

May 2019

Dear Friends of Trinity,

Here's some thoughts on free will. It's a popular topic.

What did you do today? Do you have any plans for tomorrow? Did you drive your car to the store or to a house to visit a friend? Did you make a sandwich for yourself? Who picked out what you are wearing today?

These are what we call "earthly (or human) matters". In these things, we are completely free to choose whatever we want to do. These have not been divinely appointed or determined by God ahead of time. In these matters, we have free will.

We do not have free will in spiritual matters (things related to God). We cannot by our own natural reason or strength believe in the Lord Jesus Christ or come to him. This can only be done by the operation of the Holy Spirit upon us. We can only do those things which require everyday reason and common sense to function in the everyday world.

*The natural person does not accept the things of the Spirit of God, for they are folly to him, and he is not able to understand them because they are spiritually discerned. – 1 Corinthians 2:14*

The Holy Spirit *calls* us through the Gospel, *enlightens* us with His gifts, *sanctifies and keeps* us in the true faith in Jesus Christ. We are believers *only* because of the work of the Holy Spirit. We did not make this decision out of a supposed "free will". We do not become spiritual people by a volitional act.

Faith is a gift and thank God that it is! Otherwise, we would be left wondering if our faith is good enough or strong enough. Wonder no more! Through this gift of faith in Jesus Christ we are saved by the grace of God!

In Christ,  
Pastor Hoag

## MAY 2019 NEWSLETTER



### **Confirmed in Christ**

Sunday, May 5<sup>th</sup>, during the 10:30 a.m. service, the following young adults will be received into membership through Confirmation: Jackson William Fleege, Christopher Brian Gappa, Amy Claire Grady, Dale Alan Hauser IV, Elena Genevive King, John Cullen Seville, and Tanner Michael Simon. 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 26<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**

Our main building-related focus continues to be the kitchen at this point. We are securing bids for the various portions of this job that will need to be farmed out and the numbers are initially a bit higher than we initially had anticipated. This is not a complete surprise, I suppose. It seems as though jobs like this always involved bigger-than-expected costs. We are in the process now of updating our estimate for this job and will consider modifications to our original plans if need be. I don't see anything yet that would cause us not to move forward with the project (I think we can all agree that it really NEEDS to be done!), but I want to make sure we have a good handle on the projected cost of this project as well as how we are going to fund it. We have had very generous support for this project so far, and I thank all who have already donated to this cause. If you were considering supporting this project, early estimates are that we could use some additional support to fund the project as a whole. I hope to have firmer figures soon.

In anticipation of moving forward with this project, we do have the approval from the Village to start demo so that we can better determine what needs to be done with certain aspects of the job that are not readily seen at present (i.e. plumbing, electrical, etc.). We expect to have everything moved out of the kitchen shortly so that we can better determine what needs to be done when we officially kick off this project. We still need to gain approval from the Fire Department, but we expect to be able to comply with their requests and gain their approval in time. I hope to be able to provide more specifics about this project next month. Jan Clark from Social Ministry floated the idea of having a shower for the new kitchen where members could buy new things for the newly remodeled space and I think that is a great idea. Look for details on this in the coming months.

If you don't already have this on your calendar, please plan to come to Trinity at 6 p.m. on Sunday, May 19th to hear a presentation from Joan Aubele, author of the best-selling book [The Dance - A Story of Love, Faith, and Survival](#). Joan is a cancer survivor who has overcome immense odds and we're honored to host her at Trinity to talk about her story. I am sure every one of us knows someone who has been impacted by cancer. Hearing how Joan overcame the challenges she faced and how her faith played a role in that promises to be inspirational. Our thanks to Jan Toepke and our Social Ministry for arranging this presentation for us. The presentation is being funded by Social Ministry and is free to attend. Please plan to join us.

Last but not least, we are also hosting the Trinity Tailgate event again this year - this time on Sunday, June 9th. This event will be open to all to attend and will include opportunities for those wishing to compete in a BBQ contest as well as an opportunity to simply sign up and come and eat. Following dinner, our Social Ministry committee will host an ice cream social and then we will have Pastor & Dan's band, Revival, play from 7-9 p.m. for all in attendance. This is a great opportunity for our members to join in this festive event and also a great opportunity to invite your friends to come and see Trinity. More details of this event, including various sign-up sheets for each level of participation, will be posted at Trinity in May. Hope to see you there!

#### MEMBER UPDATES



#### Baptisms

##### **March 31, 2019**

Beau Patrick Bisping, born August 21, 2018, son of Amanda Bisping

##### **April 20, 2019**

Amanda Melissa Kessel, born November 23, 1993.

Owen Joseph Kessel, born January 3, 2019, son of Brendan & Amanda Kessel

##### **April 27, 2019**

Libby Jean Tibbitts, born March 7, 2019, daughter of Thomas & Jennifer Tibbitts



**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 29<sup>th</sup>  
Thursday Evenings at 7:00 p.m. through May 30<sup>th</sup>

### **Chancel Guild**



**Easter Flowers** – Chancel Guild would like to thank the following people who purchased flowers to decorate the Altar Area this year: Biff & Debbie Aiken, The Blecke Family, Bob Bollman, Judi Donovan, Denise Buchanan, Jan Clark, Les & Ginny DeCarlo, Janet DeForest, Lois Dobbs, Bob & Tammy Doerrer, Jan Falk, Bill & Sally Jackson, Suzy Kambic, Tom & Wendy Kaun, Tim & Jana King, Ray & Debbie Koehler, Les & Cheryl Koenig, Paul & Robin Krol, Joe & Renee LaVazza, Jeff & Sharon Lorenz, Phil & Sharon MacFarlane, Al McCullough, Jeff & Janell McDonald, Ken & Carol Oldendorf, Michael & Emily Perkins, Gary & Kay Purnell, Jim & Angie Minett, Doug & Jan Schlak, Steve & Cindy Spiess, Steve & Rita Tinker, Caton & Brandy Tinker, Damon Tinker, Rex & Jan Toepke, The Wheeler Family, and Dan & Susan Willenborg.



**ALTAR FLOWERS:** 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 2019 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 church office. 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 contact Kay Purnell at [purnellk51@hotmail.com](mailto:purnellk51@hotmail.com) or (815) 485-9017. Flowers may be picked up after the 10:30 Sunday service. Thank you to all who participate!



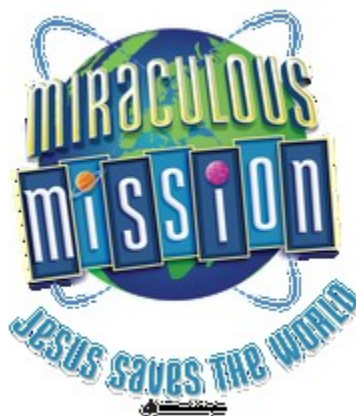
**Church Council** The next meeting will be on Sunday, May 19<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. *The meeting date has been moved from the 12<sup>th</sup> due to Mother's Day.*



**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 [Monday, May 6<sup>th</sup> 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:(815)467-2537) or Gary Purnell at [\(815\)485-9017](tel:(815)485-9017). You can also check out [shopwithscrip.com](http://shopwithscrip.com) to learn more.



**Vacation Bible School – June 17-21**

**VBS – Looking for someone who loves to decorate!! Our theme this year is Miraculous Mission: Jesus Saves the World! If you would like to help decorate, please contact Michelle Hoag. We're also glad to accept volunteers in all other areas!**

**Student registration for church members and preschool families is now open online. The Cost is \$5.00 per student. The password in “trinity”. Please do not share this password outside of church. Registration will open to the public on May 1<sup>st</sup>.**

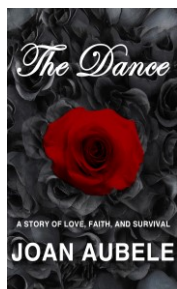
We also are looking for volunteers for the week. Youth who have completed 6<sup>th</sup> grade or higher as well as adults are invited to help. If you can help for one day or all five days, we’d love to have you join our staff. Sign up online at [www.trinitynewlenox.org/vacationbibleschool](http://www.trinitynewlenox.org/vacationbibleschool)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



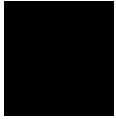
### **Social Ministry**

Our next meeting will be Monday, May 20<sup>th</sup> 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.



**Sunday, May 19<sup>th</sup>** will be designated Survivor Sunday to honor cancer survivors and their caregivers. As in past years information on the New Lenox Relay for Life will be available. Luminaria bags will be available also. That evening at 6:00 we will be hosting Joan Aubele who wrote the book *The Dance: A Story of Love, Faith, and Survival*. At the age of 29, Joan was diagnosed with Stage 4 cancer. Throughout her journey, Joan was constantly reminded of the importance of prayer and relying on God in the most difficult times. Social Ministry invites you to come hear her emotional motivating story. A free will offering will be taken for the American Cancer Society. She will also have copies of her book for sale that evening.

The event will be a Thrivent Action Project. Part of the expenses for the evening will be covered by Thrivent. Refreshments will be served following the presentation. Please come out and support this worthwhile event! Childcare will be available.



**Coffee Hosts**

Thanks to the coffee hosts for serving coffee after the early service each week. The sign-up sheet is on the hallway table for anyone who would like to volunteer for the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the month. 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 Sunday, June 9<sup>th</sup>, to participate in the



2019

“Hold The Date”

Good with a Grill?

Brag about your burgers?

Think your barbecue is The Bomb?

Can you Smoke with the best of them?

Or just enjoy cooking out on a beautiful day with friends and family?

Have a non-member friend who could? Invite them to participate as well!

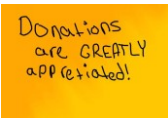
Sign up for the Trinity Tailgate and put your Spatula to work.

Revival will play after dinner, and Social Ministry will provide an Ice Cream Sundae Bar to cool you down!

What: Trinity Tailgate. Sunday, June 9<sup>th</sup>, 2019

For more information:

- Look for handouts by the sign up in the hallway
- Contact Bob Blecke, Outreach Chair.
- Facebook Event Page: <https://www.facebook.com/events/2034149180027621/>
- Eventbrite Ticketing: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/trinity-tailgate-2019-tickets-60534179360>



**St. Matthew’s**

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



**Trinity Pre-School – Registration for Fall Pre-School is now open. Please tell your friends and neighbors.** There is a non-refundable registration fee of \$60.00 per student. School year beginning September 2019 the tuition per month will be \$110 for two day students and \$135 for three day students. Children must be 3 by September 1, 2019. For further information, please call Trinity Lutheran Church at 815.485.6973.



**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.**



**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
	Paul Krol	815 575 1315
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
Alternates:	Paul Krol	815 575 1315
	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

**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.”