

T.L.P. IN TOUCH

Trinity Lutheran Parish Monthly Newsletter: Mona & Six Mile Grove Lutheran Churches



Sunday School Christmas Program at Our Savior's
on Sunday, December 3, 2023

Remember and never doubt it: With God's help you can do incredible things. Never think down; always think up.

Norman Vincent Peale

YOUTH

Sunday School:

- >Every Sunday at the hosting church for 9:00 am worship.
- Children will leave worship after the children's sermon for class.
- See calendar to see where Sunday School will be.
- >Sunday School will resume on January 7th

Confirmation:

wednesday's - 6:30 at Our Savior's starting Jan 3rd

Youth for Christ in Austin

The building is on the northside across the street from the High School (400 3rd Ave, Austin). Contact, John Engelstad, the Director, #507-481-4894. Feel free to check it out on FB. Facebook Group: Austin Youth for Christ.

Breakfast Clubs:

- Middle School on T & Th from 6:55-7:45 A at Bethlehem Church, Austin
- High School on W & F 7:30 -8:15 A at the Youth for Christ building

If you were confirmed in 2023 you are now a voting member and encouraged to come to the Annual Meeting. YOUR vote counts! We would like to know your thoughts about what would you like to see or do as a young member of this church body.

Bible Facts - Did you know that:

There are 66 books in the Bible:

Micah and Nahum are the middle books of the Bible:

3 John is the book with the fewest words:

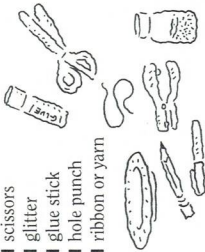
Psalms has the most chapters:

Fancy Flakes

Make a snowflake as unique and as special as you are in God's eyes.

What you need:

- paper (plain white or glittery wrapping paper)
- round plate or saucer (about the size you want your snowflake)
- pencil, crayon or marker
- scissors
- glitter
- glue stick
- hole punch
- ribbon or yarn



What you need to do:

1. Draw a circle on a piece of paper by tracing around the plate or saucer.
2. Cut out the circle.
3. Fold the paper in half three times. (If the paper is thick, fold it just twice.)
4. Use your scissors to carefully cut out shapes from the folded paper.
5. Unfold your paper.
6. On one side, write some things that are special about you.
7. Decorate the other side using the glue stick and glitter.
8. When the glitter is dry, punch a hole in the snowflake.
9. Put ribbon or yarn through the hole, and tie it to make a hanger.

Just for KIDS Unique Creations

It is the New Year and in many places it is cold enough to snow. God created snowflakes that are so unique that no two are alike! It is the same way with people – we are all one-of-a-kind. If God cares so much about how each snowflake is made, imagine how much God cares about you!

Directions: Draw lines to match the two halves of the snowflakes. Write the letters on the numbered blanks to form the words and to complete the verse.

1	pra	u	7	wonder
2	yo	fully	8	ma
3	be	ise	9	yo
4	a	nd	10	wo
5	fear	m	11	ar
6	a	cause	12	wonder

“ I _____ 2 _____ 3 _____ 4 _____ 5
 _____ 6 _____ 7 _____ 8 _____ 9 _____ 10
 _____ 11 _____ 12 _____ ”

Psalm 139:14, NIV

... because no one can see your heart. ...

PRAY

Prayers of Healing and Strength to:

- | | | | |
|----------------|----------------|----------------|--------------|
| Owen Aanonson | Mark Borchardt | Roger Bowers | Barb Fossey |
| Parker Gennert | Rosie Heglund | Andres Knudsen | Lydia Mittag |
| Troy Murphy | Emily Nelson | Verdon Olson | Jack Rector |
| Pam Sandmeyer | Scott Willert | | |

Please pray for God's protection of our troops and HIS wisdom for their commanders. "Lord, hold our troops in your loving hands.

- | | | |
|---------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Christopher Slindee | Thomas Frank | Kelly Fredrickson |
| Riley Wondra | Adam Dublinske (M) | Skylar Thomas (NG) |
| Ed Dreyer (M) | Gage Thompson (AF) | |

Protect them as they protect us. Bless them and their families for the selfless acts they perform for us in our time of need. I ask this in the name of the Jesus, our Lord and Savior. Amen.

(NG=National Guard), (M=Marines), (AF=Air Force), (A=Army), (N=Navy)

Missions to pray for:

- > Pastor Samuel, his family and church members in Oaxaca.
- > Friends of Ngong Road children and their families – Lenny Kamanda, Josephine Wairimu, Monica Wanjiku, Sharon Mideva, Victor Nyarega, Faith Mumo, Emily Wanjiku, Godfrey Otieno and Swiny Mbone.
- > Peace and Power, Marie Sandvick Center, Lyle Food Shelf, Good Earth Village, Haiti

Prayers for guidance:

Pastor Scott ~ Parish Council ~ Church Councils ~ Sunday School Teacher ~ Members of Six Mile Grove, Mona & Our Savior's Lutheran Churches

Sympathy and Prayers

- ...to the family of Roger Wiste. He was the son of Joan (Wayne) Skov. He died on December 19th.
- ...to the family of Alex Hanson. He was the grandson of Wayne Hanson and son of Paul & Terri (Murphy) Hanson. He died on December 20th.

Lord, may each of us recognize and follow your will for us during the New Year.

FROM THE PASTOR...

January 2024

"Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage." Matthew 2:2

January 6th is the Day of Epiphany, which recalls the story of the wise men from the east who were led by a star to find the newborn king. This begins the season of Epiphany that lasts until Lent.



There are many stories and 'myths' associated with the wise men. One says that there were twelve men who made the journey, although the more common tradition assumes it was only three because of the number of gifts that were presented. Another myth even gives names to the three: Melchior (who was the oldest) brought the gold, Balthasar brought the myrrh, and Caspar brought the frankincense...

I get a huge kick out of the joke that says what would have happened if the three wise men were instead three wise women. I'm sure you've heard it before... As the story goes, they would have asked for directions, actually arrived on time, helped deliver the baby, cleaned out the stable, made a casserole, brought practical gifts, AND figured out a way to bring peace on earth!

Most people tend to focus on the wise men, the gifts they brought, or the evil intentions of King Herod. But as I say every year, the main theme of the day and the entire season of Epiphany is light... In other words, just as God directed the wise men to find the child Jesus by the light of a star, he continues to enlighten OUR lives by the light of Jesus Christ, and to reveal the true nature of God incarnate, or 'God made flesh'...

Now, considering that we live in a pretty dark, sinful world, how is it that we need God to shine that light into our lives today?

Happy season of Epiphany, and we'll see you all in church!

Pastor Scott

Bible Facts - Did you know that:
There are 1,189 chapters in the Bible?
Psalm 117 is the middle chapter of the Bible?

WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS

LECTORS:

Name
Sunday, Jan 7 - SMG w/HC
Sunday, Jan 14 - Mona w/HC
Sunday, Jan 21 - OS w/HC
Sunday, Jan 28 - SMG(Annual Mtg)

USHERS:

Mona: Terry and Faye Haugen
SMG: TBD SMG members

COMMUNION ASSIST.:

Mona: Becky Fredrickson and/or Nancy Mickelson
SMG: Jim Sampson, Timm Ehret &/or Teri Zimmerman

COMMUNION SERVERS:

Mona: Terry and Faye Haugen
SMG: TBD

Thank YOU for the giving of YOUR time
and having a Servant Heart!

What awaits us?

We're at the starting gate of a new year. What will it hold for us? God knows. Yet if God knows, why not try to discover his plan for us each day?

We should carry on a daily dialog with God. Following his lead is always interesting and challenging. And much of the time it's filled with wonder and joy.

I remember the story of a small boy who prayed to God at the end of a fun, interesting Monday: "It's been a wonderful day, God. What do you have in mind for Tuesday?"

What does God have in mind for you in 2024? Keep in touch with him, and you'll enjoy the trip around the sun.

Charles Ferrell

CHURCH INFO

JOINT WORSHIP SCHEDULE:

Sunday, Jan 7	9:00 am	SMG w/HC
Sunday, Jan 14	9:00 am	Mona w/HC &Choir
Sunday, Jan 21	9:00 am	OS w/HC
Sunday, Jan 28	9:00 am	SMG - Annual Mtg
Sunday, Feb 4	9:00 am	Mona w/HC

COUNCIL MTG's

- Parish Council will meet Tuesday, Jan 9 at SMG, 7 pm.
- Mona Council will meet following the Parish Mtg
- SMG Council will meet following the Parish Mtg
- It is important that you as a council member attend these mtg's.

ANNUAL REPORTS

All reports must be turned into Wanda no later than Wednesday, January 10th. You can drop them off at the office, call me and I will come and pick them up, hand them to me at church, put them in my mailbox at either church, or email them to me. Need reports/letters from Parish & Church Presidents, Parish/Church Treasurer's, Drive-in, Sunday Schools, WELCA's, Bible Study groups, and Pastor, Thank YOU for your prompt attention to this in advance! Please use this email: monaandsmg@gmail.com . Please do not text me this information.

CHRISTMAS PARTIES

- MLL Christmas party will be on January 6th at noon at the church. It will be pot luck with Chicken and potatoes provided.
- SMG LL invite all women and their spouses to their Christmas Party at the Pizza Ranch in Austin on January 14th, 2024 at 1:00 m. Any questions, please call Joan at 507-325-2318.

BABY CONGRATULATIONS!

to Skyler and Courtney (Whalen) Thomas on the birth of their daughter, Karsyn Danielle Thomas on December 29th weighing 8 lbs. 1 oz and 19" long. Grandparents are Craig and Beth Whalen. Great Grandparents are Don and Karen Whalen. Also, a belated Congratulations to Skyler and Courtney as they were married back on June 17, 2023 at the Mona Church. May God bless your marriage and your family!

Father, may we each be open to whatever surprise or guidance you have for us today.
Thank you.

TLP ANNUAL MEETING

- Will be at SMG on Sunday, January 28th following the 9:00 am worship. It is important as a member of Mona and Six Mile Grove Lutheran to attend this meeting. Your input is important!
- We will be voting at the Annual Meeting (1/28/23) on whether to join the LCMC or not. We hope to have at least one more informational meeting prior to the Annual Mtg. Please watch and listen for more information about this. Also, you are welcome to go their site to learn more, please go to <https://www.lcmc.net/> - Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ.

YEARLY CALENDAR

If you would like your information in the Yearly Calendar, please start working on it and make sure to turn it in to Wanda *due on Feb 9th*. For example: Ushers for Sunday/Thursday worship services, Meeting dates and times for the MLL, SMG WELCA, Naomi Circle, Mona Bible Study, and etc.

SMG BIBLE STUDY

Sunday's at 10:45 am in the Dining Hall at SMG. All are welcome!

YOU ARE INVITED!

We would love to have you join us for the Coffee Club. Gatherings will be the second Tuesday of the month at 9:00 am for Coffee, Conversation and Christian Study at Our Savior's Lutheran in Lyle.

WELCA / CIRCLES

- >SMG WELCA – Jan 14th, Christmas Party at Pizza Ranch
- >Naomi Circle – Eat Out
- >Mona Bible Study – Jan 9 at 1:00 pm, H/L: Ramona
- >Mona LL – Jan 6th Christmas Party at the church at noon.

Bible Facts - Did you know that:

Psalms 117 is also the shortest chapter in the Bible:

Psalms 119 is the longest chapter in the Bible:

There are 31, 101 verses in the Bible:

Psalms 118:8 is the middle verse of the entire Bible? "It is better to take refuge in the Lord than to trust in man" (NIV)

John 11:35 is the shortest verse in the Bible? It has 2 words: "Jesus wept."

Esther 8:9 is the longest verse in the Bible? It has 18 words.

The Newsletter Newsletter

Poinsettias

IMO = In Memory Of, IHO = In Honor Of

Monday

Terry & Faye Haugen and Family – IMO Loved Ones
Gary & Becky Fredrickson and Family – IMO Loved Ones
Kurt & Paula Meyer and Family – IMO Loved Ones
Aloise Anderson and Family – IMO Loved Ones
Glen & Gloria Moss and Family – IMO Loved Ones
Kim Whalen and Family – IMO Loved Ones
Craig & Beth Whalen and Family – IMO Loved Ones
Pastor Scott Meyer and Family – IMO Loved Ones
Sue Horgan and Family – IMO Loved Ones
Lowell & Margaret Meyer and Family – IMO Loved Ones
Cheryl Jones and Family – IMO Loved Ones
Don & Karen Whalen and Family – IMO Loved Ones
Larry & Rosmona Schatte – IMO Loved Ones
Dick & Rosie Heglund and Family – IMO Loved Ones
Nancy Mickelson and Family – IMO John and Loved Ones
Duane Rohde and Family – IMO Ilene Rohde
Jeff & Stephanie Whalen and Family – IMO Grandparents

if you have not already done so, please take your Poinsettia home.

Six Mile Grove

Jeff & Kathy Helle – IMO Loved Ones
Wayne & Joan Skov – IMO Loved Ones
Dale & Dawn Helgeson – IMO Loved Ones
Ron & Lonna Ellis – IMO Kenny and Clara
David & Carol Anderson – IMO Loved Ones
Pastor Scott & Tracy Meyer – IMO Loved Ones

if you have not already done so, please take your Poinsettia home.

On hatred, on love

Martin Luther King Jr, born on January 15, 1929, will be remembered this year on January 15th. Given the rancor rampant in today's world, it's fitting to recall King's words: "Hatred paralyzes life; love releases it. Hatred confuses life; love harmonizes it. Hatred darkens life; love illumines it."

The Newsletter Newsletter

COMMUNITY

STA Rescue Pancake Breakfast

January 7th from 8-1 at the High School.

Rachel's Hope Open House

Saturday, January 13th from 10 am to 2 pm in Austin.

Can Drive: At HOME First = Helping Others Means Everything

Please deposit your empty aluminum pop cans into the fenced trailer at Mona Lutheran Church. Thank YOU!

Cans for Cancer

Collecting aluminum cans through out the year with a collection box behind the Lyle Legion. Please donate your empty aluminum cans to a very worthy cause.

FOOD SHELF AT OUR SAVIOR'S

The food pantry at Our Savior's is *grateful* for your support, please help us keep our shelves full.

LYLE FOOD SHELF/PANTRY

>The food pantry at Our Savior's is *grateful* for your support, please help us keep our shelves full. **Needed:** *Pasta, Spaghetti Sauce, Canned Fruit, Cereal, Soups, Canned Meat (chicken, tuna, etc).* Cash is always appreciated also.

>The last Saturday of the month (January 27? – watch and listen for more info) at Our Savior's in Lyle, they will hand out food bags at 10:00 am

Ruby's Pop-up Pantry

Austin's Grace Lutheran Church hosts Ruby's Pantry the third Thursday of each month from 5:00 to 6:30 PM. Doors open at 4:00 PM

Pub Theology

Different Brews ~ Different views ~ Beer, Conversation & God
All perspectives welcome!

Meets the 2nd and 4th Thursday at 7:00 pm at Worth Brewing Company.
(835 Central Ave, Northwood, IA)

Hosted by First Lutheran and Northwood UMC

❄️ Snowmen ^E from heaven unassembled. ❄️

^A

^L

^L



Just as snowmen from from heaven unassembled, God forgives our sins and cleanses us like freshly fallen snow on a winter day.

The snow sparkles and awaits for us to run out and make a snowman.

How will you assemble your snowman?

How will you assemble your day?

How will you assemble your life this year?

The New Year is here and we get to start all over again!

God is waiting to see what our snowmen will look like!

Happy NEW Year!
God loves YOU!

January

2024

We are called. God's Work. Our Hands. God's Family!

February						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29		

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Pastor Scott Meyer C# 507-319-0715 scottmeyer39@hotmail.com	1 <i>Happy New Year!</i>	2 6 P: CC & Supper at OS	3 6 P: CC & Supper at OS	4	5 12 P: Mona LL Christmas Party	6
Baptism of Our Lord Sunday 9 A: SMG w/HC & SS 10:45 A: SMG ABS	8 Pastor Scott's Day Off	9 1 P: M&M BS, H: Ramona 7 P: Parish Council Mtg at SMG followed by each Church Council Mtg	10 <i>Annual Reports Due</i> 6 P: CC & Supper at OS	11	12 Lyle Area	13 Cancer Auction
Second Sunday of Epiphany 8:15 A: Choir Practice 9 A: Mona w/HC, Choir & SS 10:45 A: SMG ABS 1 P: SMG LL Christmas Party at Pizza Ranch	15 Pastor Scott's Day Off	16	17 6 P: CC & Supper at OS	18	19	20
Third Sunday of Epiphany 9 A: OS w/HC & SS 10:45 A: SMG ABS	22 Pastor Scott's Day Off	23	24 6 P: CC & Supper at OS	25	26 February Newsletter Deadline	27
Fourth Sunday of Epiphany Annual Meeting Sunday 9 A: SMG w/SS Parish Annual Mtg follows worship, then each church will have their mtg, then fellowship w/ a light lunch	29 Pastor Scott's Day Off	30	31 Oaxaca Mission Group leaves 6 P: CC & Supper at OS			
Wanda Hanson, Office Sec O#: 507-325-2487 C#: 515-290-0936 monaandsmg@gmail.com	HC=Holy Communion SS=Sunday School CC=Confirmation Class ABS=Adult Bible Study SMG=Six Mile Grove OS=Our Savior's LL=Lutheran Ladies M&M=Mary&Martha BS=Bible Study	Notes: > Voting to join or not the LCMC at Annual Meeting. Attend Mtg. > Yearly Calendar info due on Feb 9th				