

October 2016

Dear Friends of Trinity,

The end of this month will mark the 499th Anniversary of the Reformation, which means next year is going to be a big one!

The Lutheran Church has been in existence now for almost 500 years. We have reason to celebrate that we are justified solely by the grace of God through faith in Jesus Christ. There is no amount of work we do that would merit being made right with God. Our sinful nature hates that and wants to continue to work and be enslaved. It wants to justify itself. That's why grace is so scandalous to so many people.

And yet, many still strive and end up exhausting themselves. Do you realize we have the greatest message in the world because it puts an end to all striving and toiling after God? In joyful and glad response, we love, serve, and forgive others. We are free to love our neighbor. This is our God-given heritage!

We are looking into events to celebrate the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation. Stay tuned throughout the year for updates.

Happy Reformation!

In Christ,
Pastor Hoag



2016 Newsletter

Cool weather means fall fun for everyone. Enjoy the fall leaves, pumpkins, hayrides, bonfires and football games. Come join us at some of our fall activities.

UPDATE FROM OUR CHURCH COUNCIL PRESIDENT, JEFF MC DONALD

Just a brief update on some property-related items that occurred since the last newsletter.

All of the interior railings in the church have been repainted as well as the coat rack in the main hallway. In addition, the future Youth Room in the basement got a makeover thanks to some new donations that Trinity received. If you haven't had a chance to see that room, go downstairs and check it out. For the first time in a long time, everything in that room actually works! We hope the youth of our congregation will enjoy spending time together in this space. We also saw the completion of the courtyard regrading project, and we now have a brand new sidewalk and landscaping in the courtyard as well as newly planted grass seed in and around the pre-school play area. Our railings for the front steps have been approved and they are being fabricated now, so we are hoping to see the final aspect of the new stairs installed soon. For those who agreed to help out with the landscaping work at Trinity, we are planning to hold off on that until the new railing is in. Trinity is looking great both inside and out, and we have a lot of members who are working to take good care of our church.

Finally, we are expecting to have our new Comcast service at Trinity installed this month. We are making the move to Comcast with the goal of enhancing our internet speed at the church and we also hope to be able to offer wi-fi access to our members while at the church (the youth, in particular). We experienced some unexpected delays in this project when the installers inadvertently severed a power line and our phone line, which caused quite a bit of disruption at Trinity for about a week. Several members stepped up to the plate to make sure we got our power restored and our phone and internet service followed shortly thereafter. For those who contributed extra efforts on this task, your work is appreciated!

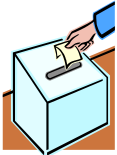


Church Member Updates during the month of August/September, 2016

Baptisms:

Caius Gabriel Adkisson, birth date December 8, 2011, baptized September 11, 2016; Avery Elijah Adkisson, birthdate March 20, 2015, baptized September 11, 2016

Marrages: Courtney Nichols and Michael Lofgren, September 30, 2016.



Church Council Elections are approaching at the end of October.

If you have considered becoming more involved with the running of the church, please consider running for a council position. All positions are for a two-year term, beginning in January 2017. Council meets monthly (excluding summer months) on the second Sunday of the month at 7:00 p.m. in the church library. If you are interested in any of these positions, please contact Pastor Hoag at your earliest convenience.



Chancel Guild's Annual Fall Salad Luncheon – Wednesday, October

5th from 11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. The salads are made by the Chancel Guild members, and the desserts are made by the Women's League members. **Carry outs available! Men are welcome! Tickets are still available for \$8.00 each.** If you need tickets, please call the church office at 815.485.6973. **Come and enjoy the delicious food, as well as the fellowship. Tickets will also be available at the door.**



Living Lutheran – Exploring the Christian Faith. Mentors and Inquirers: We will be meeting in the gym on Sunday morning at 9:15 a.m. If you are interested in participating, please join us. If you have questions, please contact Pastor Hoag.



Trinity Pre-School

AM spots are still available for 2016-2017. Please tell your friends and neighbors! There is a non-refundable registration fee of \$60.00 per student. For the school year beginning September 2016 the tuition per month will be \$105 for two day students and \$130 for three day students. Children must have turned 3 by September 1, 2016. For further information, please call Trinity Lutheran Church at 815.485.6973.



Confirmation classes are held on Wednesday evenings at 6:00

p.m. If you would like to enroll your son or daughter, would like more information, or have any questions, please contact Pastor Hoag or call the church office at 815.485.6973.



Wednesday Morning Bible Class meets each week from 8:30 – 10:00 a.m. in the Library. Please contact Pastor Hoag if you have any questions.



Choir practice is held each Wednesday evening at 7:00 p.m. Please join us - both male and female voices are needed. If you have any questions, please call Julie Verchimak, at 815.723.1429 or the church office at 815.485.6973.



8th Annual Trinity Craft and Vendor Fair – Saturday, October 15, 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. Come on out to the craft fair and bring along a friend! We need plenty of shoppers to make this event a success. We have more crafters and vendors this year, plus a bake sale, so come out and do some early holiday shopping. Free admission! Hope to see you there!

High School Youth – Monday, October 10th, 1:00 p.m. – Please come to help set up for the craft fair. Then we'll try a new snack – s'macos! Don't know what a s'maco is? Think s'mores – but better! See you there!



High School Youth – Last call to sign up for a trip to Minneapolis to see the Luther Exhibit and Mall of America over Thanksgiving weekend! Let Michelle Hoag know if you are interested.



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. Order forms are on the hallway table below the Youth bulletin board. You may place your order/payment in the gold envelope which is hanging on the end of the desk credenza in the church office. If interested

in placing orders online, you will need an enrollment code. Ask Angie Minett for the code or stop by the church office. Direct any question you may have to Angie Minett at minett411@yahoo.com or (815) 467.2537. **With the holidays coming up we will be having 2 order dates beginning in October. Deadline for turning in orders, along with payment is Monday October 2nd at noon, and also Monday October 31st at noon.** Pre-ordered gift cards will be available for pick-up the weekend after the order is placed.



Thanks to everyone who donated blood on September 26th. Our donations were really down this time with only 6 donors, but every donation counts and was greatly needed. Your donation saved lives! Thanks to Deb Aiken for coordinating this with Heartland Blood Centers.



Thanks to the Hoag family, the McDonald family, and the Czerwinski family for their recent assistance doing yard work for a couple in need.

Coffee

DO YOU ENJOY THE COFFEE AND FELLOWSHIP AFTER THE 8:00 A.M. SERVICE ON SUNDAYS? We can use your help! Would you be able to be the coffee host/hostess twice a year? We need someone for the first Sunday in February and August. Please contact the church office to sign up.



Prayer Chain: Thanks to Ginny DeCarlo and Pat Fuerst for heading up this very worthwhile organization. Please feel free to contact Pat or Ginny via the telephone to leave a prayer request, or Ginny via email to get a prayer started. Contact information: Pat 815 485 6441, Ginny 815 485 2001 or ginny@vdecarlo1952@gmail.com

Bulletin Prayer List: Please inform the church office when you or a family member's status change, or are well enough to be removed from the Prayer List. Thanks!



Readers and Greeters:



Sign-up sheets for October are on the hallway table. Please stop by and sign up. We could use a few more readers. If you would like a copy of the readings ahead of time, please call the church office at 815.485.6973.



MORNING STAR MISSION SERVING. If you are interested in helping serve a meal at MorningStar on the 1st and/or 3rd Monday of each month, please sign up on the sheet on the hallway table. You need to be at MorningStar by 3:45. If you have questions, please call the church office. The dates for this month are October 3rd and 17th.

Church Council Meeting, Sunday, October 9th at 7:00 pm

Social Ministry Meeting – Monday, October 10th at 7:00 p.m. at Sue Kunce’s home.

Women’s League Meeting, Tuesday, October 25th at 12:30 p.m. Hostesses are Ginny DeCarlo and Ruth Hucher.



Wednesday, October 12th – New Lenox Historical Society Oktoberfest

Dinner at the VFW, New Lenox from 4:00 – 8:00 p.m. Tickets (\$10.00 adults, \$5.00 for children 4-10, children 3 years old and under – free) and will support the Schmuhl School and the News Lenox Area Historical Efforts. may be purchased by calling 815.485.5576, or at the door.



“Healing Hearts” Survivors of Suicide Support Group Meeting – Monday, October 17th from 7:00- 8:30 p.m. at the New Lenox Police Department, 200 Veterans Parkway, New Lenox. Guest Speaker: Pastor Troester, St. Paul evangelical Lutheran Church, Matteson. Topic: “Surviving the Holidays”

craft

Silver Crossings Vendor/Craft Fair – Saturday, October 22nd from 9:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. Location: Silver Cross Hospital Conference Center. Enter through Pavilion A/B Lobby. Free valet and shuttle bus parking available. Handmade craft items, homemade baked goods, over 40 vendors. Proceeds will benefit the Silver Cross Inpatient Dialysis Unit. For more information call Volunteer Services at 815.300.7117.



St. John's Annual Turkey Dinner, Saturday, November 5th from 4:00 – 7:00 p.m. Location: St. John's United Church of Christ, Christian Community Center, 11046 Second St., Mokena. Tickets sold at the door: Adults \$12; Children 5-11 \$5.00; Children 2-4 \$2.00 Carry outs available at the church.

Question: Did you ever say "That's my seat! You took my place!?" Read the article attached to the Chancel Guild bulletin board in the hallway. Find out who took our place!



Church office hours are Monday and Thursday, 9-3; Tuesday and Friday, 9-12.

