

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH AND SCHOOL

MAY 2013 NEWSLETTER

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.



A Love Even Greater

Can anything compare to a mother's love? There are few things in this world that are stronger than the love a mother has for her baby. She carries a child inside of her for all those months. During that time she will be conscious of what she eats and drinks and what she does because she does not want anything to harm her baby. She can feel that baby moving inside her. She knows she is carrying a precious life inside her. When she gives birth to that child, she has an attachment to that child that no one else will ever have. Fathers certainly love their children. But fathers probably can't fully understand the bond that mothers have with the child they carried inside themselves and then brought into the world.

No one would question the love that mothers have for their children. The Lord uses that truth in order to teach his people something important.

There would come a time in the Old Testament, when the Lord would allow his people to be conquered by their enemies and dragged into captivity. Though the people brought this judgment on themselves because of their sins, some would find fault with the Lord. In fact, some would even claim that the Lord had forgotten them. We are told, *"But Zion said, 'The LORD has forsaken me, the Lord has forgotten me' "*(Isaiah 49:14 NIV 84).

Nothing could be farther from the truth. The Lord immediately corrects that thought. He says, *"Can a mother forget the baby at her breast and have no compassion on the child she has borne? Though she may forget, I will not forget you! See, I have engraved you on the palms of my hands; your walls are ever before me"*(Isaiah 49:15-16 NIV 84). To emphasize the greatness and the certainty of his love, the Lord points people to the love a mother has for her child. No one would doubt a mother's love. Even more so, no one should ever doubt the Lord's love for his people. In fact, the Lord has a love even greater.

Even if a mother could forget her baby and not care about her child, it would be still impossible for the Lord to forget his people. A mother's love might seem to be never failing, but the Lord's love is even greater.

Throughout his Word, the Lord reminds us of the greatness, the certainty of his love for us. In Jeremiah the Lord says, *"I have loved you with an ever lasting love"*(Jeremiah 31:3 NIV 84). In the book of Romans, St. Paul emphatically states, *"For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord"*(Romans 8:38-39 NIV 84).

Sad to say, there are some mothers and fathers who don't love their children as they should. There are times when people whom we thought loved us, fail us or hurt us or turn their backs on us. Human beings can let us down.

But the Lord never does. He says, "*I, the Lord, do not change*" (Malachi 3:6 NIV 84). God is love. It is part of his essence, his being as God. He is love and that never changes. No matter what, I can be sure God loves me and will always help me. Because he loves me, he uses his almighty power to control all things so that I will always be blessed in the way that he knows is best. God's love never changes and it never fails.

We are thankful for the love certain people show to us. The love of a parent or a spouse or a sibling is a wonderful thing. But their love can't begin to compare with God's love for us. His is a love even greater.

Pastor Rawerts

PRAISE GOD FOR CHRISTIAN MOTHERS

A woman who fears the Lord is to be praised (Proverbs 31:30).

There is much to be said about the godly mother. If God has willed it, she happily accepts his precious gift of children. They are not irksome restrictions for her pleasure, but they are gladly cared for and carefully wrapped in the blankets of love. She loves each child of any age. She doesn't ration either attention or affection in dribbles, but pours out both in full measure. Very early in life each child learns about love. God's love in Christ which enables all to truly love each other. (Taken from an article by Pastor Kurt Koeplin in the May 1992 WELS Forward in Christ.)

GREAT PLAINS GRADUATION



Graduation ceremonies at Great Plains will be held May 18th at 10:00 AM.

Their spring concert will be held May 17th at 7:15 PM.

A MOTHER'S DAY PRAYER FOR ALL TO PRAY

Lord of all creation, we raise our voices in thanks to you for the opportunity to come together to worship you. You have given life to all. On this Mother's Day, we especially thank you for the gift of motherhood through which you bring human beings in to this world. Your son, our Savior Jesus, was born to a woman named Mary and gave us an example by seeing to it that she was cared for after he left. Thank you, dear Lord, for the wonderful expression of your love that we have received through our mothers. Help us never to take this gift for granted. May we follow Jesus' example by showing our love for our mothers. Amen.

TRINITY GRADUATION



Our Trinity Lutheran School will be having its graduation on May 19 during our morning worship service. Immediately after the service, we will be having a brunch. Please bring a dish to pass. Coffee and juice will be provided. Everyone is invited to attend.

This year's high school graduates are:

*Dillon Duvall
Brandon Kannas*

The Trinity Lutheran Kindergarten graduates are:

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|------------------------|------------------------|
| <i>Jamie Behan</i> | <i>Eden Gross</i> |
| <i>Camilla Howard</i> | <i>Amara Klipfel</i> |
| <i>Kaitlyn Rawerts</i> | <i>Mateo Reams</i> |
| <i>Ellis Russell</i> | <i>Erick Zimmerman</i> |

CONFIRMATION SUNDAY

Confirmation Sunday will be May 12. Questioning will take place in our service on May 11, at 5:00 PM. Please ask the Lord to bless the following young people who will be speaking their confirmation vows on that day: *Dylan Duvall, Brandon Kannas, Allison Van Veen*. May the Lord keep them faithful forever.

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'.

LOCKDOWN PROCEDURE

"If the owner of the house had known at what time of night the thief was coming, he would have kept watch. . . .So also you must be ready. . . (Matthew 24:43, 45 NIV 84).

Here at Trinity we are in the process of putting several "lockdown" procedures into effect. One of the most obvious is the locked doors between the south entry and the Fellowship Hall and the west doors nearest the school class rooms.

During regular school hours these doors will be locked. A "ring for assistance" button is located near the entrance of each set of doors if the church or the school secretaries are not immediately available. They will open the doors to persons who have business in the school.

Please do not be offended if someone asks your name or who you need/want to see. We don't always recognize all the school parents or even some congregational members.

Bear with us as these and other protections are put into place. This is an effort to keep God's children safe while in our care.

NOTES FROM THE VOTERS' ASSEMBLY

The voters of Trinity met on Sunday, April 21, 2013, after church for their regular Quarterly Voters' Meeting. This serves as an update to the congregation on the events taking place during the meeting.

The following membership actions approved by the Church Council were ratified by the voters: Transfer in from Aaron Kjenstad from Faith Lutheran, Tacoma, WA; transfer to St. Paul's Lutheran, Mankato, MN for Alicia Guthmiller; transfer to St. Martins, Watertown, SD for Will Anderson; transfer to Crosswalk

Lutheran Ministries, LaVeen, AZ for Seth Gosch; release from membership by self-exclusion: Connie and Natalie Bruemmer, Marie, Dillon, and Drew Gehring, and Nathan Wood.

Various department reports were given:

Department of Worship and Spiritual Life: elections are coming up in July for positions on the Church Council and the Department of Education; please consider being nominated when the Nominations Committee begins its work.

Department of Education: Voters approved the new tuition rates for the coming school year.

Department of Property Care: There are continuing sewer problems in the parsonage. The Trustees were asked to explore and get the problem fixed.

Department of Stewardship: The Treasurer's report shows that Trinity has been blessed with offerings year-to-date. The Building Fund shows a \$658,476 balance thus far with approximately \$230,000 in uncollected commitments. That leaves us about \$20,000 short of the total cost of the project. All members are encouraged to consider offerings to the building fund to make up the \$20,000.

Old Business: The report on our church bell shows repairing the bell would be quite costly. The Council will look at various options and present the findings to the congregation for action.

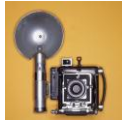
New Business: Approved the purchase of Christ Light Sunday School materials for the next Sunday School season.

Approved Trinity hosting an area Sunday School Teachers conference in September 2013.

Approved the Council to obtain short-term (1-3 years) financing to pay building costs until all the commitments are received.

UPDATE PHOTO DISPLAY

With graduations and confirmations, now is the time to update our family picture board.



picture for the board, please give it to Brenda

update our family board, please give it to Brenda

would like to have a new picture taken for your family, please speak to Brenda.

STUDENT AID FUND

The Student Aid Fund exists to provide financial assistance for those who wish to send their children to Trinity Lutheran School. Without the aid that this fund provides, certain families may not be able to send their children to our school. The Student Aid Fund provides these families with much-needed assistance. We could use some help to replenish the Student Aid Fund. Please keep this in mind as you consider your offerings.

VESTMENTS AND PARAMENTS

As we proceed through the church year, we will be using different colors to adorn our altar, lectern and pulpit. Pastor will also be wearing different-colored stoles for the occasions.

Ascension Sunday, May 9: White will be used as the color of joy in the Ascension of our Lord.

Pentecost Sunday, May 19: Red is the color of fire used on this day as we remember the tongues of fire descended on the crowd in Jerusalem.

The Holy Trinity Sunday: White will be used as an expression of joy in the mystery of the Triune God.

Other Sundays after Pentecost: Green is used to indicate our growth in faith as we follow the teachings and ministry of Christ.



GROCERY RECEIPTS

Please save all Ken's and Kessler's receipts from September 1, 2012 through May 31, 2013. Please turn them no later than June 7, 2013, so that we can get them turned in in a timely manner.

I AM A CHRISTIAN

When I say that "I am a Christian," I am not shouting that "I am clean living." I'm whispering "I was lost, but now I'm found and forgiven."

When I say "I am a Christian," I don't speak of this with pride. I'm confessing that I stumble and need Christ to be my guide.

When I say "I am a Christian," I'm not trying to be strong. I'm professing that I'm weak and need His strength to carry on.

When I say "I am a Christian," I'm not bragging of success. I'm admitting I have failed and need God to clean my mess.

When I say "I am a Christian," I'm not claiming to be perfect. My flaws are far too visible, but God believes I am worth it.

When I say "I am a Christian," I still feel the sting of pain. I have my share of heartaches, so I call upon his name.

When I say "I am a Christian," I'm not holier than thou. I'm just a simple sinner who received God's good grace.
(Unknown)