, Vice President

BOARD OF ELDERS

Man Plans, GOD Laughs

This phrase is derived from an old Yiddish adage 'Mann Tracht, Un Gott Lacht.'

We all plan to do many things in our daily lives, whether they are big or small, it is wise to discuss them with the LORD during our daily devotions.

Proverbs 19:20-21," Listen to counsel and accept discipline, that you may be wise the rest of your days. Many plans are in a man's heart, but the purpose of the LORD will prevail."

When we make plans independent of GOD's will, they will fail. Love and fear GOD, pray for HIS guidance in all things.

Pray for Pastor Cramm, that THE LORD will heal him, give guidance to his doctors and strength to Lisa and their family.

Praise HIM for being with Shirley and Frank Enyeart as she recovers from heart issues.

Pray for all those who are facing personal strife. Give them the strength to seek GOD for the true answers to their problems.

As Pastor Heithold does each Sunday, pray for our nation and its leaders to also seek GOD for the solutions to the myriad of problems facing this nation and the world.

James R. Wilkes, Elder

**** EVANGELISM

Tract of the Month: <u>A Simple Explanation of Christian Symbols</u> – "If you've ever visited a church – whether traditional or grand cathedral – you've already been surrounded by the symbols of Christianity. From the intricate carvings and banners around the altar to stunning stained glass windows and pastoral garb, Christian symbols are built into the foundation of a church. But what do these symbols represent? How are they important? Covering images of Baptism, the Lord's Supper, the Trinity, the apostles, and more, this brief booklet explores many of the historic symbols of the Church.

The mission for July & August is the LCMS Joint Seminary Fund: The LCMS Joint Seminary Fund was established to supplement the Synod subsidy by directly soliciting the church for charitable donations. Gifts to the LCMS Joint Seminary Fund are restricted exclusively to supporting both of our world-class seminaries. Our LCMS seminaries have only three sources of operating revenue: 1) Investment income from endowment, 2) Tuition paid by students after financial aid is awarded (often in the form of student loans), & 3) Financial gifts graciously supplied by God's people.

Mexico Youth Gathering: This year there will be a Youth Gathering in Mexico City for youth from Mexico. Ysletta Lutheran Mission has been trying to raise funds to take 5 of the youth from their Mexico ministry to the gathering which is July 31 – August 4. Their goal was to raise \$5,000. As of last week, they were still about \$1,000 short, so the Evangelism Committee decided to donate the remaining \$1,000 from our funds. We hope this gathering has the same positive impact on those youth YLM is taking as the gatherings our Trinity youth have attended did for them.

Coming This Fall: This past May we signed up for and paid the fee for the Luther Classical College Christian Culture Conference which was live streamed on June 4 and 5. Since we can download the conference, it is

our intent to share this conference with our Trinity members sometime this fall. Topics included in the conference are: "Wokism", "The Lutheran Family: Past and Future", "Necessary Masculinity in Post-Christian America", "Campus Free Speech is not Enough", and "Tyranny's Assault on the Family: Church and State in Post-Christian America". *Keep Watching for further information!!!*

"<u>The Chosen</u>": Our next showing of "*The Chosen*" will be on August 11th. Please plan to join us after the church service, in the Bible Study room.

The Next Evangelism Committee meeting will be Monday August 12th at 5:30pm. We welcome anyone that may wish to attend.

In Closing: This past week as I was contemplating the current state of our country, I read Psalm 120 and was struck by verses 5-7. For your thought and contemplation... "⁵ Woe to me, that I sojourn in Meshech, that I dwell among the tents of Kedar! ⁶Too long have I had my dwelling among those who hate peace. ⁷I am for peace, but when I speak, they are for war!

Yours in Christ. Cheryl Sandenaw, Evangelism Chairman

LWML

The annual LWML Rummage sale is scheduled for Saturday, August 10th in the great room. As usual it will be held from 0800 to noon with cleanup to follow. There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board if you are able to help. We will need help setting up, organizing and pricing. On Saturday the 10th we will need help with selling and cleanup. If anyone has items to bring they can be brought now and stored or anytime during the week of August 5th thru August 9th.

On Saturday September 7th, Trinity will be the host for the Fall Zone Rally. Please mark your calendars so we can have a good showing. Details will be coming soon. Belinda will be asking for help in providing food or whatever might be needed to make this event possible. Jill Sotak will be the Bible Study leader.

Plans are underway to get our new 2024-2025 year started. The board will meet in the next week or so, so that a working calendar can be set up. If anyone has anything new they would like to see incorporated please let myself or one of the board members know.

God's Blessings, Vicki

TRINITY LUTHERAN COOKBOOK

LOOK FOR DETAILS SOON: We are planning a church potluck to kick off our cookbook. Cindi and Abby Anderson will be helping with the potluck. Each family brings a dish to share with everyone, along with a handwritten or typed recipe for your shared dish to be added to the cookbook. Please include your name and phone number with the recipe. It should be lots of fun and fellowship! Vicki Leonard & Jan Thede

IT'S THAT TIME AGAIN—

WHAT: ANNUAL LWML RUMMAGE SALE

SATURDAY, AUGUST 10TH

TIME: 8 AM TO 12 NOON

Once again it is time to get ready for our annual rummage sale. You may bring items to church at any time. Items may be placed on the tables in the great room. Please leave the round tables for after church coffee. We will need help the week of August 5th thru the 9th from 9am to 12 pm to get everything set up and priced. Even if you have only an hour or two to help, please come! Setup and pricing is time consuming but many hands make it easier. It is a good time for fellowship as well.

Thanks in advance!

We need help the day of the sale, not only for the time of the sale but also at noon to disassemble everything that is left to be taken to King's Treasure

AUGUST 2024 STEWARDS FOR CHRIST

ELDERS

- Aug. 4 Jim Wilkes
- Aug. 11 Matt Anderson
- Aug. 18 Robert Rentschler
- Aug. 25 Jim Wilkes

READERS

- Aug. 4 Larry & Beverly Van Duyn
- Aug. 11 Susan Kelly & Shirley Enyeart
- Aug. 18 Ruth Wilkes & Dick Dommers
- Aug. 25 Sandy & Bob Klose

TELLERS

- Aug. 4 Bob Klose & Joyce Macon
- Aug. 11 Yvonne Steeby & Becky Worley
- Aug. 18 Shirley Enyeart & Vicki Leonard
- Aug. 25 Dick Dommers & Merry Zumwalt

HOSTS

- Aug. 4 Cheryl Sandenaw
- Aug. 11 Glen & Christine Schlehuser
- Aug. 18 Tammy Thede & Yvonne Steeby
- Aug. 25 Rick & Nora Sotak

SOUND TECH

- Aug. 4 Vicki Leonard Aug. 11 Matt Anderson
- Aug. 18 Jim Kline
- Aug. 25 Vicki Leonard

MUSIC

Aug. 4Lola AbleidingerAug. 11Bobby AndersonAug. 18Aug. 25

AUGUST ATTENDANCE

Diane Kline

AUGUST ALTAR COMMITTEE

Sheila Anderson Wilma Jaecks

USHERS

- Aug. 4 Tom Blackmon, Jim Fladhammer Larry & Bev Van Duyn
- Aug. 11 Susan Kelly, Norbert Sanchez Glen & Christine Schlehuser
- Aug. 18 Robert Johnson, Trey Johnson Bob Thede, Tammy Thede
- Aug. 25 Gerald Moore, Bob & Sandy Klose Irvin Torres

AUGUST FLOWERS

- Aug. 4 Matt & Jill Clark
- Aug. 11 Bob & Jan Thede
- Aug. 18 Glen & Chris Schlehuser
- Aug. 25 Ray & Sandra Krueger Pastor Kevin & Lisa Cramm

SABBATH SIGHT

Miners used to use mules underground to pull the loaded carts. Spending so much time in the darkness, some mules eventually went blind. But one old miner found a solution: He simply let the mules spend one day a week outside the mines.

In a very real sense, God gave us the Sabbath to keep us from going spiritually blind. The Sabbath, as Jesus said, was made for humankind, but to use in sacred ways. It's our responsibility as followers of Jesus to decide how to best keep the intent of this commandment.

How might observing Sabbath improve your ability to "see" clearly?

-from The Wired Word