

July 2018

Dear Friends of Trinity,

We just had a very successful Vacation Bible School!

About 140 children heard Good News about God's love for us in Jesus. They were told that there is always hope no matter what happens because Jesus has promised to be with us always.

This year's VBS was called Splash Canyon, so you can probably guess that the Bible stories we told took place near water. God did incredible things with water: He parted the Red Sea and the Jordan River, rescued the infant Moses on the Nile River, and had our Lord Jesus baptized in the Jordan River. The Bible is very watery.

Throughout the stories of water, we get mere glimpses of Baptism until the real thing finally appears with Jesus. As he was baptized the heavens opened, the Spirit lighted on Jesus as a dove, and the voice of God proclaimed Jesus to be His beloved Son with whom he is well pleased. Jesus is the one! His baptism has cause all baptismal water from then on to be a blessed flood and a lavish washing away of sin. At the baptismal font and at God's command we are given a brand-new life in the Spirit of Jesus.

Unlike the water events in the Bible, your Baptism isn't something that was "one and done". It stays with you. The promises of life and salvation were poured upon your head to claim you as one redeemed by Christ, the crucified. These promises just don't go away. They are yours for the rest of your life. Baptismal water has a grip that doesn't let go!

All the promises of God find their Yes in Him (Jesus). —2 Corinthians 1:20

In Christ,
Pastor Hoag

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JULY 2017



SUMMER WORSHIP SERVICE SCHEDULE

(Through Sunday, September 2nd)

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.

I want to give you an update on our stained glass window repair project. We made the logical conclusion that the visible bowing of our windows was the reason our lower windows no longer opened and closed. There are some windows in our church where the bowing is worse than others, but we recently received some unexpected news from one of the contractors bidding on this project. In his opinion, the bowing that has occurred so far is not the reason our lower windows aren't working. Citing the fact that our windows are encased in stone frames (as opposed to wood frames, as was the case with the Methodist church in town), he explained to us that the bowing we have experienced to date shouldn't get much worse as it would require deterioration of the surrounding stone frames for that to occur. In his expert opinion, he feels our windows should last another 20-30 years before they need to be redone. He provided us with a bid at our request, but when asked if he would redo the windows now if this were his home church, he admitted that he would not. At least one other contractor commented that our windows were in relatively good shape given their age.

So, where does that leave us? Well, the good news is that we will eventually need to have this project done and we have already funded most, if not all, of the cost of this project. So please be assured that the money so many of you donated to this project will eventually be used for this project if we do elect to

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put this off. But doing this earlier than is required really doesn't serve us any purpose since the windows are in better shape than we realized.

In the meantime, our windows still don't open and close and a few of the small panes are cracked. What we are seeking now is a revised bid for minor repairs to our windows. That would include replacement of any missing mortar, replacement of any cracked panes, and repair of our opening/closing mechanisms so that we can open and close the windows again. Another contractor suggested we reverse the lower windows so that they open out instead of in, and that is another option we are considering. The eventual direction we go here will depend on the costs of these revised bids, but it appears the total restoration of these windows can wait. While I will admit this is not the outcome I expected, I don't want to proceed with a repair that is not currently needed. Trust that we will review these additional bids and work with council to arrive at the best possible solution for our building.

I apologize for this change in direction, but this is truly not what we expected to hear. In fact, the contractor informing us that he would not restore our windows at this point did so at his own peril. He wanted more than \$58,000 for this job yet he stood in our church and admitted that if this were his church, he would not restore the windows yet. While I feel our initial logic was sound, I don't want to ignore this new information that we would be better served to wait to complete this work.

One final thought for now is that we could consider using these funds toward restoring our kitchen in fellowship hall. We know that project is needed and that was intended to be the next project after the windows were restored. We will give consideration to this idea as well and see if perhaps we could use some of our stained glass funds on the kitchen now and then work to rebuild that fund for when the actual restoration is needed. If you have questions or other thoughts on this, I am open to your input.



2018-19 Trinity Pre-School

Pre-School Registration for September 2018-2019. Please tell your friends and neighbors. If you have any questions, please call the pre-school at 815.485.6973. There is a non-refundable registration fee of \$60.00 per student. The tuition per month for the school year beginning September 2018, will be \$110.00 for two day students and \$135 for three day students. Children must have turned 3 by September 1, 2018.

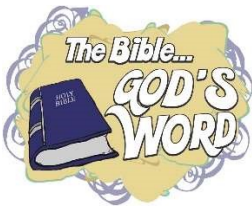
Member Updates:

Weddings: Emily Backhus and Brian Benninghoff – June 2, 2018

Baptisms:

Evan Vincent Gedvilas – June 10, 2018

Miles Thomas Mochel – June 10, 2018



All Bible Classes and Sunday School have taken a break for the summer. See you all in September!

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Vacation Bible School



Vacation Bible School – Vacation Bible School was held June 25-29, 9:30-Noon. Our theme was Splash Canyon and we invite children age 3 up through 5th grade to join us.

Thanks to everyone who either donated items or helped with Vacation Bible School this week. Without you, VBS would not happen!!

Watch for the details from VBS in our next Newsletter!!



Water to Thrive – 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.

As in the past, this mission project is open to the entire congregation until the end of July. Please stop in the gym and see the display and try your hand at lifting and carrying a container of water.

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Relay for Life of New Lenox will be held on July 13, 2018 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.

There will be a Luminaria ceremony at the event on Friday evening, July 13th to honor those who are survivors and those who have lost their battle to cancer. Luminaria Bags can still be purchased through July 8th for \$10.00 each. Forms are available in the office.

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.

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 2nd and 16th. 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

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SCRIP GIFT CARDS. The Youth will continue with *the Scrip Fundraiser Program using the proceeds for the "Youth Gathering"*.

Note: During the summer months, we will have only once a month Scrip orders placed on the first Monday of each month by noon. Upcoming deadline dates are July 9, August 13th.

Please direct any questions you may have to Angie Minett. Angie can be reached 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: 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. Flowers may be picked up **after** the 9:00 am service. Thank you to all who participate!



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, August and November. 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

Church Office Hours: Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 9 am till 2 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!

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