

September 2016

Dear Friends,

Last month I talked about a new process that will be starting soon at Trinity, called *Living Lutheran*. I am looking for people to act as sponsors for people going through the process. To see what is involved with this, please look for **Sponsors for Candidates in Living Lutheran** elsewhere in this newsletter. Read it, pray about it, and consider being a sponsor. Individuals, couples, families, or any member of Trinity can do this. Please contact me if you have any questions about being a sponsor or about the Living Lutheran process.

Also, I'm putting together a test group for Living Lutheran that will run in September and need people to act as "Inquirers", or people who ask questions about a Biblical text with assigned mentors. Contact me if you would like to serve in this capacity.

In Christ,
Pastor Hoag



2016 Newsletter

Summer is over, schools are back in session. It is time to get back to our regular fall schedules. Our church organizations will also resume.



Our fall/winter worship schedule will resume on Sunday, September 11th as follows:

Saturday - Contemporary Service – 5:00 p.m.
Sunday - Traditional Service – 8:00 and 10:30 a.m.
Sunday School Rally Day & Bible Class – 9:15 a.m.



Ushers – we are using the same fall schedule as last year. Be sure to check the schedule for the dates you are scheduled to usher.



Sunday School Rally Day is Sunday, September 11th at 9:15 a.m. If have any questions or need more information, please talk to Judi Donovan or call the church office at 815.485.6973.



From Council President, Jeff McDonald

August was another productive month at Trinity. We saw the balance of the windows in the gym get replaced by Dan Bay and Virgil Switzer, which marks the conclusion of this project. The new windows are solid panes of glass that should give us much more efficiency in the gym, but the visible improvement is that none of them are cracked. As you may recall, the majority of the windows on the north side of the gym had cracks or holes in them so the new windows not only look better, but they offer much greater insulation as well.

Our courtyard regrading project also made significant progress in August, with the removal of the sidewalk in the courtyard and the installation of all new drain pipes. We anticipate new sidewalks will be poured during the month of September after things have had a chance to settle a bit more in the courtyard. This project should help with drainage of rain water in the courtyard (notably keeping it away from the building) and it will also give us new sidewalks in the

courtyard. From a building maintenance perspective, this was identified by our property committee as our top priority for 2016 so it is great to see this project completed.

In addition to his custodial duties, Virgil has also volunteered considerable time at Trinity tackling projects such as our exterior lights (stripping and restoring them back to their copper finish) and our interior railings (scraping and repainting them). Thanks to Bob Jackman too, for helping with these interior railings. When you see Virgil at church, ask him to show you some of the things he has accomplished there. He takes pride in the work that he does, and for good reason.

The ‘final step’ in our new front stairs is the installation of a new hand railing on either side of the steps, which is currently pending approval with the Village. Once we gain their approval of our plans, the new railing will be installed and we will be done with this project (at long last!).

Next up for our property team is the office remodel project, which we have detailed in previous newsletters. We hope to do this project in September and there are likely to be opportunities for members to pitch in and help with various tasks that will be part of this project. Please watch the bulletins for volunteer opportunities and help us if you are able.

We have received some generous donations toward these projects, but a good portion of the total cost remains unfunded as of this writing. We do have some money in savings that we can use if needed for these projects, but I wanted to make an appeal for donations to all members in hopes that we can preserve our savings for use in an emergency. Please be assured that we will not be depleting our savings for these projects, but we may need to use some savings to fund them and our goal is to keep that to a minimum. We have an incredibly generous congregation at Trinity and I suspect I have been pushing the envelope a bit over the last couple of years with all of my appeals for donations. But at the same time, we are making some really nice improvements to our house of worship and these invariably come to us at a cost. Growing up in the Lutheran church, I can still vividly remember our Pastor instilling in us the notion of leaving things better than we had found them. I am very happy to see the improvements we are making at Trinity, and feel that the care our congregation is taking of Trinity will make this a better church for generations to come. Checks with “Capital Projects” in the memo line will be designated for use in these projects. On behalf of church council, thank you for all of your support to date, and thanks in advance for any assistance you’re able to offer going forward. Together, we make Trinity a better place.



Volunteer(s) needed! We are asking for help in addressing the landscaping around our two newly update entrances. We are seeking input for the church entrance on Cedar (by the new stairs) and also to help finalize the Elm Street entrance for the lift. If you are interested in lending a hand to this project, please contact Jeff McDonald for more details.

Member News

Marriage: Whitney Strauss and Jeremy Paul, August 20, 2016

Visit us on the web at www.trinitynewlenox.org

Join Us!

Sponsors of Candidates in *Living Lutheran*

Sponsors are congregation members who walk through the process with an individual. They serve as the link to the congregation as the candidate continues to learn about the Lutheran Church, and to grow and mature in the Christian faith.

The basic responsibilities of a sponsor are to attend; to encourage; to listen and to pray. Sponsors attend the Divine Service and accompany the candidates in the different rites that take place in church during their instruction. Whenever possible, they attend the catechesis (instruction) sessions each Sunday with the candidate. They encourage candidates as they make their way through catechesis. At times, if candidates don't fully understand, they may be hesitant to admit this during catechesis or to ask a question. They may feel more comfortable asking their sponsor. Sponsors listen to the questions and concerns that candidates may have. The sponsors are not expected to know the answer to every question. If they don't know the answer, they indicate that they can find out the answer from pastor. A sponsor prays daily for the candidate.

Trinity members are enrolled as sponsors in September. Once enrolled, they will want to mark their calendars so that they can be present in church for the Admission into the Candidacy in October; for the Enrollment of Candidates on the First Sunday in Advent; for the Blessing of Candidates on the Third and Fourth Sundays in Advent (subject to change). They will plan on attending Christmas Eve worship (when the candidates will reaffirm their Baptisms) and the Mystagogy session at a time to be determined.

This process will be repeated in the Spring and timed with Holy Week and Easter.

It is a great privilege to take part in the process by which an individual enters into the Lutheran Church. It is also a wonderful opportunity to grow in knowledge and maturity as a Christian. If you are interested in serving as a sponsor in the candidacy at Trinity, or have questions about it, please contact Pastor Hoag.

Phases of Living Lutheran

- 1. Inquiry**
- 2. Candidacy**
- 3. Baptism or Reaffirmation of Baptism and Mystagogy**



Confirmation Classes will be held each Wednesday at 6:00 p.m.

Confirmation Orientation/First Day of Class is Wednesday, September 7th. If you have any questions or need more information, please contact Pastor Hoag or call the church office at 815.485.6973.



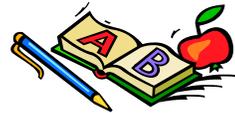
Wednesday morning Adult Bible Study will begin on Wednesday, September 7th at 8:30 a.m. in the library. It is a very interesting group and everyone is welcome to join.



Church Council will meet on Sunday, September 11th at 7:00 p.m.

Preschool News and Information

2016-2017 Trinity Pre-School



AM spots still available please tell your friends and neighbors!

There is a non-refundable registration fee of \$60.00 per student. For the school year beginning September 2016, the tuition per month will be \$105 for two day students and \$130 for three day students. Children must be 3 by September 1, 2016. For further information, please call Trinity Lutheran Church at 815.485.6973. Pre-School begins on Tuesday, September 6th.



Blood Drive – Monday, September 26th from 3:00 – 6:00 p.m. at Trinity Lutheran Church. To schedule an appointment, please sign up online at www.heartlandbc.org or call Debbie Aiken at 815.462.0687. *Prepare for your donation – Eat Well – Stay Hydrated – Bring ID. ACT NOW. GIVE BLOOD. Mark your calendar!*



Our organizations will be back in full swing in September.

Ladies would you like to get acquainted with fellow church members? All ladies are invited and encouraged to attend one of our ladies' groups. Joining a group helps you get acquainted with fellow members. *Due to Labor Day being the first Monday, Chancel Guild and Social Meetings have been pushed back one week.*

Chancel Guild will meet on Monday, September 12th at 6:30 p.m.

Social Ministry will meet on Monday, September 19th at 7:00 p.m.

Women's League will meet on Tuesday, September 27th at 12:30 p.m.

Please call the church office if you have any questions, or would like further information about any of these organizations.



Choir practice will begin on Wednesday, September 7th at 7:00 p.m. New voices are always welcome – “both male and female”. If you have any questions, please call the choir director, Julie Verchimak at 815.723.1429 or call the church office at 815.485.6973.



Chancel Guild: All ladies are welcome to join us.

Next meeting is September 12th at 6:30 pm; hostesses are Christine Stark and Doris Bay.



Women’s League

Next meeting is September 29th at 12:30 p.m. All ladies are invited. They will be tying fleece blankets to be given to MorningStar Mission. This is a fun time together and everyone is welcome to attend. You do not need to be a member to come to any meeting. Hostesses will be Ann Wennlund and Jan Schlak.



Weekly Coffee Fellowship. Thank you to all the coffee hosts who have been serving each month. We had a couple first time hosts this year, and truly appreciate your help. **Coffee Fellowship is held after the 8:00 a.m. Sunday morning service. It is a great way for members to get acquainted. Be sure to stop in.**

We are in need of a couple volunteers for the First Sunday of February and August; and also the Fourth Sunday of the month.

“First Sunday” -- Six ladies have been covering the First Sundays of the month, but we are now in need of a replacement to cover the First Sunday in February and August. **This is a twice a year obligation.** If you are able to help, please contact the church office at 815.485.6973

“Fourth Sunday” – Thank you to two members who” volunteered” to make coffee on the 4th Sunday of September and October. **We still have one opening for this coming November.** The sign-up sheet is on the hall table. Please take a turn and volunteer. If you have any questions about what is involved in this, please call the church office at 815.485.6973



Chancel Guild – Annual Fall Salad Luncheon



Wednesday, October 5th from 11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
Tickets: \$8.00 Carry Outs Available! Men are welcome!

The Women's League members will be furnishing the desserts. This is Chancel's only fundraiser and all proceeds will be used to replace and or purchase altar linens and supplies. Tickets may be purchased from any chancel member or through the church office. If you have any questions or would like to purchase tickets, call the church office at 815.485.6973.



Social Ministry

Our next meeting will be held on Monday, September 19th at Sue Kunce's home at 7:00 p.m. All ladies of the congregation are welcome. We are always open to some new ideas or suggestions.



YOUTH GROUP EVENTS

Craft Fair – Our Craft & Vendor Fair will be Saturday, October 15, 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. We are currently looking for crafters and vendors who wish to have a booth at our fair. Contact Donna Cuthbert at rusty351@ameritech.net or Michelle Hoag at hoagmichelle@msn.com to register.



Luther exhibit at Minneapolis Museum of Art – More than 100 objects that have never traveled to North America are coming to the Minneapolis Institute of Art from the Luther House in Wittenberg, Germany. **We would like to offer a trip to see this as well as the Mall of America and Concordia University in St. Paul to youth instead of our normal lock-in, plus any adults interested in going. Tentative dates are the weekend of Thanksgiving.** Please talk to Michelle Hoag so we can see if we have enough interest to plan out the trip.



ALTAR FLOWERS: Thanks to everyone who has signed up to donate flowers for our altar. There are still a couple open weeks. Check the calendar to see which weeks are still open. If you missed signing up for a special date, please contact Kay Purnell at 815.485.9017 or email her at purnellk51@hotmail.com, it may be possible to share a week with another member. The cost of the flowers is \$8.50 per vase or \$17.00 for both vases. The flowers may be picked up after the Sunday service.



St. Matthew's Lutheran Church

Thank you to everyone for continuing to support St. Matthew's through food, clothing, monetary donations or delivering these items to St. Matthew's. These items help St. Matthew's in feeding the hungry and homeless in the Pilsen neighborhood. We are asking that members donate food and paper supplies for their twice weekly meals, to be placed in the designated containers by the parking lot entrance. Household items should be placed in the storage closet area at the far North end of the church basement. Please place the items carefully so they do not block the aisle to the boiler room.



Thanks to everyone who signed up last month as a reader, greeter or a volunteer for the MorningStar serving. Your help is greatly appreciated.

Readers and Greeters. The sign-up sheets for September are on the table. Please sign up for the date(s) you would be willing to help out. Readers ... if you'd like a copy of the readings ahead of time, please call the church office at 815.485.6973.

MorningStar Mission. The September sign-up sheet is on the hallway table. Servings will be September 5th and September 19th.



Medical Equipment. If you, or someone you know, needs some medical equipment (wheelchair, walker, crutches, shower stools, etc.) **these items are available at the New Lenox Township Office, 1100 S. Cedar Road, New Lenox. Residents may borrow this equipment as long as needed, at no charge.** When you are finished with it, please return it so it is available for someone else. Stop at their office and see what is available.



Sharefest New Lenox. September 1st - 17th.

ShareFest is an annual event in New Lenox involving over 103 organizations. During this time, they unite as Proud Americans to meet the needs in the community. This is open to the community. For more info please call 815.727.1614 or visit www.charefestnewlenox.com.

September 1st – 17th Donate books, clothes, food, home goods, pet supplies, and items for our Troops. Donation trucks are located at St. Jude Catholic church and Standard Bank.

September 10th – Recyclepalooza, at Spencer School Campus, 1711 S. Spencer rd. from 8:00 am – 3:00 p.m.: Electronics, carpet padding (in 45 lengths), wood, scrap metal, Styrofoam, flags, usable latex paint; Donations of books, clothes, home good, food, pet supplies, items for the troops

September 15th – Job & Resource Fair – at New Life Church, 500 S. Gougar Rd., New Lenox. 50 local employers looking to hire! 1:00 – 4:00 p.m.

September 17th - ShareFest Saturday – “The Main Event” at Spencer School Campus
Art Exhibition, Book Drive/Exchange; Clothes & Toy Drive (new or gently used); Food Drive; Collection for our Troops; Free Legal Services; Free Hair Cuts; Health & Safety Fair; Cache Creek Pets (collection of food, blankets, bowls and pet supplies) NAWS Pets; Forest Preserve Workday Projects.

Volunteers are needed. For more information or to register to volunteer, please call 815.717.2614, or visit at www.sharefestnewlenox.com or www.sharefestwillcounty.com



THRIVENT FINANCIAL

“Your Journey, Retirement, Taxes and Generosity”- Thursday, September 15th at 7:00 p.m. here at Trinity. Please join guest speakers Joseph Dueda and Tim Regan. They will walk you through the journey of preparing for, transitioning into, and arriving at retirement. Developing a strategy to help make the right decisions to achieve your goals and control taxes. Living your values and financially supporting the people, ideals, and organizations that are important to you. This complimentary event is hosted by Thrivent Financial and your local representatives, Tim Regan and Kevin Jensen. **Please call Rachel at 708.326.4750 or email Rachel.thomas@thrivent.com to reserve a place for yourself and a guest.**

TRINITY SERVICES:

Horticulture Program, Annual Fall Plant and Mum Sal, Monday thru Friday, September 12-16 – 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. 100 N. Gougar Road, New Lenox.

Petals and Twiggs - Ladies Might Out – Friday, September 23rd - 6:00 pm to 8:30 p.m. – 427 W. Francis Road, New Lenox.

Cornerstone Church of Lincolnway Women's Ministry "Fall Into the Arms of Jesus" – Saturday, October 15th 10:00 am– 12:00 Noon, 1501 Gougar Rd., New Lenox. Guest speaker: Janet Willis. Janet shares her story on how God turned her tragedy into triumph! Tickets on sale till October 7th - \$10.00 per person. Call 815.462.7700 for tickets or more information.

Silver Crossings Vendor /Craft Fair – Saturday, October 22nd from 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. *Silver Cross Hospital Conference Center, 1890 Silver Cross Blvd., New Lenox.*



Wednesday, September 7 – "A Pathway to Hope & Healing" Healing Hearts Survivors of Suicide Support Group Meeting. Time: 6:00 – 8:30 p.m. at New Lenox Village Hall Community Room, 1 Veterans Parkway, New Lenox. This is a FREE event. To register please call Daniel Martin, Public Safety Division Chief at the News Lenox Police Department 815.462.6128 or email: dmartin@newlenox.net.

Healing Hearts Survivors of Suicide Support Group Meetings; Third Monday of each month from 7:00 - 8:30 p.m. Location: New Lenox Police Dept., 20 Veterans Parkway, New Lenox. For info please contact Dan Martin, Public Safety Division Chief atdmartrin@newlenox.net or call 815.462.6128.

Opiate Recovery Group – Tuesday evenings from 7:00 – 8:30 p.m. at Peace Lutheran Church, New Lenox (across from Lincoln-Way Central High School). For more information please contact Tom Moore at 815.354.3195.



Portals of Prayer from October through December are in the wall rack in the Narthex and also on the hallway table. Pick up a copy.



Church office hours are Monday and Thursday, 9-3; Tuesday and Friday, 9- 12.