

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ



September 2019 Newsletter

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From the Desk of the Pastor

Interim Pastor Ron Hughes

Last week I preached on the narrow door. In addition, how important it was that we strive to enter the kingdom of heaven through the Narrow Door.

I want to remind you not to take heaven for granted, your denomination plays no part in getting you to heaven, and rather we enter in only through our belief in Christ.

Nationality plays no role in who goes to heaven/the Kingdom of God. Relatives and others play no role in who goes to heaven/Kingdom of God. Entrance to the Kingdom of God is not by these things; rather it is through one person and one person only. Jesus Christ. Moreover, each of us must choose to pass through Him (the living door).

Remember, it's not how much you give, how much time you devote to working in the church, not by teaching Sunday School, working on the council, or setting up for dinners. We should be doing all that because He is the Lord of our lives and we want to please Him. So do not let other people sidetrack you. He is the only way and there is no other. Jesus said the Kingdom of God is a "Restricted Area" not everyone will be going there!

Only those in a relationship with Him, only those who come on God's terms, and those terms are narrow will be allowed in. To paraphrase then; just attending the right church, singing the right songs, believing in the right creed and seeming to be part of a family, is not enough!

UPCOMING EVENTS

HS Youth Group Kickoff	September 4
Sunday School Begins	September 8
Church Family Picnic & Games	September 8
Awana Fun Fair	September 11
Todd Becker Foundation	October

Remember Jesus was not politically correct; He spoke of a narrow door, and therefore Christianity is an exclusive religion. There is no salvation apart from Jesus, there is no forgiveness of sin apart from Jesus, and there is no eternal life apart from Jesus!

Pastor Ron is available for pastoral care and visitation. Hours:

Monday 10 AM-3 PM, 4-7 PM

Tuesday 1-5 PM

Wednesday 10 AM 3 PM, 4-7 PM

Thursday 10 AM-3 PM, 4-7 PM

or contact him on his **cell phone (772) 349-7462**
or **parsonage 337-3294**



Church Council Minutes

Trinity Lutheran Church Council August 19, 2019

Present: Lee Hanten, Todd Strand, Toby Qualm, Connie Kirsch, Jerry Dykstra, Spencer DeHaan, Tana Huizenga, Kevin Severson, Shirley Johnson, Brad DeVries, and Pastor Ron Hughes.

The meeting was called to order by President Lee Hanten. Pastor Ron led with devotional and prayer.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

The secretary's report was read. Todd Strand made a motion to approve with a second from Kevin Severson. Motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT

The treasurer's report was read. Todd Strand made a motion to approve with a second from Connie Kirsch. Motion carried.

TRUSTEE'S REPORT

MIDSTATE ACCOUNT: Right now Toby Qualm, Lee Hanten, and Wendy Wollman are on the account with Midstate Communications. Lee will contact them about adding trustee, Spencer DeHaan, to the account.

SANCTUARY LIGHTS: A few lights in the sanctuary are out and this will be addressed.

TILES IN FELLOWSHIP HALL: Some of the acoustic tiles in the fellowship hall are in need of repair. Contact will be made with the company who originally put them in.

DEACON'S REPORT

Shirley Johnson said visits have been made to members of the congregation.

OLD BUSINESS

WEB SITE: The web site is up and running. We are not streaming the services as we need another \$5000 to purchase equipment for that capability. Wendy Wollman is the administrator for the site so if there is anything that needs to be added, she would be the contact person.

SOUND SYSTEM: The sound system is working better.

NEW BUSINESS

FURNISHINGS PRICE: The council was asked to come up with a fair price for the furniture/appliances that Morris Johnson made available to furnish the parsonage. Toby Qualm made a motion to pay Morris \$500 with a second from Brad DeVries. Motion carried.

PARISHONER INPUT: Jim Holter, Jeff Olsen, and Jonna DeHaan attended a portion of the council meeting to inquire about what funds are being included in the "thermometer" scale for the basement project and why the building fund is not being used to fix the basement. Discussion was held if it is indeed an emergency that needs to be fixed right now or if we can leave as is without further damage until the money is in hand. It was decided there will be a congregational meeting during church on September 8, 2019 to give an update on the project and explain what funds are available for use.

FUNDRAISER: The next fundraiser for the basement project will be pledge cards. Pastor Ron graciously volunteered his wife to get those ready to pass out at the Sept 8, 2019 service.

COMMUNION FREQUENCY: Discussion was held regarding changing the communion frequency from monthly to twice monthly instead. The church by-laws were read and they do not state how often communion will take place. It was noted that changes can and will happen during this transition period with an interim minister and also when a permanent pastor is hired.

CONFIRMATION CLASS: Pastor Ron will be teaching the confirmation class. He will also be visiting the other classrooms. The Board of Ed will find someone to help with the confirmation class.

PASTOR'S REPORT

Pastor Ron provided a printout of the visitations and meetings he has attended since he has been here along with hours worked. Also listed baptisms, funerals, and nursing home/assisted living visits.

PASTORAL CALL COMMITTEE UPDATE

Kevin Severson gave a quick update. Ten resumes had been received. Seven of those candidates made the first cut and each one will be contacted by a member of the committee this week.

Connie Kirsch made a motion to adjourn with a second from Shirley Johnson. The meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted, Connie Kirsch

From the WOW Co-Presidents

Deb VanDerWerff & Jan DuFrain

Devotional taken from Hope & Passion Ministries

Fall. It is a season that reminds us of endings. Once thriving leaves now drop from their branches bursting with color, but dying. Beautiful summer flowers have lost their grandeur and now succumb to hues of brown and gray. Colder temperatures flow in and bright, long days full of sunshine move out. We are caught between summer and winter in the fleeting uniqueness of autumn.

*As we enjoy the changes of fall, let it remind us of a vital truth. I believe God intends for us to see with physical eyes something that points to a lasting, spiritual truth. When you look at a fallen leaf or disintegrating, summer flower, think this thought: **"All men are like grass, and all their glory is like the flowers of the field; the grass withers and the flowers fall, but the word of the Lord stands forever."** (1 Peter 1:24 NIV)*

Let the crinkling leaves and fallen blossoms remind us of something God wants always at the base of our thinking—we are finite and fallen and soon to pass. Any glory we claim to have is as transitory as summer leaves. We live and we die. We seek to accomplish much, but in the end we disappear from this earth. We cannot prevent our own demise. We stand helpless before our "fall." Except for one thing!

Notice the severe difference God highlights between people and His Word. People wither and fall as the grass. God's Word stands forever! God's Word never bends, stoops, or loses its glory. Its beauty never fades; it's "color" never wanes. No season comes that stops God's Word. No weather pattern knocks God's Word down. No disease causes His Word to waste away. No disaster or tragedy causes His Word to twist or weaken. Through every change, through every heart break, through every earth-shattering event, through death itself; the Word of God stands!

God purposely showed us the drastic difference between our glory and His Word in 1 Peter to stay focused on Him and not our own selves. I believe on the reasons for autumn is to demonstrate through His creation an important reminder about human nature when compared to God. Our failing attempts and His trust worthy ways. Of Our sinfulness and His holiness. Of our dependence and His self-sufficiency. Of our need for His Word at the deepest and broadest levels.

You see, God reminds us at the end of 1 Peter 1:25 "And this the word that was preached to you." This is no small or incidental statement! The Word that stands forever

WOW Treasurer's Report

Balance on hand August 1, 2019	\$3490.87
August Bible Study offering	\$222.00
Ruth Burnham memorials	\$430.00
Mount Funeral Home	\$150.00
Balance on hand August 31, 2019	\$4292.87

Bible Study Groups:

Pilot Lesson with Pastor Ron

Monday, September 16th at 3:00 pm

Priscilla Bible Study

Wednesday, September 18th at 7:00 pm

Lesson Leader: Maylou Stanforth

Hostess: Deb VanDerWerff

Hannah Bible Study

Thursday, September 19th at 2:00 pm

Lesson Leader: Karen Dimick

Hostess: Karen Dimick

Martha Bible Study Group

Thursday, September 26th at 7:00 pm

WOW September Mission Projects

September Mission projects are Fleece blankets for Family Connection and Health Kits and Toilet Paper for Needy Nook & Tanta's House.

can be accepted into your own heart! The seed of God's Word can be planted in your soul so that the death of you is certainly not the end of you!

*God expresses this hope very succinctly in 1 Peter 1:22, **"For you have been born again, not of perishable seed, but of imperishable, through the living and enduring word of God."** Do you see it? We can be born again of an imperishable seed through God's Word! When I put my hope for forgiveness and salvation in Jesus Christ, I am born of a seed that cannot be abolished—a seed that unbending life. Come seasons, winds, storms, difficulties, even death itself; but I will survive and live forever because the everlasting Word of God has been preached to me. And I have gladly and humbly accepted!*

This Month's Birthdays

9/2	Phyllis Daum	9/15	Ella Holter	9/21	Frank Cutler
9/4	Lee Hanten	9/22	Henry Hegge	9/22	Bohden Schrank
9/4	Jeremiah Konechne	9/16	Zachary Warejcka	9/23	Shirley Johnson
9/6	Jorie Nelson	9/17	LaDene Nelson*	9/23	Abigail Konechne
9/6	Rhona Nelson	9/18	Jay VanDerWerff	9/25	Kolbi Hoffman
9/7	Mick Warejcka	9/18	Skyler Hanten	9/25	Ryker Nachtigal
9/10	Kali Vanden Berge	9/19	Melody Olson	9/26	Kelly Weisser
9/13	Josie DeHaan	9/19	Toby Qualm	9/26	Sonny Qualm*
9/13	Wendy Wollman	9/19	Tony Schrank	9/29	Roxanne Van Zee



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

Communion Servers

1st & 3rd Sundays of the Month

LeRoy Severson
Spencer DeHaan
Brad DeVries

Ushers

1—Scott Vanden Berge & Steve Spawn
8—Scott Vanden Berge & Steve Spawn
15—Randy & Foster Tegethoff
22—Randy & Foster Tegethoff
29—LeRoy Severson & Todd Strand

Coffee/Cookie Servers

1—Dawn Konstanz & Jeanne Kott
8—Traci Kott, Mary Beth Kuiper, Gladys Kuipers
15—Erynn Meyerink, Tricia Meyerink, Jan DuFrain
22—Alisha Nachtigal, Nicki Nelson, Wendy Wollman
29—Donna Nelson, Paula Nelson, Susan Nelson

Greeters

1—Kevin & Susan Nelson
8—Gary & Paula Nelson
15—Christ & Nicki Nelson
22—Andrew & Alisha Nachtigal
29—George & Nancy Miller

Youth Group

High School Youth Group kick-off is Wednesday, September 4th at 6:30-8:30 PM at the softball complex. They will usually meet at Trinity Lutheran Church from 7-9 PM.

Junior High Youth Group meets every Wednesday at Christian Reformed Church. 6:30-6:45 PM Food & hang out time. 6:45-8:15 Games, Teaching & Small groups

Notice: Congregational Meeting

There will be a **congregational meeting during church** on September 8, 2019 to give an update on the basement project and explain what funds are available for use on that project. The total raised to date for the basement project is \$14,972.93 of the \$50,000 goal.

Thrivent Financial Members

Members of Thrivent Financial, just a reminder that if you are a benefit member you are eligible to support two Thrivent Action team events per year and if you are an Associate Member you are eligible for one event per year. If you are a member and are not using your Action Team Dollars for your own personal event, please keep our Trinity Women of the Word group in mind. We could use this money in a variety of ways: Soup Supper, Fleece Blanket Project, quilts, Health Kits, our Purse Project or a number of other mission projects we support. Contact any WOW board member and let them know if you want to contribute in this way.

Mission Fund Offering

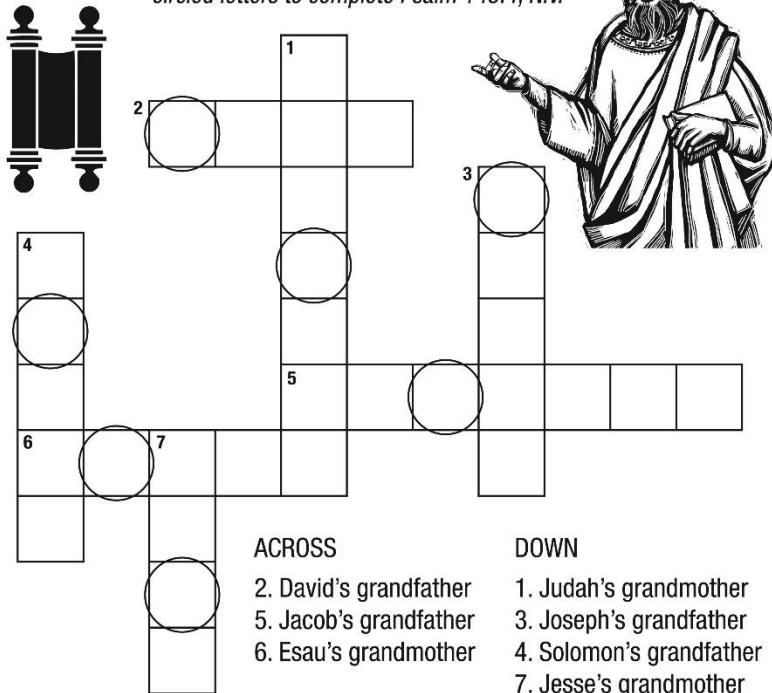
This month's mission fund offering will be designated towards the junior high and senior high youth groups. We will take this offering on Sunday, September 15th. Please make checks payable to "Trinity Lutheran Church."



Grandparents of the Old Testament

Can you name these biblical grandparents? If you get stuck, find an Old Testament family tree in your Bible or online.

Directions: After filling in the crossword, unscramble the circled letters to complete Psalm 145:4, NIV.



ACROSS

2. David's grandfather
5. Jacob's grandfather
6. Esau's grandmother

DOWN

1. Judah's grandmother
3. Joseph's grandfather
4. Solomon's grandfather
7. Jesse's grandmother

One G _ N _ _ _ _ N commends your works to another; they tell of your mighty acts. Psalm 145:4, NIV

Answers: ACROSS 2. Obed, 5. Abraham, 6. Sarah; DOWN: 1. Rebekah, 3. Isaac, 4. Jesse, 7. Ruth. Generation



GROWING generations

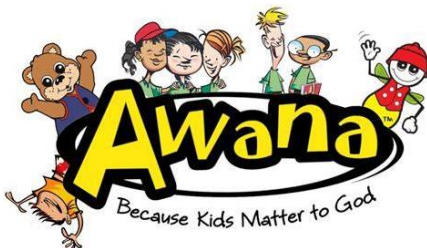
Honor your grandparents with a gift that all generations can enjoy.

What you need:

- Cups (various sizes)
- Pencil
- Family photos
- Scissors
- Colored paper
- Hot glue (and adult help)
- Clothespins
- A small potted tree or bush

What you do:

1. Use a cup to trace a circle around faces in the photos. Cut out the circles.
2. Cut larger circles out of paper. Glue each photo onto a paper circle.
3. Glue a clothespin to the back of each photo. Clip photos to the branches.
4. Present the gift to your grandparents, and tell them you're glad to be in their family tree.



The whole family is invited to the Awana Fun Fair at Calvary Baptist Church on **Wednesday, September 11 at 6:30 pm**. Awana is for kids ages 4 through 5th grade. Leaders and helpers still are needed.

Sunday, September 8



Sunday School Kickoff & Teacher Installation

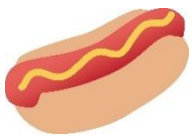
During the worship service,
we will be releasing balloons and praying over our year.

First Day of Sunday School

10:45 - 11:45 a.m.

Co-TEACHERS still NEEDED!

Contact the Board of Ed if you would be willing to offer your time this year!



Church Family Picnic & Games

Stay for a church family picnic and games at Noon

Serving burgers and hotdogs and fixings!

Search Committee Minutes

TLC Search Committee 8/18/19:

The committee met to review applicants that had responded to the letter/email/posting of the open pastor position at Trinity. The co-chairs, Jeff and Jonna, have been handling the applications and resumes. The committee members all received a copy of resumes for review prior to the meeting. There were 10 applicants at the time of the meeting. Upon some initial review, three were eliminated. The other seven we will be in communication with. Each member of the committee was assigned an applicant to review and reach out to correspond with. The committee agreed that there is no immediate urgency and we will allow some time for other applicants to roll in as well. We also plan to involve Pastor Ron at the next meeting to update us on feedback he is receiving from the people that could be helpful in our search. The next meeting is after worship on Sunday, August 25 where we will share updates on existing candidates and review any new ones.

TLC Search Committee 8/25/19:

The committee met after worship, and each member gave an update on the candidate they were to review and contact. One candidate has withdrawn his application due to a family issue that would not allow him to relocate. One more new application was received since we last met, and we will be in correspondence with him as well. We will continue to pursue candidates and filter for ones that are worthy of interviews. Pastor Ron was invited to share feedback he has gained from some of his visitation with congregational members. The committee will meet again on Monday, September 9th.