



TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

Experiencing and
Sharing Jesus

"FOR I
KNOW

the plans

I HAVE
FOR YOU."

JEREMIAH 29:11, NIV

SEPTEMBER

701 East Florida Avenue, Urbana Illinois 61801– Phone: 217-367-8923

Pastor Shawn Boylan – pastorshawn@trinity-urbana.org

Traditional Worship - Saturday - 5:30 p.m.

Traditional Worship - Sunday - 8:30 a.m.

Contemporary Worship - Sunday - 10:45 a.m.

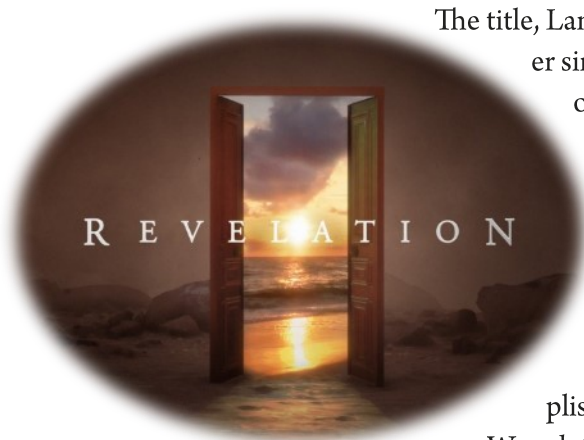
Join us online - Sunday - 10:45 a.m. trinity-urbana.org

Dear Friends in Christ,

How would you describe the book of Revelation? It is full of powerful imagery that speaks truth to us of an eternal reality so different from the world where we live.

Jesus, with white hair and eyes of blazing fire and a sword coming from his mouth- it's hard to picture this as the same Jesus who gently held small infants and blessed them.

Jesus is pictured as the conquering, omnipotent Lord, the victorious "King of kings, and Lord of Lords" riding triumphantly on a white horse (19:11-16). But He is also described as a sacrificial Lamb. John says, "Then I saw a Lamb, looking as if it had been slain, standing at the center of the throne" (Revelation 5:6). These images seem contradictory, but they are both true descriptions of Jesus.



The title, Lamb, is used to describe Jesus 32 times in Revelation, more than any other single title for Him. Jesus became the sacrificial Lamb who was slain for our sins. The marks on his body were not a deformity. They were not an accident. They were not a result of defeat. God provided a way — through weakness and suffering. This is the victory of God and the evidence of His love.

In a fallen world, our reality will often be a painful one. We can embrace God in our trials with faith that God is doing a work in us and through us that is beyond our limited comprehension. God is accomplishing more for his mission in our suffering than we can see right now.

We ask God for strength in trials and suffering. But our idea of what that will look like is often different than what God gives us. We may imagine the answer looking like success, something positive happening, or perhaps an escape from the problem, but God's ways are higher than ours.

This present COVID-19 crisis is a great example. We would naturally be inclined to pray that we wouldn't get the coronavirus. We would naturally pray not to lose our jobs. It would be reasonable to pray that our family and friends would not suffer financial or economic woes. These requests are not wrong, but God's plans and priorities might mean that we must go through suffering. The expression "patient endurance" occurs more times in Revelation than any other book. It is the highest compliment that Jesus gives to those who love Him here on earth (Revelation 2:3, 2:19, 3:10). In a sinful, broken world, God knows it's what we really need.

What's really happening here is that God is revealing a most precious truth to us. The omnipotent Lord is also the loving Savior. Until our final deliverance, "we walk by faith, not by sight" (2 Corinthians 5:7, ESV). What our response should be is summed up greatly in the book of Hebrews: "Let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, 2 looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God" (Hebrews 12:1-2, ESV).

The strength that God supplies is increased capacity to trust his promises and to be like Jesus.

Blessings in Jesus,



SPECIAL VOTERS' ASSEMBLY MEETING on Sunday, September 13, 2020

To all members of Trinity Lutheran Church, Urbana, Illinois:

As you know, a notice was posted on July 22, 2020 to not enter the Fellowship Hall until further notice. The Fellowship Hall, including the kitchen, has remained closed to everyone ever since due to potential hazards resulting from a roof leak and ceiling failure, including possible injuries from failing ceiling tiles, pooled water on the floor, and electrical shock.

Since then, the Property Management Committee has been taking steps to protect safety of our members as they assess the roof leak and related potential hazards and investigate and determine necessary repairs and insurance coverage. Also, the Property Management Committee, after coordinating with the Parish Council, has sealed off the Fellowship Hall with visqueen plastic sheeting, hired a contractor to remove water-damaged ceiling and insulation to prevent the further spread of mold, and hired another contractor to determine if additional mold remediation will be needed.

On August 18, 2020, based on the report of the Property Manager, the Parish Council approved a special Voters' Meeting to be held on **Sunday, September 13, 2020 in the Trinity church sanctuary after the late service**, to begin as soon as the sanctuary is ready for the meeting.

You will need to sign up to attend the meeting in person by making a reservation with Mike Campo at the church office. **Seating is limited to 50 members.** The **meeting will also be streamed live** for those who cannot attend the meeting in person. **All who attend in-person or through live streaming will be able to participate and vote.** You will be notified of additional details of the meeting arrangements as soon as possible.

The agenda will be:

Fellowship Hall -next steps, including demolition and rebuilding

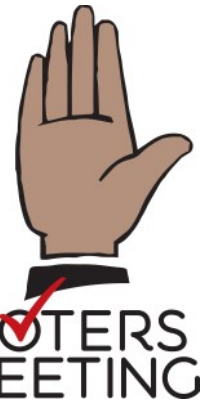
Building campaign -restarting

If you have questions, please contact Mike at the church office (217) 367-8923.

Rick Winkel

President

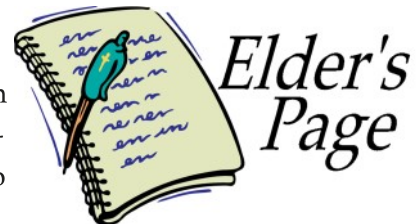
Trinity Lutheran Church



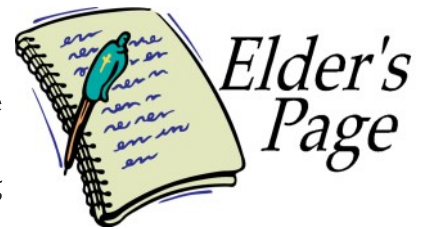
Labor Days

Why do we work so hard on so many different things that don't strengthen our spiritual wellbeing? Why does practically everything else seem to take precedence? Projects and lists of "to do's" never seem to get shorter. In preparing to write this article, I found myself in a similar situation as I do most months. The day starts like most days (weekends anyway), with a slow awakening, followed by breakfast and making a lengthy list of "to-do" items. Another weekend spent working to check off most (almost never all) of those to-do's, and then I remember that writing an article, was one of those things that has NOT been checked off the list!

All is not lost. There's still time. In fact, time spent writing to share what I consider "the commonality" of each of our days, should be easy. What I mean is we all have the same 24 hours each day to do as much or as little as we want. This includes doing what we want for ourselves, for others and for God or with God in mind. We all know there is nothing that God needs from us, but we should most certainly do all things with Him in mind.



The first Monday in September is when we traditionally celebrate “Labor Day”, a day which is a holiday for most Americans, and usually means a day-off from work or our labors. The weekend can also be considered by many to be the last weekend of the summer, which means it will be nose to the grindstone for everyone in the family, including students who this year may actually be looking forward to going back to school regardless of their age. Covid-19 has certainly changed how each of us must function in our daily lives.



We took a trip “up North” to Minnesota to see 2 of our kids and their spouses in August. With Covid-19 changing practically every interaction with others, we knew we’d need to be cautious and careful during our journey as well as during our visits. What I hadn’t really anticipated was how busy the roads and especially the main highways were during that time. It was as if practically nothing had changed under the umbrella of Covid-19. There seemed to be almost as many cars and as much traffic as any other time we’ve been up North. Only when we stopped for food, to fuel up the car, or to see an interesting site could we tell that something was very different.

Our son, Dale, asked about a week ahead of time if I minded helping him with a project during our visit. I said not at all, what is it? He said putting in an engineered wood floor in their family room. I said count me in, even though I’d never done it before. We got the whole project done in just a day, and now that I’ve got one of those floor installations under my belt, I’m glad we had that time to spend working together. Now they can enjoy the fruits of our labor, and everyone who visits can as well. I’m not, however going into the business of floor installation anytime soon. My knees and back really can’t handle it very well. We spent a couple days with him and his wife Heather, before the next leg of our trip took us back “down South” to Saint Paul, to see our Daughter Hannah and her Husband Gabe.

Hannah & Gabe didn’t have any projects lined up for us, and we thanked them for that. As with any family visit, we mainly wanted to catch up on what’s going on with them, have a little fun and to relax a little. It was our first visit to their new place, and we had a very nice time visiting and meeting their large affectionate black cat named “Boot”. We could only spend a couple days with them as well before heading back home.

A break from our labors is exactly what Brenda & I needed. A time to not labor, but rather share our time with others and in this case, family. We were all very happy to see each other (not Zoom) and to interact one-on-one. With the miles between us removed, we were completely free to share and interact without any distractions. Isn’t that what Labor Day is supposed to be about? More importantly, that’s what God had planned for us when he created the Sabbath. He created a time for us to rest from our labor, and to worship and build our personal relationship one-on-one with Him.

Dear Heavenly Father, help us to take a break from our labors, to enjoy the company of family, friends and neighbors as we are able, and most importantly, to spend time with You in prayer. Help to strengthen our faith, increase our spiritual wellness and encourage others in their faith journey. Help us to encourage others to rest from their labors, and foster a one-on-one relationship with Jesus. Amen.

Kevin Donoho - Elder Chairman



Wee Disciples Preschool News

The first weeks of the 2020-21 Wee Disciples Preschool year are progressing well. Our preschool class looks a bit different than previous years, but we are successfully moving forward following our COVID-19 Reopening Plan. This plan can be viewed on the church website at www.trinity-urbana.org under the Preschool tab.

In the classroom the students are working on learning the class routines and rules. Everyone is wearing a mask and learning to wash hands appropriately. We begin the month of September talking about feelings/emotions and working on color and shape recognition. In Bible Time we focus on how God created everything. God made each of us unique and special and God is always with us! The students will create an "All About Me" poster in September and will each get a turn to be the Star of the Day. The posters will be displayed in the hallway starting in September. Wee Disciples observes Labor Day on September 7th with no school.

To address COVID-19 recommendations and to adhere to social distancing guidelines, the Wee Disciples Preschool Committee and church leaders have approved some new procedures for the Trinity family. While preschool is in session (between 8 AM and Noon every Monday-Friday) all members should enter the church through the garden door or front entrance. Only Wee Disciples Preschool staff, students and parents will enter the building through the preschool entrance door while class is in session. There is also a rope that restricts part of the hallway outside the preschool classroom while class is in session. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated. These new rules will not affect any of the current procedures set up for Church services on the weekends and church events in the afternoons and evenings. Furthermore, Wee Disciples is utilizing a Curbside Drop-off and Pick-up line for students like previous years. There are cones placed to limit parking in spots alongside the sidewalk in the back parking lot of the church while preschool is in session.

Thank you for your prayers, support, and cooperation with all the new changes to Wee Disciples Preschool.

God's Blessings,

Karen Rohrer,

Director and Teacher

Trinity Small Groups and Bible Studies

Many of Trinity's Small Groups and Bible Study Groups are meeting. Some groups meet online via Zoom. Please reach out to your individual group leader for information about your group. Please contact the church office at 217-367-8923 if you have further questions.

- Women's Book Group (Risë Lange)
- Pieces of Love at church (Jennifer Holhubner)
- Cottage Bible Study at homes (Mary Jo Rott)
- Women in Mission at church - 2nd Tuesday, 6:30 p.m.
Sept. meeting will be a Zoom meeting. October meeting will be in the church sanctuary. (Faith Wetzell)
- Tuesday Bible Study (Pastor Ehlers) - resuming in September.
- Young Adults Fellowship (Jill Boylan)
- Breakfast Bible Study at Urbana Gardens (Phil or Joyce Bell)
- Couples Bibles Study (Risë Lange)
- Home Bible Study at the Rouse's (Hilary Rouse)
- JOY – will not meet in September



In-Person Worship Guidelines

Per the latest state guidelines, we have resumed modified, in-person worship services in the sanctuary. All three services will be held at the regular times, Saturday at 5:30 and Sunday at 8:30 and 10:45. Please be aware that several restrictions will necessarily apply.

- Everyone must RSVP intent to attend using the online booking system or contacting Mike at the church office. Each individual requires a separate reservation so that we stay within allowable limits.
 - The front doors to the church will not be used. Entry will be by the Preschool door, which will be opened 15 minutes prior to the beginning of the service. A sanitation station is placed inside the entry.
 - Face masks must be worn inside the building.
 - The drinking fountain will be closed.
 - Restrooms will be open; one person at a time please.
 - Worshipers will enter the sanctuary through the West door only.
 - Social distancing of at least six (and preferably 10) feet between households must be maintained in the sanctuary. This will affect seating and communion procedure.
 - Singing and group recitation will be limited.
 - Worshipers will exit the sanctuary through the east door, then please exit the building promptly through the garden door.
 - There will be no coffee fellowship between the Sunday services until further notice.
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LWML (WIM) News:

WIM meetings are beginning again the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 6:30 pm. Our September meeting will be via Zoom. In October, we will meet in the church sanctuary.

LWML School Kits: We continue to collect items during September for school kits.

These kits will be assembled by WIM in October and shipped by Lutheran World Relief. (Since 1945, Lutheran World Relief has tackled the problem of global poverty. The school kits and quilts assembled and sent by WIM reach some of the world's poorest communities. Lutheran World Relief currently operates in East & West Africa, Latin America, Asia and the Middle East.)

Each school kit needs the following items:

- Four 70 sheet spiral notebooks
- One blunt scissors
- One 12-inch ruler, or one with centimeters on one side/inches on the other
- One eraser approximately 2 1/2" long
- Five ballpoint pens (no gel ink)
- One pencil sharpener
- Five unsharpened #2 pencils with erasers
- One box crayons, 16 or 24 count



We are in particular need of more notebooks, pens and rulers. Our goal is to assemble 100 kits. Both kits and quilts will be mailed in October. A large collection box will be in the narthex for collection of donations. If you prefer, you can drop off at the church during the week, when Mike is in the office.

THANK YOU so much for your generosity!

PRESIDENT'S REPORT TO CONGREGATION

Richard Winkel, President
Trinity Lutheran Church
August 28, 2020

"How very good and pleasant it is when kindred live together in unity!" (Ps. 133:1)

In his book, *Life Together and Prayerbook of the Bible* (1996, Fortress Press), Dietrich Bonhoeffer begins with this Psalm and he wrote about, "several directions and principles that the Holy Scriptures give us for life together under the Word." Speaking about community, he said,

Christians who live dispersed from one another are comforted by a brief visit of another Christian, a prayer together, and another Christian's blessing. Indeed, they are strengthened by letters written by the hands of other Christians. Paul's greetings in his letters written in his own hand were no doubt tokens of such community. Others are given the gift on Sundays of the community of the worship service.

From early March, we have been living dispersed from one another due to the COVID pandemic. We have worshiped, prayed, met and talked to each other remotely. But as things have improved since the end of June, we have had the opportunity to enjoy once again worshipping together in the sanctuary. But things had not improved enough to allow us to gather together in the Fellowship Hall, though we had hoped that we would be able to soon.

Nonetheless, on July 11, our church building sustained serious damage from a hailstorm. On July 15, the damage was discovered, and our Property Management Committee took steps to protect our safety as the committee assessed the roof leak and interior damage in the Fellowship Hall and related potential hazards.

On July 22, notices were posted that the Fellowship Hall and kitchen were closed to all use due to potential hazards resulting from the roof leak and ceiling failure, including possible injuries from failing ceiling tiles, pooled water on the floor, and electrical shock. Since then, we have been trying to stop the spread of mold.

After meetings on August 8 and 18, the Parish Council approved a special Voters' Meeting to be held on Sunday, September 13, 2020 in the Trinity church sanctuary after the late service and by live streaming. (NOTE –A copy of the meeting notice is printed on page 3 in this newsletter.)

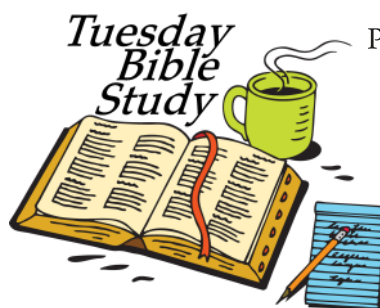
This meeting is very important to our community together at Trinity. Please attend in-person or through live streaming and pray for guidance from the Holy Spirit as we make decisions together in the upcoming special Voters' Assembly. The meeting agenda will include (1) demolishing and rebuilding the Fellowship Hall and (2) restarting our capital pledge campaign.

I pray that you are staying healthy and that we continue to take care of each other at Trinity, including our families, our friends, and our community. Amen.



SEPTEMBER Birthdays

09/01	Devin Althoff
	Les Reinert
09/02	Betty Mathews
	Margaret Seggebruch
09/03	Donna Huxtable
09/04	Carrie Kubetz
09/05	Debesai Stifanos
	Dee Dee Williams
09/08	Stephen Bean
09/09	David Messman
09/09	Lyla Nofftz
	Barb Turpin
09/10	Jean Andersen
	Shaun Noe Jr.
09/11	Alison Allender
09/12	Leila Haraden
09/14	Jean Baker
09/15	Dean Hull
	Stephen Summers
09/17	Courtney Boriff
	Mike Strom
09/18	Debra Jedele
09/20	Pete Sauer
09/23	Kylee Witte
09/25	Rich Winkel
09/26	Steven Kane
09/28	Lois Roney
09/29	Karl Noe
	Harry Rouse



Pastor Ehler's Tuesday morning bible study will resume in September. Additional meeting details coming soon.

SEPTEMBER Anniversaries

09/01	Denny & Jan Kane (41 years)
09/02	Bob & Nina Frank (42 years)
09/03	Brent & Dawn Burr (26 years)
09/20	Dennis & Mary Stremming (24 years)
09/23	Bryan & Gayle Holderfield (31 years)
	Stan & Barb Turpin (43 years)
	Daryl & Barbara Witte (17 years)
09/28	Dustin & Amber Haraden (7 years)
09/29	David & Marcia Messman (36 years)

For the Month of August

August 2, 2020	\$5,819
August 9, 2020	\$5,788
August 16, 2020	\$4,545
August 23, 2020	\$3,565
August 30, 2020	\$3,097
August total Offerings	\$22,814
YTD Receipts	\$183,983
Copies of Trinity's monthly income, expenses and full budget breakdown are in the Narthex and updated each month.	



IN GOD WE TRUST