

Trinity Lutheran Church & School
300 Broad Street
Menasha, WI 54952



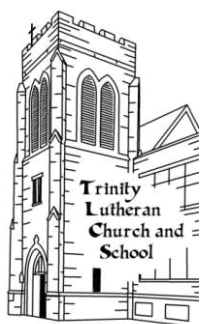
38 “Therefore, my friends, I want you to know that through Jesus the forgiveness of sins is proclaimed to you.

39 Through him everyone who believes is set free from every sin, a justification you were not able to obtain under the law of Moses.

JULY 4 - INDEPENDENCE DAY



June & July 2023 Newsletter



Trinity Lutheran Church and School

300 Broad Street
Menasha, WI 54952

Church Phone: (920) 722-2662 / **School Phone:** (920) 725-1715

Church Office Hours: Monday-Friday, 8:00 am to 3:00 pm

Worship Services:

Saturday – 5:00 pm; Sunday – 9:00 am; Wednesday – 6:30 pm

Education Hour: Sunday - 10:30 am

Online Worship Service 9:00 am, Sunday Only

Trinity's website: www.trinitymenasha.com

Sunday, 9:00 AM Services will continue to be available for live streaming on Trinity's Facebook page, and for later viewing on YouTube. Check the church website for more details.

Important Dates:

June 5-9: 9:00-11:45 AM Vacation Bible School

Peace Lutheran Church, Neenah

June 6: 6:30 PM Board Meetings

June 10: 8 AM-4 PM Trinity Brat Fry, W4908 Spring Hill Dr., Sherwood

June 10: 9:30 AM Food Pantry

June 13: 6:30 PM Board of Directors Meeting

June 24: 9:30 AM Food Pantry

July 4: **Independence Day**

Church and School Offices Closed

July 6: **Voters Meeting**

July 8: 9:30 AM Food Pantry

July 11: 6:30 PM Board of Directors Meeting

July 22: 9:30 AM Food Pantry



Our Mission Statement:

Trinity Lutheran Church and School, Menasha, is a fellowship of Lutheran Christians being empowered by the Holy Spirit through the Word of God and His Sacraments to encourage, refresh, and strengthen both adults and children in the redemptive work of Jesus Christ, while sharing His love with those who do not yet know their Lord and Savior.



Senior Pastor:

† Rev. Steven S. Billings

Assoc. Pastor/Principal:

† Rev. Keith E. GeRue

Choir Director:

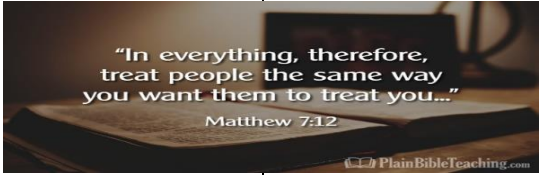
Connie Henkel

Organist:

Mrs. Nancy Lephart

June 2023

Church Office Hours:
Monday-Friday, 8:00 AM – 3:00 PM
Email: ChurchAdmin@trinitymenasha.com


Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		School Office is Closed – Open by Appointment Only		1 6 AM Men's Bible Study	2	3 5 PM Worship
4 9 AM Worship 10:30 AM Education Hour	5 Rev Billings' Sabbath 9 AM Sewing 6 PM Prayer Time 6:30 PM Women's Bible Study	6 6:30 AM Ladies Bible Study 6:30 PM Board Mtgs	7 6:30 PM Worship	8 6 AM Men's Bible Study	9	10 Brat Fry/Bake Sale 8 AM-4:00 PM Maynard's Home 9:30 AM Food Pantry 5 PM Worship
	Vacation Bible School June 5 – 9 9-11:45 AM @ Peace in Neenah Teacher In-Service June 1 - 15					
11 9 AM Worship 10:30 AM Education Hour	12 Rev Billings' Sabbath 9 AM Sewing 6 PM Prayer Time 6:30 PM Women's Bible Study	13 6:30 AM Ladies Bible Study 6:30 Bd of Dir Mtg	14 6:30 PM Worship	15 6 AM Men's Bible Study	16	17 5 PM Worship
	Teacher In-Service June 1 - 15					
18 9 AM Worship 10:30 AM Education Hour	19 Rev Billings' Sabbath 9 AM Sewing 6 PM Prayer Time 6:30 PM Women's Bible Study	20 6:30 AM Ladies Bible Study 6:30 PM Ladies Aid/LWML Mtg (SFH)	21 6:30 PM Worship	22 6 AM Men's Bible Study	23	24 9:30 AM Food Pantry 5 PM Worship
	June 21-23 Pastor Billings at Lutheran Catechesis Conference					
	Pastor GeRue Vacation					
25 9 AM Worship 10:30 AM Education Hour	26 Rev Billings' Sabbath 9 AM Sewing 6 PM Prayer Time 6:30 PM Women's Bible Study	27 6:30 AM Ladies Bible Study	28 6:30 PM Worship	29 6 AM Men's Bible Study	30	Brat Fry/Bake Sale June 10 • 8:00 AM – 4:00 PM W4908 Spring Hill Dr. • Sherwood Jerry & Ellie Maynard's Home
	Pastor GeRue Vacation					



July 2023



Church Office Hours:
Monday-Friday, 8:00 AM – 3:00 PM
Email: ChurchAdmin@trinitymenasha.com

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		School Office is Closed for the Summer– Open by Appointment Only				1 5 PM Worship
2 9 AM Worship 10:30 AM Education Hour	3 Rev Billings' Sabbath 9 AM Sewing 6 PM Prayer Time 6:30 PM Women's Bible Study	4 4TH OF JULY CHURCH & SCHOOL OFFICES CLOSED	5 6:30 PM Worship	6 6 AM Men's Bible Study 6:30 PM Congregational Voters Meeting	7	8 9:30 AM Food Pantry 5 PM Worship
	Pastor GeRue Vacation					
9 9 AM Worship 10:30 AM Education Hour	10 Rev Billings' Sabbath 9 AM Sewing 6 PM Prayer Time 6:30 PM Women's Bible Study	11 6:30 AM Ladies Bible Study 6:30 PM Board of Directors Mtg	12 6:30 PM Worship	13 6 AM Men's Bible Study	14	15 5 PM Worship
	Pastor GeRue – Army 9th – 23^h					
16 9 AM Worship 10:30 AM Education Hour	17 Rev Billings' Sabbath 9 AM Sewing 6 PM Prayer Time 6:30 PM Women's Bible Study	18 6:30 AM Ladies Bible Study 6:30 PM Ladies Aid/ LWML Mtg (SFH)	19 6:30 PM Worship	20 6 AM Men's Bible Study	21	22 9:30 AM Food Pantry 5 PM Worship
	Pastor GeRue – Army 9th – 23^h					
23 9 AM Worship 10:30 AM Education Hour	24 Rev Billings' Sabbath 9 AM Sewing 6 PM Prayer Time 6:30 PM Women's Bible Study	25 6:30 AM Ladies Bible Study	26 6:30 PM Worship	27 6 AM Men's Bible Study	28	29 5 PM Worship
	Pastor Billings Bugenhagen Conference July 24-July 26					
30 9 AM Worship 10:30 AM Education Hour	31					

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES – JUNE 2023

06/01 VOSTER, Ronald & Beverly
 06/06 BURROWS, Donald & Gail
 06/07 ALLIET, Rev. Paul & Joan
 06/08 STIER, Michael* & Jane
 06/10 GEHRT, Edward & JoAnne
 06/16 MANTEUFEL, Alan & Deborah
 06/17 THOMAS, Ian & Rachel
 06/20 SCHEWE, Lawrence & Barbara
 06/21 BURSACK, Michael & Debra
 06/21 COLBY, Lee & Juliet



06/21 VAN ARK, Tony & Shellie*
 06/23 GERUE, Rev. Keith & Valerie
 06/23 SICKELS, Tyler* & Ericka
 06/24 KAMPRATH, Kenneth & Elizabeth
 06/25 THOMAS, Craig & Jill
 06/26 BARTEL, LeRoy & Barbara
 06/26 HANBY, Thomas* & Sheila
 06/29 GAST, Brian & Iris
 06/29 OLSEN, Larry & Dianne*
 06/29 WEINIG, Adina & Matt VAESSEN
 06/30 CONRADT, Philip & Mary

BIRTHDAYS – JUNE 2023

06/02 UPCHURCH, Jennifer
 06/03 BORGEN, Alexander
 06/03 PACK, Jeri
 06/03 ROSS, Nicole
 06/05 WERTH, LaVerne
 06/06 KESTER, Barbara
 06/06 MEYER, Sandy
 06/07 DAHMS, Rebecca
 06/07 STEUERWALD, Michael
 06/07 WIECK, Kelvin
 06/08 BURROWS, Donald
 06/08 SCHMIDT, Emma
 06/09 GUTZMANN, Lori
 06/11 WRAY, Timothy
 06/12 LOOKER, Jackson
 06/12 SCHROEDER, Janet
 06/14 ACKER, David
 06/14 DEHNE, Valerie



06/15 GAST, Lana
 06/15 POLAR, LuKayla
 06/16 TSCHIRGI, Donald (Bud)
 06/16 WENDLER, Brian
 06/17 FRIEBEL, Joseph
 06/17 GEHRT, JoAnne
 06/18 TISCHER, Patty
 06/18 VAN DYN HOVEN, Amelia
 06/19 LITTLE, David
 06/21 BARTELME, Gary
 06/21 DIESCH, Marie Elizabeth
 06/23 HENSON, Cora
 06/24 TUYLS, Ezra
 06/25 BOSS, Braelyn
 06/26 FRIEDECK, Timothy
 06/26 KRAUS, Ronald
 06/27 BARTELME, Kaleb
 06/29 LOOKER, Amelia
 06/29 MANTEUFEL, Caleb

✝ Trinity Membership Update ✝

Released/Transfers Out:

Baptisms:

Weddings:

Members Who Have Passed



²⁵For I know that my Redeemer lives, and at the last He will stand upon the earth. ²⁶And after my skin has been thus destroyed, yet in my flesh I shall see God. Job 19:25-26

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES – JULY 2023



07/01 NIELSEN, Bart & Jane 07/02 REICHERT, Brian & Paula 07/04 ACHESON, Kelly & Steven* 07/06 BOSS, James & Cari 07/07 REINKE, Steve & Joan 07/10 SCHMIDT, April & Craig* 07/15 BECKER, Mark & Jean	07/15 MODERSON, Michael & Ailene 07/15 ROSS, Nicole & Andrew* 07/17 WENDLER, Kurt & Jodi 07/24 SEXMITH, Steve & Barbara 07/26 TSCHIRGI, Donald (Bud) & Joyce 07/31 VANDEN WYNGAARD, Julie & Thomas
-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

BIRTHDAYS – JULY 2023

07/01 EMERY, Heather 07/01 FULCER, Claire 07/01 KRAUS, Dottie 07/02 KROES, Levi 07/03 REED, Melissa 07/04 MAYNARD, Ellie 07/06 BREHM, Charles 07/06 WRAY, Tegan 07/07 ACHESON, Kelly 07/07 WALDBURGER, Mark 07/07 WENDLER, Bradley 07/10 KROES, Lilli 07/11 THOMAN, Lois 07/13 BOUCHARD, Jackie 07/13 GAST, Christopher 07/13 GRAPER, Erwin 07/13 KAMPRATH, Elizabeth 07/13 ROSS, Savannah 07/14 WENDLER, Cheryl 07/15 DIONNE, Jeffry 07/15 HENSCHER, Deb 07/15 MESSENGER, Cameron 07/16 ALLIET, Rev. Paul 07/16 WEINIG, Marshall	07/17 ARFT, Wynter 07/17 SCHMITTING, Wynogene 07/18 LARSON, Genevieve 07/18 PUES, Michelle 07/18 SCHRAMPFER, Karen 07/18 WIECK, Michelle 07/19 GROSHEK, Elizabeth 07/19 OLSON, Ellice 07/20 EARLY, Renee 07/20 HOFMANN, Brett 07/20 SCHMIDT, Diane 07/21 KROES, Ezra 07/22 NIELSEN, Josiah 07/23 HOWDEN, Mary 07/23 LENTH, Payton 07/23 MILLER, Lily 07/24 OHLROGGE, George 07/24 WRAY, Sheryl 07/27 JOHNSON, McKena 07/27 WUSSOW, Lisa 07/29 HOFMANN, Riley 07/31 JORDING, Joann 07/31 WENDLER, Arianna
--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------	----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------



✠ *Trinity Membership Update* ✠

New Members/Transfers In:

Released/Transfers Out:

Baptisms:

Weddings:

Members Who Have Passed:

²⁵For I know that my Redeemer lives, and at the last He will stand upon the earth. ²⁶And after my skin has been thus destroyed, yet in my flesh I shall see God. Job 19:25-26

Serving Our Lord with Gladness – June 2023

Senior Pastor: Rev. Steven S. Billings
Associate Pastor/Principal: Rev. Keith E. GeRue

Worship Date/Time	Acolyte	Elder on Duty	Communion Assistant	Usher Captain	Greeter	Altar Guild	Flower Delivery
June 3: 5:00 PM June 4: 9:00 AM June 7: 6:30 PM	Sydney Gast Simon Kroes	Alan Manteufel Bart Nielsen Tom Harrmann	Bruce Buksyk Scott Gutzman	Lee Colby Dave Collingwood Steve Reinke	Dan & Peggy Dahms Rosemary Collingwood	Paula Reichert Jackie Kislewski Carol Evensen	Jackie Kislewski
June 10: 5:00 PM June 11: 9:00 AM June 14: 6:30 AM	Melani Gast Dylay Kobs	David Little Bart Nielsen Tom Harrmann	Lee Colby Steve Sexmith Tom Harrmann	Roger Voigt Jim Wittman Steve Reinke	JoAnn Schultz Connie Henkel	Paula Reichert Jackie Kislewski Carol Evensen	Jackie Kislewski
June 17: 5:00 PM June 18: 9:00 AM June 21: 6:30 PM	Payton Length Ava Schmidt	Tom Harrmann Bart Nielsen Tom Harrmann	Ian Thomas Josiah Nielsen Tom Harrmann	Tom Harrmann Lee Weinig Dave Acker	Betty Allen Liz Kaprath	Paula Reichert Jackie Kislewski Carol Evensen	Jackie Kislewski
June 24: 5:00 PM June 25: 9:00 AM June 28: 6:30 PM	Emma Schmidt Mirella Taschner	Alan Manteufel Bart Nielsen Tom Harrmann	Dan Siebert Ron Kraus	Jerry Maynard Steve Sexmith Dave Acker	Barbara Kester Jane Nielsen	Paula Reichert Jackie Kislewski Carol Evensen	Jackie Kislewski

Serving Our Lord with Gladness – July 2023

Senior Pastor: Rev. Steven S. Billings
Associate Pastor/Principal: Rev. Keith E. GeRue

Worship Date/Time	Acolyte	Elder on Duty	Communion Assistant	Usher Captain	Greeter	Altar Guild	Flower Delivery
July 1: 5:00 PM July 2: 9:00 AM July 5: 6:30 PM	Maya Torres Donovan Rausch	Bruce Gast Michael Bekx Tim Reuning	Vance Pues Robert Flater	Lee Colby Dave Collingwood Steve Reinke	Dan & Peggy Dahms Rosemary Collingwood	Paula Reichert <i>Volunteer Needed</i> <i>Volunteer Needed</i>	<i>Volunteer Needed</i>
July 8: 5:00 PM July 9: 9:00 AM July 12: 6:30 AM	Cecelia Street Simon Kroes	Bruce Gast Michael Bekx Tim Reuning	Bruce Buksyk Lee Weinig	Roger Voigt Jim Wittman Dave Acker	JoAnn Schultz Connie Henkel	<i>Volunteer Needed</i> <i>Volunteer Needed</i> <i>Volunteer Needed</i>	<i>Volunteer Needed</i>
July 15: 5:00 PM July 16: 9:00 AM July 19: 6:30 PM	Melani Gast Dylan Kobs	Bruce Gast Michael Bekx Tim Reuning	Lee Colby Blaine Henkel	Tom Harrmann Lee Weinig Steve Reinke	Betty Allen Liz Kamprath	<i>Volunteer Needed</i> <i>Volunteer Needed</i> <i>Volunteer Needed</i>	<i>Volunteer Needed</i>
July 22: 5:00 PM July 23: 9:00 AM July 26: 6:30 PM	Sydney Gast Levi Kroes	Bruce Gast Michael Bekx Tim Reuning	Ian Thomas Paul Collingwood	Jerry Maynard Steve Sexmith Dave Acker	Barbara Kester Jane Nielsen	<i>Volunteer Needed</i> <i>Volunteer Needed</i> <i>Volunteer Needed</i>	<i>Volunteer Needed</i>
July 29: 5:00 PM July 30: 9:00 AM	Payton Lenth Ava Schmidt	Bruce Gast Michael Bekx Tim Reuning	Dan Siebert Steve Sexmith	Lee Colby Dave Collingwood Steve Reinke	Dan & Peggy Dahms Rosemary Collingwood	<i>Volunteer Needed</i> <i>Volunteer Needed</i> <i>Volunteer Needed</i>	<i>Volunteer Needed</i>



Catechetical Comments

A Series

THE APOSTLES' CREED

This month we continue our look at The Apostles' Creed and consider the following question: *Who is God?*

93. *Who is God?*

In His Word God has told us that He is

F. present everywhere (omnipresent)

The *Small Catechism* continues its answer to the question *Who Is God?* by saying:

In His Word God has told us that He is

F. present everywhere (omnipresent)

It then offers the following Scripture passages in support of this answer:

Jer. 23:24 – Can a man hide himself in secret places so that I cannot see him? declares the LORD. Do I not fill heaven and earth? declares the LORD.

Acts 17:27 – He is actually not far from each one of us.

The doctrine of God's omnipresence is a two-edged sword.

On the one hand, it can be a scary thought. Imagine: There is no place you can hide, there are no secrets you can keep from Him. He not only sees everything you do, He is there with you when you do it. This thought can be terrifying, especially if you know that what you're doing is contrary to His will.

When you misuse His name, He hears you. When you're ditching church, He knows why and where you're spending your time instead. When you are disrespectful to your parents and other authorities, He's right there to witness it.

Should you be physically abusive to anyone, He's there to see that, too. And, yes, when you are being sexually inappropriate, He's there for that, as well. When you steal, He's watching, when you bear false witness, He's listening, when you're scheming to get someone else's spouse, workers, or property, He knows, He sees, He's there. To know this can be frightening!

But, it can also be comforting. When you call on His name in faith, He is there to hear you. He joins you in worship and prayer, wherever you are, especially when you can't be in His house. When you struggle to respect those whom you should respect, He is there to help you; likewise, if you are being disrespected, He is there to comfort you. When you are physically abused or injured, He provides healing, when your spouse has been unfaithful to you, He is the one who mends broken hearts. He stays your hand when you are tempted to take what doesn't belong to you. He quiets your lips when you want to speak out of turn. He stills your heart when you desire someone or something enough to want to take them from those to whom they belong.

So . . . having an ever-present God . . . is it a good thing or a bad thing? Yes! But, regardless, it's the reality, whether we like or not. Whether you find comfort in it or not, your God is always with you, always standing by your side. Perhaps, if we recalled this more often, we might not behave in such a way as to make this thought disconcerting, but instead rejoice and be glad that He never leaves us nor forsakes us. ✠

Humbly in His service,
Rev. Steven S. Billings
Senior Pastor



Well, it's that time of the year again! School is out and vacation season is upon us! It's that time of the year when we just want to sit back relax and take a break! I mean, after all we've been through we deserve a break, don't we? We've been working hard all year long and our kids have been in school, so isn't it OK for us to kick off our shoes, loosen our collars, and unwind?

Traditionally, summer has become the leisure time for the whole family. This is the season when our kids are taking a break from studies, and we are taking a break from work, and, we are leaving on Vacation!

We all want to think of summer as a vacation time – a time to get away from the routine, to break away from the traditional daily “grind,” and to relax on a sun-drenched beach somewhere in far-off exotic scenic destinations!

So, in a sense of trying to do that, we change our schedules to take a break not only from school for a couple of months as well as from work for a couple of weeks — but also from church. Not only do we not attend, but we also tend not to give as well. Traditionally summers in churches are seasons of low attendance as well as low giving!

But that is not the truth for everyone. I was talking with someone the other day about his vacation travel plans, and he looked at me in amazement. He said that almost as soon as school is out, his kids are getting involved in the summer sports leagues. He told me he IS taking a vacation from work for a couple of weeks this summer, but that the only travel he was going to do was back and forth to and from the ballpark!

I guess when you think about it, the message for the summer is: “Whatever you do, wherever you go, don't forget your church!” Go when you can and continue to give faithfully! Your encouragement is needed. Your support is needed. And you are needed! But most of all, YOU NEED IT! You need the encouragement that you get with your church family! You need the support that you can only obtain from people who are physically and spiritually united with you. And what's more, you benefit greatly when you serve others, helping to minister to their hurts and meet their needs. This selfless spirit of servanthood is what Christ exemplified and preached throughout His earthly life and ministry.

There was a popular television commercial making the rounds some time ago about a guardian angel who was very lax in watching over his subject, except when that person was about to use a competitor's credit card! He seemed to be sleeping on the job. The commercial was trying to point out that this angel really comes to life when the credit card decision is being made, but it rather seemed that the point is being made that sometimes God is lax and lackadaisical when it comes to our welfare.

The fact is God is never sleeping on the job! God does not take a break from you, and, therefore, you should not take a break from God! At this point, you may be thinking, “Yeah, but this is the Pastor speaking. He ought to be saying that!” My friend, this challenge is more than one coming from a Pastor of a church and school. It also comes directly from the Word of God. We read in Hebrews 10:24-25 “... And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.”

Time is short! Let's use it for good and for God! Let's not take a break from God this summer! Worship weekly and give regularly!

God is here for you!

Your church is here for you! Are YOU here?

Graduation 2023 This year we have three students graduating to 9th grade for next year. Preston Davies, Levi Kroes, and Dane Pues. The graduation is set for the 10 AM service on Saturday May 27th. We encourage all families to attend the service if possible, to show support for the students and wish them well in the next chapter of their lives.

Continuing to Walk Together in Christ! Rev. Keith E. GeRue Associate Pastor and Principal

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH - FINANCIAL REPORT APRIL 2023

	<u>BEGINNING BALANCE</u>	<u>DEPOSITS/INCOME</u>	<u>WITHDRAWALS/EXPENSES</u>	<u>ENDING BALANCE</u>	<u>Acct #</u>	<u>Delta</u>
Nicolet General Fund	\$115,022.09	\$73,890.40	(\$174,009.36)	\$14,903.13	6843	(\$100,118.96)
Nicolet Restricted Funds	\$100,474.27			\$100,474.27	8048	\$0.00
LCMS Endowment Fund**	\$113,765.00			\$113,765.00	7006	\$0.00
LCEF Steward Fund	\$794.32	\$7,580.46	(\$7,581.02)	\$793.76	2525	(\$0.56)
Nicolet Money Market	\$83,496.97	\$31.12	(\$22,000.00)	\$61,528.09	2026	(\$21,968.88)
Schwab Wealth**	\$39,239.90			\$39,239.90	4018	\$0.00
Nicolet Memorial Fund	\$7,062.55			\$7,062.55	8056	\$0.00
Nicolet Office Acct	\$3,125.42	\$301.21	\$0.00	\$3,426.63	6851	\$301.21
Nicolet Think Tank	\$3,186.93			\$3,186.93	8099	\$0.00
Nicolet Scrip	\$7,606.43	\$21,472.29	(\$15,461.65)	\$13,617.07	6800	\$6,010.64
TOTAL	\$473,773.88	\$103,275.48	(\$219,052.03)	\$357,997.33		-\$115,776.55
LCEF Mortgage (BOTR)						
			(4,631.14)	\$916,623.14	0440	

***Schwab and LCMS Endowment Fund statements not recived as of 04/06*

Oktoberfest Volunteers Needed!

The Board of Outreach and Social Ministry is in need of volunteers to help at the Appleton Octoberfest on Saturday, September 30th.

The monies Trinity raises goes back into the church and school. We need people involved to make this a success again this year. Any questions, contact Ailene Moderson at (920)-450-2753 mmodes@yahoo.com



Celebrate Rev. Marvin Ahlborn's 50th Anniversary in Service to the Lord

Date: June 11, 2023

Time: 9:00 am worship service

11:00 am Reception- Fellowship Hall

Place: Trinity Lutheran Church, 370 Bowen St, Oshkosh, WI 564901

Please RSVP to church@trinityoshkosh.org call (920) 235-7440 by June 2,

2023. Cards are also being collected and may be mailed to Rev. Ahlborn - 50th Anniversary, c/o Trinity Lutheran Church, 370 Bowen St, Oshkosh, WI 54901. may share photos or memories, bring a special baked treat, or a talent for the special event. Please contact the church office by May 31, 2023 arrange.

June/July Newsletter Stewardship Talk – Day School

Jesus says in Matthew 19:14, “Let the little children come to me and do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of heaven.”

This month, your Board of Stewardship again focuses on how our Stewardship activities affect those around us; today with the thoughts of Pastor GeRue on Trinity Day School....

“Lutheran schools make disciples for life and for eternal life. Let me share the story of a family of a young girl, we’ll call her Sam. Sam’s grandparents and Mother brought their struggling granddaughter to school to enroll her. Throughout the school year, Sam grew academically, socially, and spiritually in her new school. Sam was even baptized.

One day after school Sam’s Grandfather came into school to discuss a personal matter. Sam’s mother was killed that day. They were devastated. We prayed, cried, told stories and heard how Jesus prayed on the night of His betrayal.

One morning, a few weeks later, Sam’s grandparents came in and explained that Sam was praying by her bed the night before, and when she finished her prayers, she got up and crawled into bed....and then jumped back to the floor and began to pray, “Dear God please forgive the man who killed my mommy. Amen.”

Our school had been God’s instrument of sharing the Means of Grace with Sam and her family. God’s servants in the Lutheran school had been called to “make a disciple” of Sam, and they had done so for her life in the school and for life eternal. May God continue to direct and bless us as we “make disciples for life.”

Thank You Pastor!

So, how many more stories like Sam’s have been realized, or will continue to be told in the future, simply through our faithful prayers and our faithful “First Fruits” financial offerings given to the ministry of Trinity’s Church AND School? The next time you are bowing your head in prayer or preparing to offer your tithe and offering – think of how our Awesome God uses our regular gifts of prayer and offerings and transforms them into “Life” and “Life Eternal” through the amazing work of God’s servants, our faculty and Pastors here at Trinity.

To God be the Glory!



Trinity Camping Weekend 2023

Trinity Camping weekend is set for August 18-20, 2023, at the Wild West Campground & Corral in Waupaca. It is located on 90+ acres within 15 miles from downtown Waupaca, and Hartmann Creek State Park. There is a variety of recreational activities to enjoy. They are located on Hwy 54, 8 miles west of Waupaca (5 miles west of Hartmann Creek State Park). Check them out at <http://www.wildwestcampground.com>.

Reservations are taken online. Go to their website and place your reservation today. Or you can call them direct at 715-824-5112. As of May 20th, most of the sites between #3 to #19 are available (but don't wait too long, as these sites will fill-up).

Not able to camp with us? Then join us for the day on Saturday for fellowship and a lunchtime potluck meal. The campground does not charge a fee for guests to visit.

Questions? or ideas for other campgrounds to consider for 2024? Contact Roger or Merry Voigt, at (920) 725-9908 or rogerwvoigt@gmail.com.



The Healing Power of Nature

Being out in nature allows us to focus on things outside of ourselves and be more mindful and present in the moment. It provides respite for an overactive mind, which we all experience at times in today's hustle-and-bustle society.

ASHLEY BARTHA, MENTAL HEALTH CLINICIAN,
THEDACARE BEHAVIORAL HEALTH



If you're feeling blue or anxious, getting outside and listening to the birds chirp or taking a restorative stroll may help ground and give you peace. Whether you're simply having a rough day, or you're going through longer-term mental health struggles, immersing yourself in nature offers benefits.

"What's key is the connection to nature, the experience of feeling part of something greater than yourself, and the tactile experience of touching things," says Ashley Bartha, a Mental Health Clinician at ThedaCare Behavioral Health Walk-In Care-Neenah.

Research suggests that spending time in nature can improve attention, lower stress, boost mood, reduce risk of psychiatric disorders, and even lead to upticks in empathy and cooperation. Experts recommend spending at least 120 minutes per week outside to reap maximum benefits.

"Humans are curious," Bartha says. "Being out in nature allows us to focus on things outside of ourselves and be more mindful

and present in the moment. It provides respite for an overactive mind, which we all experience at times in today's hustle-and-bustle society."

Creating a Fresh Frame

Being in an unpleasant environment can cause you to feel anxious or depressed, Bartha says.

"Those are the kind of feelings that could negatively impact mental health," Bartha says. "On the flipside, being in a pleasant environment can positively impact mental health and physical well-being. This can help reduce blood pressure, heart rate, muscle tension, and the production of stress hormones."

Research also indicates that simply surrounding yourself with elements of nature can offer benefits, Bartha says. This could include having plants or images of nature in your home or office, watching nature programs or videos, gardening, or raising plants in pots on your balcony or windowsill.

If you don't have convenient access to the outdoors, you can look for those alternative ways to experience that connection and to "stimulate the right receptors to release the serotonin that can make you feel happy," Bartha says.

"With spring arriving and May being Mental Health Awareness Month, it's an ideal time for all of us to seek out ways to include more connections with nature in our lives," Bartha says.

You Are Not Alone

Mental health struggles can involve changes in emotion, thinking or behavior (or a combination of these), Bartha says. This can lead to distress and/or problems functioning in social, work or family activities.

"What's important for everyone to understand is that experiencing mental health struggles is not uncommon," Bartha says. "It can be easy to feel alone and think that no one understands what you're going through. That's not true. Many others have teams are here to help."

had similar experiences and will understand."

Major life changes can lead to mental health struggles. This can include job changes, the ending of a relationship, or the serious illness or death of a family member or friend.

Depression, lack of support and anxiety surrounding the unknown are common mental health concerns that anyone can experience at difficult times, Bartha says. Other mental health challenges can follow you throughout your whole life, and most are treatable. Mental health conditions are medical issues, just like heart disease or diabetes.

"When thoughts or feelings prevent you from coping with everyday life, then it's time to seek some professional assistance," Bartha says. "And we want our communities to know our care."

ASHLEY BARTHA, MENTAL HEALTH CLINICIAN, THEDACARE BEHAVIORAL HEALTH



HANDBELLS!!

They're not cheap! ...
But they're REALLLY good!!

♪ ♪ (about \$9,500)

Still Raising \$\$...

(Buy a **BELL** (or two or three...),
a **TABLE** (or more),
the set of **GLOVES**,
the **FOAMS**,
the **FOLDERS**,
the **MALLETS**,



*Get
excited
about
raising \$\$\$
for 2
octaves of
Malmark
Handbells!*

**Add-\$-
to-Our-
Bell-Fund!**

And if you'd like
to donate some
\$\$\$, please feel
free!!

**We already have
about 1/2 the \$\$\$!
Thank you!! ♥**

one (or more) of the **TABLE COVERS ...)**

Also ... Sign up to RING HANDBELLS!! ☺ ♪

(Sign-up sheet on the wall in the Narthex - Name/Phone) No experience necessary ... Just smiles ... (and counting)

Any questions: Call Rose 608.213.2644



HOME SERVICE

Come see us at:

5/19 University Lutheran
Chapel, Minneapolis MN

5/21 St. James, West St.
Paul, MN

5/28 St. John's, Rich Valley,
Rosemount MN

6/4 Our Savior, Fenton MO

6/7 Grace, Versailles, MO

6/10 MISSION CENTRAL,
Mapleton IA

6/11 Immanuel, Dimock SD
Mission Festival

6/11 Trinity, Cheyenne WY

**If you would like to get
together, call us at:**

(214) 316-1315



To be added to or removed from this mailing list, send an email message to Walter.Steele@lcms.org with the word ADD or REMOVE in the subject line.

Seminary Development: Tanzania



Discussing Curriculum with Bishop Nzelu and Staff

Over the past several months, Walter has been meeting with Bishop Yonana Nzelu, of the South East of Lake Victoria Diocese (SELVD), Lutheran Church of Tanzania about a new seminary. This seminary will be the first Confessional Lutheran seminary in the country of Tanzania.

Walter and Robyn traveled to Shinyanga to meet with the bishop and his staff as together they work to establish a solid program of instruction for pastors in the country. This is some of the most important work we are involved in.

There are great pressures put on churches in Africa to compromise their teaching and practices. Most of this pressure comes in the form of the promise of money if the church body accepts women's ordination, liberal theology, and even the normalisation of homosexuality. Furthermore, all the other Lutheran seminaries in the country are liberal.

The SELVD has chosen to remain faithful to the Word of God and to Christ our Lord. Therefore, it is essential that we support them, assist them in standing strong in the Word, and walk with them as they establish a school faithful to the Gospel. This is not a small thing! The salvation of the people of Tanzania depends on the truth of God's Word being guarded and proclaimed. Up till now, SELVD has sent students to Matongo, where we serve. But this is an expensive route, when so many new pastors are needed.

Please pray for us as we work together with the SELVD. Ask our Lord to continue to strengthen them in his Word and Spirit. And thank God for Bishop Nzelu, a faithful pastor and overseer of the flock of God.



New Seminary Funding

A new seminary requires a solid curriculum, well-trained professors, and a proper infrastructure.

As a moderator of the Shinyanga Seminary Partners' Council, Walter meets monthly with people from SELVD and LCMS to work through all three areas.

If you would like to support this work, you can send a gift to:

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod
P.O. Box 66861
St. Louis, MO 63166-6861

Memo line:

For Seminary Operations: TZ0002

For Infrastructure: TZ0003

NECESSARY BOOKS FOR NEW PASTORS



Solid pastors require solid teaching and the resources to preach the Gospel faithfully. Realizing that the cost of Greek and Hebrew Bibles and the Book of Concord are out of the reach of these men, we have established a fund to provide them as each man successfully completes his course work.

The picture above shows men, who have now finished basic instruction in Hebrew, at Matongo Kenya, receiving a copy of the Hebrew Bible: Reader's Edition—a wonderful resource which will serve them throughout their ministry. Upon graduation in September, each of these men will receive a copy of the Book of Concord.

If you want to support this work, kindly send your gift to the LCMS address in the side-bar, including AA0012/61414/ Steele in the memo line.

Remember, you can help us continue to teach future church workers here in Africa by your prayers and financial support at:

lcms.org/givenow/steele

Or at the **world-famous Mission Central**

MISSION CENTRAL

40718 Highway E-16

Mapleton IA 51034



There are many opportunities to serve as short-term or GEO missionaries. Check out the current list and download an application at lcms.org/service. Click on "Service Opportunities."

To support the LCMS through the work of Walter & Robyn Steele, you may send a tax-deductible gift to:

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod
P.O. Box 66861
St. Louis, MO 63166-6861

Make checks payable to The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. Mark checks "Support of Walter & Robyn Steele." Gifts can also be given securely online through the LCMS website, on my online giving page at lcms.org/Steele.

Master's Degree

In addition to my responsibilities with the Mende and Themne Bible Translation Projects, I am also working on an online Master of Arts in New Testament at the Talbot School of Theology out of Biola University. Since the school is in California, I've had classes that started anywhere from four in the afternoon to two in the morning while in Sierra Leone!

For my degree I am taking classes in theology, spiritual formation, Koine Greek, New Testament background, and exegesis. While some classes connect more directly with translation work, they are all important for life in translation, ministry, and personal faith.

I did not know what to expect for my spiritual formation classes, but I was pleasantly surprised. For a Lutheran audience, I would say it is the practical realization of the proper distinction between Law and Gospel. We did learn practices that encourage us to spend time with the Word of God and prayer. But we also learned to peel back all of the layers of who we are or who we think we are – acknowledging the good, the bad, and the ugly (Law). This is important, not so we can dwell on our own greatness or weakness, but to put every part of us before God and the truth that we are created in his image, knowing that He has and continues to forgive our sins, and He has already won our salvation (Gospel). He already knows us and loves us, so if we hide our darkness, it is only detrimental to ourselves because Christ has already made us enough before the Father. Spiritual formation also focuses on sanctification, reminding us that the Holy Spirit is the one who changes our hearts (we can't do it ourselves), not like a magic spell that has instant results, but He works alongside us little by little to bring us closer to who we were created to be. Sometimes we can know our theology well but applying it to our life can be the challenge, and this is where spiritual formation steps in to bridge that gap.

The Greek, exegesis, and New Testament background classes have helped me become more aware of the different issues that go into properly understanding a Biblical text and gives me the skills to investigate them. In order to understand a sentence, you need to understand what each word can mean in different contexts, how the grammar can affect the meaning or the emphasis, how some phrases can take on meanings affected by tradition and culture of the language (such as “break the ice”), and how some aspects of a sentence, paragraph, story, letter, etc. are impacted by culture, history, tradition, geography, climate, socioeconomic environment, and politics. All of these need to be in the mind of the reader, translator, or pastor to best understand the passage's original meaning and intent.

Visit in the US

I will be in the US from mid-May to October of this year (2023). I will be visiting churches, Bible studies, LWML meetings, small groups, or any other gathering that has an opening! Email me or text me if you are interested in welcoming me to share an update with you and your group about the Bible translation work going on in Sierra Leone. I will also need a vehicle to travel many miles, so if you have an old reliable vehicle that you don't need or are planning to sell eventually, let me know! I typically am around WI, MN, IA, MO, AZ, CA, TX GA, AL, and NY, but I am happy to travel to areas nearby to these or new ones, especially if there are a number of groups to meet with or are on the way to another location (for instance I could stop in OH on my way from NY to WI). I look forward to seeing you all!

Feel free to scan this QR code and fill this form if you are interested in having me speak at your church, small group, or with you and a few friends over a cup of coffee!



<https://forms.gle/sSPhvC2ahCsWGugk6>



PRAYER REQUESTS

- Pray for me as I tackle all the work that goes with taking my classes, including the odd hours.
- Pray that I can balance the translation work along with taking classes.
- Pray that I can apply what I am learning to my work as well as my personal life.
- Praise God that both Mende and Themne translation teams have capable and dedicated people to keep this important work moving forward.



The Mende Translation Team

Translation progress is being made as books of the Bible are moving through various stages of the translation process according to schedule. The lead team members evaluate progress, measure achievements, and track timeliness using a chart through Paratext (Scripture Translation software). This is an important part of the process, as it ensures translation continues to meet goals in a timely manner.

CONTACT

Amy.Formella@lbt.org
Facebook: Formella 411
Phone: (920)288-2289 (texts only)
Give at LBT.org/formella



Please make your check payable to Lutheran Bible Translators. Remember to sign and date your check. Go to lbt.org or call 660- 225-0810 to use a credit card or set up monthly payments! Lutheran Bible Translators is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization, and your gift is tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.

Contributions are solicited with the understanding that Lutheran Bible Translators has complete discretion and control over the use of all donated funds. Lutheran Bible Translators will attempt to honor gifts preferenced to support particular workers, but the final decision on the use of all funds rests with the organization.