

September 2015

My Fellow Trinitarians,

*The world is meant to take our breath away, even as we genuflect to the Author of that breath.—Ron Rolheiser*

I always look forward to Fall because of the changes in nature that take place—leaves changing color, cool and crisp air, the possibility of snow starting to fly—and I'm drawn to the beauty of it all. It's my favorite season. I never was captivated by the heat and humidity of summer. I merely tolerated it until something better came along. A nice cold front passing through was always welcomed with my sighs of relief.

Christian theologian and author, Ron Rolheiser, recently wrote that he is torn between two worlds: the world of sense delights and the world of the divine. He is drawn to all of the physical pleasures the world offers and at the same time drawn to faith and religion, and these are sometimes at odds with each other as he has chosen to be celibate. It creates within him a tension to honor his bodily instincts while honoring God with his body. This is a healthy tension for him, and I would agree. We are children of both heaven and earth. Oftentimes we pit one over the other. I think this is a mistake. God created earth, with all of its pleasures and delights, for our habitation.

Of course this is not all that there is. There is the next life that we will all experience and of which we get a foretaste in worship.

God is not opposed to our bodies. He created them. And, miracle of miracles, He took on flesh in the person of Jesus. Jesus, completely indwelt by the Holy Spirit, lived the heaven and earth tension completely. He never pitted one over the other. Instead, he connected these two worlds. One day we will know and experience this connection completely when the final resurrection takes place. The tension we carry between them will be gone, as will all sin and death, when Jesus returns in glory. We will have our bodies that will be transformed to live eternally in paradise! *[The Spirit of God], who raised Jesus from the dead, will give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who dwells in you.—Romans 8:11*

In Christ,  
Pastor Hoag



## 2015 Newsletter

Summer is over, schools are back in session. It is time to get back to our regular fall schedules. Our church organizations will also resume.

Property news is still an important topic at Trinity as we continue with the installation of a lift at the south end of our building. While we had a minor setback in August, that ended up being something of a misunderstanding and our initial plans now continue full speed ahead. We are working actively with the Village and a variety of contractors to complete both the lift and the front steps to the building. Our plans also include adding asphalt along the road on the south end of the building for additional paved parking along Elm Street. We ask that the south entrance – when functional again – be given priority use by any member who might benefit from the assistance of the lift in entering and exiting our church. Members who do not intend to use the lift are encouraged to park in our main lot.

Hopefully you are enjoying the other improvements that were already made this year – namely the new organ and the refinished interior stairs. The multitude of sounds produced by the organ has been a wonderful addition to our worship services and the improvement over our old organ and speakers is certainly noticeable. Finally, our ailing interior stairs have been refinished in a nice blend of maroon and gray that matches colors found in the narthex very nicely. This began with a donation from Women's League and ended with some of the proceeds of our 75th Anniversary fundraising activities. Your donations made all of this possible, so we hope you are enjoying the improvements being made at Trinity. We would be remiss if we didn't take this time to thank the property committee for their efforts at completing these projects.

### **Our fall/winter schedule will resume on Sunday, September 13th as follows:**

Saturday - Contemporary Service – 5:00 p.m.  
Sunday - Traditional Service – 8:00 and 10:30 a.m.  
Sunday School Rally Day & Bible Class – 9:15 a.m.

**Ushers - be sure to check the schedule for the dates you are scheduled to usher.**



**Sunday School Rally Day is Sunday, September 13<sup>th</sup> at 9:15 a.m.** If have any questions or need more information, please talk to Judi Donovan or call the church office at 815.485.6973.



**Confirmation Classes will be held each Wednesday at 6:00 p.m.**

Confirmation Orientation is Wednesday, September 2nd. If you have any questions or need more information, please contact Pastor Hoag or call the church office at 815.485.6973.



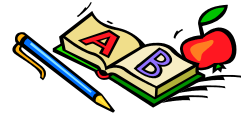
**Wednesday morning Adult Bible Class will begin on Wednesday, September 9<sup>th</sup> at 8:30 a.m. in the library. It is a very interesting group and everyone is welcome to join.**



**Church Council will meet on Sunday, September 13<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m.**



**Preschool News and Information**  
**2015-2016 Trinity Pre-School**



**AM spots still available .....please tell your friends and neighbors!**

There is a non-refundable registration fee of \$60.00 per student. For the school year beginning September 20145 the tuition per month will be \$100 for two day students and \$125 for three day students. Children must be 3 by September 1, 2015. For further information, please call Trinity Lutheran Church at 815.485.6973. Pre-School begins on Tuesday, September 8<sup>th</sup>.



**Blood Drive – Monday, September 28<sup>th</sup> from 3:00 – 7:00 p.m. at Trinity Lutheran Church.** To schedule an appointment, please sign up online at [www.heartlandbc.org](http://www.heartlandbc.org) or call Debbie Aiken at 815.462.0687. *Prepare for your donation – Eat Well – Stay Hydrated – Bring ID. ACT NOW. GIVE BLOOD.*



**Our organizations will be back in full swing in September.**

Ladies would you like to get acquainted with fellow church members? All ladies are invited and encouraged to attend one of our ladies groups. *Due to Labor Day being the first Monday, Chancel Guild and Social Meetings have been pushed back one week.*

Chancel Guild will meet on Monday, September 14th at 6:30 p.m.

Social Ministry will meet on Monday, September 21st at 7:00 p.m.

Women's League will meet on Tuesday, September 29th at 12:30 p.m.

Please call the church office if you have any questions, or would like further information, about any of these organizations.



**Choir practice will begin on Wednesday, September 16<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m.** New voices are always welcome - both male and female. If you have any questions, please call the choir director, Julie Verchimak at 815.723.1429 or call the church office at 815.485.6973.



## Women's League

Next meeting is September 29<sup>th</sup> at 12:30 p.m. All ladies are invited. They will be tying fleece blankets to be given to MorningStar Mission. This is a fun time together and everyone is welcome to attend. You do not need to be a member to come to any meeting. Hostesses will be Pat Fuerst and Ruth Hucher.



Thank you to all the coffee hosts who have been serving each month. We had a couple first time hosts this year and are appreciative of your help. **We are still in need of volunteers for the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of September, October, November and December. Please consider helping with one of those weeks. The sign-up sheet is on the hall table.** If you have any questions, please call Midge Meents at 815.485.6527, or the church office at 815.485.6973.



**Chancel:** All ladies are welcome to join us.

Next meeting is September 14<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm; hostesses are Janice Prospero and Debbie Nick.

September work schedule:

September 5/6	Doris Klemm, Debbie Nick
September 12/13	Debbie Nick, Sally Jackson
September 19/20	Sally Jackson, Jan Falk
September 26/27	Jan Falk, Sharon MacFarlane

**Chancel Guild – Annual Fall Salad Luncheon**



**Wednesday, October 7<sup>th</sup> from 11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.**

**Tickets: \$8.00 Carry Outs Available! Men are welcome!**

*The Women’s League members will be furnishing the desserts. This is Chancel’s only fundraiser and all proceeds will be used to replace and or purchase altar linens and supplies. Tickets may be purchased from any chancel member or through the church office. If you have any questions or would like to purchase tickets, call the church office at 815.485.6973.*

**Social Ministry**

Our next meeting will be held on Monday, September 21st at Sue Kunce’s home at 7:00 p.m. All ladies of the congregation are welcome. We are always open to some new ideas, as well.



**HALLOWEEN PALOOZA – Coming October 18<sup>th</sup>. Save the date!** This will be held immediately following the 10:30 a.m. service. Come make your own “spooky ghost lantern”, and also enjoy some games and snacks. Social Ministry will supply the decorating materials, you just need to bring your kids! Adults are invited to join in - and show off their artistic talents!

**In order to make this craft, we are collecting empty milk jugs. *Please remove the labels, thoroughly wash and dry the jugs, and replace the lids.* A collection box is under the hallway table.**

**To help us prepare for this event, a sign-up sheet is on the hallway table.**



High School Youth - 2016 National Youth Gathering - Information Meeting on Sunday, September 20, 9:15 am in the gym. The gathering happens every three years, and you don't want to miss it! Parents and high school youth, please attend and learn about the gathering, costs, fundraising, etc. We do a lot of fundraising to make this once-in-a-lifetime trip affordable for everyone. **The gathering will take place in New Orleans on July 16-20, 2016.** Deposits and registration need to be made by October. If you cannot attend the meeting, talk to Michelle Hoag for more information.

***Youth service opportunity - We would like to organize a group to help with the Sharefest project to clean up Pilcher Park on Saturday, September 26. Time TBA. Sign up on the youth bulletin board.***



### St. Matthew's Lutheran Church

Thank you to everyone for continuing to support St. Matthew's through food, clothing, monetary donations or delivering these items to St. Matthew's. These items help St. Matthew's in feeding the hungry and homeless in the Pilsen neighborhood. We are asking that members donate food and paper supplies for their twice weekly meals, to be placed in the designated containers by the parking lot entrance. Household items should be placed in the storage closet area at the far North end of the church basement. Please place the items carefully so they do not block the aisle to the boiler room.



**ALTAR FLOWERS:** Thanks to everyone who has signed up to donate flowers for our altar. There are still a couple open weeks. Check the calendar to see which weeks are still open. If you missed signing up for a special date, please contact Christine Stark at 815.478.4069 or email her at [candb.stark@gmail.com](mailto:candb.stark@gmail.com). You may still be able to share a week with another member. The cost of the flowers is \$8.50 per vase or \$17.00 for both vases. The flowers may be picked up after the Sunday service.



Thanks to everyone who signed up last month as a reader, greeter or a volunteer for the MorningStar serving. Your help is greatly appreciated.

**Readers and Greeters.** The sign-up sheets for September are on the table. Won't you take a moment and agree to either read or greet one of the coming Sundays? If you'd like a copy of the readings ahead of time, please call the church office at 815.485.6973.

**MorningStar Mission.** The September sign-up sheet is on the hallway table. Servings will be September 7<sup>th</sup> and September 21<sup>st</sup>.



Thanks to Pat Czerwinski and Virgil Switzer for their continuous help in cleaning up the landscaping around the church.



**October through December Portals of Prayer are on the hallway table. Pick up a copy.**



**GRIEF SHARE SEMINAR/SUPPORT GROUP BEGINS September 14, 2015.**

**A GriefShare grief recovery seminar and support group will be starting Sept. 14 at Peace Lutheran Church in New Lenox (across from Lincoln-Way Central High School.)**

GriefShare is a video seminar series that features some of the nation's foremost Christian experts on grief and recovery topics as seen from a biblical perspective. The video seminars are combined with support group discussion of the materials presented during the video. The sessions are from 6:30 to 8:00 on Mondays, and the full series is 13 weeks long. (You can miss individual sessions without a problem.) Please feel free to call them at 815.485.5327 or email [peacechurch@peacnewlenox.org](mailto:peacechurch@peacnewlenox.org) or [griefshare.PLC.60451@gmail.com](mailto:griefshare.PLC.60451@gmail.com), if you have any questions, would like more information, or wish to sign up for the GriefShare seminar.



**Sharefest New Lenox. September 1<sup>st</sup> through 27<sup>th</sup>** ShareFest is an annual event in New Lenox involving over 103 organizations. During this time, they unite as Proud Americans to meet the needs in the community. This is open to the community. For more info please call 815.727.1614 or visit [www.sharefestnewlenox.com](http://www.sharefestnewlenox.com). Detailed flyer brochures are on the hallway table at church.

**September 1<sup>st</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> Donate books, clothes, food, home goods, pet supplies, and items for our Troops.** Donation trucks are located at St. Jude Catholic church and Standard Bank.

**September 11<sup>th</sup> – Job & Resource Fair** – at the New Lenox Village Hall from 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

**September 12<sup>th</sup> – Recyclepalooza**, at Spencer School Campus, 1711 s. Spencer rd. from 8:00 am – 3:00 p.m.: Electronics, carpet padding (in 45 lengths), wood, scrap metal, Styrofoam, flags, usable latex paint; Donations of books, clothes, home good, food, pet supplies, items for the troops

**September 19<sup>th</sup> - ShareFest Saturday - The Main Event at Spencer School Campus**

Art Exhibition, Book Drive/.Exchange; Blood Drive; Clothing & Home Good Drive; Food Drive; Collection for our Troops; Free Legal Services; Free Hair Cuts; Health & Safety Fair; NAWs Pets; Forest Preserve Workday Projects.

**September 26<sup>th</sup> - Pilcher Park Clean Up.** Volunteers meet at Pilcher Park Nature Center, 2501 Highland Park Dr., Joliet. 9:30 am to Noon. Second cleanup is scheduled for November 7<sup>th</sup> at the same time.

Contact Virgil at [vkemp@helpersofmotherearth.org](mailto:vkemp@helpersofmotherearth.org).

**September 27<sup>th</sup> - Collections to Support Our Troops Pantries and Schools.** See website for item list.

Volunteers can register at [www.sharefestnewlenox.com](http://www.sharefestnewlenox.com) or [www.sharefestwillcounty.com](http://www.sharefestwillcounty.com)



BBQ & Bluegrass Fundraiser is being held on Sunday, September 13<sup>th</sup> from 1pm to 4pm at Grace Episcopal Church in New Lenox. This is their biggest fundraiser of the year. Last year they were able to raise \$5,000 towards the restoration of their sanctuary. They would like to beat that goal this year and would like your help in doing so. People may buy tickets at the door or stop by the church after service on Sunday or they can call (815) 485-6596 for more info. The tickets are \$10.00 and includes pulled pork sandwich, coleslaw, baked beans and corn on the cob.



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