

# May Trinity Tidings

Trinity Lutheran Church

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We ended March with Holy Week and the Joy of Easter. April brought us another baptism and the culmination of our months-long anniversary celebration—more joy! What will May bring? Now that the festivities are over, what do we have to look forward to as we move into the warm weather and vacation season?

Well, we can look forward to more joy! As Christians—as followers of Christ, our Good Shepherd—what we have to look forward to is more opportunity to receive the eternal gifts of God here at Trinity and more opportunities to put those gifts to work in service to our risen Lord.

We enjoy Easter so much because we know that Christ is risen. He is up, active and on the move. Our Lord is not dead, He continues to be at work. Even though He is no longer walking this earth in the flesh, He remains at work through His body, the Church. He sent the Holy Spirit at Pentecost to fill and equip His followers for the ongoing work of faith and forgiveness—of saving lives and saving souls through His Word and His Sacraments.

In John chapter 20, we see that on the evening of the first Easter, *“Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, “Peace be with you.” When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you.” And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you withhold forgiveness from any, it is withheld.”*

After His death, resurrection and ascension, Jesus commissions His followers to carry on His work. He gave a similar task to Peter a few days later. In the following chapter, John chapter 21, Jesus commissions Peter to feed His lambs and to tend and feed His sheep. Jesus commissions Peter to be a shepherd—to be a pastor. Tending and feeding both young (lambs) and old (sheep), is the role of Christ’s body the Church. It is the reason the church exists.

This is what we have done here at Trinity for the past 140 years and it is what we have to look forward to in the months, years and decades to come. Jesus, you see, sends His followers. He puts them to work. To be a disciple is to be active. Our Lord does not say in the last chapter of Matthew, *“sit* therefore and make disciples of all nations.” No, He says, *“Go* therefore!” “Go!” Go and baptize in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Go and teach. Go and serve. Go and shine with the love of Christ.

After months of looking back over where we have been as a congregation, now we look forward to where we are going to GO! After an enjoyable time of looking inward at our history and seeing how the Lord has been

*(Pastor's Message Continued)*

with us over the years—how He has continually blessed us and filled us with grace and truth—we can confidently look forward and outward, seeking opportunities to serve our neighbor. We can look ahead to the joy of bringing others into the light of Jesus.

You may be asking, “how?” “How can I (or we) do this?” The easiest place to start is right here. Begin by being where the Lord meets you and gives you His gifts. You can begin to serve others by serving your brothers and sisters at Trinity. Come to Bible Study. Offer to help somewhere. Spend one Sunday a month as an usher. Join the choir. Serve on a board. Volunteer to help with Sunday School. None of these are too difficult or too burdensome. Start small, but start somewhere. Then watch how your service brings joy, not just to those you serve, but to yourself and to the Lord.

Once you begin to understand the fulfillment of serving close to home, then you may feel the need to serve beyond these walls. As a member congregation of The Lutheran Church, Missouri Synod, there are many opportunities available for you to serve as an individual and for ourselves to serve as a congregation.

We have so much to look forward to this May and in the months and years to come. As Christians, of course, there is always the joy of knowing that our future is secure and our eternal joy is guaranteed because of Jesus.

Pastor Gaede



**Assistants....** If you aren't available for your assigned Sunday, it is your responsibility to find a substitute.

<b>2024 SCHEDULE</b>	<b>Count Team</b>	<b>9:30 Worship Asst.</b>	<b>9:30 Usher</b>	<b>Altar Guild</b>	<b>Lay Reader</b>
5/5/2024	Nancy Westra and Ron Benes	Jim Grobe	Dan Rakow	Sharon Garcia	Andrew Greubel
5/12/2024	Greg & Sharon Garcia and Cheryl Perkis	Wayne Matejka	Andrew Greubel	Nancy Westra	Grace Greubel
5/19/2024	Laura Grobe and Sue Mennecke	Doug Schmidt	Wayne Matejka	Sue Mennecke	Ron Benes
5/26/2024	Nancy Westra and Ron Benes	Ron Benes	Doug Schmidt	Eldra Rakow	Nancy Planek



## Trinity Youth (at Heart) Group is sponsoring a Movie Night

*Sunday, May 19<sup>th</sup> from 6:30 – 9:00 pm in Fellowship Hall*

We will be watching “The Shift”, by Angel Studios, rated PG-13. Kevin travels across world to reunite with the love of his life, Molly. When The Benefactor threatens Kevin’s survival, he fights to return to the world he knows and the woman he loves. *(Trailer can be found on Amazon Prime)*

Popcorn, Pop and Movie Candy will be provided

Please RSVP to Tracy Kotke at [tlck@sbcglobal.net](mailto:tlck@sbcglobal.net) or 630-386-7646.

***“But he knows the way that I take; when he has tried me, I shall come out as gold.” Job 23:10***



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Lutheran Church**  
West Chicago

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[Darcy.l.lee@gmail.com](mailto:Darcy.l.lee@gmail.com)

**FYI—The current  
Trinity page has  
no comma in it's  
name. If the pic-  
ture associated**

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod  
LCMS Stewardship Ministry  
May Newsletter Article



***More Than a Negative***

Even if you've never had to testify in court, a thousand TV shows have made you familiar with the question, "Do you swear to tell the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth?" Why not just make people swear to tell the truth? Or make them promise not to lie?

Any parent who has ever had to interrogate a child about a broken cookie jar or a scuffle over a toy knows the answer. There are plenty of ways to try to get out of trouble without *technically* lying. You tell *just enough* of the truth to skate on by.

We often play the game of seeing *how close* we can get to sinning without *technically* going over the line.

But in our heart of hearts we know that this is not what God intended when He gave us the commandments. He's not giving us a merely negative rule and challenging us to just barely stay away from this or that. There is much more to each commandment than a prohibition. We shouldn't just avoid murdering people — we should be of service to our neighbor.

For each negative prohibition in the commandments there is a positive good that we are to cherish and protect. In the Eighth Commandment, that gift is the reputation of our neighbor and our relationship with him:

You shall not give false testimony against your neighbor.

*What does this mean?* We should fear and love God so that we do not tell lies about our neighbor, betray him, slander him, or hurt his reputation, but defend him, speak well of him, and explain everything in the kindest way.

Your relationship with your family members (who are your nearest neighbors), the other members of your congregation, your coworkers and your friends is one of the most precious gifts you have been given. You need to exercise good stewardship with this gift just as much as you need to exercise good stewardship with your life, resources, time and income. This is an especially fragile gift because it's easy to ruin a relationship with slander and talking behind someone's back.

But speaking well of your neighbor in Christian love is absolutely free; it costs you nothing, yet it pays you great dividends. If you find this challenging at times, if you are tempted to speak ill of others, just remember that this other person is also a beloved child of God for whom your Lord Jesus suffered and died. Your Lord Jesus loves you both.

Do you know of anyone that should be included in our **Prayer Chain**? If so, please contact Rita Dauber at 630-293-0518 or [rita.dauber3@gmail.com](mailto:rita.dauber3@gmail.com)



A special “thank you” to all who made the Cornerstone luncheon such a memorable event. The message read by our our NID representative Sue Green reminded us all of our district’s strong support. Pastor Jeff Williams’ sermon led us down an historical recap of Trinity history that reminded us of the hard work and dedication that has gone into this building by its’ past and present parishioners. The window displays and their historical recaps were also much appreciated . Pastor Westra’s prayer was a thankful reminder of all of the blessings we have and continue to receive.

The wait staff was great, the food was delicious, and the Lord blessed us with a warm sunny day! We enjoyed welcoming and worshipping with alumni who were able to join us for the celebration. It was a day that the Lord had made and we did rejoice in it!

Thanks to all!





Below are some members of the Cornerstone Committee that made the celebration a success. Thanks to ALL who participated!



# TRINITY CHURCH CALENDAR

May 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>28</b> 9:30am Divine Worship Service 10:30am Fellowship 11:00am - 11:45am Bible Study/Sunday School 7:00pm - 8:00pm AA Meeting	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>5</b> 9:30am Divine Worship Service 10:30am Fellowship 10:30am Voters Assembly Meeting 11:00am - 11:45am Bible Study/Sunday School 7:00pm - 8:00pm AA Meeting	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> 7:30pm Compassionate Friends (Fellowship Hall)	<b>11</b>
<b>12</b> 9:30am Divine Worship Service 10:30am Fellowship 11:00am - 11:45am Bible Study/Sunday School 7:00pm - 8:00pm AA Meeting	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> 6:30pm - 7:30pm Joyful Noise Rehearsal	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b> 7:00pm Long Range Planning Committee	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>19</b> <b>PENTECOST</b> 9:30am Divine Worship Service 9:30am Joyful Noise Sings 10:30am Fellowship 11:00am - 11:45am Bible Study/Last Sunday School 7:00pm - 8:00pm AA Meeting	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>
<b>26</b> 9:30am Divine Worship Service 10:30am Fellowship 11:00am - 11:45am Bible Study 7:00pm - 8:00pm AA Meeting	<b>27</b> 7:00pm Elder's Meeting	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>1</b> 7:00am - 8:00pm Perkis Party





May 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
28	29	30 Timmy Kotke	1	2	3	4
5 Jonathan Bartels	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15 Jim Grobe	16	17	18
19	20 Eudelia Serna Josh Kotke	21 Brady Lee	22	23 JT Adams	24	25
26 Jackie Leeseberg	27	28 Hayley Macko	29	30	31	1



May 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>28</b> Carrie Tedrahn Grayson Matejka Chapman	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> Leila Pena	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> Rowan Gregory
<b>5</b> Millie Planek	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>12</b> Zoey Boorsma	<b>13</b> Kari Petrovich	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>19</b> Jean Musick	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> Jonathan Bartels	<b>22</b> James Siekmann	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> Jerry Planek Michael Matejka
<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> Charlie Adams	<b>28</b> Greg Garcia Philip Zelman Sharon Garcia	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> Jim Grobe	<b>31</b>	<b>1</b> Nikki Olifer



May 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
28	29	30	1 Sharon and Greg Garcia	2	3	4
5 Diana Coronel and Ismael Saenz	6	7 Cheryl and Ed Perkis	8	9 Kelly and John Pacini Michael and Janet Perso	10	11
12 Eldra and Ron Rakow	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20 Beverly and Marvin Boorsma	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	1