

PLATTE, SD  
*Trinity Lutheran Church*  
**NEWSLETTER**

AUGUST 2023

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### ***Are You a Disciple of Jesus Christ?***

***Then Jesus came to them and said, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.***

***<sup>19</sup> Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, <sup>20</sup> and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."*** -

Matthew 28:18-20

The passage above is known as the Great Commission. Jesus spoke it to His eleven remaining disciples shortly before He returned to heaven. In these three verses, Jesus gave His Church its marching orders. This was the work He was calling His Church to do until He triumphantly returns. This is the work He has called us at Trinity Lutheran Church in Platte, SD to do.

So, my question for each of you is this: **"Are you a disciple of Christ? Do you see yourself as someone who is following Christ?"** In other words, are you in a love relationship with Him? Do you know Him? Have you experienced His love personally? Do you hear Him speaking to you? And if you do, are you obeying Him?"

**"Are you being transformed by Christ?"** Is He changing you little by little into Himself? Have you come to understand He is able to do immeasurably more than all we can ask or imagine? Have you come to that place where you trust Him so completely that you know He can even use people like you and me to accomplish His purposes? Have you yielded to the Holy Spirit and allowed Him to lead you where you are to go?

**"Are you on mission for Christ?"** Do you see yourself as a fisher of men? Do you see yourself, not only as a disciple, but also as a disciple maker? Do you believe God can use you to lead other people to Christ?

Most of you have probably never asked yourself these kinds of questions. But these are the questions

we must ask ourselves to determine if we are carrying out our Lord and Savior's instructions to His Church. I believe most of our congregation could say, "Yes," to the first question. I believe most of our congregation is *seeking to follow* Christ. None of us, including myself, is doing it perfectly, but I truly believe that is our desire.

It is at question two that many of you find yourselves unable to answer affirmatively. That's because transformation doesn't come simply through church attendance. Transformation comes by surrendering oneself to Christ. Transformation comes when we invite Him to be the Lord of our lives. Transformation comes when we accept Jesus on His terms. When that happens, we experience His life-changing love. When that happens, we come to understand what joy and peace and contentment are all about. When that happens, we begin to move in the power of the Holy Spirit. We come to understand His faithfulness, His power, His wisdom, and His love. Things that seemed impossible before accepting Jesus Christ as Lord now seem achievable.

Most of us couldn't answer question three affirmatively, but part of that is due to wrong thinking on our part. We thought of ourselves as lacking the ability to disciple others. We blamed it on our lack of biblical knowledge or our inability to communicate well. **But Jesus tells us all it takes to be His disciple is love.** Do you love Jesus? Then He has given you everything you need to be a disciple and a disciple maker. Go and love people wherever you encounter them. Tell them what you know about Jesus. Even if you only know a little, it is more than an unbeliever knows. Our job is to love others and to tell them about Jesus. The Holy Spirit's job is to help us to do that as well as we possibly can. We plant the

*(continued on page 2)*

seeds of love. The Holy Spirit makes them grow. We tell others our testimonies and the Holy Spirit allows them to hear the truth. We share our lives with others and the Holy Spirit makes them into disciples of Christ.

Recognize that discipleship happens anytime we invest our lives into the lives of others. Do you want to become a disciple maker? Here are some ways to get started. Volunteer to teach or help with Sunday School. Lead music. Play or sing in the Praise Team. Help with Confirmation. Invest your life in high school and middle school students. Be a mentor. Lead high school Sunday School.

Be an Alpha leader or helper. Take part in Alpha. Everyone of these things will help people grow in their faith and come to know Jesus better.

If you've never done so before, invite Jesus to be Lord of your life and ask Him to transform you into His likeness. Then, sit back and watch what He will do. And when He begins to move in your life, follow where He's leading and love Him and others like Jesus loves you.

In Christ's outrageous love,  
*Pastor Dave*

## Church Council Minutes

Trinity Lutheran Church Council met Monday July 17, 2023

**Present:** Pastor Dave, Jim Holter, Kyle Meyerink, Mike Gilbertz, Donna Boysen, Tom Boltjes, Carey Hoffman, Shirley Johnson, Tony Schrank and Ryan Lantz.

**Absent:** Alisha Nachtigal and Jan DuFrain

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, Shirley seconded it, the motion carried.

### **Treasurer's Report:**

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

### **Trustee's Report:**

The Trustee's will be looking at the east door by Pastors office as it has been sticking. They will also look at a leak in the faucet in Wendy's office.

### **Deacon's Report:**

Visits are being done and Shirley has been delivering bulletins to Twilight Vista on Saturday nights so they can follow along with the Sunday worship service.

### **Pastor's Report:**

We reviewed Pastor Dave's report.

### **Old Business:**

Painting Sanctuary/Fellowship-Ryan will contact Jeff Martin to see approximately when he will start painting.

### **New Business**

Heating and A/C -A motion was made by Ryan Lantz to accept the quote from Severson Oil to replace the A/C units and gas furnaces, Mike seconded it, the motion carried.

Tom made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Shirley seconded it. We closed with the Lord's prayer.

Respectfully submitted,  
Carey Hoffman

## From the WOW Co-Presidents

*Pearl Feiok & Dee Rasmussen*

### Peace in Him

Do not be discouraged, do not be dismayed with God there is plenteous courage. Did you ask Him in your heart to live, and do you obey His promise of guidance, and for your soul, marriage?

He said He will keep you in perfect peace, if you keep your mind on Him, so please! He clearly commands, we obey His Word. Though, you cannot obey if you never heard.

He is The LORD, so choose to abide with Him, good will be your walk, in this endeavor. Forever in His presence is your big win. Your days in eternity, our home, forever.

Prepare, for in your search of the Scripture, you will find this faithful Teacher!

*You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; You anoint my head with oil; my cup runs over. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life; and I will dwell in the house of The Lord forever.*

*Psalm 23:5,6*



## WOW August Mission Project

Paper products for Helping Hands Food Pantry. Please place any toilet paper, paper towels, or napkins, etc. in the blue totes in the fellowship hall and they will be donated to the Helping Hands Food Pantry.

## WOW Treasurer's Report

Balance on Hand July 1, 2023	\$ 3532.03
Income:	
Dividend	\$ 1.52
Hannah Offering (June)	\$ 75.00
Priscilla Offering (July)	\$ 73.00
Balance on Hand July 31, 2023	\$ 3681.52

## Bible Study Groups

### Priscilla Bible Study Group:

meets Thursday, August 17<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 AM

Studying Lesson 7

Lesson Leader: Sharon Rommen

Hostess: De Rasmussen

### Hannah Bible Study Group:

meets Thursday, August 17<sup>th</sup> at 1:30 PM

Studying Lesson 7

Lesson Leader: Karen Dimick

Hostess: Joan Hoversten

### Martha Bible Study Group

meets Thursday, August 17<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm

studying Session 3 – Esther

## Goodwill Quilting

The Goodwill quilting has had a great response to the video "Sleep in Heavenly Peace". I will be so fun to get together with young and old at the TLC Fellowship Hall to cut fabric for quilts to be made for the beds that are made for children who have to sleep on the floor. Our first time will be Friday, August 11 at 1:30pm. We will also need donations of fabric that is at least 10 1/2 wide and long. Please make sure that the fabric is clean and fresh smelling. Those who are willing to cut at home will need 6- 10 1/2 squares across and 8 -10 1/2 down squares makes a 60 x 80 quilt top. So each top takes 48 - 10 1/2 inch squares. Please no polyester fabric at this time. Thanks for the interest in making this project possible. ~ Paula, Shirley, and Dee

## Alpha Course Preview is August 6<sup>th</sup>

**On Sunday, August 6<sup>th</sup> we will offer a sneak peek at what the Alpha course** has to offer as we view the video “Is There More to Life than This?” We will show the video at 10:50 AM in the Fireside Room.

The Alpha course begins Sunday, August 27<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 PM in the Fellowship Hall, and lasts until 8:30 PM. Alpha is an 11-week course in the foundational elements of Christianity and is a great resource for people wherever they might be in their faith life. This could be one of the most significant sources of spiritual growth you will ever encounter. Sign up today on the bulletin board and let us grow together.

## Developing a New Attitude Toward Prayer *By Pastor Dave*

I have been somewhat surprised by the lack of interest on the part of our congregation in receiving prayer after the worship service, particularly when many within our congregation have been dealing with health problems. With hopes of encouraging more people to receive prayer, I now will expound on what receiving prayer isn't and what receiving prayer is.

### Receiving Prayer Isn't:

- **A sign of weakness.** It is a recognition of our great need for God's presence and power in our lives.
- **Proof that there's something wrong with us.** It's proof there is something right with us as we affirm our reliance on God.
- **Time consuming.** From beginning to end, the whole process only takes five to ten minutes.
- **A waste of time.** People who receive prayer will always benefit from what was prayed over them—even if they don't immediately recognize it.

### Receiving Prayer Is:

- **Completely confidential.** What you share in the Prayer Room stays in the Prayer Room unless you request it be added to the Prayer Concerns in the bulletin.
- **A great way to receive healing.** James 5:14-15 tells us: *Is anyone among you sick? Let them call the elders of the church to pray over them and anoint them with oil in the name of the Lord. <sup>15</sup> And the prayer offered in faith will make the sick person well; the Lord will raise them up. If they have sinned, they will be forgiven.*
- **A great way to grow in your faith and your experience of Christ.** Make a trip to the Prayer Room to request:

~ A fresh infilling of the Holy Spirit. ~ A fresh release of the Fruit of the Spirit. ~ A spiritual gift or gifts.

~ Understanding of God's call upon your life. ~ A new ability to understand and live out scripture.

~ A great way to seek God's help with relational problems. ~ A great way to seek God's guidance & direction.

Isn't it time you took a chance on prayer and discover how it might bless your life? All it will cost you is a few minutes and the humility it takes to admit you could use God's touch in your life.

## Council Approves Process to Begin Replacement of AC Units/Furnaces

At their July meeting, the Church Council unanimously approved replacing the two air conditioning units and the two gas furnaces that serve the Fellowship Hall. These are the units that are in the poorest shape and have annually required the most repairs and service work. The Council opened bids from Severson Oil & L.P. Co. Inc. and Konechne Heating & Cooling at their June meeting and selected the lower bid from Severson's. The Council has agreed to pay for these units out of the Church Building Fund. Total estimated cost of the project is \$13,112.27. If any members feel called to help with these expenditures, you may contribute to the Church Building Fund.

While these units are ready to be replaced, there is no rush to do so. Work shall be performed as it fits the contractor's schedule. The next units slated for replacement are the two AC units and gas furnaces that serve the sanctuary. The Council hopes to replace those in 2024.

## This Month's Birthdays

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

8/1	Lee DeHaan	8/12	Morries Rommen*	8/23	Kevin Severson
8/1	Chad Johnson	8/12	Zoey DeHaan	8/23	Raelyn Severson
8/3	Wanda Johnson	8/13	Coby Johnson	8/25	Bud Bakken*
8/4	Carla Weiser	8/14	Dawn Konstanz	8/25	Darrel Hildebrand
8/4	Connie Kirsch	8/16	Marsha Cutler	8/26	Braelyn Qualm
8/5	Addy Boltjes	8/18	John Rasmussen	8/28	Raegan Kooopal
8/5	Jason Nelson	8/18	Lisa Johnson	8/29	Joel Bailey
8/5	Jye Bailey	8/22	Amelia Meyerink	8/30	Holden Suits
8/6	Rylee DeGroot	8/22	Kory Standy	8/30	Casey Holter
8/8	Jonna DeHaan	8/23	Ella Schrank	8/31	Bria Severson
8/9	Madison Nachtigal	8/23	Sasha DeHaan	8/31	Casey Holter

August	Greeters	Ushers	Communion Servers	Cookie/Coffee Servers
6	David & Jeanne Kott	Jerry Dykstra & Morries Rommen	Jim Holter, Jan DuFrain, Carey Hoffman	Shawna Strand & Meredith Suits
13	Jeff & Dawn Konstanz	Jerry Dykstra & Morries Rommen	No Communion	Sheila Summerville & Marla Tegethoff
20	Mike & Estelle Konechne	Scott Vanden Berge & Steve Spawn	Jim Holter, Jan DuFrain, Carey Hoffman	Sarah Timmerman & Laura Vanden Berge
27	Troy & Connie Kirsch	Scott Vanden Berge & Steve Spawn	No Communion	Emily VandenHoek & Sue Vanderboom

## Lifeline Children's Services is Our August Mission

The Mission Board has selected Lifeline Children's Services as the recipient of our August Mission Offering. This organization has five main areas of impact. They are as follows.

- **Adoption:** Lifeline's International and Domestic Adoption programs exist to provide loving families for vulnerable children around the globe. They seek to bring the love of Christ to these children in ways they can tangibly experience—through the love of family.
- **Pregnancy Ministry:** Lifeline seeks to walk alongside women in their most vulnerable seasons, offering hope, physical support, and information on their options in an unexpected pregnancy.
- **Family Restoration:** Through Families Count, Harbor Families, and Foster Care, Lifeline partners with and equips local churches to care for hurting and broken families around them with the love of Christ.
- **Global Orphan Care:** Lifeline realizes the orphan care crisis cannot be met by adoption alone, so they work to equip and empower churches in 14 countries to care for the vulnerable through foster care, life skills training, caregiver training, and humanitarian aid.
- **Education & Counseling:** Walking alongside families in all stages of life, Lifeline is committed to preparing and encouraging them with resources to nurture and disciple their children. This takes place through counseling, intensive therapies, and training.

Please give generously to support this ministry that is making such a difference in the lives of so many children. The offering will be taken Sunday August 20<sup>th</sup>. Please make checks payable to "Trinity Lutheran Church."



Join us for  
**Vacation Bible School**

**MONUMENTA**  
CELEBRATING GOD'S GREATNESS

**August 8, 9, 10**      **1-5 PM**

**Get Ready....for a Howlin' Good Time!** Go off-road for a Monumental dventure through the colorful canyons and sunbaked trails of the southwest. By exploring God's awesomeness, kids form a rock-solid faith for the road ahead.

Join us for Vacation Bible at Trinity Lutheran Church **August 8, 9 & 10 from 1-5 PM** for kids who completed 1/2 Day Kindergarten thru completed 6th Grade. **Registration is due by August 4.**  
<https://tlcplattesd.breezechms.com/form/508c30> (please fill out one form for each student)

**We still need a few more volunteers during VBS!** Contact the Board of Ed (Carla Lantz, Caitlin DeGroot or Karis DuFrain) if you would be willing to help! Thank you!

**We need volunteers for set up and clean up for VBS!** Come on Sunday, August 6<sup>th</sup> at 1 pm to help set. Clean up will be immediately following VBS on Thursday, August 10<sup>th</sup> at 5 pm.

We would like to thank those of you who offered your time last year to teach one of our Sunday School classes. It is that time again to prepare for another year. We have found that co-teaching seems to work very well and would like to continue with that. However, that does require 2 teachers per grade level (Preschool thru 6th Grade & High School) If you find yourself hesitating to volunteer because committing to every Sunday can be difficult, co-teaching does allow you more flexibility throughout the year! Thank you for helping our youth grow in their faith & walk with God!!



**If you feel the Lord is calling you to teach this year, please contact the Board of Education: Caitlin DeGroot, Carla Lantz, or Karis DuFrain.**