

PLATTE, SD

Trinity Lutheran Church

NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 2023

The Transforming Power of Grace

For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—not by works, so that no one can boast. For we are God’s handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

Ephesians 2:8-10

On October 31, 1517, Martin Luther nailed his 95 Theses to the door of Wittenburg Castle. With that bold move, he launched the beginning of the Protestant Reformation, a movement which changed the landscape of Christianity forever. Luther’s disillusionment with the Roman Catholic Church had driven him to search out scripture, in particular, the writings of the Apostle Paul. What Luther discovered there changed his life forever.

Chief among Luther’s discoveries was the amazing truth about grace. What Luther discovered was that grace was the undeserved love and favor of God. It wasn’t something that man deserved. It wasn’t something he could buy or earn. Grace was God’s free gift to man. All one had to do to receive it was to accept it. All one had to do was to say, “Yes,” to Jesus.

Luther discovered that salvation was all about Jesus. He was God’s free gift of grace. When we accepted Him as our Lord and Savior, Christ imputed to us His righteousness so we could stand before our Father in heaven in right standing. According to Ephesians 2:10, we didn’t do good works to earn our way to heaven. We did good works out of response to what Christ had done for us. We did good works because the grace of Jesus Christ had transformed us and opened our eyes to all the things He had prepared for us to do.

For almost 40 years, I thought I had known Christ. What I discovered when I finally accepted Him as my Lord and Savior was that I knew of Him. I had heard or read stories about Him. I knew a lot about what the Bible said about Him, but I didn’t know Him. On February 14th, 1995, when I accepted Him as my Lord and Savior, that all changed. I went from conceptual knowledge of Him to experiential knowledge of Him. I felt His love. I knew His peace. I walked in His joy. I was never the same after that because His grace had transformed me.

Have you experienced the transformative power of Christ’s grace? Have you discovered the truth and beauty of His love? Have you laid hold of the purpose and meaning He wants each one of us to know in our lives? These wonderful things are available to everyone who invites Jesus Christ to be Lord of their lives. These aren’t things we have to strive for. They are simply the blessings that come from saying, “Yes,” to Jesus. Isn’t it about time you invited Him into your life?

God bless & Happy October,
Pastor Dave



Church Council Minutes

Trinity Lutheran Church Council met Monday September 18, 2023

Present: Pastor Dave, Jim Holter, Kyle Meyerink, Mike Gilbertz, Donna Boysen, Carey Hoffman, Shirley Johnson, Jan DuFrain, Ryan Lantz and Alisha Nachtigal.

Absent: Tony Schrank and Tom Boltjes.

The meeting was called to order by President Jim Holter and Pastor Dave led with a devotion and prayer.

Secretary's Report:

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

Treasurer's Report:

The council reviewed the treasurer's report. Carey made a motion to approve, Jan seconded it, the motion carried.

Trustee's Report:

We reviewed Trustees report.

Deacon's Report:

Visits are being done and bulletins are being sent out.

Pastor's Report:

We reviewed Pastor Dave's report. Pastor Dave handed out a wedding brochure to present to couples interested in getting married at the church. Carey made a motion for Pastor Dave to go ahead with the brochure, Alisha seconded it, the motion carried.

Old Business:

Painting Sanctuary and Fellowship-Jeff Martin finished the painting project and did a phenomenal job. Ryan will talk to Jeff about doing the Council room and fireside room.

New Business

No new business to report.

Ryan made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Mike seconded it.

We closed with the Lord's prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Carey Hoffman

Offering Update

Thank you for your offering contributions to Trinity thus far, with 3/4 of our budget year past, here is where we're at as of September 24, 2023.

Projected YTD Sunday Offerings - \$145,500

Actual YTD Sunday Offerings - \$124,623

Leaving us \$20,877 (14%) short of our budget.

From the WOW Co-Presidents

Pearl Feiok & Dee Rasmussen

The Prince of Peace

Perfect peace is agreement with God; staying in His Word, it is trust, it is reliance, it is deliverance from complaining thoughts or emotions. Peace is quiet and order. Peace is trusting God in any situation, not thinking about yesterday, that's defiance. This is the day the LORD has made for you, it is all you have, live it to the border.

We are told in Psalms to *turn away from evil and do good. to search for peace and work to maintain it.* Peace comes by working hard at living in peace with other. Isaiah foretells of the child to be born, *He is called Wonderful, Counselor, concede! Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace,* this our Jesus! Our Brother.

Zechariah, John the Baptist's father, prophesied John would be a prophet of the Most High, who would lead us to peace. His peace. And the Word of God further increases our understanding of peace by telling of Jesus as the source of all peace. We were separated from God by sin, our debt paid by His blood.

Let the peace of God, which exceeds all understanding, guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus, be anxious for nothing, In every thing, by prayer with thanksgiving. He is with you, He is for you, the angel of the Lord protects from everything.

The angel of the Lord encamps all around those who fear Him and delivers them. Psalm 43:7

WOW Oct Mission Project

For October, the WOW groups will be helping make fleece blankets for Family Connections. Priscilla and Martha Bible Study Groups are asked to put together at least 10 Health Kits and Hannah Group is asked to donate Toilet Tissue - these two items will be going to Needy Nook in Marty, SD and Tanta's House.

WOW Treasurer's Report

Balance on Hand September 1, 2023	\$ 3895.85
Dividend	\$ 0.32
Sunday School Picnic donations	\$ 198.00
Priscilla Offering (Sept)	\$ 65.00
Disbursements	
TLC Camping Fund	\$ (500.00)
Balance on Hand September 30, 2023	\$ 3659.17

Bible Study Groups

Martha Bible Study Group

meets Thursday, October 12 at 7 pm
studying Session 5 – Faithful Series that features Malachi

Priscilla Bible Study Group:

meets Thursday, October 19 at 9:00 AM
Studying Lesson 9
Lesson Leader: Joyce VanderHam
Hostess: Shirley Johnson

Hannah Bible Study Group:

meets Thursday, October 19 at Noon
Studying Lesson 9
Lesson Leader: Karen Dimick
Hostess: Pearl Feiok

Health Kits:

(10 or more from Priscilla & Martha groups)

- ✓ 1 Bath Towel (new or slightly used)
- ✓ 1 Washcloth
- ✓ 1 Bar New Soap (bath sized-wrapped)
- ✓ 1 Toothbrush (in wrapping)
- ✓ 1 Tube of Toothpaste (5-7 oz size)
- ✓ 1 Wide-tooth Comb
- ✓ 1 Metal nail clippers
- ✓ 1 small box of Band-aids
- ✓ 1 Shampoo & Conditioner

*Wrap items in towel and tie with ribbon or yarn

*Kits will be donated to the "Needy Nook" in Marty, SD

Oct	Greeters	Ushers	Communion Servers	Cookie/Coffee Servers
1	Jason Huizenga	LeRoy Severson & Jeff Konstanz	Tony Schrank, Shirley Johnson, Jan DuFrain	Lori Chambers, Marsha Cutler, Tammy Darling
8	Jim & Kathy Holter	LeRoy Severson & Jeff Konstanz	No Communion	Darice DuFrain, Jan DuFrain, Karis DuFrain
15	Erik & Casey Holter	Aaron VandenHoek & Casey Holter	Tony Schrank, Shirley Johnson, Jan DuFrain	Josie DeHaan, Jonna DeHaan, Whitney DeHaan
22	Doug & Susan Holter	Aaron VandenHoek & Casey Holter	No Communion	Nicole DeVries, Heidi Dingus, Alison Dykstra
3	Bill & Carey Hoffman	Larry Kuiper & Lee Hanten	No Communion	Phyllis Daum, Caitlin DeGroot, Karen DeGroot

This Month's Birthdays

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

10/1	Tana Huizenga	10/11	Joel Foxley	10/25	Joyce Carter	10/27	Bob Struck
10/2	Benton DuFrain	10/11	Lucas Suits	10/25	Oakley Kott	10/27	Kristi Wagner
10/2	Traci Kott	10/12	Ramsey DeHaan	10/25	Dani Meyerink	10/29	Vickie Boltjes
10/4	LaRae Severson	10/13	Monte Wagner	10/25	Karis DuFrain	10/30	Jeff Olsen
10/5	Sarah Hoffman	10/13	Shawna Strand	10/26	Jennifer Severson	10/31	Grayson Qualm
10/5	Adam Warejcka	10/14	Brinslee Nelson	10/26	Averi Tegethoff	10/31	Estelle Konechne
10/6	Jeff Engebretson	10/15	Rick Johnson	10/27	Deb VanDerWerff	10/31	Jaxen Wollman
10/8	Katie Holter	10/20	Laura Vanden Berg	10/27	Kathy Holter	10/31	Eldon Qualm
10/9	Erynn Meyerink						

October Mission of the Month

Dear Trinity Family,

Our daughter, Brooke, is heavily involved in helping the homeless in the Twin Cities. She distributes meals, makes sure they have adequate supplies of water, and helps them secure tents, sleeping bags, gently used clothing, camp stoves, lanterns, and the like. She is also working with a couple of groups, who are helping to provide sustainable shelter for the homeless. One of these groups has donated a couple of homes to be used for homeless housing, with the idea that they will work alongside the homeless to remodel and update these homes. They are looking for help in putting the tools needed for renovation into the hands of the work crews. Brooke asked me if Trinity would consider partnering in this endeavor.

I approached the Mission Board to see what they thought about us being involved. The Mission Board has approved a request from me to help the homeless in the Twin Cities. I have asked for \$1,000.00 from surplus Mission Funds to establish a program called **"Tools for Renewal."** We would make gift cards available from Home Depot, Lowe's or Menard's to the group overseeing these projects with which to purchase tools. Someone from the oversight group would purchase the tools, indelibly mark them as belonging to the oversight group, and would monitor the use of the tools. Tools could be checked out for the day but would always have to be warehoused each evening somewhere under the supervision of the oversight group. The Mission Board is asking you to join us in this venture by donating to the October Mission of the Month. Simply write your check to Trinity and put "Tools for Renewal" in the memo. **The offering will be taken Sunday, October 15.**

Thank you for your kind consideration. Love in Christ, Pastor Dave

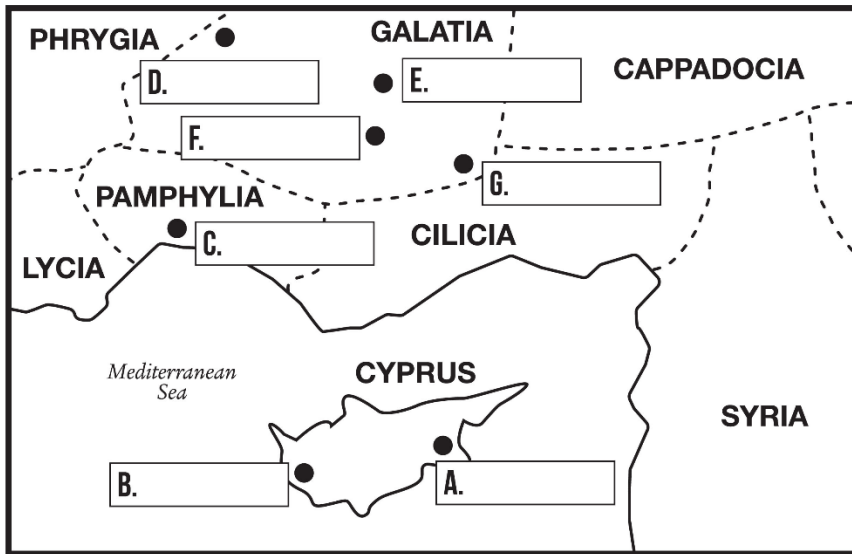
PUZZLE CITY SEARCH

God used Paul to spread the Gospel to many cities during his first missionary journey. Can you find them all?

Directions: From the fragments, guess each city and locate it on the map. Use the Bible references to help.



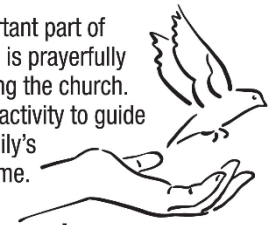
- | | |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| A. SALAMIS (ACTS 13:5) | E. ICONIUM (ACTS 13:51) |
| B. PAPHOS (ACTS 13:6) | F. LYSTRA (ACTS 14:6) |
| C. PERGA (ACTS 13:13) | G. DERBE (ACTS 14:6) |
| D. ANTIOCH (ACTS 13:14) | |



Answers: Salamis, Paphos, Perga, Antioch, Iconium, Lystra, Derbe

MISSIONARY-MINDED PRAYER

An important part of missions is prayerfully supporting the church. Use this activity to guide your family's prayer time.



What you need:

- Plastic bag (large zippered)
- Permanent marker
- Bandage
- Toy plane
- Heart-shaped drawing or toy
- Spoon
- Coin
- Hot-sauce packet



What you do:

1. Label the bag with details about the missionaries you'll be praying for (names, location, specific needs).
2. Add small prayer-prompt objects to guide your prayer time (bandage = health, plane = travel, heart = relationships, spoon = cultural connection, coin = finances, hot sauce = boldness).
3. Include other objects that will prompt prayer for missionaries' specific needs.
4. Place the bag where it will remind your family to pray regularly.

Children's Worship Sunday is planned for November 10

The Sunday School will be participating in the worship service through greeting, ushering, the Children's Sermon, reading Scripture, and special music.



Alpha Retreat Weekend Scheduled for October 14 & 15

The Alpha course began August 27th at Trinity and has been meeting Sunday evenings at 6:30 ever since. Seventeen people signed up for the course and have been enjoying a home-cooked meal shared in the company of a small group family. Following the meal, participants watch a video together, then, go to their breakout rooms to discuss the video in their small group.

Alpha participants will join Pastor Dave at New Hope Christian Camp October 14 & 15 for the Alpha Retreat Weekend. The weekend is devoted to learning about the Holy Spirit, spiritual gifts, and prayer. It is a fun time for growing closer to God and closer to one another.

The current course will end November 12th. We anticipate running another course. At the end of this session, ask current participants what they thought of the course. Alpha may be just what you were looking for.



First Bible Class Begins for 3rd Graders

Bible Instruction for all third graders will begin Wednesday, October 18th, and meet weekly on Wednesdays through November 8th. Classes will be held in the North Overflow Room and will run from 4:00 to 5:15 PM (please note time change).

If possible, we would like to have a parent or grandparent accompany each child and help them in this journey through God's Word. A light snack will be served each session. Please let Pastor Dave know if your child has any dietary restrictions. Also, please confirm with the office that your child will be attending and who will accompany them.

Presentation of the Bibles will be held Sunday, November 12th during worship.

The graphic has a light beige background. On the left, there is a white torn-paper-style shape containing the text "3rd Graders First Bible Class" in a dark blue, handwritten-style font. Below this, the text "4:00-5:15 PM" is written in a smaller, dark blue font, followed by "Wednesdays, Oct 18 & 25" and "Nov 1 & 8" in the same font. On the right side of the graphic is a gold-colored Bible cover with a blue cross at the top and the text "FAITH ALIVE Student Bible ENGLISH STANDARD VERSION" at the bottom.