

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH AND SCHOOL NEWSLETTER JUNE 2021



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.*



BACK TO OLD HABITS

In many ways people are creatures of habit. The more we do something, the more comfortable we often become with it. Once we become comfortable doing something a certain way, it is very tempting to not want to change. Rather than leave our comfort zone, we'd rather keep on doing something the way we've been doing it.

Like the bachelor who got into the habit of letting dishes pile up on the counter and washing only when he ran out of dishes. He got very comfortable doing that. Washing all the dishes at the end of every day, drying them, and putting them away, or loading the dishwasher after every meal required a change to his routine that he didn't want to make. He was comfortable doing what he always did.

Once we get into a comfort zone, we often like to stay there.

What is your comfort zone right now regarding church attendance? Because

of COVID, some of us may have established a new comfort zone.

Some of us have gotten into the habit of staying home on Saturdays and Sundays and watching our worship services on-line. This is an easy and comfortable way to worship the Lord and be fed with his Word. You can sleep in as long as you want on Sundays. You don't have to get dressed up. You don't have to go out of the house. You don't have to drive the blocks or miles it takes to get to church. There is no time spent traveling to and from church. You can get comfortable in your favorite chair or maybe even stay tucked in under the covers and just watch.

Granted, when COVID was spreading fast among the masses and few or none of us were vaccinated, staying home and watching worship online was for many the safe and wise thing to do.

But has this now become our comfort zone?

More and more people have either had COVID already or have been vaccinated.

The virus is not as much of a threat as it once was. Things are opening up again. Yes, there are some who are still considered high risk and need to stay home as much as possible. But for most of us, it is safe to return our regular activities. That means it should be safe to come back to church for worship.

But that might not be so easy. It is really convenient and very comfortable to stay home and watch church online. For some that has become our new comfort zone. But is that what is truly best for your spiritual well-being?

Yes, it is true. You don't have to go to church to get to heaven. But at the same time, good things happen when you do go to church.

Going to church is a way to honor God. The Lord wants us to gather with other Christians for worship. The Bible says, "Let us not neglect meeting together, as some have the habit of doing. Rather, let us encourage each other, and all the more as you see the Day approaching" (Hebrews 10:25 EHV). Going to worship services simply because God wants you to, honors the Lord.

When you go to public worship services you can hear God's Word and receive the Lord's Supper. You can also be with your fellow Christians and encourage each other. Hearing in person voices singing to the Lord, joining in the words of praise, seeing and being with people you know and care about, it builds us up. It is a blessing for us.

For months we have prayed for the pandemic to end so that things can get back to normal. And what was normal? For one thing, it meant we regularly attended in-person worship services.

For some, that might not seem normal anymore, but we know that regular, in-person church attendance is God's will for us. To truly get back to normal, we may have to get out of the new comfort zone we have established, and remember what a blessing it is to be in God's house for worship with our fellow Christians.

Pastor Rawerts

2021-2022 PRESCHOOL ENROLLMENT

It's not too early to think about signing your child up for the 2021-2022 school year. We have already had inquiries and even several pre-registrations. We would like to be sure our members have enough time to sign up first. We offer a 5-day preschool, 3-day preschool and a 2-day preschool and your choice of morning or afternoon preschool. Aftercare will also be available. Please call the school (605-229-4697) to register your child.

BIBLE INFORMATION CLASS

We will be starting a new Bible Information Class beginning Thursday, June 3, at 6:30 p.m. For more information, please contact Pastor Rawerts.

NEW AUDIO VISUAL SYSTEM

Our congregation is working with AVI Systems Inc., in Sioux Falls to provide us with a new audio-visual system. We have given them a down payment for the work. They have begun the process of gathering materials. It could be a couple of months before installation will take place. In the meantime, we will continue to pray that the Lord provides us with an excellent

A-V system that will serve us well for many years.

ONLINE GIVING

For those who wish to, you can make your offerings online! Giving online is easy and allows you to set up automatic recurring contributions and view your complete online giving history from anywhere you have access to the Internet. Simply follow these easy steps:

- 1) Visit the church website at www.trinityaberdeen.org,
- 2) Click on the orange "Online Giving" box,
- 3) Click on the "Create Profile" button, then
- 4) Follow the onscreen instructions to create an online profile and to schedule your recurring contributions.

If you have any questions, contact Al Kjenstad.

NEW TEACHER FOR TRINITY

The Holy Spirit has worked through the Assignment Committee of our Wisconsin Synod to call Miss Aimee Duncan to teach grades 5 and 6 in our Lutheran Elementary School. Miss Duncan is from Mechanicville, New York. We thank the Lord for providing another teacher for our school. We pray that Miss Duncan will be a blessing to us and that we will also be a blessing to her.

WELCOME SHOWER

As is our custom here at Trinity, we will be having a "Welcome Shower" for our new teacher, Miss Duncan. If you would like to give gift cards, cash donations or any items that might be of help to her, please bring them to the

office and give them either to Penny or Pastor.

DELEGATE NEEDED

On June 8th, our Western Conference will be having its "Pre-Synod Convention Delegate Conference." Our congregation is invited to bring a lay delegate to the conference. If you are interested in serving as a delegate for the conference, please speak to Pastor Rawerts.

CHURCH LEAGUE SOFTBALL

The church softball season will begin June 7th. We will have one team that will play in the A Division, and games will be every Monday night. The season ends with a tournament the weekend of August 14th. Extra copies of the schedule are on the bulletin table.

PTO RUMMAGE SALE

The annual PTO rummage sale will be held on Thursday, June 24, from 9 a.m. - 7 p.m. and Friday, June 25, from 8 a.m. - noon. We will begin accepting donations on Monday, June 14, in the gym. Please sort your items on the appropriate table or bin to help us organize. If you would like to help with the rummage sale or have questions, please contact Jessica Kjenstad 380-0548 or Trista Dunsmoor 228-1346.

JESUS CARES

We are considering restarting our Jesus Cares Bible Class next fall. If you would be interested in helping with this Bible Class, please speak to Miss Schwark.

VOTERS' MEETING

We will be having a voters' meeting on June 27, 2021, at 10:15 a.m. to consider our proposed budget for the 2021-2022 year.

NEXT YEAR'S BUDGET

We need to start preparing our church budget for next year. We would like to ask boards and committees and all those requesting money in next year's budget to give their requests to Dave Lien or Ben Dunsmoor as soon as possible.

PHOTO DISPLAY BOARD

Our photo display board is looking for new pictures. Many of the photos on the board are outdated, and we have missed getting pictures of some of our newest members. Please help us update the board by dropping of your picture to Penny, or leave them on her desk and we will get them switched out as soon as possible.

SCRIP

Scrip is available from Ken's and Kessler's. Ken's and Kessler's will give us 5% of the scrip, and they will continue to give the 1% on the grocery receipts. If you have any questions, please let Peggy Martens know.

NOMINATIONS

Our congregation will be having elections in July for positions on the Church Council and the Department of Education. If you are willing to serve or if you know of someone whom you believe is willing to serve, please speak to one of the elders.

BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION

We would like to encourage all of you to continue to save Box Tops for Education for the school. They can be saved all year round. Please clip them out and drop them off to Penny. Box Tops for Education has also started a new program whereby you scan your store receipts from your cell phone, from *any* place of business, for scan-able box tops. The new and improved Box Tops mobile app uses state-of-the-art technology to scan your store receipt (within 14 days of purchase), find participating products and instantly add Box Tops to our school's earnings online.

ONLINE SERVICES

Our worship services will continue to be posted on our website, on YouTube, and our Facebook page, each Sunday. Simply go to our website, trinityaberdeen.org and click on 'Church Service Videos'.

HOLY COMMUNION

We are once again celebrating the Lord's Supper during our regular worship services. However, for those who are considered 'high risk' or would like to practice social distancing, we are scheduling times where small groups of people may come to receive the Lord's Supper. We will be offering the Lord's Supper at the following times:

Friday	June 4	5:00 - 7:00 p.m.
Saturday	June 5	3:00 - 4:00 p.m.
Monday	June 7	5:00 - 7:00 p.m.

We will be having brief Communion services every 20 minutes during those designated times. We will conduct these services in the Fireside Room. We will

invite up to 8 people to join us for each service. We are asking members to call the church office at 225-6081 to arrange a time for you to come and receive the Lord's Supper. If none of these times work for you, please call Penny or Pastor Rawerts to arrange another time.

UPDATE ON OUR MISSIONS!
As of May 21, 2021

NEW START MISSION IN DICKINSON!

In March, your District Mission Board submitted a request to the WELS Board for Home Missions to start a new mission congregation in Dickinson, ND—and it was approved! We then asked for a Sem grad to be assigned to that field. But there were many more requests for graduates than there were graduates. So it was that no graduate was assigned to Dickinson. Your DMB will begin calling a pastor from the field for this mission.

The other two requests your DMB submitted in March, one for northeast Bismarck, ND and the other for Kalispell, MT, were deferred, since there are only so many resources to go around. "Deferred" means that the BHM considers the request to be good and that we are encouraged to continue to work with the core groups and submit a request again next March.

THANK YOU! WELCOME!

We thank Pastor Tom Rawerts (Trinity, Aberdeen, SD) for his faithful service on our District Mission Board. Pastor Rawerts was elected at our District Convention in 2018 and has been a very valuable asset to our DMB, having the unique ability to ask the right

questions at the right time in our discussions and planning. But this past December he contracted a very serious case of Covid, being hospitalized and on oxygen for a number of days. Subsequently, he has stepped down from his DMB duties.

We welcome Pastor Mark Schutz (Hope, Spearfish, SD) to our District Mission Board! Mark was appointed by our District President to complete Pastor Rawert's term (which expires 2024). Pastor Schutz (pronounced "shootz") was assigned to Hope Lutheran when he graduated from Sem (2007). He has served as our District Worship Coordinator and as secretary of the Communications Committee for the New Hymnal Project. His wife, Jill, is a graduate of MLC. She has a degree in Elementary education and maintains her teaching license in South Dakota. They have three children: Lydia (12), Natalie (10), Jonathan (7).

KEEP UP WITH THE HAPS IN MISSIONS!

Follow *WELS Missions* on Facebook. Or go online to wels.net/subscribe. Click "Missions Update Newsletter" and "Missions Blogs." Updates will be emailed to you.

YOUR Dakota-Montana District Mission Board (for mission work south of the 49th parallel)

- *Pastor Gary Bode (Helena, MT)
- *Mr. Terry Krause (Clear Lake, SD)
- *Mr. Jerry Pepke (BHM lay rep, Great Falls, MT)
- *Pastor Mark Schutz (Spearfish, SD)
- *Pastor Jonathan Werre (chairman, Sioux Falls, SD, jwerre@gswels.org)
- *Mr. Jim Weimer (Rapid City, SD)