

May 2018

Dear Friends of Trinity,

First, I express my apologies for not writing an article for last month's newsletter.

I have good news for you.

You don't have to know it all to earn God's favor. Bible scholars are no more children of God than the rest of us.

In fact, there's absolutely nothing you can do to earn anything from God. The reality of salvation is taken completely out of our hands. This is good news!

For many it isn't. The thought of getting something so wonderful for nothing is quite unsettling. It isn't the way life usually works. Our cause-and-effect world dictates that we must contribute something.

But it doesn't work that way with God. We cause nothing from God. God's love and mercy is the cause for anything God does.

This is why Christ Jesus gave us Sacraments. They are not our doing. They are God's way of giving Jesus to us. We are invited to come and receive His gifts. They aren't earned by improving ourselves. They are given because God is merciful and forgiving.

We rest in the peace of God. We rest in Christ.

God's blessings to you in Christ!

Pastor Hoag

## MAY 2018 NEWSLETTER



### Confirmed in Christ

Sunday, May 6<sup>th</sup>, during the 10:30 a.m. service, the following young adults will be received into membership through Confirmation: Madison Nicole Condit; Elissa Marie Delcorio; Logan Dek Kambic; Anna Kay Minett; Jacob Anthony Parker; Samantha Jo Pecoraro; MacKenzie Deanna Remm; Keegan Douglas Srebro. We wish them God's blessings and congratulations on the completion of their studies. Please welcome them into our fellowship and keep them in your prayers.



***Our summer worship schedule will begin on Sunday, May 27<sup>th</sup> and continue through the Labor Day Weekend, with one service at 9:00 a.m. Our Contemporary Services will continue on Saturdays at 5:00 p.m. Communion will be served on the second and fourth weekends each month.***



### **Update from Council President, Jeff McDonald**

April was a busy month at Trinity, starting with Easter Sunday and then including a fifth Sunday at the end of the month. We had four baptisms this month and had great attendance throughout the month. We finished up our fundraising efforts for the Lutheran Church Charities K-9 Comfort Dog program and we managed to raise a total of \$3,600 for this worthwhile cause! Many thanks to all who participated in our fundraising for this organization. They will be very appreciative of our financial support.

We also received our fourth bid for our stained glass windows and are in the process of comparing the bids now. Our bids range from about \$45,000 to about \$62,000 and they vary in the extent of what they entail. The old Methodist church in town is in the process of having their windows restored as well, but at 119 years of age, there is considerably more repair needed on their windows. While our situation at Trinity is less dire, this is a job that does require our attention and I'm very happy to see such great

support for this project by our members. We hope to have a contractor selected in the next month or so and we remain hopeful that this can be completed yet this year.

We continue moving forward with the office moves, and new office furniture for what will eventually be the church secretary's office (mostly cabinets - we are reusing as much of the current furniture as possible) is on order. The only other major project that is on our radar is to renovate the kitchen in the fellowship hall. Once we get the windows restored, we plan to turn our attention to the kitchen and then hopefully take a breather from major projects (for a LONG time!). With a building this old, though, there are sure to be other needs along the way. Our thanks again to all of our members who rally their support for these projects. Doing this all without incurring any additional debt has been a tremendous blessing.

Finally, we had a presentation in April from our member, Mark Razny, about emergency and disaster planning. Drawing on his long history of work in law enforcement, Mark volunteered to help us to put together a disaster plan for any host of things we could be faced with - ranging from weather events such as a tornado to an active shooter. While we all hope to never need any such plan, we agreed at council that it would be better to plan for it now than when it might actually be needed. We had lively discussions around this presentation and a few people have already stepped up to volunteer on this committee. If that is of interest to you, please contact Mark, Rex Toepke or any member of council to make your interest known.

#### MEMBER UPDATES



##### Baptisms

###### **April 8, 2018**

Daxton Steven Stermin, born December 28, 2017, son of Steven & Kristin Stermin

###### **April 22, 2018**

Randy James Casagrande, born December 24, 2017, son of Matthew & Amanda Casagrande  
Laila Grace Litke, born May 13, 2017, daughter of Edward & Kimberly Litke

##### Recognition of Baptism

###### **April 15, 2018**

Jakob Lincoln Kojro-Badziak, born April 13, 2016, son of Jason & Jennifer Kojro-Badziak



**Bible Classes:** Everyone is invited to join one or both classes! Classes meet in the library.

Sunday Mornings at 9:15 a.m. through May 20<sup>th</sup>  
Wednesday Mornings at 8:30 a.m. through May 30<sup>th</sup>  
Thursday Evenings at 7:00 p.m. through May 31<sup>st</sup>

**Chancel Guild** The next meeting will be Monday, May 7<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. Hostesses are Jan Falk and Sally Jackson.

This will be our last meeting until September. We would like to invite anyone interested in seeing what Chancel Guild does, to come and join us on May 7<sup>th</sup>. We will be cleaning the altar area for summer.

**Church Council** The next meeting will be on Sunday, May 20<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. *The meeting date has been moved from the due to Mother's Day.*



**Scrip Fundraiser -**

The end of the school year is quickly approaching. Scrip cards are a terrific gift idea for those special teachers you want to thank. A list of the many retailers/restaurants that participate in this program can be found on the table below the youth bulletin board. Remember, there is no additional cost to you.

Our next order deadline will be [Wednesday, May 11 at noon](#). Cards will be ready for pick up at church the following Sunday. Any questions can be directed to Angie Minett at [minett411@yahoo.com](mailto:minett411@yahoo.com) or [\(815\)467-2537](tel:8154672537) or Gary Purnell at [\(815\)485-9017](tel:8154859017). You can also check out [shopwithscrip.com](http://shopwithscrip.com) to learn more.



**Vacation Bible School** – Vacation Bible School will be June 25-29, 9:30-Noon. Our theme is Splash Canyon and we invite children age 3 up through 5th grade to join us. Cost is \$5 per child. Register online at [www.trinitynewlenox.org](http://www.trinitynewlenox.org), using the password "trinity". Church members and preschool students have priority to register until May 1 when registration opens to the public. Last year we were full in the preschool class and had to close registration, so be sure to sign up soon!

We also are looking for volunteers for the week. Youth who have completed 6<sup>th</sup> grade or higher as well as adults are invited to help. If you can help for one day or all five days, we'd love to have you join our staff. Sign up online at [www.trinitynewlenox.org/vacationbibleschool](http://www.trinitynewlenox.org/vacationbibleschool) or talk to Michelle Hoag.

We will have a wish list of snack and other donations later in May. Please keep our VBS in your prayers that we have a safe and fun week sharing the Good News of Jesus' love to our young members and neighbors!



### **Social Ministry**

Our next meeting will be Monday, May 21st at 7:00 p.m. at Jan Toepke's home. All ladies of Trinity are invited to join us. If you have any questions please call the church office at 815.485.6973.

The total monies collected for the Comfort Dog Program was \$3,599.80. A "Big Thank You" to everyone that contributed to this wonderful mission project.



### **Coffee Hosts**

Thanks to the coffee hosts for serving coffee after the early service each week. We have a couple new hosts who signed up for the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the month. We still have 5 open months. The sign-up sheet is on the hallway table. If you have any questions, please call the church office at 815.485.6973. Without any new volunteers, coffee will not be available after service on the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the month. Please consider volunteering.

**Calling all grillers, smokers, and tailgate food specialists!!**

We need you on Saturday, June 9<sup>th</sup>, to participate in the

# Trinity Tailgate

2018

Our Goal is to invite and include non-members who are known to and invited by members, to attend as Participants and make them feel comfortable in being with members and the church facility.

How can I get involved?

- Sign up as a **Participant**. Bring your grill, food, & equipment on June 9 and show us your Stuff.
- Sign up as a **Judge**. Help decide whose is best. And sample everything ;-)
- Sign up as a **Recruiter**. Get a non-member to sign up as a participant or a Judge, and you get to stay for the food and entertainment! This is an outreach event. Use it to get that seeker / potential members to check us out, casually.
- Sign up as a **volunteer**. We will need help with promotion, preparation, setup, teardown, cleanup. And eating food.

Spots are limited, so show your support and sign up today! Sign up sheet and participation rules are on the table in the hall.

- **Start Time:** That's up to you, how much prep time do you need?
- **Serve / judge time:** 5:00 p.m.
- **Showtime:** 6:00 p.m.
- **Event end time:** 8:00 p.m.

Questions? Find Bob Blecke, Outreach Chair, or email him at [robert.blecke@yahoo.com](mailto:robert.blecke@yahoo.com)

Donations  
are GREATLY  
appreciated!

**St. Matthew's**

Please continue to donate rummage and food. These items will be taken to St. Matthew's periodically.



**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.



Thank you to everyone who has volunteered to greet or read at our worship services. Thanks also to everyone who has served at MorningStar Missions on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of each month. **If you have not yet volunteered for any of these in the past, give it a try in May!**  
**The May signup sheets are on the hallway table.**



***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



**CAUSE AND EFFECT: YOU GIVE. PEOPLE LIVE.**

The next opportunity to save lives with a blood donation will be on May 21, 2018 from 3:00-6:00 p.m. **SAVE THE DATE!** If you have any questions, or would like to schedule an appointment, please call Deb Aiken at 815.462.0687.



**A sincere thank you for the dedication** and fine efforts of all the Trinity Lutheran Church Ushers. They faithfully help to keep our services sacred and respectful. As we move back to one service for the Sunday summer months a new schedule will be sent. This schedule, as in past years, has the regular 8 am service ushers scheduled for 9 am summer service with the regular 10:30 am service ushers as alternates. Ushers will receive the summer schedule in May (please see below). Also, please communicate with each other if you are unable to serve on a particular Sunday and contact an alternate for that service. Finally, it is always great to have interested members join the ranks. So, if you have a desire to serve the Lord and the congregation as an usher, please contact Ed Tatro.



Trinity Lutheran Church  
**Usher Sunday Schedule Summer 2018**

9:00am Summer Services

1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday	Tom Kaun	815 485 9604
	Larry Wennlund	815 274 2213
Alternates:	Brett Carr	815 370 6657
	Andy Verchimak	815 723 1429
2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday*	Edward A. Tatro	815 485 5760
	Tim King	815 463 0415
Alternates:	Anthony Lopez	815 722 5594
	Tom Buell	815 485 3769
	Tommy Buell	"
3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday	Mike Gardner	815 485 9623
	Gary Purnell	815 485 9017
Alternates:	Jeff McDonald	815 462 2454
	Mike Lyman	815 485 4637
4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday*	Al McCullough	815 739 0301
	Steve Tomany	815 485 3163
	Randy Varju	815 485 7204
Alternates:	John Buell	815 726 3601
	Phil MacFarlane	815 806 1319
5 <sup>th</sup> Sunday (When Needed)	Rex Toepke	815 485 2638
	Diane Sewing	815 592-3911
	Greg Honiotes	"
Alternates:	Andy Verchimak	815 723 1429
	Jeff Lorenz	815 463 0833

\*Communion Services

A minimum of two ushers needed each service. **Please call** an alternate usher if you are not able to serve that Sunday.

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

An updated schedule will be created for fall services in September.

Thanks, Ed Tatro and Diane Sewing, Worship and Spiritual Life Directors

**PASS Pregnancy Care Center Hike 4 Life** – will be held on June 16<sup>th</sup> from 7 am to 1 pm at Peace Community 21300 S. LaGrange Rd., Frankfort, IL. For more information please contact Sarah West at [impact@passhelps.org](mailto:impact@passhelps.org) or 708-614-9777 X 122.

**Church office hours are Monday, Wednesday and Friday 9 AM to 2 PM.**



Are you on Facebook? We are! “Like” Trinity Lutheran church – New Lenox, IL and receive up to date information on current and upcoming church events.”