

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH AND SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

MARCH 2014



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.



All Things Are in His Hands

"Why did the people vote that way? How could they vote that way? What were those people thinking? It makes me wonder about some of them."

The truth is not everyone sees things the way I do. I may be convinced that a certain course of action is best for our congregation. To me it seems so clear what should be done. Because it is so clear to me, I assume it will be just as clear to others. When other people don't see things my way, I am tempted to think they are misinformed or stubborn or just plain foolish. When the vote does not go the way I am convinced is best, I can be more than a little disappointed. I might be tempted to withdraw and refuse to help my church the way I otherwise might have been willing to.

It is not wrong to be disappointed when the vote on an issue does not go the way I wanted. That's normal. But if we are not careful, the devil can turn that disappointment into anger and bitterness that can lead to immature behavior that does not honor the Lord and does not benefit my church or my fellow Christians.

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.

So what do I do when I wrestle with these feelings? Honestly admit to yourself that you are disappointed and perhaps even frustrated, and then ask for the Lord's help to look at the situation in light of his Word.

In 1 Corinthians 13, the Apostle Paul says that Christian love is patient and kind, and that it "*always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres*" (1 Corinthians 13:4, 7 NIV 84). People may not share my opinion on what is best. But with God's help I can give them the benefit of the doubt and believe they are acting with sincere hearts and are pursuing what they think is best for our church.

Along with that, we trust. The Lord promises that he works all things for our good (Romans 8:28). It can be difficult to tell myself this truth when I am disappointed. But it is still God's truth and I still cling to it, even more so when I am struggling. Even when the vote does not go the way I would have liked, I still trust the Lord is going to work through this to accomplish his good purpose.

The Lord commands us to love others as he has loved us (John 15:12). Other people

may not share my point of view, and I may be a bit resentful because they 'got their way,' but they are still God's children and the Lord still wants me to show his love to them.

Finally, we consider the words of Samuel, "*But be sure to fear the LORD and serve him faithfully with all your heart; consider what great things he has done for you*" (1 Samuel 12:24 NIV 84). Certainly life deals us disappointments now and then, but the Lord is in control and still grants us wonderful blessings. As I consider the great things the Lord has done for me, it moves me to want to serve him with all my heart and continue to give my best for his church.

My church may not always go forward the way that I would like, but we are still striving to do the most important work of all, the work of sharing his Word of salvation so people may know him and have eternal life. That motivates me do my best to help that work proceed in the best possible way.

My church is really still *his* church. And as we sinful human beings strive to serve him, we trust that he is control and will guide us in the way that is best. We find comfort knowing all things are in his hands.

Pastor Rawerts

SACRED CONCERT

On Saturday, March 15, at 7:00 p.m., the choir from Luther Preparatory School in Watertown, Wisconsin will present a sacred concert here at our church. We will *not* have our 5:00 p.m. worship service that day. We will be asked to host students that night in our homes. A sign-up sheet has been placed on the bulletin table. If you are able to host any students that night, it would be appreciated.

ASH WEDNESDAY

Wednesday, March 5, we will begin another Lenten season by celebrating Ash Wednesday. During this Lenten season we will once again have extra opportunities to gather with our fellow Christians to hear of our Savior's suffering and death for our sins. Our sermon series this year is called, "The Crucified King." For Ash Wednesday, we will be having a Communion service at 6:00 PM. A fellowship meal will follow. Please bring sandwiches or a dish and/or a dessert to pass. Please join us as we worship our suffering Savior.

MEMBERSHIP LIST

An updated membership list has been compiled and copies are on the bulletin table. If you see incorrect information or information that needs to be updated, please let Penny know so that she can make the corrections in the church records.

BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION

Our goal this year is to reach 6,330 points by Tuesday, February 25. To date our total is 4,755. We only need 1,575 more, but we need your help to reach our goal!! If you have any box tops, please bring them in and give them to either the church secretary or the school secretary before the end of the day on February 25. If we reach our goal, the school will receive \$633 to be used toward equipment for the new gymnasium. Thank you for your help!

THRIVENT CHOICE DOLLARS

It is again time for Thrivent members with Choice Dollars for 2013 to direct the dollars by March 30th. This can be done by phone or on-line. Please do not wait until the cutoff date to try to direct the dollars for

you may find yourself on hold. There are Choice Dollar cards on the bulletin table for instructions. Please contact Janice Mohr if you need assistance.

TEACHER'S AIDE

Ms. Pam Behan has been hired as the new teacher's aide for the lower grades. She is here every afternoon and teaches first and second grade reading and art. We welcome Pam to the staff of Trinity Lutheran School.

SCHOOL

To see what's happening at Trinity Lutheran School, visit our website at www.trinityaberdeen.org. Or "like" us on Facebook!

2014 LUTHERAN PIONEER PINWOOD DERBY RACES

Here are the plans for this year's Pinewood Derby Races.

Children in grades 1-8 that go to Trinity Lutheran School and/or Trinity Lutheran Church are invited to come to our meetings during the next few months as we design and prepare cars for the races. Here is the schedule for this year:

- Mar 13 – Meeting (6:30 – 8:00) – 7th & 8th Graders Only
- Mar 27 – Meeting (6:30 – 8:00) – 7th & 8th Graders Only
- Apr 10 – Meeting (6:30 – 8:00)
- Apr 13 – Deadline to sign up for races
- April 27 – Races (start at 1:00)

As you see, a couple of the meetings are for the older children only. During these meetings, I will get some adult assistance and we will do some of the more difficult work on all of the cars.

We will start each meeting with a short prayer/devotion and end with a small snack. Please feel free to call me (229-4866 (H), 377-4732 (C)), or email me at skkjen@nvc.net with your questions or comments.

Steve Kjenstad

NEW BIBLE CLASS

We have started a new Bible Class entitled, "Come Follow Me." It is based the suffering, death, and resurrection of our Savior and will be used in connection with a new DVD produced by our Synod.

GROCERY RECEIPTS

A special "thank you" to those of you who turned in their receipts for Ken's and Kessler's. Please keep saving them through the end of May.

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'.

KINDERGARTEN ROUND-UP

Trinity Lutheran School will be holding a Kindergarten Round-Up open house on Sunday, March 23, from 10:30 am to 12:00 pm, and on Monday, March 24, from 3:30 pm to 4:30 pm and again from 5:30 pm to 7:00 pm. Please come to learn more information about our Kindergarten program for next year. At the open house, you will also get an opportunity to sign your child up for a Kindergarten classroom visit. For more information please contact Mrs. Niemi or Mr. Zimmerman.

NEEDED KITCHEN SUPPLIES

As we prepare for our Lenten suppers after our Wednesday Lenten services, we will be in need of the following supplies:

Styrofoam cups—6 oz.
Styrofoam plates
Napkins
Sugar
Coffee

SCRIP PROGRAM

We are using the SCRIP program here at Trinity. If you buy SCRIP coupons, you may use them like cash at various stores and donations will be made to our school and to Great Plains Lutheran High School. 25% of the donations will go to our school and 75% will go to Great Plains. Please speak to Ardys Gosch and let her know which stores you prefer to shop at so that we may buy coupons for these stores. Please speak to Ardys if you have any questions.

THINK SUMMER! **THINK PANTHER CAMP!**

Panther Camp is a one-week camp (June 1 – June 6, 2014) for young people who will be in grades 7 – 9 during the 2014-2015 school year. It is a time to relax and have fun, get acquainted or reacquainted with other young Christians, get to know the GPLHS family, and develop the gifts God has given each of us. Whether in worship, Bible study, or other activities, we will strive to honor God with the gifts he has given to us.

Panther Camp is held on the campus of Great Plains Lutheran High School (GPLHS) in Watertown, South Dakota, and utilizes all of the school's facilities. All campers will stay in the GPLHS dorm. (Local students may opt to stay at home, but the cost will be the same for all

campers.) The cost for each camper is \$100. A non-refundable registration fee of \$10 is due May 1. The balance of \$90 is due May 15. Panther Camp will be filled on a first-come, first-served basis.

One of the unique features of Panther Camp is that participants are able to choose from a menu of electives. Campers will be scheduled for three elective sessions based on their interests and list of preferences. Summaries of all the electives are provided on the information forms on the bulletin table. In addition to these electives, all campers will participate in various general activities. Other activities may include off-campus outings (for example, swimming at the lake) and elective field trips. Electives will be filled out on a first-come, first-served basis.

Panther camp is staffed by the faculty, staff, and coaches of GPLHS, with the assistance of GPLHS students and alumni.

DEVELOP YOUR GOD-GIVEN GIFTS THROUGH WORSHIP FELLOWSHIP FUN at PANTHER CAMP!

A PRAYERFUL REQUEST

Our 2013/2014 budget called for an increase of 8.41%. Our operating fund contributions through December 31, 2013 are \$9,115 behind last year or a 5% decrease from the prior year. In order to meet our budgeted income, we will need a 13.5% increase in offerings to our operating fund (i.e. Local on your envelope) from January through June 2014. We respectfully ask our members to consider our congregation's needs as you prayerfully consider your offerings.

"I have learned, in whatever state I am in, to be content." St. Paul