



TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

EXPERIENCING AND SHARING JESUS

June 2021

He leads me

beside quiet waters,
he refreshes

Psalm 23:2-3, NIV

my soul.

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 - 8:30 & 10:45 a.m. trinity-urbana.org

Works Change Lives

Dear members and friends of Trinity,

I am really glad that we've decided to build a new fellowship hall. Now is the time to pray and think about how God will use it. Naturally, that made me think about good works. I started doing online devotions from James when the COVID pandemic started, and next few verses of James, that I am going to focus on, are about good works.

So you see, faith by itself isn't enough. Unless it produces good deeds, it is dead and useless.¹⁸ Now someone may argue, "Some people have faith; others have good deeds." But I say, "How can you show me your faith if you don't have good deeds? I will show you my faith by my good deeds."¹⁹ You say you have faith, for you believe that there is one God. Good for you! Even the demons believe this, and they tremble in terror.²⁰ How foolish! Can't you see that faith without good deeds is useless?

James 2:17-20 (NLT)

that your life can have a greater purpose. It is hard, because people might not recognize the good works that you do, but God does. He's given us reason to hope that our good works can change lives.

We don't have to cower and fear like the demons do. Christ has died for our sins and he has given us back our lives to live for him. "For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—⁹ not by works, so that no one can boast."¹⁰ For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do" Ephesians 2:8-10 (NIV).

What all this means is that God wants us to be the type of people who are concerned about what sin and the demons seek to destroy. Ask the Lord to show you what he has given you to do. Ask the Lord how you can be an example of his love. It's awesome that the Lord asks us to pray: "Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven." We're not able to see how God can use the good works we do. That's for him to know. We are to know that what we do can change lives.

Blessings in Jesus,



James is writing to people who are confused about the importance of good works. To help get that point across he refers to the demons. Why? What do they have to do with understanding how faith and good works go together?

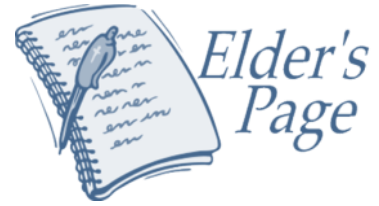
The point is this: works change lives. That's a fact. This is what God wants you to know. The demons know this. That's why they work so hard at what they do. Their efforts lead countless people away from Jesus Christ. They are organized and work hard.

Every good thing you do, kind word, helpful deed can change someone's life. That's a powerful and simple truth. Maybe you've been praying for something or someone for a long time and you don't see any good results. Your prayers, for example, don't seem to be working. At other times, choosing to forgive, being kind, or being helpful can be really hard to do.

We're not able to see how God is working in all of these situations, but He is. And by faith, Jesus wants you to see

Building on the Foundation of Christ, as the Chief Cornerstone

It started as simply as any other Saturday. After breakfast and getting dressed in my “grubbies” I decided that it was now or never. I grabbed a couple shovels, a heavy hand truck, a couple wheel barrows, and piled everything in the back of the old dump truck. It was rock loading day! It had been a while (about 4 decades) since my day had begun with the sole purpose of picking up rocks. Yes, we used to pick up rocks in the field, to prevent equipment damage, especially the combine. Today however was different. I had enlisted to be part of a bigger project.



My goal was to get to the job site early enough to get in and out and back home by lunchtime. I told Brenda I planned to be back by lunch, and she said she certainly hoped so. A quart of oil and a full tank of gas later, I was officially on the road. I arrived at my destination about 20 minutes later. 701 E Florida Ave. Urbana, IL 61801. Yes, the mission was to pick up the remaining rocks from the church garden, so they could go to a good use, and the proceeds help with the building project. I wasn't sure how many were left, or more importantly if I could lift the big ones into the back of my truck!

I backed the truck strategically up to the curb. Then I took a few minutes to look closely at the extent of the task at hand. Most of the small stones and quite a few of the large rocks were already removed. At first glance it didn't seem to be all that extensive of an undertaking. After a while digging and prying rocks that hadn't moved in years, I knew I had to be methodical and deliberate. Little by little, load by load to the truck I had moved literally a ton or two of rocks.

As I strained with some large stones at the base of the cross, thoughts of the magnitude of my actions came flooding into my mind. Here I am, all by myself (though never really alone), at the base of the cross, laboring

to move the stones from the foot of the cross. This particular empty cross deliberately and carefully placed in this precise location for Trinity members and visitors to gaze upon, in remembrance of Christ's sacrifice. This place is for personal reflection, it has a bench placed along the winding pathway, directly in front of the cross. I wondered how many times over the years, that bench was used by someone in need. While we can pray anywhere and anytime, this place at Trinity has served well as a place to quietly reflect and talk with God.

Christ's sacrifice for each of us is complete. A one time, payment in full for every sin that every believer and follower of Christ has ever or will ever commit! The magnitude of God's creation also came to mind including each of these stones. The incredible weight of the cross on Jesus' shoulders, as he drug it up that rocky mountain known as Golgotha, (See Matthew 27:31-33 & Mark 15:20-22) yet another part of God's creation, and his plan to redeem us.

Trinity has committed to future generations while holding fast to the firm foundation of our faith in Christ. We're moving forward with a building project, and soon enough, things will begin to look differently as well. A Groundbreaking Planning Committee has been formed. Members of the Groundbreaking Planning Committee include Dave Kuehn, Pete Sauer, Nina Frank, Julianne Nation and myself as Chairman. Trinity President Rick Winkel has also announced in his report that the groundbreaking ceremony is scheduled for Sunday, June 27th. We're working on plans, and will announce details about the ceremony soon.

“Now therefore ye are no more strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints, and of the household of God; and are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone;” (Ephesians 2:19-20 KJV)



Dear Heavenly Father,

Thank you for your sacrifice on the cross, to save us from our sins. The cross is empty and the stone was rolled away. You have conquered death once and for all, halleluia! Help us to see you as our cornerstone. Lord fill us with your words through the power of the Holy Spirit, so they may grow in us and spill out to others. May your words bring about healing, growth and excitement for your people. Help us to share this excitement in our community, and to bring others into fellowship with Jesus Christ as their personal savior.

In Jesus' Name, Amen

Kevin Donoho – Elder Chr.



Wee Disciples Preschool News

Wee Disciples Preschool is currently on Summer Break. Over the summer I will be cleaning the classroom and preparing for a new school year. School will resume on August 23, 2021, so watch for news about the next school year in the August Newsletter.

Please pray for our preschoolers as they begin their summer break from school. We have several students moving on to Kindergarten or another program in the coming year. Congratulations to Charlotte, David, Lucas, Ishmael, Lydia, Nadine, Ginny Lu, Toby, Hazel, Abanoub, Esther, and Henry! The students who finished one year of preschool and will return to Wee Disciples in the Fall are Rhiannon, Griffin, Brice, Everly, Amelia, and Lucia. Well done to everyone!

As we end the 2020-21 school year, I would like to take this opportunity to thank two ladies who have contributed to the success of our preschool program. Thank you to our wonderful Teaching Assistant, Julie Elsts. I really could not run the classroom without her assistance and our students really benefit from Julie's experience and love. This year we also had a very dedicated volunteer each day of preschool. Thank you to Julia Atkins for taking time each day to help in our classroom. This assistance was a blessing with all our additional procedures put in place due to our COVID-19 Plan.

Wee Disciples Preschool offers registration for the 2021-22 school year throughout the summer. The registration fee is \$75. If you know of any families with preschool age children who may be interested in our preschool program, please share with them that they can register at any time. Registration forms and program brochures are available outside the preschool classroom or visit our church website at www.trinity-urbana.org and link to the preschool section.

God's Blessings,

Karen Rohrer,
Director and Teacher

President's Report

Dear Trinity Members,

As you know, April 25, in a special Voters' Assembly meeting, members of our congregation voted (53-5) to adopt a resolution that authorized the construction of a new building and the application for a mortgage loan. The next day, the loan application was emailed to our lender, Central Illinois District. On May 3, CID Board approved, contingent on receipt of satisfactory documentation, a loan to Trinity Urbana for \$1 million. We are now in the process of getting the documentation and will have report for you at the regular Voters' Assembly meeting, which will be after the second service on Sunday, June 27 at 12:15. I will be sending you a reminder and agenda for the meeting in early June.

Regarding the building project, please read in Trinity's June newsletter the latest report by Dave Kuehn, who is the Chair of the Building Committee. Based on the progress reported, we believe that construction will begin in July!

As we move forward, a groundbreaking ceremony at Trinity for our new fellowship hall has been scheduled on Sunday, June 27. Please mark the date on your calendar. Kevin Donoho is the chair of the Groundbreaking Planning Committee, and the committee will soon be announcing details about the ceremony.

Meanwhile, the Parish Council discussed at our last meeting (May 18) the need to form a stewardship committee and to explore ways to revitalize our stewardship at Trinity. I believe that the best way for us to move forward with stewardship is by "teaching the Word of God, day in and day out, through the church year, using all of [our] congregation's avenues for teaching". (See Organizing the Congregation for Stewardship by Rev. Wayne Knolhoff, <http://www.lcms.org/stewardship>)

At Trinity, I have been told that, "historically the stewardship 'committee' only participated in thinking (with pastor) about persons to populate the various boards and positions on church councils. There is a much more robust need for minding stewardship in the church". I could not agree more!

Accordingly, as we move forward, we will be forming an ad hoc stewardship committee, (which could be transitioned into a standing committee by amending our bylaws). The new committee needs to have definite goals and a clear mission and a requirement for regular reporting to the Parish Council and cooperating with the Ministry Council, standing committees, and ad hoc committees. Nina Frank and Jennifer Holhubner are Members-at-Large on the Parish Council, and they are drafting a charge for the new committee with definite goals and a mission for the new committee, which the Parish Council will consider at our next meeting on June 15.

Finally, shifting gears, as you know from the news media, the Center for Disease Control (CDC) has changed its mask-wearing guidance for people who are fully vaccinated (<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/fully-vaccinated.html>). Based on this welcome news, the Parish Council unanimously approved a motion to eliminate the measures in the narthex by rearranging the furniture and tables and thereby maximizing the open space so that our members can enter and leave both entrances of the sanctuary and gather in fellowship in the narthex before and after church worship services and other church-related meetings and group activities that are held in the sanctuary, and that we continue to require social distancing and wearing masks inside the church building and one-person use of restrooms by persons, except for preschool students, until further notice. Also, on a related question, the Parish Council voted unanimously to discontinue requiring pre-registration to attend worship services and to begin using sign-in sheets to keep attendance instead. Updated "[Gathering Guidelines](#)" have been posted on our website .

My prayer is that we do God's will as we begin to come back and enjoy worship and fellowship together and as we move forward as a congregation that we do these things out of love for Him and for one another.

Grace and peace,

Rick Winkel,
President

COMMUNITY OUTREACH FOOD DRIVE: A TIME TO SHARE - June 5th – 20th

The Ministry Council has coordinated with the Eastern Illinois Food Bank for a community food drive. Please bring “super six” items to the narthex between June 5th and June 20th.

THANK YOU for sharing! Let’s reach out to those in need!

The “Super Six” list is what EIFB needs most:

- Canned meats
- Canned complete meals (ravioli, SpaghettiOs, etc.)
- Canned beans and other vegetables
- Canned fruit
- Boxed meals
- Peanut butter

Toiletries, cleaning products and pet food are also accepted

Food We Can't Take:

- NO open cans, bags, containers, bottles etc. of food. **All donated food must be in its original form.**
- NO homemade food, please (No matter how delicious).
- NO food in glass containers.

“Feed the hungry, and help those in trouble. Then your light will shine out from the darkness, and the darkness around you will be as bright as noon. The LORD will guide you continually, giving you water when you are dry and restoring your strength. You will be like a well-watered garden, like an ever-flowing spring.”
Isaiah 58:10-11 (NLT)



LWML NEWS: Trinity’s LWML group, Women in Mission, has been supporting a seminary student, James Bozarth and deaconess student, Erin Dewberry, as an Adopt-A-Student sponsor at Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, since Fall of 2019. Although we have been able to support our students through this year, we will not be able to do so this fall (2021) since the pandemic has not allowed us to have our semiannual rummage sale fundraiser this past year. We thus will have a special collection taken for these students following church services on Saturday, June 5, and Sunday, June 6 to help support them during their third year at Concordia. We appreciate any forthcoming contributions from the congregation for this cause and will forward funds to Concordia to be distributed to these students.

James is completing his second year of study. His wife, Heather, works two jobs and helps care for their two children: Avin (7) and Adalyn (5). Besides his studies at Concordia, this year James was installed as a Resident Field Education student at St. Paul’s Lutheran Church, Des Peres, where Heather also works as the worship secretary. He currently is awaiting his Vicarage assignment which he will begin in the fall. Their children are enrolled full-time at St. Paul’s Lutheran School, Des Peres.

Erin Dewberry hails from Bremen, Georgia. She had a full load of classes last year and indicated she was most thankful to gain a better understanding of what makes our doctrine special as a true reflection of God’s Word. As a second-year student, Erin is part of Concordia’s Study Abroad Program and is continuing her studies this school year at University of Cambridge, London, England.

Both students regularly correspond with us and are very grateful for our prayers and financial support.

Thank you for your consideration,

Faith Wetzel, WIM President

God's Wonderful Kingdom Vacation Bible School!

What a blessing that God has made a way for us to have Vacation Bible School again this summer! Even though there are still some concerns about gathering safely because of Covid-19... even though, with the closure of the old fellowship hall, and the beginnings of construction work for the new fellowship hall, our building would not be the best place to host children for VBS this year... we can still share God's love with children and families through our Vacation Bible School. God has used the Covid crisis to provide us with technology for video and live-streaming which will continue to be a blessing for years to come.

We have designed a simple VBS especially for use online. The theme is the Kingdom of God. VBS will run for 5 days and include: interactive, multi-sensory Bible lessons, Bible memory verses, crafts, and songs. A small group of children, youth and adults will meet in June to film. We plan to post the VBS in July on our church website for families to use at their convenience.

We will put up a VBS sign in front of the church later in June, inviting families to visit our website for more information and to sign-up for our free online VBS.

How you can help:

- Pray for the work we are doing, that God would work through our VBS to bless us and others
- Pray for the children and families that they would be inspired to participate
- Help collect cardboard tubes (paper towel and toilet paper) for our castle craft (We already have enough cereal boxes. Thank you!)
- Help pre-assemble cereal box castles for the children to decorate (it is an easy craft, but some parts are best done with adult help).
- Help organize, assemble and label materials kits for families to pick up at the church in advance
- Help spread the word and invite families to participate

For questions or to volunteer to help, please leave a message at the church office (217-367-8923, office@trinity-urbana.org) for Jill with your contact details and I will contact you by phone, email or text.

Thanks so much!

Ministry Council, Jill, and the rest of your VBS Team



thrivent® News

As most of you know by now, Covid 19 struck our nation just as we were starting our Capital Campaign to support the addition of a new fellowship hall. Because of this we had to suspend the project until a point where we were comfortable with the reactivation of the campaign. This process was to consist of 3 components, one the general campaign to ask for cash donations and 3 year pledges. This has been completed through our All Are Welcome pledge drive last November. God has blessed us through the first part with pledges and contributions of approximately \$1.4 million. This still leaves us with a short fall in which we are taking out a loan to cover cash flow and the additional cost of the project. A mortgage was approved at the Special Voters' meeting of April 25, 2021 to cover the additional cost. As for the other 2 pieces of the campaign that we still need to complete one is, in home visits with members, which will still be difficult at this time, and the other is, **Advanced Gifting and Estate Planning**. We will be proceeding with this aspect of the campaign and I would like to invite all of you to join us for a meeting on **June 6 at 12:30 pm** in the Sanctuary or by video link to discuss different options for Planned Gifting. We will have a video presentation provided to us by our consulting group and information we will provide additional resources to guide you in your deliberation of how you can further help support this project. We ask that if you would like to attend either in person or by video that you contact Mike in the church office to register. This will allow us to prepare enough material for the event. Please provide an email so that we can send you any handout material that we will be using if you are participating by Zoom. God bless you in your deliberation in these matters.



Birthdays

6/1 Danielle Nation
 6/4 Paul Wetzel
 6/5 Christopher Revell
 Timothy Wanagat
 6/9 Lorene Cress
 Jan Kane
 6/10 Tinley Barnhill
 Samuel Rossow
 6/12 Katherine Ashmore
 Nathan Cox
 6/13 Adam Rusch
 6/15 Amber Haraden
 6/17 Tonda Hartle
 6/18 Steve Calhoun
 Donna Reinert

6/19 Tom Huxtable
 6/25 Robert Freese
 6/28 Christian Holhubner

Anniversaries

6/4 James & Joyce Cox (38 years)
 6/7 John & Juanita Steer (68 years)
 6/10 Dave & Fran Smallfield (54 years)
 6/15 Dave & Maxine Kuehn (53 years)
 Dan & Ginger Roney (47 years)
 6/18 Phil & Joyce Bell (56 years)
 6/20 Kevin & Debbie Cagle (40 years)
 6/24 Jim & Carolyn Wanagat (54 years)
 6/27 Les & Donna Reinert (62 years)
 6/28 Christian & Katrina Holhubner (7 years)
 Gregory & Dee Dee Williams (35 years)
 6/29 Wayne & Doris Matthews (46 years)

Building Committee Update

Staff members of the construction management firm, Zion Church Builders, are now in the process of bidding the various construction trades. They expect to have bids collected by mid to late June. In early June, our architects will be submitting the construction drawings to the City of Urbana to obtain a building permit.

David Kuehn, Building Committee Chair

For the Month of May	
May 2, 2021	\$4,640
May 9, 2021	\$6,041
May 16, 2021	\$3,723
May 23, 2021	\$7,412
May 30, 2021	\$1,580
May total offerings	\$23,396
YTD Receipts	\$109,386
Copies of Trinity's monthly income, expenses and full budget breakdown are available in the Narthex.	

Trinity Small Groups

Please reach out to the individual group leaders for additional meeting details.



- Women's Book Group - 7 p.m.-1st and 3rd Mondays via Zoom. (Risë Lange, riselange@icloud.com)
- Pieces of Love at church (Jennifer Holhubner)
- Cottage Bible Study at homes (Phyllis Mennenga)
- Women in Mission at church - "LWML (WIM) will meet in person in the church sanctuary on Tuesday, June 8 at 6:30 pm. All ladies in the church are welcome to join us." - Faith Wetzel
- Tuesday Bible Study (Pastor Ehlers) - bible class will remain in recess through the summer. Pastor Ehlers is recovering from a knee injury but is looking forward to resuming the class in September. Please keep Pastor Ehlers in your prayers.
- 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)