

July 2016

Dear Friends of Trinity,

The Bible is not a morality tale. It's not a collection of Aesop-like fables. It is a living history of salvation by God for humanity. It is the story of humanity trying, but failing, to save itself. It's about a world gone astray from the commands of God. Even God's own chosen people, the Israelites, constantly went astray. But God never abandoned them. He punished, but He also showed mercy. With God there is plentiful redemption and He will free people from their sins. He promised that there would be a time when He will forget the world's iniquity and remember their sins no more.

This new time was given in Jesus Christ. Jesus lived the life that people could not and would not live. Jesus died the death that the people deserved. Jesus rose from the dead to reveal the resurrection from the dead for the people. God accomplished for the world what the world could never accomplish for itself.

This truth frees us from awful burden of trying to accomplish salvation by our own merits. It also frees us from worrying about that, so that we could love and serve others. We won't do that perfectly in this life. In the next, we will! We are free to live now as we will live then.

Is morality a part of all of this? Sure it is! But remember that morality is not only avoiding doing bad and harmful things to ourselves and others. It is also doing good and beneficial things for others and ourselves.

I pray that you have a great summertime in the love of the Lord!

In Christ,
Pastor Hoag

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JULY 2016



SUMMER WORSHIP SERVICE SCHEDULE

(Through Sunday, September 4th)

Saturday Contemporary Worship Services are held at 5:00 p.m.

Sunday Traditional Worship Services are held at 9:00 a.m.

Communion will be served on the 2nd and 4th weekends.

***Ushers:** In the past the Sunday early service ushers covered the 9:00 am Sunday summer services. Due to so many people being out of town through the summer months, all ushers for both services are asked to help usher on their regular scheduled week.*

UPDATE

Update from Church Council President, Jeff McDonald.

We are half way through the calendar year and while some things slow down during the summer, Trinity remains a very active place! If you haven't yet had a chance to check out the new stairs in front of the church, please do the next time you're there. Terry Puttkammer has finished the stone work on the sides of the stairs and our front entrance is now nearly complete. We just need to have a railing added to the new stairs and we should be done with project at long last. While this took longer and cost more than we initially had hoped, the finished product is a great addition to the church that is not only structurally sound, but visually appealing as well. Our thanks to our property team, Scott Beaudry with Sterling Concrete and Terry Puttkammer on a job well done.

We also contracted with Dan Bay to install new windows in the gymnasium for us. Dan is having Virgil Switzer assist him with parts of this project and we hope to see this completed by the end of the month. One window was already replaced as a test and it is a marked improvement over the double-pane broken windows that are in there now. We also anticipate a much more efficient space once the new insulated glass is in.

We are also still moving forward with the regrading of the courtyard, which should help us to prevent water damage from the heavy rains we experience every spring. The

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other project that remains in the works is the remodeling and reassignment of our various church offices for optimal utilization and safety.

We've raised more than \$12,000 for these projects so far this year, and we'd like to thank all who have helped us to fund the projects so far. Trinity is really shaping up and we believe the enhancements we are making will preserve our house of worship for years to come. If you're inclined and able to help us with these projects, we do have a way to go monetarily before we will be in a position to fund all of the projects that are currently underway. We prayerfully request your support in hopes that we can complete these projects without incurring any additional debt.

Hopefully you are enjoying our summer services so far. We have just two services in the summer - the Saturday contemporary service (which is in the process of being updated) every Saturday at 5:00 p.m. and our traditional service on Sundays at 9:00 a.m. With one less service each week, we typically have more attendance at each service, which lends itself to a time of fellowship after the service. Please be sure to congregate in the gym after our services and interact with other members. It is a great way to enhance your overall worship experience as a member of Trinity.



2015-16 Trinity Pre-School

AM spots 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, 2015. For further information, please call Trinity Lutheran Church at 815.485.6973.



VBS went very well with 120 students. Many thanks to all our amazing volunteers and to all who donated food and supplies. One student said he loved that we were using his favorite prayer: Psalm 23. A mother told us her child has been singing the VBS songs while riding her bike. What a privilege to share the love of Christ with these students!

THANK

YOU!

The "VBS staff" would like to thank Michelle Hoag, the Director, of the VBS. Thanks for all the time and energy you put in to make VBS so successful. We all enjoy working with you and helping with VBS!



Tin Roofs for Africa

The mission project for our church this summer is Tin Roofs for Africa, a project of the LCMS. VBS collected over \$600 for this project, and we are offering church members the opportunity to also donate to this project. Our goal is \$2000 for a roof for one church in Africa. You can write your check out to the church and write "Tin Roofs for Africa" in the memo section. Here is the information:

**And those who are far off shall come and help
to build the temple of the LORD. (Zech. 6:15)**

Have you ever been in a building that didn't have a roof? If it was sunny outside, you might get a sunburn. If it was raining, you would get wet. Many children in Africa have this experience every week when they go to church. Church members work together to build the walls of their church building, but they sometimes can't afford to buy expensive tin for the roof. The good news is that these families come to their roofless churches anyway, because they are so eager to worship their Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Sometimes there are so many people at church that they have to sit in the aisles and stand at the windows!

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Build a Roof for the Gospel

You — along with others from all over the country — can help provide roofs for Lutheran churches through the Tin Roofs for Africa project. When you do, you'll show the love and mercy of Christ to people in countries like Kenya, Togo and Madagascar.

\$2,000 can provide all the materials for one roof

\$100 can provide the wooden structure for one roof

\$30 can provide all the nails needed for one roof

\$25 can provide a toolbox of hammers, saws and other tools needed

\$15 can provide one piece of tin



Thank you to everyone who donated to the Blood Drive on June 13th. The turnout was great! We had 18 donors. Thanks to Debbie Aiken for once again for coordinating this project.



New Lenox Relay for Life – Friday, July 8th at 6:30 pm till early Saturday morning, July 9th. This event is not a race but an evening of activities for the whole family to promote cancer awareness. For more information, please call Jan Toepke at 815.485.2638.



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 July are on the hallway table for Readers and Greeters Stop and sign up!



Morning Star Serving Dates

July 4th and 18th You need to be at the Mission by 3:45 pm. The sign-up sheet is on the hallway table. If you have any questions call Judy Wilmsen at 815.462.1374.

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The 2016 LCMS Youth Gathering will be held July 16 – 20 in New Orleans. Eight of our youth members will be attending along with 4 parents. Please keep them in your prayers.



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

Note: During the summer months, we will have only once a month Scrip orders placed on the first Monday of each month. Upcoming deadline dates are July 4, August 1.

Please direct any questions you may have to Angie Minett at minett411@yahoo.com or [\(815\)467-2537](tel:8154672537). **The next order deadline date is July 4th. Between now and July 4th, you may place your order/payment in the gold envelope which is hanging on the end of the desk in the church office.**



Altar Flowers. Flowers are placed on our altar every Sunday 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. The flower order forms are attached to the cabinet in the hallway outside the church office. ***If you would like to give altar flowers, complete the form and place it in the Chancel Guild mailbox in the church office.*** If you select a date already chosen, it may be possible to share flowers that week. Please call Kay Purnell at 815.485.9017 or email her at purnellk51@hotmail.com. Flowers are \$8.50 per vase or \$17.00 for both vases. The flowers may be picked up after the Sunday service.



Social Ministry

Thanks to our "coffee hosts" who are continuing to serve during the summer following the 9:00 a.m. worship service. Please stop in the gym for coffee and fellowship.

We still need a coffee host for Sunday, July 24th. Please sign up on the sheet on the hallway table if you are able to help out.



St. Matthew's

We are continuing to support St. Matthew's Lutheran Church by collecting donations of non-perishable food items, 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 North end of the church basement. Please place items neatly so they do not block the aisle to the boiler room



Thanks to Chuck and Sandy Peters, and Virgil Switzer for delivering items to St. Matthew's last month. Your help is appreciated.



The Rotary Club of New Lenox and the Lincoln-Way Area Summer Stock Theatre proudly present Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat on July 22, 23, and 30 at 7:30 p.m.; and on July 24 and 31 at 2:00 p.m. at Lincoln-Way West Performing Arts center. For more information, visit www.newlenoxrotary.org or call 708.339.1883. .

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OPIATE RECOVERY GROUP meets at Peace Lutheran church, 1900 E. Lincoln Hwy., New Lenox, each Tuesday evening from 7:00 – 8:30 p.m. For more information, please contact Tom Moore at 815.354.3195.

HEALING HEARTS SURVIVORS F SUICIDE SUPPORT GROUP MEETINGS.

Meetings are held the 3rd Monday of each month from 7:00 – 8:30 p.m. at the new Lenox Police Department, 200 Veterans Parkway, New Lenox. For information or to RSVP please contact Dan Martin, Public Safety Division chief at dmartin@newlenox.net or 815.462.6128.



A can of spray sunscreen was found in the box of donations for VBS. If you left it and are looking for it, please pick it up from the hallway table.

We have also accumulated a small supply of coffee containers. They are on the hallway rack outside the gym. Please take whatever belong to you.

A pair of reading glasses was found in church after the June 25th service. They are on the counter in the church office.

Church Office Hours: Monday and Thursday, 9-3, Tuesday and Friday, 9-12.

Our organizations are on “summer break” but our worship services continue each week. See you at church!



Have a safe and happy 4th of July!

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