

From the Pastor’s Desk

Dear friends in Christ,

Halloween is kind of a silly tradition, isn’t it? Kids (and sometimes adults, too) dress up in goofy costumes and pretend to be something they are not, as an excuse to gather a large stockpile of candy (the dentists must be thrilled) or to attend a party. I remember trick-or-treating when I was younger. I’d get so excited about it. “What am I going to be this year,” I’d ponder in the month before that sugar-filled evening. I am even a “trick-or-treat” survivor of the 1991 Halloween blizzard.

Halloween is not the only time we put on costumes and pretend to be something we’re not, though. We all would like to present ourselves to this world as folks who have their act together, as people who do the right thing, as just and righteous folks. We even think of ourselves quite often as just and righteous folks. Just like a little child might refuse to budge from the claim “I’m Batman” on Halloween, we refuse to acknowledge the reality of our sin. We try to clothe ourselves as a righteous person, every day, because to acknowledge the reality is to acknowledge that we fall short. In 1 John 1:8, John writes, “If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.” No matter the costume we try to put on ourselves, we cannot cover over the reality of our sin. Isaiah 1:18 says our sins “are like scarlet.” These sins we try to cover over with a façade, or costume, of righteousness stick out. Even if we can fool one another, and even fool ourselves, we cannot fool our Lord. St. Paul writes in Romans 3:10, “None is righteous, no, not one.”

For all the play acting we do, trying to present our sinful selves righteous, you’d think perhaps we were just ignorant of the reality. But God’s Law is written on our hearts (Romans 2:15), and on some level we are all aware that we have fallen short. Indeed, because of the fact that the situation is so dire, sin begets more sin, as people cease to struggle against the temptations of the devil, the world, and our own sinful nature.

But even in the midst of this sinful state, there is good news for us. “While we were still sinners, Christ died for us” (Romans 5:8). Christ frees us from our slavery to sin by granting us forgiveness, pardon, and peace. He makes our sins to be “white as snow” (Isaiah 1:18). 1 John 1:9 continues, “If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just to forgive our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.” There is forgiveness for us, worked by our God.

He even gives to us a new “costume” to wear. But, in contrast to a superhero costume on Halloween, or even in contrast to our own attempts to cover ourselves in righteousness, the new “costume” we are given by our Lord actually affects a change in us. He does this in Holy Baptism. Galatians 3:27 says, “As many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ.” We have been clothed with Christ. When our Heavenly Father looks upon us, rather than seeing in us our sinful state, He promises to look upon us and see the righteousness of His Son. Moreover, He actually gives to us this righteousness. While we still sin, and still need to struggle daily against sin, we at the same time already have been granted the victory through the work of our Lord Jesus, received by faithfully trusting in Him alone for forgiveness, life, and salvation. This “new you” is something you’d never want to cover over!

Peace in Christ,
Pastor Lieske



Trinity Tribune
October 2023

Bible Study Opportunities

- † Sunday Mornings— 10:30 am Adult & Teen Bible Study
- † Tuesday Mornings—8:00 am Men’s Morning Bible Study
- † Tuesday Afternoons— 2:00pm Women’s Bible Study

ANNOUNCEMENTS

GARAGE SALE: October 6th & 7th the preschool is having a garage sale in the fellowship hall. Proceeds will go to our Preschool. Donations of gently used items are needed and may be brought in anytime after October 1st. If you have further questions feel free to contact Karma Schneeberger or Adrienne Bolland.

DARTBALL: We had an outstanding turnout and a lot of fun at dartball in September. The next evening of dartball will be on Monday, October 2 at Our Redeemer in Moorhead beginning at 7:00. We will carpool from the Trinity parking

You are invited to attend **Unapologetically Female? A Biblical Defense of What is Means to be a Woman in a Trans-Obsessed Culture** Hosted by Zion Lutheran Church in Detroit Lakes on October 1, at 2:30pm. The presenter is Rev. Dr. Patrick Lovejoy, pastor of First Lutheran Church (LCMS) in Grand Rapids. This presentation is for anyone who cares about the sanctity of women in God’s created order, men and women, who wants to learn more about how to understand and respond to the culture we live in today.


NOVEMBER POT LUCK-SOUP COOK-OFF
The November 19 Pot Luck hosted by the Stewardship and Fellowship Boards will be a **Soup Cook-Off**. Search your recipe book and bring a pot of your favorite soup, Those choosing not to bring soup should bring food that would go well with a bowl of soup or a dessert. There will be something special for the children More information will be coming.

Deaconess Kim Bueltmann Visit: Our missionary to Germany, Kim Bueltmann, is coming Sunday, October 22nd to update us on her mission work with refugees to Germany. She gives a delightful presentation and we look forward to hearing her in person.

How many years have YOU been a member of LWML, Lutheran Women’s Missionary League? If you haven’t yet become a member, what are you waiting for? We’re an organization of Lutheran Women in Mission! As such, we joyfully **proclaim Christ**, here and around the world, **support missions** here and around the world, and **equip women** to honor God by serving others here and around the world. If that sounds like something you’d love to do too, join us for Bible Study, meeting, and socializing with the Lydia Circle on the 1st Wednesday of the month at 10:00 AM, or the Evening Circle the 1st Thursday of the month at 6:00 PM, and the LWML Quarterly meeting the 3rd Saturday in October, January, April, and June at 9:00 AM. Help **proclaim** the good news of salvation, here and around the world.

The Lutheran Women’s Missionary League (LWML) Fall Regional Rally is Saturday, October 14 at Zion Lutheran Church, Alexandria. Attendees will be **men** and **women** from the Long Prairie, Alexandria, and Fergus Falls Zones. The theme will be Broken People, Perfect God. The day will begin with a Bible Study followed by speakers on the topics of Grief, Dementia, and Mental Health, ways a Perfect God has to heal Broken People. The registration fee will be \$10.00 and a free lunch will be served. We will be carpooling from church, leaving at 7:45. If possible, RSVP to Esther Schlicker by October 10. You will not be turned away if you did not RSVP.

Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday

<div>1</div> <div>9:00am Dvne Service</div> <div>10:30am Adult & Teen Bible Study</div> <div>10:30am Sunday School</div>	<div>2</div> <div>9:00am Trinity</div> <div>Co-op/</div> <div>Field Trip</div> <div>9:10am Chapel</div>	<div>3</div> <div>8:00amMen’s Bible Study</div> <div>9:10am Chapel</div> <div>2:00pm Women’s Bible</div> <div>7:00pm Trustees Mtg</div>	<div>4</div> <div>10:00am Lydia Circle</div> <div>12:00pm Bulletin Items Due</div> <div>4:00pm Confirmation</div>	<div>5</div> <div>12:00pm Crafters</div> <div>12:30pm Quilters</div> <div>6:30pm Evening Circle Mtg</div>	<div>6</div> <div>10:00am-6:00pm</div> <div>Pre-School Fundraising-</div> <div>Garage sale in the gym</div>	<div>7</div> <div>8:00am-2:00pm</div> <div>Pre-School Fundraising-</div> <div>Garage sale in the gym</div>																																																																																																		
<div>8</div> <div>9:00am Divine Service</div> <div>10:30am Adult & Teen Bible Study</div> <div>10:30am Sunday School</div>	<div>9</div> <div>9:00am Trinity Co-op</div> <div>9:10am Chapel</div> <div>3:30pm Human Care</div> <div>7:00pm Pro-Life Mtg (in Narthex)</div>	<div>10</div> <div>Pastoral Visits</div> <div>8:00am Men’s Bible Study @ Trinity</div> <div>9:10am Chapel</div> <div>2:00pm Women’s Bible</div> <div>5:30pm Stewardship Mtg</div>	<div>11</div> <div>10:00am Lydia Circle Meeting</div> <div>12:30pm Knitters & Crocheting</div> <div>12:00pm Bulletin Item Due</div> <div>4:00pm Confirmation</div>	<div>12</div> <div>12:00pm Crafters</div> <div>12:30pm Quilters</div>	<div>13</div>	<div>14</div>																																																																																																		
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OCTOBER

2023

Homebound Birthdays

10/7

Jeremy Elshaug

916 S. Court St.

Fergus Falls, MN 56537

10/7

Chuck Dale

1821 N. Park St #117W

Fergus Falls, MN 56537

Ongoing Concern:

Janet Maack, David Boese, Brian Fitzner, Jeremy Elshaug, Elaine Culp, Gene True, Kim Dewey (Laura Dewey’s mother-in-law), Bev Gabe (Jan Prause’s sister), Jennifer Wood (Jerald & Tami Gerhardson’s daughter), Jim Anderson (Cal & Helen Johansen’s friend), Jon Jastram (Phyllis Jastram’s son), Dylan Maack (Bob & Janet Maack’s grandson), Robin Roberts (Austin & Elaine Culp’s daughter), Richard Lieske (Pastor’s uncle), Doug Litrich (Melvin & Marlene Reed’s son-in-law), Missy Emerich (daughter-in-law of Cal & Helen Johansen) Alex Trinkle (friend of Jakob Ness’s), Stephen Hauser (David Hauser’s brother), Paul Schutte (Karl Hohenstein’s Cousin); Blake Johnson (Joyce Hitchcock’s son-in-law)

Homebound:

Gary Froehlich, Donna Kolle, Fern Rau, Dick Anderson, Lois Helm, Lucille Harworth, Wally Lubben, Marlys Lueders, Ron Schulz, Evelyn Rud Lorraine Drews, Lucille Scramstad

Military:

Lieutenant Colonel Dennis Gerold, U.S.A.F., Travis AFB,CA (Lori & Leon Dawkins’ son-in-law), Tech Sargent Isaac Christopher, U.S.A.F., Andrews Air Force Base, Washington D.C. (Donna Christopher’s grandson); MMN2, Major George Hauser, DDS U.S. Army, Ft. Bliss, El Paso, TX; (David & Mary Hauser’s son) Gabe Johnson, MN National Guard, (Ken & Toni Erlandson’s son); Major Dinsmore, MD MN National Guard (Al & Marcie Koennicke’s grandson)

Call the Church Office with special prayer requests

A live, up-to-date calendar is available at www.trinityff.org/calendar
Please check the online calendar throughout the month for any changes.