



# 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



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## **FROM THE PASTOR**

### **NO ONE KNOWS THAT DAY OR HOUR**

Matt. 24:36 “But concerning that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but the Father only. 37 For as were the days of Noah, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. ESV

Many people today are wondering what is going to happen. Our routines have been upset and we wonder if life will get back to “normal” again. Church services are online but we are yearning to be back home with our Lord in His sanctuary, where He comes to us with His Word and sacraments, especially His Supper.

We see how things are being handled and we wonder why things are going the way they are. We wonder if a lot of this is some wanting to control us as we see some businesses as “essential” and others, such as the church being seen by those in control as not essential. We wonder if this is just the start of government trying to assume the role of God, even though we know they were put in place by Him and yet are they taking advantage of the power they were given to the point that it is leading to a time even close to the time Jesus is coming again.

Yes, each day we are closer to the day He is coming again but is it near, we might ask? Some may say the signs are of what the Bible talks about but through the ages and even when the black plague came as well as the world wars of the last century, many saw Jesus coming soon, based on our time table.

As Jesus wrote through Matthew and others, He did not know the time when He would come again. Based on verse 37 above, what is it going to be like on the earth? You may have to go back and read about Noah but how did God describe the earth in those days? Gen. 6:5 The Lord saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every intention of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually. . . . 8 But Noah found favor in the eyes of the Lord.

According to these words of God from Genesis and from Jesus in Matthew, things will have to get “VERY” bad before Jesus comes again. Only 8 people were saved in that time, are there going to be hordes saved who are still living when He comes again? There could be more or there could be less.

As Christians, how should we handle dark days? We have the Son, the light of the world for a reason. It is not only for ourselves but we too are to be a light to the world for the very reason that He lives in us through the Holy Spirit. Being concerned if Jesus is coming soon based on our reasoning shouldn't be something that we spend too much time on but we should be focusing on others who are not saved and need to hear of their need for a Savior who is the one sent to the world, the Messiah, Jesus.

Pastor

## **ELDER MESSAGE**

### **STRONG WILLED WOMEN**

I recently received a letter from my 91 year old mother that contained an essay written by my aunt about growing up during the great depression. She described her life as a ten year old girl in 1934. Housing was in short supply, so my grandfather bought an old barn for fifty dollars. The whole family of six children helped tear it down and reconstruct the materials into a house. It had no windows so they used cardboard packing materials from coffins that grandpa obtained from the local funeral homes. My aunt described the joy of looking out of a window that grandpa purchased one at a time when he could afford it. They used a blanket for a door. (When my mother told my niece about the blanket door, my niece was concerned that someone could have walked right into the house and stolen the VCR. While my niece is not a blonde valley girl, she certainly exhibits those thought patterns.)

Christmas consisted of one present and an orange. Their household was deeply entrenched in Christian values via the Church of Christ teachings. Church attendance was regular and Bible daily study at home was mandatory.

My grandfather was exempted from service in WWII because he was the sole Railway Express Agency man in town and he was actually too old having served in WWI. My two uncles and my aunt's boyfriend enlisted in the Navy.

My grandmother became a riveter in the local defense plant and delegated the child care to the older girls in the family. They learned responsibility at an early age and it held them in good stead when they raised their own families. Grandma and grandpa's personal commitment to JESUS CHRIST carried them through the dark

years of WWII, not knowing whether they would see their sons again.

They all survived WWII and went on to raise their own families. My aunt and her husband had twelve children together. He was a truck driver and was gone a lot, so my aunt pretty much raised them on her own. Her word was law, none of this "Wait until your father gets home" for discipline. Her oldest son did three tours in Vietnam so she faced the uncertainty of his death with her faith in GOD. My other uncle's son wasn't as fortunate, he died in Vietnam. Once again, faith in the LORD got the entire extended family through that tragedy.

A similar story of growing up in the depression, sending loved ones off to WWII, Korea, Vietnam and Middle East wars has been repeated thousands of times for American families.

The common denominator in making it through these travails is a strong faith in GOD'S plan for us.

The other similarity is the strength of the grandmothers, mothers, wives, aunts and sisters to get the job done when spouses, fathers, brothers and other extended family members aren't at home.

Our family members who are police, firefighters, EMTs, nurses, doctors and medical workers face exposure to this virus daily. The truck drivers who travel the country to deliver everything vital to our existence face the usual perils of the road AND potential exposure. The strong willed women use their faith in GOD to enable them to live their lives. This is a tribute to them.

### **HAPPY MOTHERS DAY**

Jim Wilkes, Elder

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Board of Directors did not meet in April due to COVID-19 directives.

Thanks to everyone who continues to support our church through your giving. We are doing okay financially. One of the other tellers and I count the donations every Sunday afternoon and make the deposit. We were informed that Trinity was eligible to apply for Payroll Protection Plan loan through the Small Business Act. If 75% of the borrowed money was used to pay employee's salary the "loan" becomes a grant and does not have to be paid back. The BOD decided not to apply for the loan. The feeling is God is blessing us with income.

Vicki Leonard, Financial Secretary, reported that total income for March was \$14,415.00 of which \$13,617.00 went to the General Fund. Income for April, so far, is \$12,644.00 of which \$12,398.00 went to the General Fund.

Cheryl Sandenaw, Treasurer, reported total income for March was \$13,617.00; total expenses were (\$18,350.40) giving us a net loss of (\$4,733.40). Our year to date income was \$52,667.45 while year to date expenses were \$60,171.39 for a net loss of (\$7,503.94). Cheryl reported that, as of March 31<sup>st</sup>, we had \$31,639.87 available.

Thanks to Pastor and the Matt and Cindi Anderson family (Garrett video-tapes the order of service, edits and puts it together, as well as plays the hymns & liturgy) for creating the online worship service for us. Thanks also to Jan Thede for providing the bulletins. The hard work is greatly appreciated.

Bob Klose, President of the Congregation

## YSLETA LUTHERAN MISSION HUMAN CARE

The Ysleta Lutheran Mission Human Care received the following grant from the Rocky Mountain LWML Fundraisers for Mites program:

**2019-2021 NATIONAL—MISSION GRANT #20 MUSIC OUTREACH, CLASSES, AND RESOURCES ON THE BORDER—YSLETA LUTHERAN MISSION HUMAN CARE, EL**

**PASO, TX—*God's Perfect Timing***

Pastor Stephen Heimer, Ysleta Lutheran Mission wrote: "The grant and its timing have been a Godsend. We received it in early February and began talking to builders about the classroom building renovation possibilities. That is, of course, on hold during this pandemic. However, we started purchasing equipment for our online classes and recording/live-streaming plans." "When stay-home orders were issued in El Paso, we already had the equipment needed to be able to share our worship services online and also begin to share other online devotions, hymns, and music classes. This was one aspect of our outreach objectives in the grant and it turned out to be crucial to what our community needs right now.

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## ANGEL FOOD RECIPE

Take a cup of Kindness

Mix it well with Love

Add a lot of Patience

Plus Faith in God above

Sprinkle generously with Joy, Thanks and Cheer

And you'll have lots of

"Angel Food"

To feast on all day.

—Contributed by Yvonne Steeby

## CONFIRMATION

God's blessings on our 2020 confirmands. A Confirmation date is to be determined as soon as the Corona virus quarantine is over.

**Abigail Anderson** — Abby is the daughter of Matt and Cindi Anderson, the granddaughter of Bob and Jan Thede and Jean Anderson and great granddaughter of Hellen Dailey. Abby is currently in the 7th grade at Mountain View Middle School.

**Emily Johnson** — Emily is the daughter of Robert and Stacy Johnson and the granddaughter of Ray and Sandy Krueger. Emily is homeschooled and is currently an 8th grader.

### CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR CONFIRMANDS

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### HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATE

Eli Collins is a 2020 graduate of Alamogordo High school. Due to the COVID-19 virus, Alamogordo High School will have a virtual graduation on Friday, May 22nd. Eli plans to attend New Mexico Tech in Socorro, NM in the fall majoring in Civil Engineering. Eli is the son of Lisa Collins and grandson of Nora and Rick Sotak and great grandson of Virginia Neilsen

### CONGRATUALTIONS ELI!

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### HIGHWAY CLEANUP

The highway cleanup for April was cancelled. The new tentative date for highway cleanup is Saturday, May 23rd depending on the quarantine for COVID-19 is over. There will be details in the bulletins as we approach that date.

Thank you,  
Hannah Keeler

## STEWARDSHIP

Dear Friends at Trinity,  
My prayer is that all are doing well during this difficult time.

I want to take this opportunity to thank several people who are working continuously to help us stay in touch with God's Word. Each week Pastor Heithold and the Anderson family (Matt, Cindi, Bobby, & Garrett) come together to provide an online service for our church so we can hear God's message at home. Garrett video-tapes the service, edits and puts together the order of service as well as plays the hymns & liturgy. Matt manages our church website. Jan Thede has been very diligent in preparing and sending out the bulletin to all of us who have internet. I am very appreciative of their time and effort to encourage us at home.

If you do not have internet service, you can listen to a Lutheran Church Missouri Synod service by tuning your radio to the following:

**“WORSHIP ANEW”** is a National Lutheran TV program sponsored by Terry Marquardt of Marquardt Eye Associates and Trinity Lutheran Church of Alamogordo. It's on KVBA Vision Broadcasting, on Sunday at 12:30 p.m. or Wednesdays at 11:30 a.m. It's streaming on KVBATV.org or 14.1 Digital, 19 Analog, 22 Cable. (times listed below)

<b>Sunday</b>	<b>5:30 AM</b>
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>12:30 PM</b>
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>11:30 AM</b>
<b>Friday</b>	<b>8:00 AM</b>
<b>Friday</b>	<b>2:00 PM</b>
<b>Friday</b>	<b>6:30 PM</b>

God's blessings to you all.  
Sandy Klose, Stewardship Chair

## **LWML-TRINITY**

**May 1-2 Ladies Retreat in Ruidoso.** Cyndi Hiethold had opened her family home to host this retreat. Plans were being made for an enjoyable time thru fellowship, bible study, local scenery and food. **Sadly was cancelled. Hopefully to be rescheduled!!**

**JUNE 5-7 Rocky Mountain District LWML Convention in Keystone, CO. This sadly was also cancelled.**

### **-- SAVE THE DATE --**

**The Annual Rummage Sale** is planned for Saturday, August 15<sup>th</sup>. Setup will be from the Aug. 10-14. Start cleaning out now to help support LWML and our mission grant goals.

Any questions? Contact Yvonne, Susan, Belinda, Bev, Hannah or Cyndi H.

**LWML On The Go**, is available through your podcast provider, at lwml.org, and on the LWML App.

## **LWML NEWS & EVENTS**

### **FACEBOOK LIVE BIBLE STUDY:**

Join Donna Snow and your LWML friends from around the world as we unite together in Bible study. Donna will be live on the LWML Facebook page at 8 p.m. Central daylight time each Tuesday night, beginning April 28<sup>th</sup>, 2020, leading us through her *Overflowing Abundance* Bible study based on Jesus feeding the five thousand found in Matthew 14:13-21.

LWML President Debbie Larson, Vice President of Christian Life Susan Brunkow, and other Pastoral Counselors, Rev. Mitchell Schuessler and Rev. Brian Noack, will be online answering

questions and taking prayer requests in the comments. The study guide is now available as a free download.

To learn more and to invite your friends, check out the Lutheran Women in Mission Facebook event page.

### **CALL DAY 2020—VIRTUAL SERVICES AT CONCORDIA SEMINARIES:**

The placement of new seminary graduates, deaconess interns, and vicars from The Lutheran Church Missouri Synod (LCMS) seminaries customarily is announced during festive worship services held on each seminary campus. Call Day 2020 will be different because of the COVID-19 pandemic and the requirement to continue the necessary social distancing. Services announcing the placements for these new church workers will be held in an all-virtual format. Please pray for these new church workers as they begin serving the church as pastors, deaconesses, deaconess interns, or vicars. May God give them courage and wisdom as they answer the call to serve.

### **GOD WORKS THROUGH LWML MISSION GRANTS:**

LWML mission grants supported by women throughout the nation continue to bring the Gospel to people around the world. One of those grants from the 2019-2021 biennium on the national level is Women's Witness and Mercy, Asia. This grant supports ten women as they teach, perform acts of mercy and proclaim the Gospel throughout Taiwan, Thailand, Hong Kong, Macau, and Southeast Asia. Aimee Cima feels blessed to be in Cambodia with the help of LWML Mission Grant #12.

**“THE TASK-FILLED LIFE” PODCAST AVAILABLE NOW:**

Do you ever feel overwhelmed by the crazy life we are living? LWML On The Go Podcasts are currently featuring a Bible study series titled “The Task-Filled Life” by Jan Brunette. Coming in the next two weeks are podcasts to help us deal with excuses and delays. This Bible study encourages us as we learn more of the hope that comes only through our Lord.

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**IN THE UPPER BRANCHES**

The Window

By H. W. GOCKEL

“*This Day*” a Lutheran Magazine, June 1951

An elderly woman had been confined to her bedroom for several years. Each spring she watched from her window as the same robin returned and built its nest *high* in a near-by tree.

One morning she called to her daughter and said nervously: “Look! Our robin is building in her nest in one of the *lower* branches this year. I’m afraid the neighbor’s cat can reach it.”

A few days later she looked out of her window – to find the ground beneath that branch covered with feathers. The neighbor’s cat had, indeed, found the lower branch within its reach – and the robin was dead!

As Christians we, too, have the choice of building our lives in the “upper branches” or in the “lower” – of living thrillingly close to God or dangerously close to the world. We have the choice of filling our minds with thoughts of goodness, love, and lofty aspiration or filling our minds with the mean and the low and the trivial.

We are living in the *lower* branches for instance, when we cultivate a taste for books and magazines which pander to the lower passions, when we frequent places of amusement which

cater to the lusts of the flesh, when we associate with friends and companions of whom we know that they delight in flouting the requirements of purity and decency.

How many a young person who has built his life in these lower branches has been snatched, almost unawares, by the Tempter and hurled to his destruction.

We are living in the *upper* branches, removed farthest from the Tempter’s wiles, when we live in a daily communion with our Savior, when we occupy ourselves diligently with His work, when we take an active part in church activities, when we associate with Christian friends, and when we make a deliberate effort to fill our minds with those thoughts only which we could lay bare in the presence of the Master.

That is what the Apostle had in mind when he said: “Whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely whatsoever things are good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things.” (Phil. 4:8)

The man who fills his mind with “these things” is living in the upper branches, and the crafty enemy of his soul will not find an easy prey. Of those who have “set their affections on things above” the Apostle says their life “is hid with Christ in God” (Col. 3:3)

Scripture admonishes us to “walk in the Spirit,” that is, live on the level of the things of God; and then it adds the promise: “and ye shall be not fulfill the lusts of the flesh” (Gal. 5:16).

On what level has our life been moving – on the upper or on the lower? Have we built our nest in the upper or in the lower branches?