

July 2023

Dear Friends,

St. Paul once said of himself,

“For I know that nothing good dwells in me, that is, in my flesh. For I have the desire to do what is right, but not the ability to carry it out. For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I keep on doing.” (Romans 7:18-19)

This is the ongoing Christian struggle with the self. It never ends this side of eternity. It describes us completely even though we pretend it doesn't. We struggle to do good and fight to put off evil. But the evil is so enticing as it continually cracks its whip at us and makes us slaves to our passions.

What this means is that we are trapped and can't free ourselves from this condition, try as we might.

It's why we need a Savior.

And God provides!

That's the only conclusion Paul could reach:

Wretched man that I am! Who will deliver me from this body of death? Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord! (Romans 7:24-25)

It's impossible for us to be our own Saviors. We are simply not up to it. But Jesus is! He hung on a cross between heaven and earth to join them together in his body forever.

Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord!

Pastor Hoag

“Revitality” Was a Successful Workshop!!! The Church Council had four meetings. Our focus for this project was: “Engaging Non-Churched People in Our Community”. We have the ball rolling BUT now we need the congregation's help. Our first outreach project is: Single Parent Family WITH Children. We have many ideas geared towards leading this demographic into our church. We will be talking with all of you in more detail, very soon. Please Remember - We Are Open to Ideas AND The Sky is the Limit!!!”

JULY 2023 NEWSLETTER

An update from Church Council President, Gary Purnell:

President's Note:

I hope everyone is enjoying their summer so far. It certainly has been a hot, dry one. The upside - it cuts down on yard work. This month I'd like to take the opportunity to thank Sandy and Chuck Peters for keeping the outside of our church looking especially summery with the planters full of beautiful flowers. As dry as it has been, I'm sure keeping the flowers watered has been no easy feat. They do a great job following the seasons as well with their holiday decorations. We all do thank you, Sandy and Chuck!

Pastor made mention Sunday and thanked Rex for facilitating the Boy Scouts' project painting the North entryway to the church. I'd like to echo that. Well done! It looks so fresh and inviting.

Also, special thanks go out to all who contributed to making Vacation Bible School a fun and educational experience for the children.

Highlights discussed during the June Church Council meeting are as follows:

- The Church Council completed the reVitality workshop on "Engaging Non-Churched People in the Community." More to come as we plan our next steps.
- Maintenance work on our lift/elevator has been completed and has passed inspection.
- Property reported the tuck-pointing project has been completed.
- Council Members shared Each One Reach One experiences.
- Outreach has tentatively set October 15 as "Come to Jesus Sunday" and is planning to send care packages to our college students sometime this fall.
- A Miniature Golf outing for high school kids is being planned for June 29.
- Parish Education is looking to host Family Fun Nights in the fall.
- Signs promoting our preschool are being made.
- The next Church Council meeting is scheduled for Sunday, September 10, 2023, at 7PM.

Continue to have a safe and enjoyable summer!

Gary

Member News!!!



2022 Baptisms:

- Gabriel Wojnarowski Bendoraitis 01/09/22
- Matthew Robert Longmire 02/20/22
- Russell Roy Goebig 04/03/22
- Mary Elizabeth Niemann 05/07/22
- Kanerick Matthew Dobrez 07/02/22
- Alita Sue Hicks 07/03/22
- Landon Paul Ondera 07/10/22
- Everly Jo Youngberg 08/14/22
- Alessi Anastasios Zarnos 08/21/22
- Persephone Mae Sheffer 08/21/22
- Roan Roy Seville's 11/26/22

2023 Baptisms:

- Beckett Jeffrey White 05/18/23



2022 Weddings:

- Camden R. Meade & Francesca T. Prospero 06/11/22

2023 Weddings:

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RE:VITALITY: "Every One His Witness" - MEETINGS FOR THE ENTIRE CONGREGATION
Additional Detailed Information to Follow

JOIN US ON YOUVERSION FOR DEVOTIONS, BIBLE PLANS, AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:
www.bible.com

If you would be interested in being a Lay Reader (meaning you will read the "First Reading", and the "Second Reading (Epistle)") please talk with Pastor Hoag



Did You Know Pastor Hoag is a Rock Star!!!

the Band Also Includes Our Very Own (former) Property Manager: Dan Bay!

Come See the Band "Side Effects!" on the Following Dates and Locations:

-More Dates to Follow

all new dates will be posted in the weekly bulletin.



RaiseRight Fundraiser (Formerly ShopwithScrip) - This is a gift card fundraiser. They are the same gift cards you can purchase from retailers, including over 300 brand-name grocery stores, department stores, restaurants, gas stations, hotels, home improvement stores, etc. We order the gift cards at a discount, and you pay face value for the gift cards. (For example, you pay \$25 for a \$25 Speedway gift card - the youth group obtains the card at a discount and keeps the difference.) You can purchase gift cards by filling out an order form (located on the table outside Pastor's office) or by placing your order online at www.raiseright.com. If interested in placing orders online, it is simple to do with our church's enrollment code. Contact Angie Minett for the code or with any questions you might have at minett411@yahoo.com or 815-228-4902.

Thank you to all who participate in our RaiseRight gift card fundraiser. This past year we made over \$1,000. We use these earnings to send our youth to the Youth Gathering every 3 years and we appreciate the generous support of our congregation.

Due to the July 4th holiday, the next order deadline will be July 9th. Orders will be ready for pick up the following Sunday.

Thank you to everyone who has been supporting our efforts! Your generosity is greatly appreciated.



Trinity Preschool News:

Registration for 2023-2024 Is Open!

Please Tell Your Friends and Neighbors

There is a non-refundable registration fee of \$65.00 per student. School year beginning September 2023. The tuition per month will be:

-2 Day, 3-Year-Old, Tuesday & Thursday: \$120.00

-3 Day, 4-Year-Old, Monday, Wednesday & Friday: \$150.00

Children must be 3 or 4 by September 1, 2023. For additional information, please call Trinity Lutheran Church at 815.485.6973.

Next Preschool Board Meeting: See You in September



Sunday School News:

Children's Sermon: See You in September

The Sunday School will be collecting non-perishable food, and monies, to donate to our New Lenox Food Pantry indefinitely. This is to help those around us during these challenging times. Please bring canned goods and dry boxed items. To see items most needed by New Lenox Township Food Pantry, please visit their website (www.newlenox.org), or Facebook. A donation box is located downstairs by the Sunday School rooms, and upstairs by the library. They have also mentioned to us that they can do the most to help with financial donations – you can donate directly on their website or add an envelope with a note in our offering basket. Thank You!!!

Sunday School is Looking for Volunteers: Teachers and Helpers – High School Age to 101. Please contact Michelle Buell @ mbuell3769@gmail.com or Beth Parker @ elizabemarie@sbcglobal.net if interested. Thanks!!!



Chancel Guild News!

Attention Ladies of Trinity - Our meetings are at 9 a.m. the first Saturday of January, March, April, May, September, October, November, and December. Ladies of TLC please consider joining our awesome Chancel Guild. For more information, please contact Jennifer Mudrock, Wendy Kaun, Denise Buchanan, or Kay Purnell.

Chancel Schedule for July:

July 1 / July 2: Carol Oldendorf / Allene Bachmann
July 8 / July 9: Allene Bachmann / Denise Buchanan
July 15 / July 16: Denise Buchanan / Sharon MacFarlane
July 22 / July 23: Sharon MacFarlane / Lois Dobbs
July 29 / July 30: Lois Dobbs / Kay Purnell

ALTAR FLOWERS - Fresh flowers are used to adorn the altar as a symbol of life and joy. They are part of the beauty of the creation. Chancel Guild very much appreciates the congregation's support and help in keeping fresh flowers on the altar. You can help by sponsoring an available Sunday. A 2023 Altar Flower Calendar is posted in the glass case hanging on the wall outside the general office. **Presently, Chancel Guild is in immediate need of a sponsor to share July 9, 2023, and a sponsor for July 23, 2023.** If you would like to reserve a Sunday in memory of a loved one or to honor a special occasion, please fill out a sponsor order sheet and put it along with payment in the Chancel Guild mailbox. The sheets are located on a hook attached to the glass case. If you have any questions, please contact Kay Purnell at purnellk51@hotmail.com or (815)485-9017.

July Altar Flower Sponsors:

July 2 Emily & Michael Perkins
 In Celebration of Independence Day

July 9 Rita Larson In Memory of her son, Todd
 sharing with
 Karen and Ed Tatro In Honor of Their **24th** Wedding Anniversary and
 in Celebration of their Granddaughter's Birth: Aria June, daughter of
 April and Tim McPhillips.

July 16 The Denise Buchanan Family
 In Thanksgiving For Their Many Blessings

July 23 Bob Rohner

July 30 Nancy & Roy Minnick
 In Celebration of Their Wedding Anniversary

Social Ministry Announcements:

Coffee Hours: Coffee Hours are hosted every Sunday after the 9:00 service. Additional Coffee Hour Hosts are always needed. If you would like to help, please contact Jennifer in the Office at tlcsecretary508@gmail.com or Jan Toepke at toepkej@gmail.com.

Coffee Hour Schedule:

July 2- Denise Buchanan and Rita Larson
July 9- Christina Kipper and Liz Benedict
July 16- Sandy Peters
July 23- Kay Purnell
July 30-
August 6- Kay Purnell
August 13- Denise Buchanan and Rita Larson
August 20- Christina Kipper and Liz Benedict
August 27- Sharon MacFarlane
September 3- Sandy Peters
September 10- Denise Buchanan and Rita Larson
September 17- Kay Purnell
September 24- Sharon MacFarlane

Next Food and Fellowship: *See You in September 2023*

Next Social Ministry Meeting: *See You in September 2023*



Summer Usher Schedule: First of all, thanks to all the ushers who have given their time and services for our regular and special worship services throughout the church year. Beginning May 28th, we will return to Summer Worship Schedule with only one Sunday service at 9am. As in the past, I have scheduled the 9am worship service persons to be the main ushers for summer services. The regular 10:30 ushers, on their scheduled Sundays, would serve as reserve backups. Summer Ushers **please**, if you are not available to usher on your Sunday arrange with the backup person, so that all services are covered with two ushers. Thanks again and know that you are much appreciated.
Dr. Edward A. Tatro, Worship and Spiritual Life, Co-Chair

1st Sunday

9:00 AM

-Tom Kaun 815 485 9604 kauntd@gmail.com

-Biff Aiken 815 954 0682 biffdebaiken@gmail.com

Summer Reserve

-Brett Carr 815 370 6651 brettdcarr@gmail.com

-Paul Krol 815 575 1315 p.krol@sbcglobal.net

2nd Sunday

9:00 AM

-Edward A. Tatro 815 485 5760 etatro4@aol.com

-Tim King 815 463 0415 tim.king1@comcast.net

Summer Reserve

-Tom Buell 815 485 3769 tombuell@sbcglobal.net

-Bob Blecke 815 353 7561 cgm964@comcast.net

3rd Sunday

9:00 AM

-Mike Gardner 815 485 9623 mgardner1453@gmail.com

-Gary Purnell 815 485 9017 gpurnell3@hotmail.com

Summer Reserve

-Cameron Hoag 779 279 4223 cam.hoag@gmail.com

-Dana Knodel 708 822 2902 danacowboy1@yahoo.com

4th Sunday

9:00 AM

-Steve Tomany 815 485 3163 tomany@sbcglobal.net

-Randy Varju 815-685-1363 randy.varju@aah.org

Summer Reserve

-John Buell 815 726 3601 jan.buell@yahoo.com

-Phil McFarlane 815 806 1219 philmacp40@comcast.net

5th Sunday

9:00AM

-Rex Toepke 815 485 2638 rtoepke@usa.net

-Jeff Lorenz 815 463 0833 jlorenz2367@gmail.com

Summer Reserve

-Paul Krol 815 575 1315 p.krol@sbcglobal.net

-Diane Sewing 815-592-3911 dianesewing@hotmail.com

A minimum of two ushers are needed for each service. **Please call the reserve usher to take your place if you are not able to serve on your Sunday, also call your counterpart to make them aware.**

Please plan to arrive 30 minutes before service and follow the procedures noted in the usher's loose-leaf notebook in the narthex. Thanks in advance!

Other Alternates: Zack Horn 630 664 9224 zacharyhorn@gmail.com, Bob Jackman 815 933-3864, Robert Stark 708 307 4069



Contribution statements for income tax purposes are available for members using the offering envelopes. If you have not received a statement in previous years and would like to request one, please contact the church secretary or Tammy Doerrer @ tammydoerrer@gmail.com . If you received a statement in the past, you are on the list to automatically receive one each year.

Church Office Hours This Summer:

~~06/05/23 – 06/09/23: Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday from 4:30pm to 7:30pm~~

~~06/12/23 – 06/16/23: Monday thru Thursday 7:30am-12:00pm~~

~~06/19/23 – 06/23/23: Monday thru Friday 9:30am-12:00pm (V.B.S. Week)~~

06/26/23 – 07/13/23: Monday thru Thursday 7:30am-12:00pm

07/17/23 - 08/18/23: Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday from 4:30pm to 7:30pm

(please be patient with me...always call and leave a message or email me at tlcsecretary508@gmail.com - I check my emails from home)