

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ



January 2021 Newsletter

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Love is the Answer

my.bible.com

Love is not a feeling. Although, when we love someone such as our spouse or children we feel all sorts of feelings and emotions, love is a choice we make. Emotions and feelings are produced through the love we choose with others. Love is a choice.

Paul says that love is patient and kind. We are able to love others through our actions of kindness and patience. If you are going through a dry spell in your marriage, it does not mean you have to behave in a lovey-dovey way. In any relationship where you feel bothered and annoyed, remind yourself that you were called and created to love others; even the rude lady at the post office.

Love is selfless. Our society and culture tell us to “do you,” meaning do not think of others and do everything for yourself. I believe Jesus would disagree. He was all about relationships. Jesus even asked us to love our enemies. This does not mean making an enemy your friend or allowing toxic relationships in your life. It means hoping the best for them and not wishing them any harm. When we love our enemies, we are acting as our heavenly Father.

Love is hopeful and endures through every circumstance. Think about those moments in your life that it was through love that you made it. Relationships are restored through love. The feelings of love are not always there, but we choose to love and through love’s power, we make it. Think about those who run marathons. I would never believe running 26.2 miles is an easy task. Yet, thousands of people do it, often for the love of running. Surely some want to give up, but they choose to keep going. Love does not lose faith.

You will only be able to truly love through God’s power in you. Love will come easily with certain relationships; in others, only God can help you choose kindness even when you do not feel like it. With God, you will be able to react patiently and not lose faith, remaining hopeful. Why? Because God is love. We are able to love others, including our enemies, because He first loved us. Without God, it is nearly impossible to love people we do not like. Disliking others and being irritable comes naturally to us. We need His supernatural work within us.

Seek God. His Word says that faith, hope and love last forever, yet the greatest of these is always love.

Romans 5:5

and hope does not put us to shame, because God’s love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us.

Matthew 22:36 *“Teacher, which is the great commandment in the Law?”*

1 Corinthians 13:4-8, 13 *Love is patient and kind; love does not envy or boast; it is not arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice at wrongdoing, but rejoices with the truth. Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. Love never ends. As for prophecies, they will pass away; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will pass away.*

¹³ So now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; but the greatest of these is love.

Church Council Minutes

Trinity Lutheran Church Council met Monday, December 21, 2020.

Present: Jerry Dykstra, Tonya Standy, Lee Hanten, Mike Konechne, Shirley Johnson, Randy Tegethoff and Brad DeVries.

The meeting was called to order by President Jerry Dykstra. Lee led with prayer.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

The secretary's report was reviewed, Shirley made a motion to approve, Mike seconded it, the motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT

We reviewed the treasurer's report, Lee made a motion to approve, Brad seconded it, the motion carried.

TRUSTEE'S REPORT

Nothing to report

DEACON'S REPORT

Shirley said she is still mailing out bulletins and visiting some of the older members.

OLD BUSINESS

SOUND SYSTEM:

Disbursed the money that was set aside and paid for improvements.

NEW BUSINESS

Mike made a motion that we start having fellowship after church beginning January 3, 2021, Lee seconded it, the motion carried.

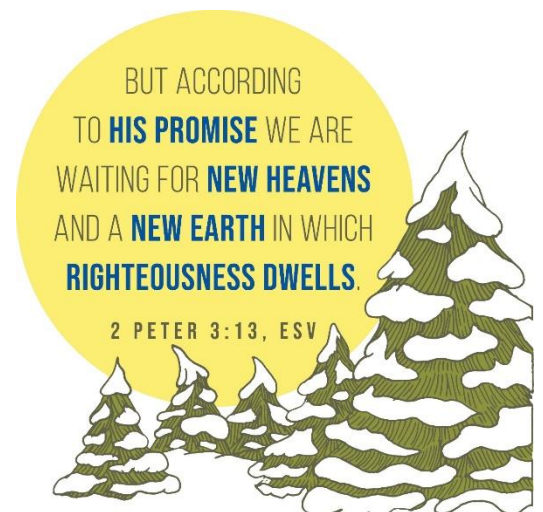
We discussed pulpit supply, we are at the bottom as far as paying pulpit supply. Mike made a motion to increase from \$100.00 to \$150.00 per Sunday, Randy seconded it, the motion carried.

We discussed all Wendy's increased duties since there is no pastor, Tonya made a motion to increase her salary \$250.00 a month, Brad seconded it, the motion carried.

Lee made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Shirley seconded it.

We closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Tonya Standy



From the WOW Co-Presidents

Donna Boysen & Chelsey Schrank

The Best Perspective During Difficult Times

Have you ever noticed that being upset about your problems never changes them? A bad attitude is like a flat tire. If you do not change it, you won't go anywhere. Life does get difficult at time, but we can learn how to navigate those times successfully without losing our peace and joy. The thoughts we allow into our minds, and the attitude we chose to have, are the determining factors.

Psalm 30:5 says, *Weeping may tarry for the night, but joy comes in the morning.* A favorite saying of mine is "This too shall pass." It is more difficult to think and speak positively during the 'winters' of our life, but it is helpful to remember that spring always follows winter.

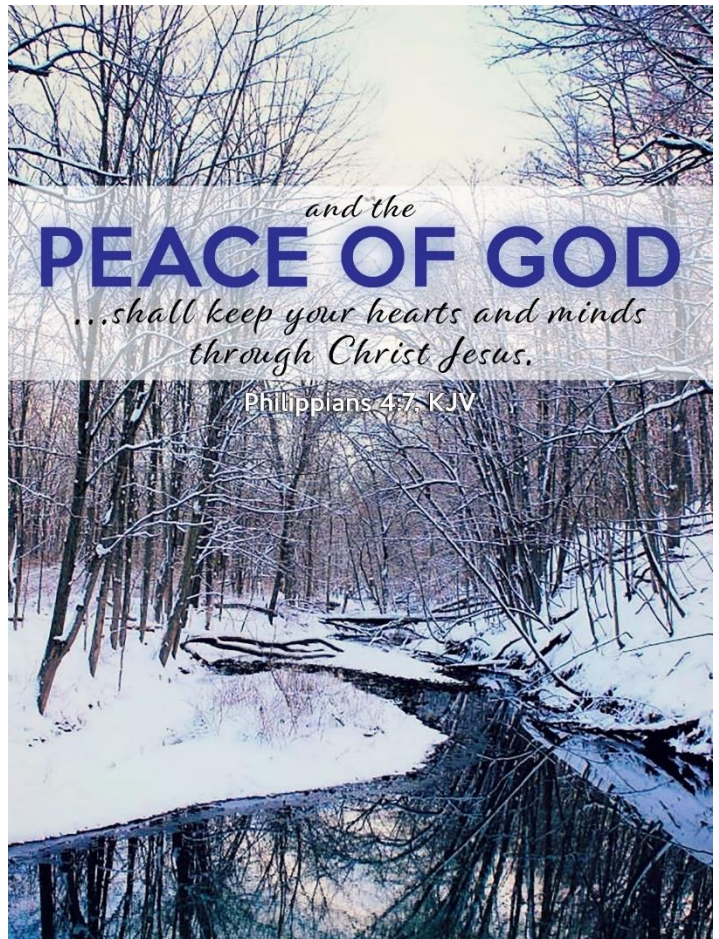
But when our circumstances are hard, that's when it's really important to keep our mind set on promises in God's Word. I remind myself no matter how difficult life is, God loves me and He's with me. He also promises to never allow more to come on me than I can bear as I look to Him for help.

During tough times, it is easy to think, I cannot do this; it is just too much; it is too hard. Watch out for that type of thinking and when you recognize it, remember it is a lie. Then replace it with God-inspired thought like, *I can do what I need to do because God is with me. This winter season in my life will be over one day and spring will come.*

~Adapted from Joyce's resource THE MIND CONNECTION.

WOW Treasurer's Report

Balance on Hand 11/23/20	\$ 4542.25
Mission Offering	\$ 140.00
Balance on Hand 12/23/20	\$ 4682.25



Bible Study Groups:
 ~ this month ~ to be announced

This Month's Birthdays

1/2	Isabelle Suits	1/16	Morris Johnson*
1/2	Kyle Weisser	1/16	Randy Tegethoff
1/2	Ridley Nelson	1/19	Sophia Nelson
1/3	Logan DeVries	1/20	Adele Holter*
1/3	Greysen Wollman	1/21	Diane Gilbertz
1/4	Baleigh Nachtigal	1/21	Tessa VandenHoek
1/4	Avery DeVries	1/22	Camden DuFrain
1/4	Collin Engebretson	1/23	Emersyn Hermanek
1/4	Natalie Severson	1/25	Cash Lantz
1/5	Lori Chambers	1/25	Kip Nelson
1/5	Maggie Huizenga	1/26	Laila Wollman
1/6	Brooks Timmerman	1/26	Duane Pedersen
1/10	Spencer DeHaan	1/29	Louie Johnson
1/10	Stacy Severson	1/31	Nick Holter
1/13	Ruth Gruenig*	1/31	Isabel Meyerink
1/14	Alisha Nachtigal		



**Please remember
these special 80+ Birthdays
with a prayer, card or phone call*

Communion

Servers

January 3

Shirley Johnson
Tana Huizenga
Lee Hanten

Ushers

3—Andrew Nachtigal & Brad DeVries
10—Andrew Nachtigal & Brad DeVries
17—Chad & Coby Johnson
24—Chad & Coby Johnson
31—Jeff Olsen & Jackson Olsen

Coffee & Cookies Servers

3—Donna Boysen & Caroline Butler
10—Joyce Carter, Lori Chambers, Marsha Cutler
17—Tammy Darling, Phyllis Daum, Caitlin DeGroot
24—Vickie Boltjes, Karen DeGroot, Josie DeHaan
31—Whitney DeHaan, Jill DeWet, Jonna DeHaan

Men's Retreat

New Hope Christian Camp is pleased to announce their third annual **Men's Retreat**, January 22-24, 2021. Registration is now open. Register online at www.NewHopeChristianCamp.org. Follow the "Events" tab to "Retreats Coming Soon" for more information. The theme this year is "Reflecting the Character of Christ." Our guest speaker, Brian Lubinski, brings 20 years of teaching experience, along with his knowledge of God's creation as a pilot for as many years. Pastor Tim Collins will be back leading us in worship. Expect to receive great teaching, great fellowship and great food!

Offering Envelopes

Please pick up your 2021 offering envelopes on the back pew in the narthex.

Needed: Volunteers to run overhead

We are looking for a few more people **to run the overhead and sound**. Contact the church office (337-3881) or Scott Vanden Berge (207-0419) if you would be willing to help out. Thank you!

A COLORFUL body

Melt crayons to show how the body of Christ works together.



What you need:

- Crayons
- Metal baking sheet
- Adult help
- Metal gingerbread man cookie cutter

What you do:

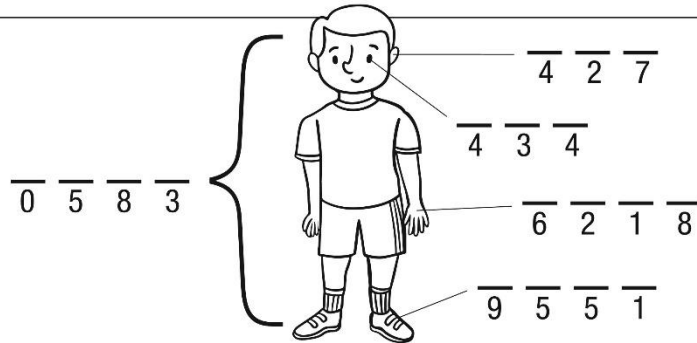
1. Remove labels and break crayons into 1-inch pieces.
2. Scatter pieces on the baking sheet, about two layers thick.
3. Bake for 10 minutes at 350 degrees until melted. Allow to cool 15 minutes.
4. When melted crayons are the consistency of playdough, press the cookie cutter through them (while still on pan).
5. Cool the pan in freezer for 15 minutes until crayons are hardened.
6. Remove from pan and break apart the shapes.



WORKING IN UNISON

Just as body parts work in unison, the church – the body of Christ – is to work together for God’s purposes.

Directions: Fill in the letters for each body part. Add up each part's number total, and use those totals to complete the Bible passage.



Now if the $\frac{\quad}{20}$ should say, "Because I am not a $\frac{\quad}{17}$, I do not belong to the $\frac{\quad}{16}$," ... And if the $\frac{\quad}{13}$ should say, "Because I am not an $\frac{\quad}{11}$, I do not belong to the $\frac{\quad}{16}$," it would not for that reason stop being part of the $\frac{\quad}{16}$. If the whole $\frac{\quad}{16}$ were an $\frac{\quad}{11}$, where would the sense of hearing be? If the whole $\frac{\quad}{16}$ were an $\frac{\quad}{13}$, where would the sense of smell be? ... As it is, there are many parts, but one $\frac{\quad}{16}$.

1 CORINTHIANS 12:15-17, 20, NIV

Answer: body = 16, eye = 16, ear = 13, hand = 13, foot = 20

No Sunday School on January 3 – Christmas Break

No Sunday School on January 24 – Annual Meeting



ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL Meeting

Sunday, January 24 at 10:30 AM

following morning worship

No potluck this year but we will have fellowship time with coffee and cookies.
No Sunday School on Sunday, January 24 due to annual meeting.

Please bring your report that was mailed to you along to the meeting

*Please have reports emailed to the office tlcplattesd@gmail.com
by Friday, January 8. Thank you!*



FIRST COMMUNION

First Communion classes begin with Pastor Dan Daum
for all 5th and 6th graders

on Wednesdays, January 6, 13, 20, 27 & February 3 from 4-5 pm

**Please have one parent attend with your student*

First Communion will be celebrated on Sunday, February 7 during morning worship