

July 2017

Dear Friends of Trinity,

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We have just had another successful week of Vacation Bible School. The theme this year went along very well with the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation: A Mighty Fortress Is Our God!

God is a God who saves and this was illustrated each day of VBS in the accounts from Scripture and the songs that we sang. We heard about God's might as he destroyed the walls of Jericho and wiped out the entire army that had Jerusalem surrounded during the reign of King Hezekiah. We heard how God changed the hearts of people as the Word of God was found in the dilapidated Jerusalem temple and read to the people during the reign of King Josiah. We discovered that Jesus would reign as king, not with worldly power and might, but with weakness and humility as he rode into Jerusalem on a donkey. And then Jesus would win the ultimate victory over sin, death, and the devil by his own death and resurrection. Jesus saves! The victory is won!

The Reformation was always about Jesus, and it still is. It will always be about Jesus. When the church no longer proclaims the merits of Jesus Christ, it ceases to be the church and becomes no different than other organizations. The Word of Christ is what sets the church apart from everything else. Praise to our God who gives us the victory over the world through Jesus Christ!

In Christ,
Pastor Hoag

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JULY 2017



SUMMER WORSHIP SERVICE SCHEDULE

(Through Sunday, September 3rd)

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.

As mentioned in June, the office remodel project is nearly complete. We had a minor change in the project this month that caused a bit of a delay, but we are nearly at the point of moving Pastor Hoag across the hall to a larger office where he will have more space to meet with parishioners in his office. We will then move Judi Donovan into his current office and have the current secretary's office available for general church use.

We anticipate this will be better overall utilization of our space and I'm happy to report that the end is in sight for this project. In the meantime, you may notice that we got railings for our center stairs installed in June. These were put in where the old chair lift used to be.

I have had a number of people ask me about our stained glass window project in recent weeks, so I thought I would go over that project again. Please feel free to stop me at church if you have questions about this. Basically, what we need to do is remove each individual stained glass window, take each pane from the frame, flatten the frame (over time, gravity pulls down and they sag), reinstall the glass and then reinstall the windows.

This is strictly a maintenance item, but as you may know, most of our windows either don't open or don't close - both due to this same issue. If left unattended, the sagging would eventually cause the windows to break. I'm not even going to guess at what new stained glass windows for the church would cost, but I will say that would probably run into seven figures.

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The analogy I have used for this is that it's like getting new tires on your car. You really won't notice a big difference to look at it, but it's not something you can afford to ignore or you'll end up with a bigger bill later.

As you can probably imagine, there are not a lot of companies who do this. When we got a quote for this approximately 10 years ago, the cost was over \$40,000. We are guessing that may be closer to \$45,000 now, but we don't want to get an updated estimate until we are closer to the point of tackling this project. To date, we have raised just over \$18,000 for this and once we get closer to \$40,000, we will begin the process of getting updated bids and moving forward with this project. We appreciate the support we have had so far for this project and I will continue to provide updates on this until it's done. We have a beautiful church at Trinity, and this is part of the care our church needs.

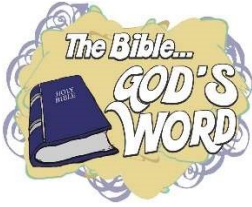


2017-18 Trinity Pre-School

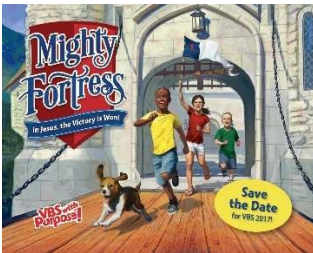
Openings available.

Please tell your friends and neighbors!

There is a non-refundable registration fee of \$60.00 per student. For the school year beginning September 2017 the tuition per month will be \$105 for two day students and \$130 for three day students. Children must be 3 by September 1, 2017. For further information, please call Trinity Lutheran Church at 815.485.6973.



While the Wednesday morning Bible Study has taken a summer break, the Thursday night Bible Study will continue through the summer. It is at 7 PM in the library. Hope to see you there.

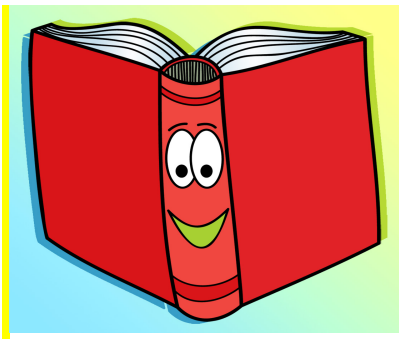


VBS went very well with 130 students. Many thanks to all our amazing volunteers and to all who donated food and supplies. What a Mighty Fortress our God is!!!

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!



Books for Kids

The mission project for our church this summer is Sharing God's Mighty Word through Concordia Gospel Outreach. Sharing God's Mighty Word is an outreach project that sends Bible-based literature around the U.S. The project focuses on reaching inner-city kids, Hispanic kids, Native American kids, and kids who are in crisis. This project

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teaches our own children that God values all people regardless of race, ethnicity, or social status; that God reaches out especially to those who are suffering; that He doesn't forget them; that He loves them; and that we can be missionaries in our own communities.

We will be collecting monetary donations to fund this mission. If the congregation would like to participate by making a donation, we will be accepting monetary donations through July 31th. Donations can be placed in an envelope marked VBS Mission Project and left in the offering plate or in the church office.

Below is an example of how the funds will be used:

\$10 provides 4 Arch Books (early childhood Bible stories)

\$25 provides 10 teen devotionals

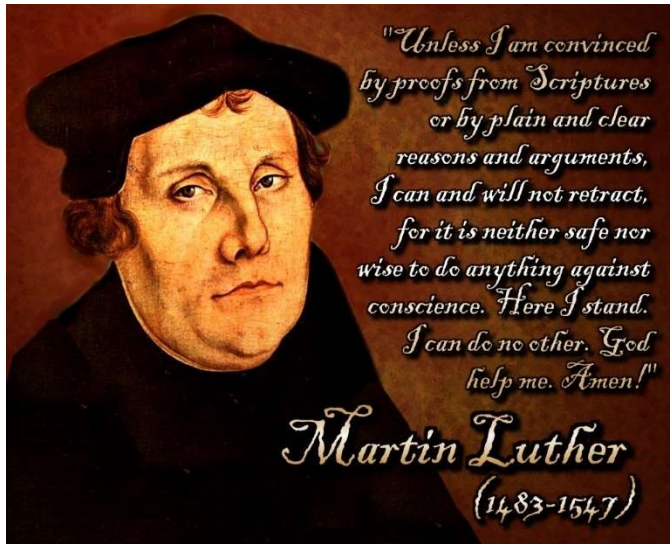
\$100 provides 30 Spanish coloring books



Thank you to Biff Aiken for getting the church its own lift. It will be getting a lot of use here at Trinity and will make projects much easier.

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SAVE THE DATE:



Martin Luther: The Idea That Changed the World

ABOUT THE FILM

500 years ago, Martin Luther triggered a seismic upheaval that rocked the western world—with an impact that continues to reverberate to this day. This entertaining new film follows the great adventure story of Luther's life, packed with political intrigue, kidnappings, secret hideouts, and life-or-death showdowns. At the same time, it's a story about the most important questions of life, including "Who am I?" "What is my purpose" and "How do I get right with God?"

It's a must-see for any lifelong Lutheran, and a chance to share the message of our Lutheran heritage with others. And the only place you can see the film is at the AMC Showplace New Lenox 14 & IMAX on the night of our church's special event on Wednesday, September 20, at 6:30pm. This screening is the perfect outreach opportunity—a chance to invite friends and neighbors to an entertaining event in our community.

Filmed in historic locations across Europe, this movie brings Luther's story to life with exquisite attention to detail. It's a way to strengthen our faith by revisiting the birth of Protestant Reformation, and a chance to share that experience with others.

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IMPORTANT: Tickets are on sale now and must be purchased in advance. Tickets can be purchased at a special web site set up for the screening:

<http://luthermovie.link/newlenox> (Tickets are \$12 + \$1 service fee, \$13 total)

OR

See Pastor Hoag if you would like to purchase tickets. Make checks out to Trinity Lutheran Church for \$13 and write Luther in the memo.



Relay for Life of New Lenox will be held on July 14, 2017 at Lincoln-Way West High School starting at 6:00 p.m. Everyone is invited to participate in this amazing community event. Anyone who has ever heard the words “You have cancer” is a survivor.

June 5th. There will be a Luminaria ceremony at the event on Friday evening, July 14th to honor those who are survivors and those who have lost their battle to cancer. The American Cancer Society thank you for your support.



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

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Morning Star Serving Dates

July 3rd and 17th. 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 the church office at 815.485.6973



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 9, August 7.

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 9th. Between now and July 9th, 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 - The 2017 flower chart is posted on the wall across from the church office. The weekend slots are now all filled. Chancel Guild Members would like to thank those of you who have signed up to sponsor a weekend. 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. If you would still like to sponsor a weekend, we do have some sponsors who are willing to double up and share the flowers and the cost. The shared cost would be \$9.00 for one of the two arrangements. Please call Kay Purnell at [\(815\) 485-9017](tel:8154859017) or email her at purnellk51@hotmail.com. You may pick up your flowers after the last service of the weekend.



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 the fourth Sunday of the month from July through December. Please sign up on the sheet on the hallway table if you are able to help out.



MorningStar Mission – Save the Date!! - Saturday, August 19, 2017 has been chosen as the 5K Run/Walk to benefit MorningStar Mission Ministries, Inc. For more information, pick up a flyer on the hallway table.



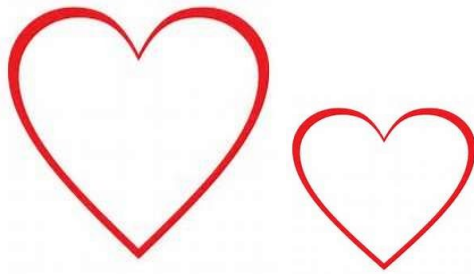
St. Matthew’s

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.

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HEALING HEARTS SURVIVORS OF SUICIDE SUPPORT GROUP MEETINGS.

Mission: Provide a safe place where family and friends who lost loved ones can share their stories, experience and work through their grief (not counseling or therapy)

Next meeting date: Monday, July 17, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. at the New Lenox Village Hall, 200 Veterans Parkway, New Lenox.

Topic will be: Open Forum

Church Office Hours: Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 9 am till 1 pm.

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!