

September 2020

Dear Friends,

In case you haven't heard we are worshipping outdoors! Our Sunday School is opening with a choice of in-person or online class! We're opening a little bit more as it seems we are doing quite well. Even though new restrictions were placed on Will County, they don't affect our Fall plans for worship and education.

We'll worship outside for as long as we can while the weather is pleasant. We will then need to re-evaluate moving the worship indoors, making sure that we are abiding by CDC and State of Illinois regulations. We will do all we can to keep church open.

Thank you for your patience and your understanding during this time. Even though we face many obstacles and stumbling blocks, the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ continues to accomplish God's purposes for our world. I pray that the Holy Spirit continues to give us hearts and lives that love and serve others, especially during this time of pandemic. And may the Lord bless and keep you, make His face shine on you and be gracious to you, look upon you with favor and grant you peace!

In Christ's Love,

Pastor Hoag



We will continue to broadcast our service live on Facebook and YouTube on Sunday mornings at 9:00 am.

We will also be having an Outdoor Service each Sunday with communion at 10:00 am weather permitting. If it is raining, we will move inside to the church but no singing will be allowed. Masks must be worn at either service.



A big "Thank You" to all our ushers for the work they do to make our services run smoothly.

We are asking the ushers, both 8 & 10:30 ushers, to help at the outdoor service at 10 am. The main responsibility for the ushers is to remind people to stay 10 feet apart as we will be singing. If we need to move indoors, we will be staying 6 feet apart as we will not be singing. Please also remember to record the attendance for the day.



Beginning September 13, we will re-open Sunday School with the options of in person or remote learning. Please register at www.trinitynewlenox.org to choose your option. You must register before attending so we can prepare everything for the students.

To keep our students and staff safe, some of the changes we have made include:

- There will be no opening in the church sanctuary. Students will stay in their classrooms.
- Students will be socially distanced within the classroom.
- Parents will not be allowed in the classroom, except for parents of preschoolers if needed.
- All attending will be required to wear a mask. If a mask cannot be worn, you can take advantage of our remote option.
- We will follow CDC and Illinois Department of Public Health guidelines.
- Further procedures will be shared with parents once you have registered.



From Council President, Jeff McDonald

A quick update on the ongoing kitchen project is that we are very near the point of asking the Village to come and perform their final inspection, which we have every expectation will pass. If this virus had any silver lining, it would be that these unforeseen delays in the kitchen remodeling project have not really prevented us from using this new space as our ability to congregate in large groups remains restricted. But I am pleased to report that the final touches on the kitchen are on the horizon and we should be able to use this new space as soon as that is allowed.

My other news is just a quick update on what I reported last month, which is that I will be stepping down as council President in January of 2021. We will be having elections in October (next month!) for the January term and we are still in search of a member to take on this role. While I served a total of 10 years on council, that was five separate two-year terms and I accepted each new term willingly. If you want to give this a go for two years, I can not only help you transition into the role, but I can practically assure you that you will find this to be a rewarding and fulfilling position. I urge you to consider serving on council for the 2021-2023

term. I will supply our new President with detailed notes of past meetings and with all you will need in order to serve successfully in this capacity. The quick overview is that despite COVID-19, our church is in very good shape and really just needs someone to help oversee the path that we are on for the next two years. If you are even remotely interested in this, please contact Pastor Hoag, Judi Donovan or me with any questions.



If you have not signed up yet, please contact Pastor Hoag for information. Confirmation is for all seventh and eighth grade students.

Confirmation Class will be held on Sunday evenings starting on September 13th at 6 pm through Google Meet.

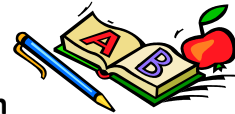


Wednesday morning Adult Bible Study will begin on Wednesday, September 9th at 8:30 a.m. on Google Meet. It is a very interesting group and everyone is welcome to join. If you would like to join this group, please email Pastor Hoag and he will send you the link.

Thursday night Adult Bible Study will begin on Thursday September 10th at 7:00 p.m. on Google Meet. It is a very interesting group and everyone is welcome to join. If you would like to join this group, please email Pastor Hoag and he will send you the link.



Church Council will meet on Sunday, September 13th at 7:00 p.m.



Preschool News and Information
2020-2021 Trinity Pre-School

Preschool will be delaying the opening until January of 2021



Our organizations fall schedule for Chancel Guild & Social Ministry:
Please watch the newsletter and our website for future meeting dates.

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



Chancel Guild: Our September meeting has been cancelled.

October Annual Salad Luncheon has been cancelled for this year.



If anyone is interested in a piano, we have a member giving one away. You can give Kathy Fandl a call at 815/726-4030 to make arrangements to pick it up.



MEMBER UPDATES FOR August 2020

Baptisms:

Isaac John Mochel



YOUTH GROUP EVENTS

Craft Fair – We are unable to host our annual Craft Fair indoors but we are thinking about holding one outdoors. If you would be interested in an outdoor craft fair, please contact Michelle Hoag at hoagmichelle@msn.com.

Script Cards - We are happy to bring back the Scrip gift card fundraiser this fall. The first deadline will be Sunday, September 13th. Orders will be ready for pickup the following Sunday. (Note: The deadline dates will now be Sundays instead of Mondays.) Please place your order in the gold envelope labeled scrip card orders in the old office. If you are unable to drop your order off during office hours or on Sundays, please contact Angie Minett to make other arrangements. You can reach her at minett411@yahoo.com with any questions. Check out

Visit us on the web at www.trinitynewlenox.org

ShopWithScrip.com to learn more about this fundraiser. Our youth members thank you for your support!



ALTAR FLOWERS: Chancel Guild canceled altar flower orders from the end of March through June during the Covid-19 "Stay at Home" restrictions. Now that Pastor has started his "soft opening," Chancel Guild is once again ordering flowers. We are making up the canceled orders on Sundays that have not yet been spoken for. Those of you who had flower orders canceled will be contacted in the order the flowers were canceled starting with the end of March orders. Presently bulletins are not being printed, so the occasion for sponsoring flowers will be noted in upcoming newsletters. The make-up orders along with present orders have filled our 2020 calendar. We will not be taking any more altar flower orders for the year. Watch for a new 2021 calendar to be posted this fall. Thank you for helping the Chancel Guild keep fresh flowers on the altar. If you have any questions, please contact Kay Purnell at purnellk51@hotmail.com or (815) 485-9017.

Flowers left in the gym will be disposed of after 1 week.

Altar Flowers for the month of September:

September 6, 2020 Jan Clark in Memory of her husband, Tom Clark

September 13, 2020 Steve & Cindy Spiess in Celebration of their Wedding Anniversary

September 20, 2020 Rich & Jackie Rohner in Celebration of their 70th Wedding Anniversary
& for their many blessings

September 27, 2020 Judi Donovan in Celebration of Madison's Birthday
Diane Sewing in Memory of Carol Sewing

Chancel Schedule for September:

September 6, 2020 Doris Bay / Judi Donovan

September 13, 2020 Judi Donovan / Sharon MacFarlane

September 20, 2020 Sharon MacFarlane / Kay Purnell

September 27, 2020 Kay Purnell / Jan Prospero



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 old bathroom next to the lift in the basement. Please place the items in boxes or bags for easier transport to St. Matthews.

In addition to the food items for St. Matthews Church, there is a need for cleaning products. Examples would be: paper towels, rags, general purpose cleaners, toilet bowl cleaners, hand washing soap, hand lotions, hand sanitizers, dishwashing soap, etc. These items can be left in the upstairs bin also.



Portals of Prayer from October through December will be available in the wall rack in the Narthex and also on the hallway table by the middle of September. Pick up a copy.



Church office hours are Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 9 - 2.