

NOVEMBER 2017 TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH AND SCHOOL 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.



Being Thankful and Giving Thanks

What is the purpose of having a Thanksgiving Day? Is it a day for being thankful or is it a day for giving thanks? There's a subtle difference there. It is one thing to be thankful, it is quite another to give thanks.

Say my grandmother gives me \$10 for my birthday. Being thankful means I recognize that I am privileged to have this \$10. I am appreciative of the fact that something nice has happened to me. I am really glad to have this.

Giving thanks, however, would mean that I give credit to my grandmother for giving me the money and I, in some way, express to her that I appreciate what she has done for me.

So when you celebrate Thanksgiving are you thankful or do you actually give thanks?

I would imagine that all of us are thankful. We recognize that we are privileged to live in a land of plenty. We appreciate the fact that we enjoy so many wonderful blessings in our lives.

We realize that we are better off than a lot of other people in this world. We acknowledge the fact that we have been blessed in a special way and we are really glad that we enjoy so many blessings.

In that sense, many will be thankful as they celebrate Thanksgiving. They will admit that they've got it good. "I am glad I have so many wonderful blessings to enjoy. I am so privileged to be able to live the way I do." Those words show a person is thankful.

But how many of those "thankful" people will actually give thanks? Giving thanks means that I give credit to and express my appreciation to the one who has enabled me to be blessed. The familiar words tell us, "Give thanks to the LORD for he is good" (Psalm 136:1 NIV 84).

As Christians we recognize that it is the Lord who has given us all the blessings we have and enjoy. He is the one who provides for all our needs. He is the one who grants us so many luxuries to enjoy. He gives us the ability to work and blesses our efforts when we work. Most important of all, it is the Lord who gives us blessings of salvation. Without him we would have no blessings to enjoy. It is only

because of God's goodness that we have reasons to be thankful.

So, yes, I am thankful that I have so many blessings to enjoy. And because I am so thankful, I want to give thanks to the Lord for all he has done. As I ponder and appreciate all these blessings I enjoy, I will remember that it is the Lord who has given them to me. In my heart and in my life, I will give him the credit for what I have. With my attitudes and actions, with my words and my example, I will express my appreciation to him for all he has done for me.

Certainly I will be thankful on Thanksgiving. But more than that, I also want to give thanks to the Lord who has blessed me in so many wonderful ways.

Pastor Rawerts

SENIOR TURKEY DINNER

On November 19, 2017, at 5 p.m. a special turkey dinner with all the trimmings, will be served here at the church for all of those who are 65 and older. Please RSVP to the church office (605-225-6081) so that we know how many to plan for.

THANKSGIVING SERVICE

We will be celebrating Thanks3iving with a special service on November 23 at 9 AM. Please join us in praising God for his bountiful blessings.



ADULT HAND CHIMES

The adult hand chimes had their first rehearsal on October 11 at 6:00 p.m. All confirmed members are welcome to join. If you have any questions, please contact Beth Behm at matt.bethany17@gmail.com.

JESUS CARES MINISTRY

Jesus Cares Ministry has started again. Classes meet on the third Monday of each month from 6:45 pm to 8:00 pm. *Jesus Cares* is a synod-wide program that reaches out to people with intellectual and developmental disabilities, their families and communities. If you would like to help in this ministry or have questions, please speak with Aaron Kjenstad 605-377-5101.



CHRISTMAS FOR KIDS

Christmas for Kids will be held Saturday, December 9, 2017, from 9 a.m. until 11:30 a.m. We need volunteers to help with serving the children that morning. If you have questions about "Christmas for Kids", please speak to Pastor Rawerts. If you would like to register your child for "Christmas for Kids", there will be a sign-up sheet on the bulletin table in later November, or call the church office at 225-6081.

YOUNG ADULTS' GROUP

A New Fellowship group called "Rooted" has been organized in our congregation. "Rooted" is a Trinity organization whose purpose is to provide regular opportunities for Christians in their 20's to 40's to meet together for fun and fellowship. The organizers intend that meetings and activities would be for adults

only. In October, Rooted met at the house of Ashley Seeklander for a bonfire get together. Watch the bulletin for more fun opportunities!

MENTOR PROGRAM

Our congregation would like to start a "Mentor Program". The purpose of this program would be to seek and equip certain Trinity members to take a special interest in a new member; encourage the new member in his or her faith, help the new member to become familiar with the people and activities at Trinity Lutheran, and help them become comfortable with and feel more a part of Trinity Lutheran Church and its areas of ministry. If you are interested in being a part of our "Mentor Program", please speak with Pastor Rawerts.

GROCERY RECEIPTS

Please save Ken's and Kessler's grocery receipts, dated after September 1, 2017. The proceeds from the receipts are used to purchase special items for our school. Please put your receipts into the box on the bulletin table.

SUNDAY SCHOOL OFFERINGS

Our Sunday School children have chosen to send their offerings to WELS Christian aid and Relief. This committee provides disaster relief and humanitarian aid to people around the world who have been devastated by natural disasters and other tragedies.

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

The Women's Bible Study meets each Wednesday afternoon at 2 p.m. Please feel free to join us. If you have any questions, call Trista Dunsmoor.

SPECIAL OFFERING

Next year's budget once again includes an additional called worker to meet the demands of our expanding school. As a result we are once more seeking a special offering that is "over and above" regular firstfruit offerings. We ask that our members prayerfully consider the possibility of making a special offering to help us meet next year's budget. Please label this "TLS Expansion" on the "Other" line on your offering envelopes. The goal is \$15,000.

CARDS

Do you ever find yourself looking for "just the right card" for a birthday, anniversary, get well or other special occasion? Our Trinity Women have a large variety of boxed cards (10-15 cards per box) for almost any occasion. The selection changes regularly and by seasons. (The new Christmas cards will be arriving soon.) So, if you are looking for just the right card....come see what is available. The cards are located in the back of the Fellowship Hall—directly across from the church library.

NORTHWESTERN PUBLISHING HOUSE

Northwestern Publishing House (NPH) is our official Wisconsin Synod book store. It offers a vast array of products including Bibles, hymnals, Bible stories, CD's, DVD's, jewelry, clothing, and; of course, doctrinally sound books that will instruct and encourage you in your Christian faith. If you are looking for a gift for someone, NPH offers you many possibilities. Check out their website at www.nph.net. Their phone number is 800-662-6022.

CHRISTIAN COMPANION VISITS

A new outreach for Trinity shut-ins has begun. On the bulletin board are lists of our shut-ins, their phone numbers and addresses. If you are interested in visiting one or all of the shut-ins, take one of the Christian Companion sheets. Just sign or initial the month and the name of the person you visited. This is a simple way to reach out to our shut-ins and keep them connected with Trinity happenings.

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.

SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR



The *Wild West Book Fair* begins with a special preview debut on December 3.

On **Wednesday,**

December 6, the books will be available from 8:30 a.m. until 7:30 p.m.

Book levels range from preschool through eighth grade, and will be available from 8:30 a.m. until about 3:30 p.m. each day (unless you make other arrangements).

These books make great *Christmas gifts* for all ages. All proceeds from the books will go toward new books, library furniture and library/school needs.

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'.

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 on the bulletin table.

TRINITY LUTHERAN SCHOOL NEWSBYTES

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

FRIDAY CHAPEL SERVICES

Each Friday, at 8:05 a.m., we begin our day with chapel. All parents, relatives and friends are invited to join us. An offering is collected each Friday to help teach our students the importance of mission work.

SPORTS

During the month of November: the TLS Girls' Basketball, Boys' Basket Ball; Jr. Tornado Basket Ball, and the Junior Tornado Volley Ball practices and games will begin. Please watch the bulletin for more information.

FORENSICS MEET

TLS Forensics Night will be held on November 16th at 6:30 pm. The students in the second through eighth grades will be reading or performing their selections before an audience. Everyone is welcome to attend!

VETERANS DAY ASSEMBLY

On Friday, November 10 at 2:00 PM we will be having a Veteran's Day Assembly in our gym. If you know of any Veterans who might want to be invited to this event, please give those names and addresses to Mrs. Kjenstad or your child's teacher.

TRINITY TORNADO APPAREL

We have a variety of Trinity Tornado clothing available for sale. T-shirts are \$8, long sleeved shirts are \$11, crew neck sweatshirts are \$13, and hooded sweatshirts are \$18. If you are interested in purchasing any of these items (they make good Christmas gifts) please speak to Mrs. Jessica Kjenstad or Mrs. Biegler.

Thankful to the Lord for the Heritage We Have

As we enter into November, we start to gear up for Thanksgiving. On that day we will have the chance to focus on the abundance of blessings that we enjoy. As we ponder our circumstances in the United States, we can see that no other nation in the history of time has enjoyed the quality and quantity of earthly blessings that we enjoy in our country.

Certainly we are thankful for our families, our loved ones, our friends, our food, our clothing, our homes, and all the earthly luxuries we enjoy. But at the same time we remember Jesus' words, "A man's life does not consist in the abundance of his possessions" (Luke 12:15 NIV 84).

Getting and enjoying earthly blessings is not what is most important in life. That is not what life is all about. Remember what else Jesus said? "What good will it be for someone to gain the whole world, yet forfeit their soul" (Matthew 16:26 NIV 11)?

More important than having earthly blessings is having spiritual blessings. What I will enjoy after I leave this world is more important than what I enjoy while I am in this world.

So when I consider my blessings, I will above all else thank the Lord for bringing me to faith in Jesus so that I enjoy the blessings of his salvation. I know that God is not angry at me. I know that he will always love me. I know he gives me what is best for me. I know that one day I will be with him in heaven.

So as I celebrate Thanksgiving, I will thank my heavenly Father for all the earthly blessings he has graciously granted to me. But I will especially thank him for the salvation he gives me through of his Son and for the Holy Scriptures which tell me the truth about these most wonderful blessings.

Five hundred years ago, the Lord led Martin Luther to discover the truth, and then to defend and proclaim it. And now 500 years later, the Lord has led us to know and believe the facts about Jesus so that we enjoy personally the blessings of his salvation.

How thankful we are for the certainty and confidence we have because we know for sure that Jesus has done everything for our salvation. This is the Reformation heritage that has been passed on to us. How thankful we are to have it.

As we celebrate Thanksgiving, we are thankful not only for earthly blessings, but especially for spiritual blessings. We are thankful for what the Lord did 500 years ago, and for what he has done throughout history so that we today know his truth and enjoy the blessings of his salvation.

Pastor Rawerts