



THE TRINITARIAN



THE NEWSLETTER OF
TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod
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Bible Classes and Sunday School 9:00 AM
Divine Service 10:15 AM



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FROM THE PASTOR

Matt. 5:11-12 “Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

If you have been listening to the news lately you have seen how Christians are getting in the news. Yes, they are getting in the news but the news isn't too favorable however.

First there was a Christian woman who decided she wanted to teach again so she went to a Christian school to teach. She was castigated because the school actually taught that homosexuality was wrong. Oh, she is Karen Pence the wife of our Vice-President.

Next, there was a group of Catholic school boys who had just attended the March for Life in Washington. The video went out from one of the Native American protesters who were at the same site as the school boys were to be picked up to return to Kentucky. One of the Native Americans beating on a drum, speaking some Native chant walked up to within a few inches from the face of one of the school boys. The video tried to tell the tale of a boy who was taking on the Native American. Upon investigation of other videos, it was found it wasn't the boys that started this so called confrontation but it was the Native American who walked up to the school boys beating his drum antagonizing the one boy we see in the video.

The last thing we see is the Catholic Governor of New York signing into law a new law that removes restrictions on Abortion. Now, a baby isn't safe from the abortionist even if he or she is born alive. The abortionist won't have to try to save him or her but can actually let him or her die. No longer will the abortionist have to be a doctor but anyone can try their hand at killing babies.

One thing you might not have seen in the news is our own legislators in Santa Fe have introduced a bill, House bill 51 that would remove portions of the Law of New Mexico that would define terms in the law such as justified medical termination, would remove the section where hospitals or persons who would not want to perform abortions would be able to refuse to do abortions and the section that defines criminal abortion, those abortions not a justified medical termination. As well as prescribed penalties for abortion providers. Other statutes would remain in place such as requiring licensed practitioners and the Partial Birth Abortion Ban. So it would then be legal to abort even a full term baby if it was still in the womb.

Be in prayer that those in our legislature and others may be convicted by the Holy Spirit, (Especially those who call themselves Christians) so that those who cannot speak for themselves and we who can speak will have the Lord's will done in each life.

Pastor

ELDERS ARTICLE

Sunday, January 20th, was Sanctity of Life Sunday, a day where we share the joy of the birth of children. The prayer of the Church asks for all the children of God born into His own household by baptismal grace to share in His Son's inheritance. The prayer also asks for protection for women with child, newborns and infants. Another petition asks God to spare the lives of those scheduled for abortion and awaiting adoption by allowing the Holy Spirit to move us to accept them into our lives and provide for them.

These petitions are especially meaningful to me because God blessed our family with a precious little girl, Hailey Ember Rose Meyer on November 25th. God protected her mother, Cara, during her pregnancy. When the time arrived for her birth, God guided Arin to deliver her. What a special Christmas gift!!!! Just the thought of her brings tears to my eyes. I am so thankful to God for her.

Sentimental, you bet. I daresay that everyone that God has blessed with children has shared the same sentimentality.

Another sentimental event in February is Valentine's Day. Do you remember what special significance this day has for you and your special partner in life? February 14, 1973, I attended a wedding of one of my co-workers. Ruth was serving wedding cake and I went back for several pieces. Well, you know the old wives tale about a single female feeding wedding cake to a single male, predicting their marriage to each other. For us, the rest is 45 + years of history.

What is your Valentine's Day story about your life partner? God certainly directed your actions in the choice of your partner. Some stories may be more convoluted than others, but they all have

special sentimental meaning that is stored in the hard drive your mind. Pray for His guidance to do the right thing for your spouse, family and everyone you encounter as you go about your daily life.

GOD WILL ANSWER YOUR PRAYERS IF YOU WILL ONLY ALLOW HIM IN YOUR LIFE.

Jim Wilkes, Head Elder

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

At a special congregation meeting, held January 13th, the congregation voted to allow the BOD to expend funds for expenses of less than \$1,000.00, as per the By-Laws.

The Board of Directors met on January 17th.

Jim Wilkes, Head Elder, reported that the elders continue reviewing member attendance. They are actively attempting to contact delinquent members to encourage them to return to regular church attendance.

The 2019 Elder introduction letter has been approved by Pastor and will be accomplished by each elder and placed in each member's mailbox or mailed if not picked up.

The elders are taking steps to give our organist, Lee Wood, relief when she requests it. They are investigating the possibility of downloading hymnal music played through our sound system from a computer. Pastor will contact potential guest organists to substitute for Lee.

Robert will contact Mark (the tech who installed our sound system years ago) to get a cost estimate for him to check out and make necessary repairs to the sound system.

Robyn Luevano, Treasurer, reported that income exceeded expenses in December by \$487.22. General Income was \$21,322.00 and Expenses

were \$(20,834.78). Income we received in 2018 was \$206,033.66; expenses were (\$207,434.43) for a difference of minus (\$1,400.77). The BOD has asked Robyn to investigate the possibility of getting a debit card for use by BOD chairs; after discussion the idea was voted down.

Lisa Collins, Evangelism Chair, reported the Evangelism Committee meeting would be held after church on January 27th. She reported that Cheryl Sandenaw is continuing work on the Bob Lenz project but will need help contacting business and other youth groups. Lisa has published a daily prayer calendar for use by the membership.

She confirmed the names of the six missions selected by the congregation and published in the January issue of the Trinitarian. A question about why the fifth Sunday offering went to the LWML. The answer given was to support the Mite Box portion of their ministry. After discussion, a motion was made, seconded and passed to change the 2019 Fifth Sunday door offering recipients to the Trinity Youth Group.

Cindi Anderson, Education Chair, reported:

Youth Group: There are 8 Kids and 6 Adults registered for the Higher Things Conference at Concordia Irvine in July 2019. We have been invited to the Circuit Wide Winter Youth Retreat in Ruidoso on Feb 9 and 10. We have several Fund Raisers planned for the spring, including a Potato Bar Lunch after Church on Mar 17 and the annual Easter Breakfast. We are also going to start selling bottles of water from the refrigerator in the kitchen for \$.50. **Sunday School:** Sandy Klose has volunteered to begin teaching an early elementary level Sunday School class for some of the new kids that have been attending church. If other kids show interest in attending, Jill Clark,

Sunday School Superintendent, will look for another teacher.

Bob Thede, Trustee Chair, reported that the trustees have been working on refinishing several of the interior doors in the church this is an ongoing project.

Another ongoing project is removing the deteriorating cardboard, used to make the vents for the heating/cooling system, from the south vents.

Two new projects are the rekeying of the front doors to the church; over 50% of the current keys are unaccounted for. The trustees are in contact with a professional organ tuner and are setting up a meeting to get an estimate for repair and tuning of our pipe organ.

The loan that we pay for our air conditioning had an initial interest rate of 1.875% for the first two years with a variable interest rate after that. The two-year period will be reached with the February payment. We expect a rate change and a change in our monthly payments effective with the March payment.

Bob Klose, President of the BOD.

CHURCH KEYS

Next Tuesday, February 5th, the locks on the church will be changed. If you have a key to the church, please turn the key in to the office and you will be re-issued a new key. The new keys will be available to pick up in the fellowship hall after the worship service today. Any questions ask Bob Thede.

Psychiatrist: "Do you talk in your sleep?"

Patient: "No, I talk in other people's sleep...I'm a preacher!"

—Clergy Talk

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ

As many of you know I am currently serving a vacancy in Carlsbad NM and so am unable to speak with you personally. It is my privilege to announce to you that I will once again be returning to Africa so that I may continue to teach students to spread the Good News in all its purity to a people who are desperate to hear the Gospel.

I will be leaving on March 23rd. I will be flying to Entebbe Uganda as flights to Jubba South Sudan have been deemed too dangerous. I will be taking a couple days to get over jet lag and to look into opportunities to teach in Uganda as well. Then on the 26th I will fly via Missionary Aviation Fellowship (MAF) to Yambio, South Sudan where I will teach 22 students the book of Isaiah. On April 11, I will fly back to Uganda then on to Ethiopia where I will teach 20 Students in Bishoftu, the book of Isaiah. After teaching there I will go on to Gambella, Ethiopia, the site of large refugee camps where I will have the privilege of teaching 50 pastors and evangelists in Crossways study named Divine Drama. I will be returning to the US on May 8th.

Posted on the bulletin board is a list of costs for this trip. Notice there are various expenses from airfares, to hotels, taxis, books ,clerical shirts and miscellaneous expenses as well as a request for \$1500 for the building of an out-house at the Lutheran Church in Yambio. Crossways International has generously offered to supply all their study books and leaders guide, free of charge, a savings to us of about \$1,500. What a great testimony to the support of missionary efforts in Africa.

Look at the full letter which includes a breakdown of expenses etc. on the bulletin board. There is

some monies left over from last year but with three sites vs one sight to teach and 3x+ students it will take a little more money this year. Be as generous as the Lord leads you to give as I will be training men to bring the Good News to many. Thank you for your continued support.

Pastor Cramm

LWML

Well a new year has begun. Twelve ladies, our youth, and two men came together to take down our Christmas celebration and cleanup. Several went on to Peppers for lunch and time to visit. Thank you! to all that came and helped.

Let's Keep Filling The Mite Box!

Mite – a coin of small value. Mite Box – a box used to collect mites for mission support. Do the women in your circle of friends know the power of a mite when God uses ... purposes? Do they know the story of the widow's mite (Mark 12:41-43)?? Symbolic of the LWML organization...We have the Mite Box! Based on the Biblical account of the widow's mite (Luke 21:1-4), the Mite ... **intended for regular contributions to "mites" — offerings above and beyond the support an individual might give to their congregation.** Mite Box contributions go hand-in-hand with LWML's major emphasis of supporting mission ... ministry efforts throughout the world. These Mite Box offerings have funded over 100 million dollars in mission grants since the LWML was organized in 1942. Bring the offerings forward for a blessing that the mite offerings, whether a penny or dollar bill, be used to God's glory and to further His kingdom.

LWML invites you to plan on joining us Sunday, Feb. 10 after services for a "Meal for Mites" (a free will offering).

Yvonne Steeby, LWML President

LWML Mission MITE Dinner

February 10, 2019
After the Church Service

Menu

Chicken Tetrazzini (Chicken Spaghetti)
Italian Green Beans, Tossed Salad
French Bread
Varied Desserts

Free Will Offering, all proceeds will go
toward the LWML District and National
MITES

All funds for this dinner were provided
by Thrivent Financial

TRUSTEE

We are continuing to replace doors in the church.
We are now working on the doors to the furnace
rooms in the Narthex.

We have found more blockages in the heating
duct the runs under the south aisle in the sanctu-
ary. These are in an area that is very hard to get
to and we are working at trying to remove this.

We are planning to rekey the entry doors to the
church. All who need keys will have to pick up
new ones at that time. We expect this to take
place on Tuesday, February 5th.

We have been in contact with an organ tuner who
services some churches in Albuquerque. He is
from Colorado. He will be at an Albuquerque
church some time before Easter and will visit our
church at that time. He wants to make an initial
visit before he comes back to do the tuning.

Bob Thede,
Trustee Chairman

YOUTH GROUP

Happy 2019! We hope everyone had a great
Christmas vacation and start to the New Year! We
have tentatively planned some activities and fund
raisers for the upcoming months. We don't have
exact date for everything so watch the bulletin for
more details. We hope everyone can join us!

ACTIVITIES:

Jan 26 at 10:00 am – Ice Skating in Cloudcroft –
meet at the church

Feb 9 – Retreat in Ruidoso with Las Cruces and El
Paso Churches – details TBD

Feb 24 at 6:00 pm – Game Night at the Church

March (date/time TBD) – Bowling

April (date/time TBD) – Game Night at the Church

May 18 – Hike in Cloudcroft with Las Cruces and El
Paso Churches – details TBD

FUND RAISERS:

Are you thirsty? Would you like some nice cool wa-
ter? We have got what you need. The Youth
Group is now selling bottles of water out of the re-
frigerator (bottom shelf) in the kitchen for \$.50.
Just take a bottle and leave your money in the can.
Thanks!

March 17 after the Church service – St. Patrick's
Day Potato Bar Lunch

April 21 – Easter breakfast (Egg casseroles, muf-
fins, fresh fruit)

Thanks!

Cindi Anderson, Jill Clark and Stacy Johnson

**“‘Silent’ and ‘Listen’ are spelled with the
same letters.”**

—Submitted by Rosemary Marbach
of Boston Massachusetts

LONG-TERM PRAYERS

Eric Bell, Caitlin Boverie, Pam Cerny,
Red Chesbro, Mike Debaar, **Valerie English**,
Renee Gocis, Pastor Timothy Green,
Don Gressman, Gene & Eldeen Humphrey,
Kristie & John Humphrey, Rhonda Jones,
Hunter Landt, Ty Landt, Myron Marquardt,
Robbie Nowell, Cindy Oberling, Mary Palmos,
Alex Pearson, Margaret Romero, Justin Salmon,
Nanci Sanders, **Ila Schelter**, Carol Schultz, Jessie
Sharette, Lynne Skinner, William Stewart, Austin
Tice, David Townsend, Marea Turnbull, Eric Van
Horn, Verstein family,

YOU ARE UNDENIABLY LUTHERAN WHEN

- You can say the meal prayer all in one breath.
- All of your casserole dishes have your name on the bottom.
- You have an uncontrollable urge to sit in the back of the room.
- Your house is a mess because "you're saved by grace not by works".
- You think a gourmet salad is lime jell-o with cottage cheese and pineapple.

—Unknown

CONGRATULATIONS

Natasha Thomas made NCO of the quarter at Aviano Air force Base in Italy. Natasha is the daughter of Lewis and Kelly Thomas.

Zac Collins is now an Army AIT graduate. Zac is the son of Lisa Collins.

AWESOME JOB NATASHA & ZAC!!

BABY BOTTLE FUNDRAISER

The **Baby Bottle Fundraiser** began on today, Sanctity of Life Sunday, January 20th and runs through February 17th. We are handing out baby bottles for the fund raising campaign to benefit the Pregnancy Help Center. Please consider filling a bottle (bottles are available in the narthex) with your change, bills, or checks to the Center so they can continue helping young women. Make checks to *Southern New Mexico Outreach, Inc. (SNMO)*. Address: P.O. Box 757 Outreach, Alamogordo, NM 88311. All donations are tax deductible. Just bring your bottles back to church by Sunday, Feb. 17th.

CIRCLE OF LOVE

If you've shared in the love of a parent, a child
Your family, spouse or your friends,
You're abundantly wealthy,
And blessed beyond measure;
For God who is Love,
Lives in circles of love,
And adds joys
To eternally
Treasure!

—Peggy Ferrell

FEBRUARY 2019

STEWARDS FOR CHRIST

ELDERS

Feb. 3 Matt Clark
 Feb. 10 Robert Rentschler
 Feb. 17 Glen Schlehuser
 Feb. 24 Jim Wilkes

ACOLYTES

Feb. 3 Abby Anderson
 Feb. 10 Miriam Collins
 Feb. 17 EmmaLee Kommer
 Feb. 24 Reilly Quinn

READERS

Feb. 3 Dick Dommers/Cheryl Sandenaw
 Feb. 10 Susan Weitzel & Gerald Moore
 Feb. 17 George & Marianne Schweers
 Feb. 24 Dick Dommers/Cheryl Sandenaw

TELLERS

Feb. 3 Lola Ableidinger & Joyce Macon
 Feb. 10 Nora Sotak & Kelly Thomas
 Feb. 17 Sandy Klose & Yvonne Steeby
 Feb. 24 Suse Lehmann/Robyn Luevano

HOSTS

Feb. 3 Bob & Jan These
 Feb. 10 Ed Schelter & Susan Weitzel
 Feb. 17 Jack & Shirley McCastle
 Feb. 24 Gerald & Gayan Moore

FEBRUARY ATTENDANCE SHEETS

Lola Ableidinger

FEBRUARY ALTAR COMMITTEE

Belinda Burmeister
 Hannah Keeler

USHERS

Feb. 3 Tom Blackmon, Susan Weitzel
 Larry & Beverly Van Duyn,
 Feb. 10 Matt Anderson, Marvin Bunker,
 John Marquardt
 Feb. 17 Ben Clark, Trey Johnson
 Robert Johnson, Ray Krueger
 Feb. 24 Bob Klose, Laura Klose,
 Gerald Moore

FEBRUARY FLOWERS

Feb. 3 Robin Haymes
 Feb. 10 Darlene Oberling
 Feb. 17 Ray & Sandy Krueger
 Feb. 24 Suse Lehmann

I feel like something different today.
 Do you have any *Lutheran* oats?

