

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH AND SCHOOL

NOVEMBER 2012

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.



WE FOLLOW GOD'S WAY NO MATTER WHAT

Christians are to follow God's Word no matter what. No matter what we face or go through, we are to follow God's Word. When we face difficult times or trying circumstances, we are not to deal with them by resorting to sin. Is abortion a sin? Yes, it is. But we do not oppose it by bombing abortion clinics.

Can governments be anti-Christian? Yes. Can government leaders be anti-Christian? Certainly. But we do not oppose wicked governments and evil leaders by rebelling or disobeying laws or by being disrespectful. We do not oppose sin or seek to deter sin by using sinful means. We deal with sin and with sinners by following God's Word and teaching his Word.

Unbelievers are quick to demand toleration of their beliefs and actions. They plead for others to be fair and allow them their constitutional right to promote their personal lifestyles and agendas. But should those same unbelievers gain control over Christians, they have no intention of granting Christians the freedom to practice and promote their beliefs. It is a double standard whether unbelievers will admit it or not.

Humanly speaking, this puts us at a clear disadvantage. We are only to use godly means to promote our views and to seek changes in our society and its laws. The wicked will use lies and threats, force and violence, deceit, insults and various forms of manipulation to achieve their own ends. Sinful means very often control worldly circumstances and take advantage of unsuspecting people. Sinful means often allow unbelievers to get their way.

For the most part, this is the way it will always be. Unbelievers do not have God in first place on their life agendas. Serving themselves and getting what they want is number one with them. Getting what they want justifies, in their minds, doing whatever is required. Jesus tells us that as we get closer and closer to the end of the world the wicked will get worse and believers will suffer because of this (Matthew 24:4-12).

So what do we do? We do not ever resort to their means. Just because they are using sinful means to get what they want, that does not make it right for us to use sinful means to get what we want. We are to follow God's Word and to do what the Lord wants no matter what.

This does not mean we will do nothing. We will vote. We can write letters to television networks. We can refuse to buy products of companies who promote sin. We may refuse to join or support certain organizations. We will speak the truth in love. We will pray. But we will not resort to sin.

This may lead us to suffer unfairly. It may mean that unbelievers will have an advantage over us—at least in earthly things. Unbelievers will often have more influence in government affairs. They might make laws that cause us trouble and hardship. Regardless, we do not resort to sin.

What does the Bible say? "So then, those who suffer according to God's will should commit themselves to their faithful Creator and continue to do good" (1 Peter 4:19 NIV). Peter also points us to Jesus' example of suffering. When we suffer unfairly, we

are to be like Jesus who, “entrusted himself to him who judges justly” (1 Peter 2:23 NIV).

It might not be easy, but we know the Lord is in control. God will take care of us. God will one day deal with those who oppose him. No matter how much unbelievers try to oppose us, the Lord will make sure that we always end up being blessed.

Pastor Rawerts

QUARTERLY VOTERS’ MEETING: The Quarterly Voters’ Meeting will be November 4, at 10:15 AM. At this meeting there will be discussion and a possible motion about our future building project. Please ask the Lord to give the voters wisdom.

JOINT REFORMATION SERVICE: A joint reformation service will be held November 4 at 4:00 p.m. at Zion Lutheran Church in Mobridge. Rev. Nate Seelow from Great Plains Lutheran High School will be the guest speaker. Following the service, refreshments will be served.

SENIOR TURKEY DINNER: A special turkey dinner will be served here at church for all those 65 and older on November 18 at 5:00 p.m.

SPECIAL NEEDS BIBLE CLASS: Our special needs Bible Class will be starting again. They will be meeting on the third Monday of each month at 6:45 p.m. in the Fireside Room. Their first meeting will be on November 19. If you have questions or would like to help with the class, please speak to Glendora Dick or Aaron Kjenstad.

THANKSGIVING SERVICE: We will be celebrating Thanksgiving with a special service on November 22 at 9:00 a.m.

RUMMAGE SALE PROCEEDS: The garage sale for Great Plains High School was a success! The proceeds to be sent to GPHS are \$2,200. A special “thank you” goes out to the people who worked so hard getting everything ready for the garage sale.

CHRISTMAS CARDS: The new Christmas cards have arrived and are available for purchase. There is also a large variety of cards for special occasions available. The cards are located at the back of the Fellowship Hall. Please speak with Ardys Gosch if you have any questions.

CHRISTMAS FOR KIDS: On Saturday, December 1, our congregation will be hosting a special one-day Vacation Bible School program called “*Christmas For Kids*.” It will last from 9:00 AM to 11:30 AM. On that day, we will tell the children the story of Jesus’ birth. We will also have singing, special crafts, and Christmas goodies for them to eat. All children ages 4-10 are invited. Parents are also invited to stay and join us for the fun. You are certainly welcome to bring friends. We could use volunteers to help with serving the children that morning. If you have questions about “*Christmas For Kids*”, please call Pastor Rawerts. If you would like to register your child to attend “*Christmas For Kids*”, please call either the school or the church.

GROCERY RECEIPTS: Shortly, we will be heading into the holiday season. With thanksgiving to the Lord, we celebrate these holidays, often with feasting and lots of food. We tend to have some extra grocery receipts during these next 2 months. If possible, please save all receipts from Kessler’s and Ken’s and put them in the box on the information stand on the east side of the Fellowship Hall. The receipts do add up, and they do help.

THRIVENT CHOICE DOLLARS: Give thanks. Direct your designated Thrivent Choice Dollars®. Think of the impact that your designated Thrivent Choice Dollars—combined with those of other Thrivent Financial for Lutherans members—can have on a Lutheran organization!

This is the perfect time to say “thank you” to Trinity Lutheran Church and Trinity Lutheran School. Direct your designated Choice Dollars today. Individually, the recommendations you make through Choice Dollars direction can make a difference. Together, we can make a profound impact. You can call 1-800-847-4836 or go online to: Thrivent.com/thriventchoice, or speak to Janice Mohr or Kimberly Russell, our congregational advocates, who will also be able to assist you.

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.