

August 2018

Dear Friends of Trinity,

We are saved by grace through faith in our Lord Jesus Christ. This is the Gospel in a nutshell. And most people have a tough time with this. Even we Lutherans can do a double take on this occasionally.

There is a part of us that resists the Gospel. It is a natural part of being human. We walk by sight and not by faith. We are usually encouraged to live like this every single day.

That is why hearing the Gospel is so important. It is the duty of the Holy Spirit to keep you in the faith, not yours. He works through the Word of God, giving faith and hope in the merits of Christ and not in ourselves.

God has done everything for us and for our salvation. We simply receive. We believe it and we don't at the same time. And the battle rages on within us. But engaging this battle between belief and unbelief is a good thing. That is the theme of the hymns that talk about us as soldiers. The battle is within us.

The battle ceases at death. It's over. Christ wins the victory! Be encouraged by that and have no fear of the outcome.

In Christ,  
Pastor Hoag



## August 2018 Newsletter

*Hope you are enjoying your summer. Students will be heading back to school soon. Our church organizations are still on summer breaks, but will start again in September.*

Our summer church service schedule will continue through Sunday, September 2<sup>nd</sup>, with the Saturday contemporary services at 5:00 p.m., and the Sunday traditional worship services at 9:00 a.m. Communion will be served on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> weekends.



**Our fall/winter schedule will resume on Sunday, September 9, 2018**

**Saturday contemporary service – 5:00 p.m.**

**Sunday traditional service – 8:00 and 10:30 a.m.**

**Sunday School and Bible Class – 9:15 a.m.**



**Sunday School will resume on Sunday, September 9<sup>th</sup> at 9:15 a.m.**

If your child enjoyed VBS please bring them to Sunday School. We have classes for preschool – high school. Many of the VBS staff members are also involved in our Sunday School.



**Updates from Jeff McDonald, Council President:** Our office move project that began with Pastor Hoag taking over the Youth Room and the Youth moving to the basement has now culminated with Judi moving into Pastor Hoag's old office and Judi's former office (our long-standing secretary's office) turning into a general use office for the church. Our various groups (Sunday School, Church Council, Youth, Social Ministry, etc.) will be able to use the office now, and we are also able to move our choir music cabinets out of the attic and store them in the office as well. Counting of our offerings can resume in the office as well now that this project is complete, so the ultimate goal of making better use of our existing space has been achieved. The final stage of this was to replace the carpeting in these last two offices, and we opted to replace the stained carpeting in our library as well. All five of the upstairs rooms now have new carpeting, and we opted to install carpet squares so that we can replace squares if and when that becomes necessary. It's been a steady improvement, and the finished product looks great! Our thanks to all involved in this project, with particular thanks to Jeff Lorenz, Dan Bay & Virgil Switzer for their many hours of work on this project.

July involved an unexpected purchase of a new air conditioning unit for our balcony. This was the oldest of our A/C units at Trinity, and it reached the end of its useful life rather abruptly in July. We were able to replace this unit with a new unit that is much quieter and more efficient as well. Our A/C units are now all fairly new, so hopefully we can get several years out of them before we need any additional A/C service calls.

I mentioned last month that we were waiting for a revised bid for our windows and that remains true as of this writing, although they have been out to reassess our needs and we expect to have a bid from them shortly. I have received strong support from several members about turning our attention to the fellowship hall kitchen if we elect not to proceed with a full window restoration, so that remains a good probability if we can find a way to make that work. I expect to have all of the figures available by the time Church Council meetings resume in September.



#### MEMBER UPDATES FOR JULY 2017

##### Baptisms:

Carter John Cox, son of Austin and Samantha (Paulsen) Cox, born June 13, 2018, baptized July 7, 2018  
Lola Bunny Curylo, daughter of Robert and Alexandra (Motz) Curylo, born October 8, 2017, baptized July 22, 2018

##### Deaths:

Paul Sandahl, June 5, 2018.  
Todd Larson, July 11, 2018



**SCRIP GIFT CARDS.** The Youth will continue with *the Scrip Fundraiser Program using the proceeds for the “Youth Convention” projects at church this year.*

**Note: During the summer months, we will have only once a month Scrip orders placed on the second Monday of the month. Upcoming deadline dates is August 13<sup>th</sup>.**

Please direct any questions you may have to Angie Minett at [minett411@yahoo.com](mailto:minett411@yahoo.com) or [\(815\)467-2537](tel:8154672537).  
**The next order deadline date is August 13<sup>th</sup>. Between now and August 13<sup>th</sup>, you may place your order/payment in the gold envelope which is hanging on the end of the desk in the church office.**



**Vacation Bible School** – Vacation Bible School was held June 25-29, 9:30-Noon. Our theme was Splash Canyon and we had 150 children from the age of 3 up through 5th grade attend.

The mission this year at VBS is “Water to Thrive”. This mission builds wells in Africa to provide fresh, clean water to villagers who would otherwise have to walk many miles, both ways, to have clean water to drink for their families. It takes \$5,000.00 to bring a well to a village.

The children who attended our VBS Program this year, raised \$907.69 toward a new well in Africa. If we raise \$1,000.00, the amount will go toward a well to be started soon. If we raise less than \$1,000.00, the money will go toward planning a well project.

The total raised so far with VBS and congregational giving is \$2,079.06.

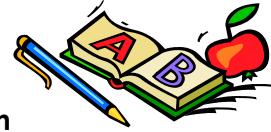
**Thank you to everyone who contributed to this mission project!!**

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Visit us on the web at [www.trinitynewlenox.org](http://www.trinitynewlenox.org)



Preschool News and Information



**2018-2019 Trinity Pre-School begins on Tuesday, September 4<sup>th</sup>.**

**Spots still available for both 3 and 4 yr olds - please tell your friends and neighbors!**

There is a non-refundable registration fee of \$60.00 per student. For the school year beginning September 2018 the tuition per month will be \$110 for two day students and \$135 for three day students. Children must be 3 by September 1, 2018. For further information, please call Trinity Lutheran Church at 815.485.6973. Pre-School begins on Tuesday, September 4<sup>th</sup>

Preschool is looking for donations of empty white plastic frosting containers. A box will be placed under the table in the hallway for these donations.



I ♥  
**MEETINGS**

**Our organizations will be back in full swing in September. All ladies are invited and encouraged to attend one of our groups.**

Church Council will meet on Sunday, September 9<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. in the library  
Chancel Guild will meet on Monday, September 10<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. in the church basement  
Social Ministry will meet on Monday, September 10<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m.



# Confirmation

**Confirmation Orientation – will be held on August 22<sup>nd</sup> at 6:00 p.m. in the church.**

All seventh and eighth grade students that will be attending Confirmation Classes should be in attendance at this meeting to hear about the changes to this year's classes.



**Wednesday morning Adult Bible Study will begin on Wednesday, September 5<sup>th</sup> at 8:30 a.m. in the library. It is a very interesting group and everyone is welcome to join.**

**Thursday night Adult Bible Study will begin on September 6<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. in the library. Come and join us.**



**Choir will resume in September. Watch upcoming bulletins for date and time. Choir is open to men and women. Everyone is welcome.**



## **Chancel Guild:**

We invite all women of Trinity to come visit our meeting and find out what we are about. We are a devoted, fun group of ladies who enjoy giving a little time to our church in a meaningful way.

The next meeting is September 10<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm; hostesses are Jan Prospero and Christine Stark.



**ALTAR FLOWERS:** Flowers are placed on our altar every weekend to enhance and beautify our altar area in memory of a loved one, to commemorate a birthday, wedding anniversary, or in celebration of God's blessings. **A 2018 flower chart showing open weekends has been posted in the cabinet across from the church office.** The flower order forms are attached to the cabinet. If you would like to sponsor flowers on a particular weekend, complete the form and place it along with a **check made out to Trinity Lutheran Chancel Guild** in the Chancel Guild mailbox in the church office. Please note the cost of the flowers has increased to \$30.00. If you want a date already chosen, it may be possible to share the date and the cost with permission from the person who has already selected the date. If you have any questions, please call Kay Purnell at (815) 485-9017 or email her at [purnellk51@hotmail.com](mailto:purnellk51@hotmail.com). Flowers may be picked up **after** the 9:00 am service. Thank you to all who participate!

### Social Ministry ----- Coffee Fellowship



Thank you to everyone who has continued to service coffee every month. We have had a few new hosts over the past few months. A special “thanks” to you. **We are still looking for a coffee “host” or “hostess” for the 4th Sunday for the months of August and November.** If you enjoy the coffee hour why not take a turn at being a host! **Without your help, coffee will not be served on the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday.** A sign-up sheet is on the hallway table. Please stop and sign up for the month, or months, that you would be able to serve. If you have any questions, please call the church office at 815.485.6973.



St. Matthew's. We are continuing to support St. Matthew's Lutheran Church in Chicago by collecting donations of non-perishable food items (see list of requested food items on the poster next to the collection box), as well as household goods. Please place the food items in the collection box by the parking lot door. The household items should be placed in the storage closet area at the far East end of the church basement. Please place items neatly 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.



**Greeters and Readers:**

Have you ever gone somewhere where you didn't know anyone? Imagine you are looking for a new church home and one of the churches on your list is Trinity. You show up on Sunday morning and no one speaks to you except the Pastor. Will you be coming back? Take a turn at greeting at one of our services and the result might be very surprising.

**VOLUNTEER SIGN-UP SHEETS.** Please take a turn to be a Reader or a Greeter at our worship service. Sign-up sheets for the month of August are on the hallway table for Readers and Greeters Stop and sign up!



**MorningStar Mission.** The August sign-up sheet is on the hallway table. Servings will be August 6<sup>th</sup> and August 20<sup>th</sup> at 3:45 p.m.



If you do not presently receive our monthly newsletter electronically, but would like to be added to our email list, please email [tlcsecretary508@gmail.com](mailto:tlcsecretary508@gmail.com) or call the office at 815.485.6973

Church office hours are Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 9AM to 2PM.

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