

July 2021

Dear Friends,

We have come a long way and things are getting back to normal. The blue tape on the pews have been removed. The hymnals are back in the hymn racks. Masks are optional for our vaccinated churchgoers. The pandemic appears to be subsiding.

I need to address something that I feared would happen—parishioners becoming too dependent on the livestream and not coming to services in person.

Believe me...I get it! It's nice to pour yourself a cup of coffee, wear your pajamas and fuzzy slippers, sit back in the comfy chair and tune in to the livestream, watch the service, and then go about the day. No having to get up and get ready. No loading up the kids and hopping in the car and driving. Bliss! BUT...

The livestream was a necessity during the pandemic because the church was closed. It is no longer a necessity. It will still be offered for folks who absolutely need it: sick and shut-ins, people who live out of town or vacationing out of state, those who are hospitalized, and people who have to work.

I'm asking that if it isn't absolutely necessary for you to watch the livestream that you come back to services in-person. Church is a real (not virtual) community that participates together in the grace of the divine nature of our Heavenly Father through faith in Christ Jesus in the power of the Holy Spirit. We together receive for our souls the highest good in Holy Communion.

Please thoughtfully consider what I've just written. I can't address every situation in this letter, but if you have any concerns I'm listening. The pandemic was devastating in many ways and further fragmented an already fragmented society. It's time to start putting pieces back together. The church is here to help with that!

In the Love of Christ Jesus,

Pastor Hoag

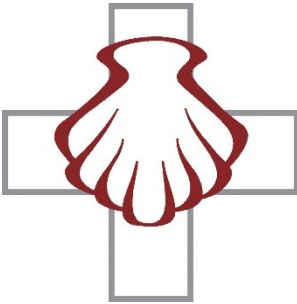
Visit us on the web at www.trinitynewlenox.org



2020-2021 Trinity Pre-School

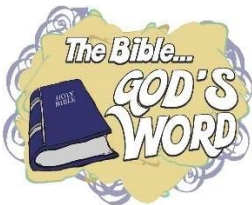
Pre-School Registration for September 2021-2022. Please tell your friends and neighbors. If you have any questions, please call the pre-school at 815.485.6973. There is a non-refundable registration fee of \$65.00 per student. The tuition per month for the school year beginning September 2021, will be \$115.00 for two day students and \$145 for three day students. Children must have turned 3 by September 1, 2021.

Member Updates:



Baptisms:

Lee Michael Wilson – June 6, 2021



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

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SCRIP GIFT CARDS

This is a fundraiser for the Youth Group. These cards are the same gift cards that you can purchase from retailers, including over 300 brand-name grocery, department stores, restaurants, gas stations, hotels, home improvement etc. We order the gift cards at a discount and you pay face value for the gift cards. **No Scrip Order will be placed in July. We will resume orders in August.** Direct any questions you might have to Angie at minett411@yahoo.com or (815)228-4902. Order forms are on the hallway table outside of Pastor's office. You may place your order/payment in the gold envelope which is the old church office. Pre-ordered gift cards will be available for pick-up the weekend after the order is placed.



ALTAR FLOWERS: Fresh flowers are placed on the altar every weekend to enhance and beautify the altar area in memory of a loved one, to commemorate a birthday, wedding, anniversary, or in celebration of God's blessings. A 2021 flower chart showing open weekends is posted in the cabinet across the general 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 general church office. If you want a date already chosen, it may be possible to share the date and cost with permission from the person who has already selected the date. If you have any questions, please contact Kay Purnell at purnellk51@hotmail.com of (815) 485-9017. Flowers may be picked up at after the 10:30 church service. Thank you to all who sponsor!

Flowers left in the gym will be disposed of after 1 week.

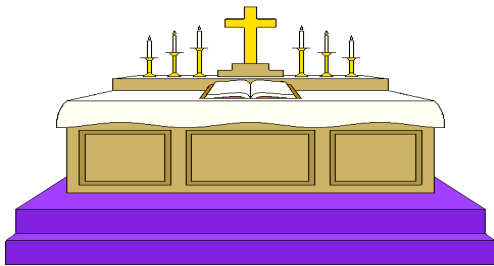
Flowers for the week of:

July 4th – Chancel Guild Members in Memory and Honor of those Chancel Members who have Passed On

July 11th – Rita Larson in Memory of her Father, Husband, Son, and Brother

July 18th – Denise Buchanan and Family in Thanksgiving for Their Many Blessings

July 25th – Roy & Nancy Minnick in Celebration of Their 55th Wedding Anniversary



Chancel Guild Schedule for July

July 4 – Janice Prospero / Robin Krol

July 11 – Robin Krol / Sharon MacFarlane

July 18 – Sharon MacFarlane / Jennifer Mudrock

July 25 – Jennifer Mudrock / Doris Bay



Coffee Fellowship

Save the date for return of Coffee Hour – Social Ministry would like to invite the congregation to the return Coffee Hour on July 18th between the services. It will be served out of the newly remodeled kitchen. We will be serving coffee, juice, and pastries.

Next Coffee Hour will be held August 29th between the services.

USHERS

July Usher Schedule:

July 4th - 9:00 am Tom Kaun / Larry Wennlund

10:30 am Brett Carr / Paul Krol

July 11th – 9:00 am Ed Tatro / Tim King

10:30 am Tom Buell / Tommy Buell

July 18th – 9:00 am Mike Gardner / Gary Purnell

10:30 am Jeff McDonald / Mike Lyman

July 25th - 9:00 am Steve Tomany / Randy Varju

10:30 am John Buell / Phil MacFarlane

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

Our organizations are on “summer break”



Have a safe and happy 4th of July!