

## Searching? Start here!

LIVING LUTHERAN is a process that allows you to ask questions you've always wanted to ask. Any question having to do with:

-God, The Bible, life, Jesus, spirituality, church, religion-- are all welcome.

## Just curious?

LIVING LUTHERAN also offers the opportunity to discover the basic teachings of Lutheranism, which are drawn from Holy Scripture. You can really sink your teeth into this one!

For more information about LIVING LUTHERAN, contact Pastor Doug Hoag at 815-485-6973 or by email at [douglashoag@gmail.com](mailto:douglashoag@gmail.com)

### Trinity Lutheran Church

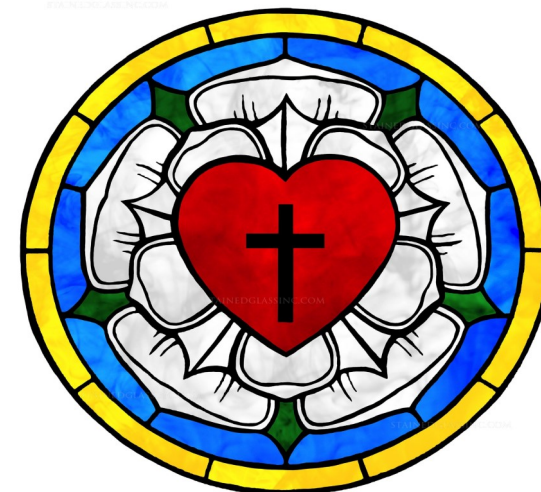
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(Sept-May), Sun. 9am (Jun-Aug)

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## LIVING LUTHERAN

### Exploring the Christian Faith

Beginning October 2016



*Christ alone, Grace alone, Faith alone*

## How does it work?

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LIVING LUTHERAN consists of 3 phases:

1. Inquiry
2. Candidacy
3. Baptism and/or Confirmation

### Phase 1: Inquiry

This phase is for the true seeker who has little to no exposure to church, has many questions or is looking for a sure and solid foundation. In this flexibly structured phase, Inquirers will be grouped with a Mentor and other Inquirers. Inquiry Groups will then listen to a text from The Bible. Inquirers will be encouraged to ask questions or express concerns about the text that was read. For those desiring less structure, Inquiry Groups will be formed that will allow Inquirers to ask questions.

Inquiry Groups will meet year round, excluding summer. There will be no pressure to continue; you may discontinue at any time. After this Phase, you may move on to Phase 2 if you so desire.

Contact Pastor Hoag if you wish to join an Inquiry Group at [douglashoag@gmail.com](mailto:douglashoag@gmail.com)



### Phase 2: Candidacy

This phase is for people who have exposure to church and/or are curious about Lutheranism. Completion of this phase qualifies the Candidate for Baptism (if never baptized) and/or Confirmation into the Lutheran Church.

During this phase, Pastor Hoag will instruct the Candidates in the core teachings of the Lutheran Church using Dr. Martin Luther's Small Catechism of 1530 and other confessional documents.

Instruction in worship will also be given. Candidacy is offered throughout the year at different times.

Candidates will also be given a Sponsor who is a well-established member of Trinity. The Sponsor will offer encouragement, friendship, and prayer for the Candidate. If the Candidate chooses to move on to Phase 3, the Sponsor will be present at the time of the Candidate's Baptism and/or Confirmation.

If you are interested in becoming a Candidate, contact Pastor Hoag at 815-485-6973 or at [douglashoag@gmail.com](mailto:douglashoag@gmail.com).

### Phase 3: Baptism and/or Confirmation

After completing Phase 2, the Candidate is now eligible for the next step.— Baptism in the name of the Triune God (if never baptized), and/or Confirmation (a reaffirmation of Baptism). This phase is a time of great joy and celebration, as the Candidate is welcomed into the Lutheran Church and the fellowship of Trinity. Phase 3 is done publically during a worship service.

If you are interested or have any questions, contact Pastor Hoag at 815-485-6973 or at [douglashoag@gmail.com](mailto:douglashoag@gmail.com).

