

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH AND SCHOOL NEWSLETTER AUGUST 2017



Trinity Lutheran Church

We exist to share the good news of life through Jesus with the world and to nurture believers in their faith, all to the glory of God.

Trinity Lutheran School

We exist to help families in Aberdeen and the surrounding communities by providing children with quality academic and Christ-centered education, in a loving and caring environment.



IN AWE OF A FORGIVING GOD

The Bible speaks of the Lord and says, "But with you there is forgiveness; therefore you are feared" (Psalm 130:4 NIV 84).

Does that cause you to do a double take? Because the Lord is forgiving I will fear him?

Many times we equate the word 'fear' with being scared. But when the Old Testament tells us to fear the Lord, it is calling on us to stand in awe of the Lord and to hold him in the highest respect and regard. When we understand God's forgiveness, I realize I have every reason to stand in awe of him and to hold him in the highest regard.

The Lord forgives. What does that mean? It means the Lord does not hold my sins against me. He does not let my sins affect how he feels about me or how he treats me.

Has this ever happened to you? You sinned against someone. Perhaps you hurt them or did something they did not like. You apologize and ask the person to forgive you. The person

you hurt says, "I forgive you," but you can tell the relationship you had with them is not the same. They act differently when they are around you. Perhaps they avoid you whenever possible. When they are with you, they don't want to visit or joke around the way they used to. They may have said the words, "I forgive you," but you can tell things are not the same.

That's not the way the Lord forgives. He says, "For I will forgive their wickedness and will remember their sins no more" (Jeremiah 31:34 NIV 11). When the Lord forgives, he truly lets the sin go from his mind. In other words, he does not let the sin affect how he feels about me or how he treats me.

I might think of sins I have committed. Some of these sins seem so horrible. The mere thought of them brings feelings of guilt and shame. Sometimes I even feel sick inside because of what I have done. There are times when I don't like myself because of what I have done. I am terrified of what others might think of me if they knew my past.

Part of me wonders, "How can God love me after what I have done? Why should God want anything to do with me?" I think of what God

could do to me, I think of what he should do to me, and I am terrified.

But what does the Psalmist say? "But with you there is forgiveness; therefore you are feared." There is forgiveness with the Lord. Because Jesus lived and died for me, because he paid the full and complete price for every sin—even for my sins—there is forgiveness, complete forgiveness. The Lord requires nothing from me as payment for my sins. Jesus has done it all.

How can I not stand in awe of God who forgives like this?

Because of Jesus, the Lord has forgiven you. That means the sin does not affect how he feels about you or how he deals with you. The Lord has forgiven you. That means he still loves you as he always has. He still wants you to be his dear child. He still cares about every part of your life. He is still guiding you and controlling the whole world to make sure you are blessed in the way that is truly best for you.

The Lord has forgiven you. His face still shines on you when he looks at you. He still looks on you with favor. He still wants to listen to everything you say to him. He still wants you to be his own forever. When the time is right he will still take you to be with him in heaven.

Regardless of what my sins are, this is how God forgives me. What an incredible, marvelous truth.

How can I not stand in awe of God who forgives like this?

Pastor Rawerts

2017-2018 PRESCHOOL ENROLLMENT

We are now accepting pre-registration for afternoon preschool for the 2017-2018.

Please speak with Ms. Leinen to reserve your child's spot in Trinity's preschool.

GET THE WORD OUT

Please tell your friends, neighbors, and co-workers about our Trinity Lutheran School, Preschool and Aftercare programs. They can call our school (229-4697) for more information. Brochures about these programs are available.

WELCOME SHOWER

As is our custom, we will be have a "Welcome Shower" for our new teacher, Mr. Behm and his wife, Bethany. If you would like to give gift cards, cash donations or any items that might be of help to them, please bring them to the office and give them either to Penny or Pastor.

CHURCH SOFTBALL

Trinity again has two teams. One in the A division and one in the B division. It is open to males and females, grade 9 through adult. The season began Monday, June 5, with games every Monday night—each team plays one game per night. The games times vary, either 6:30, 7:30, or 8:30 p.m. The tournament will be the weekend of August 12. Please join us as a team member or part of the teams' cheering section.



SUNDAY SCHOOL AND ADULT BIBLE CLASSES

- ❖ Sunday School and Adult Bible Classes will resume on Sunday, September 10, 2017.
- ❖ Junior and Senior Confirmation classes will begin on Wednesday, September 6, at 6 p.m.

KOINE RECAP

The Lord truly blessed us this past weekend with a terrific line-up of activities. THANK YOU to all who volunteered, attended, and helped to spread the word! Here is a quick recap:

- *There were 28 teams that participated in the basketball tournament, each receiving a Trinity tournament T-shirt with a Gospel message. Approximately 300 people attended the basketball tournament throughout the day.
- *We fed between 275 -300 people later that evening. Approximately 350 attended the Koine concert.
- *In all there were approximately 300 non-members that were on our campus on Saturday at some point.
- *About 215 attended the outdoor worship service on Sunday morning (well above an average summer Sunday attendance!) Praise God for the answered prayers and the wonderful weekend!! If you would like to see pictures of the day's events go to trinityaberdeen.org. Click on the "Church" tab and then go to "Photo Galleries."

PHOTO DISPLAY BOARD

Please stop by the photo display board and check out the new and updated pictures. What a wonderful way to be able to "meet and greet" the person next to you in the pew, in Bible class, or passing on the street.



SERVICES ON THE INTERNET

People are now able to watch our worship services on the internet. Simply go to our website, trinityaberdeen.org and click on 'Church Service Videos'.

SCRIP PROGRAM

The SCRIP program is available to Trinity Lutheran. SCRIP coupons may be used like cash at many stores, eating places, clothing stores, car washes, book stores, Walmart and many other places. (Check out the current list of business participation on the bulletin board west of the church doors.) SCRIP coupons can now be purchased at Ken's and Kessler's grocery stores. Both grocery stores are giving a 5% benefit—in addition to the grocery receipt program. Donations are made to Trinity Lutheran School and to Great Plains Lutheran High School.

Please speak to Ardys Gosch and let her know which stores you prefer to shop so that we may buy coupons for these stores, or if you have any questions.

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TRINITY LUTHERAN SCHOOL NEWSBYTES

God continues to richly bless Trinity Lutheran School! Here are some recent notes and news related to our school.

ALL-SCHOOL REGISTRATION

School registrations for the 2017-2018 school year, for preschool through grade 8, will be held Sunday, August 6 from 10:15 a.m. until noon and again Thursday, August 10, from 4 - 7 p.m. If these times do not work for you, or if you have questions, please speak with Mr. Kjenstad.

NEW UPPER GRADE TEACHER



Meet the Behms!

Matthew Behm was born to Mr. Randy and Bev Behm. His birthday is July 5. He was born in Beaver Dam, Wisconsin, and there he was raised. He was baptized and confirmed at St. Stephen's Lutheran.

He also attended school there. Matt then attended Luther Preparatory in Watertown Wisconsin for high school. After graduation, he then went on to Martin Luther College. At MLC he studied Elementary Education and also earned a minor in Social Studies. Since graduating, Matt has been eagerly waiting to begin teaching 6-8th grade at Trinity! In his spare time he enjoys fishing, hunting, and playing cards with his wife!

Bethany Kneser was adopted from India by Rev. Tom and Sharon Kneser. Her birthday is December 24. She was raised in West Allis, WI. There she was baptized, confirmed, and attended Woodlawn Lutheran School. Beth attended Wisconsin Lutheran High School in Milwaukee, WI. After graduating from there, she continued her education at Martin Luther College. There she studied Elementary Education and earned a minor in Communications Arts and Literature (English). In her spare time she too enjoys fishing, watching movies, and just hanging out with her husband!

Matt and Beth met at MLC and were recently married on July 22, 2017! They love spending time with family and going camping together. They are both excited to see how they can use their time and talents to serve God's people at Trinity!

Soli Deo Gloria!

BACK TO SCHOOL NIGHT

Back-to-School night will be Monday, August 21, from 5:30 – 7 PM. This is an evening for parents and children to get acquainted with the teachers, classrooms, and other information to make the opening days of school smoother for both parents and children.



TRINITY LUTHERAN SCHOOL CLASSES

The first day of school for Trinity will be August 22, 2017. Classes for Kindergarten through 8th grade will begin at 8 a.m. on that day, and school will be dismissed at 11:30 a.m.

The preschool will begin on Monday, August 29, at 8 a.m.

OPENING SERVICE FOR TLS

On August 22, at 8:10 a.m., we will be having a special opening service for the new school year at Trinity Lutheran School. Please join us as we ask the Lord to bless our staff and students for the upcoming year.

OPENING WEEKEND AT GREAT PLAINS LUTHERAN HIGH SCHOOL

The schedule for GPL's Opening Weekend will be similar to last year's. Detailed schedules for August 19-20 are being sent to parents of the 2017-2018 student body. The opening service will be held on Saturday, August 19, at 3:30 p.m. All are welcome to attend!