



God Cares for You

How did you get to where you are today? This is a question that I have been contemplating for the past few weeks based on the sermon on August 11th. The reading was from *1 Kings 19*, when Elijah cries out from under the scant shade of the broom tree, asking to die. *"It is enough; now, O LORD, take away my life, for I am no better than my fathers."* The journey to that broom tree was quite significant and is worth reading. Go find a Bible or open an app on your phone, turn to *1 Kings 17:1*, and read from there to *1 Kings 19:10*. Yes, now. I'll wait.

Elijah's work as a prophet was full of gloriously high moments – predicting a drought; proclaiming to the widow at Zarephath that the oil and flour would not run out; raising that widow's son from the dead after he died; condemning the idolatry of King Ahaz; defeating the prophets of Baal and Asherah; and finally, prophesying the coming rainstorm. Elijah was at the top of the world! Just look at all the fantastic things that happened to him. But then, in *1 Kings 19*, the King's wife, Jezebel, threatens to make him dead, and he runs away to that broom tree, where he cries out in despair. It was too much for him to bear, at least on his own.

But the Lord would not let him die. Instead, the Lord sustained him with the Word from an angel, and bread to eat. And Elijah continues on to Mount Horeb, where God meets him and speaks to him.

It's quite a journey that leads Elijah from triumph to despair, to be sure. What about your journey? How did you get where you are? It is easy for us to take credit for the good things that have happened, and to blame others – or ourselves – for the bad things. That is how Elijah operated through it all.

Look back at your life, your accomplishments, your failures, the moments when you were absolutely certain everything was going well, and the moments when you felt like Elijah.

Look back at those times, but instead of focusing on yourself, focus on how God was at work in those moments. Your accomplishments only came happened as God was working through you.

God preserved and sustained you through your times of despair. Perhaps He sent someone into your life to help you, whether that was a doctor, a friend, a family member, or a stranger.

What other means did the Lord use to strengthen and preserve you for the work He had given you to do? As you look back on those days, perhaps you can see how God used those moments to prepare you for something else: moments of sickness that made you rely solely on Him; moments of trial that prepared you walk alongside others going through similar experiences; or perhaps moments of humility that come when your idols, including self-reliance, were destroyed. Our greatest joy is in the many moments of mercy as Christ grants you forgiveness through repentance.

There is a prayer in one of the liturgies of the church that I have found brings great comfort in such times:

Lord God, You have called Your servants to ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths as yet untrodden, through perils unknown. Give us faith to go out with good courage, not knowing where we go but only that Your hand is leading us and Your love supporting us, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

No matter what is going on in your life, you are not alone. The Lord is with you. He is working in your life in ways beyond your comprehension. May the Lord continue to lead and support you throughout your days.

Pastor Jonathan Schultz

Respect the
Deadline!



NOVEMBER LAMPLIGHTER DEADLINE

Please have your newsletter items into the church office by:

Monday, October 21st!!

WEE DISCIPLES

*“Train up a child in the way he should go;
even when he is old he will not depart from it.” Proverbs 22:6*

Playing, learning, and growing together is what is happening at Wee Disciples. The new school year is off to a busy start as the children are involved in creative play time, story time, Bible lessons, crafts, field trips, music, and so much more! Every Tuesday morning Pastor Schultz and Miss Amy are here for chapel time with all of the children and on Friday mornings, Pastor Reinke and Miss Tristan come and do chapel time—chapel time is a favorite time for the children. Every Monday Miss Judy comes to sing with the children and once a month Miss Ruby comes to share a story and have craft time with the children. Each Tuesday is music time with Miss Amy (sometimes this even includes learning how to play the hand bells and the chimes). Every day there is lots going on at Wee Disciples!



Currently we have 48 children enrolled at Wee Disciples and 15 staff members—some work part-time and some work full-time.



The Board of Early Childhood Education meets on Thursday, October 3rd at 6:30pm.

The *Fuddrucker's Burgers for Benefits* fundraiser continues on the third Tuesday of each month again this year. October 15th will be the next opportunity to participate. Coupons are available on the announcement board upstairs near the door to Miss Debbie's room. We also are continuing with the Smith's Rewards Program. Thank you for your continued support with these fundraising efforts!

LWML Ladies ~ To all active members of the LWML...a reminder. Every November the Montana District LWML expects each local society to send monies to cover the cost of *The Quarterly* and the delegate fee for each of our members. These dues cover \$6.00 for 10 or more copies of *The Quarterly* (\$7.50 for less), \$7.00 for the National Convention Delegate fee and \$3.00 for the Missive if you want it mailed to you or free by email from the website. The total is \$14.00 (the society pays the extra \$2.00). If you can contribute to help us make our commitment, that would be appreciated. You can place your check, made payable to Trinity LWML, in the LWML Treasurer's (Sherri VanVleet) Narthex box.

LWML News

All ladies of the congregation, including our new members and confirmed young women, are invited and encouraged to attend all LWML happenings here at Trinity.

Please contact Sylvia Adams or Amy Schultz for more information.



Save the date! We will be hosting an Advent Brunch on **Saturday, December 7th** and all ladies of Trinity are invited to attend. We will have a short devotional program and lots of yummy goodies to share. More information to follow!

The National LWML Convention will be next June in Omaha, NE. *What a fun time to gather with your fellow Lutheran Ladies to hear how our Mites are used, reports from missionaries in the Harvest Field, worship together, and have great times of fellowship, Bible Study and more!* Please ask Sylvia or Amy for more information. We would love to have several people from Trinity attend this wonderful event!

Our next Group Gathering will be **Saturday, October 5th at 9:30 am** in the Stahlecker Room. There will be devotions, planning, a short presentation, and fellowship time. The LWML Board will next meet on Wednesday, October 16th.

Upcoming Dates

October 5th ~ 9:30a ~ LWML Group Gathering in Stahlecker Room

October 6th ~ LWML Sunday

October 16th ~ 11:30a ~ LWML Board meeting

November 2nd ~ 9:30a ~ Group Gathering at Toby's House

December 7th ~ Advent Brunch @ Trinity, **time TBA**

June 26 - 29, 2025 ~ National Convention ~ Omaha, NE

Calling ALL Young Women ages 18 to 35 years!

We would love to give you the opportunity to attend the National LWML Convention in Omaha, NE, June 26th - 29th 2025. It's at no cost to you! You could be a Young Woman Representative (YWR) for our beautiful state of Montana and be surrounded by women of like-faith with Christ at the center. If you are interested in applying for this unforgettable experience, please contact Sylvia Adams or Amy Schultz, or you could contact Whitney Marsh, the MT District Young Woman Chair, at wmarsh@ennisschools.org. We will help guide you in the application process and give you exciting insights to look forward to! Applications can be found here: LWML MT District: <http://www.mtdistrictlwml.org/> - Look under the Forms tab.



Our video ministry goes out each week on our Facebook page and reaches countless people. The audio/video crew is looking for a few good people. No experience is needed, we will teach you what you will need to know. If you would be interested in helping with this very important ministry, contact Pastor Schultz or Cheryl Bauer (406-590-6460) for more information.

Wednesday Morning Ladies Bible study ~ Are you looking for an opportunity to get together with fellow Christians to study the Bible together? Every Wednesday morning at 9:30 a group of ladies meet in the Stahlecker Room for a morning of fellowship time together as we study God's Word. There are still plenty of chairs—we would love to have you join us! In October, the group will begin a six-session study written by Donna Snow. The title of the study is ***Overflowing Abundance*** based on *Matthew 14:13-21* about Jesus feeding the five thousand.

Men's Bible Study meets on **Thursday mornings at 8:30 am** for an hour of fellowship and study of God's Word. All the men of the congregation are invited and encouraged to attend.

The bright blue skies of October reveal an abundance of golden trees with their leaves dancing down the streets like children on a runaway merry-go-round. With the rustling leaves people are putting their flower gardens to bed, trimming back perennials and pulling up frost nipped annuals, as another growing season draws to a close.

The Friday Ladies Bible study ~ While a chapter closes on plant growth, the Friday Ladies Bible study is continuing fellowship and spiritual growth with their study of Philippians this fall. You are most welcome to join them whenever your schedule allows **October 4th, 11th and 18th from 1:00-3:00pm** at the home of Marge Johnsten, 3000 8th Ave. S.

Assisted Living Ministry ~ The Assistant Living Ministry will bring a devotion along with hymn singing to Highgate Senior Living, 3000 11th Ave. S., on **Friday, October 25th from 1:30-2:30pm**. Preceding that activity the no host lunch bunch will gather at **11:45am at McKenzie River Pizza, 500 River Dr. S.**

Pastor Reinke will hold worship services on the following dates. On **Wednesday, October 16th at 2:00pm** he will be at *The Lodge* and on **Monday, October 21st at 1:30pm** he will be at *Highgate Senior Living*. This is another opportunity to share your presence with some of "God's older children" as Pastor brings God's word.

COMPARISON OF GIVING REPORT ~ 2024

For the period August 25, 2024 through September 22, 2024



August 25 th	\$4,000
September 1 st	\$3,985
September 8 th	\$5,025
September 15 th	\$2,950
September 22 nd	\$2,334
Vanco	\$1,775

Actual giving for report period: \$21,744

Roof Repair Fund –through 09/22/2024 \$49,149

If you have any questions, please call me at (406) 868-2260 ~ *James Lautenschlager, Assistant Treasurer*

Vanco's Give+ Online

Vanco's Give+ Mobile

The next generation of giving

Please visit our website www.trinity-mt.org, go to the "Fellowship" tab and sign up for online giving. You can also download the Vanco mobile app to your smart phone for even more convenience.



Offering Counters are needed to assist the Treasurer and Assistant Treasurer count and record the offerings following each Sunday service. No experience is needed. Please call Cheryl in the church office (452-2121) or sign up on the bulletin board outside the church office if you are willing to assist.

Offering Envelopes ~ The time is approaching when we will be issuing offering envelopes for 2025 to the congregation. If you are currently not using your envelopes, perhaps you are contributing through Vanco, and would prefer NOT to be issued envelopes for next year, please let the church office know so that we can account accordingly. ***Please note ~ If you opt out of envelopes your contributions will still be tracked and reported.***

To Him Who Is Able is the theme of the 2024 ECHOZ Banquet at The Heritage Inn, at 7:00pm, Thursday, October 31st. *Lutherans for Life of Cascade County and Vicinity* purchases a table for twelve and invites interested people to a meal and the opportunity to hear about the work of *Echoz Crisis Pregnancy Center*. The speaker, Steven's story is one of hope based on the Gospel of Jesus Christ. We have seats available if you would be interested in learning more about the sanctity of life work in Great Falls. Contact Jim or Barb Going 406-727-4878 or 899-3716.

National Life Chain Sunday is October 6th from 1:30pm to 3:00pm

For the past 16 years, on the first Sunday in October, *Lutherans for Life of Cascade County* has had a presence in the National Life Chain. The Life Chain was established in 1987. We stand on both sides of 10th Ave. S. in front of the mall with laminated signs urging that people pray to end abortion. The backs of our signs have scripture verses and songs with which to fill the quiet time. We meet at 1:30pm at the northeast corner of the parking lot to get a sign and stand at good distances along the sidewalk. A quiet way to make statement for the sanctity of life and the time commitment is about 90 minutes of standing and praying. It is okay to bring a chair. The date is October 6th. For more information contact Barb Going ~ 899-3716.

Our shut-ins

Millie Birkholz (The Lodge), **Ellen Carpenter** (Eagle's Manor), **Anita Erickson** (at home), **Ed Hickel** (at home), **Arleen Nelson** (Bee Hive Homes-Pine Tree), **George Pence** (The Rainbow), **Myrtle Pence** (Benefis Extended Care), **Lauretta Stanfield** (at home); **Juanita Winter** (Bee Hive Homes-Clover)



Bob Blomstrom (Helena), **Darlene Murray** (at son's home in Kansas), **Vi-Nell** (at son's home in Spokane, WA)

Our members who continue to battle health issues and their caregivers

Chuck & Judy Lively, Chuck & Elsie Lorenz
Jerry & Colleen Mans, Henry & Alice Schuman

We pray for those serving in law enforcement and the military

Sam Birkett, Cascade County Sheriff's Deputy; **Joshua Graham**, (Blomstrom's grandson-in-law) Helena Police Department

Nathan Brenner, USAF; **Scott Broberg**, USAF; **Daniel Crème'**, USAF; **Ricardo Dominguez**, USAF; **Matthew Erickson**, USAF (Anita Erickson's grandson); **Howard Filbert**, USAF; **Landon Grosenick**, MANG (Pam Grosenick's grandson); **Kale Martin**, USAF; **Isaac Monroe**, USAF; **Martin Shabaan**, USAF; **Chaplain Jonathan Schultz**, USAF Reserves; **Kalainee Teaney**, USAF; **Julie Timms** (Waetzig's granddaughter)

Rev. Dr. David & Jennifer Preus ~ Eurasia (Romania)

Rev. Dr. Gerald & Heidi Paul ~ Cayman Islands

Rev. Eric & Johanna Stinnett ~ Ethiopia

John & Jenn Wolf ~ Kenya



Giving Online: You can partner with the LCMS by making an online gift restricted in use to the support of these missionaries at lcms.org

Giving by Check: You can also make a donation to their ministries by check. *Mail your check, made payable to The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod and designated in the memo line with the missionaries last name, to The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, P.O. Box 66861, St. Louis, MO 63166-6861, QUESTIONS? Call 888-930-4438 or send an email to mission.giving@lcms.org.*

The Endowment Committee has determined that the Endowment Fund has money to be distributed. The congregation is invited to stop in the church office and pick up an application and submit it for the committee to consider. Your project must be outside Trinity Lutheran Church's regular mission outreach programs, be for Christian education, missions and outreach. Deadline for applications is **October 20, 2024**.

They're Back!!

Cards (both Christmas and all occasion)
and calendars!

Price:	All Occasion Cards	\$8.00
	Christmas Card	\$9.00
	Calendars	\$9.00



Check with the church office to get yours today!



Sunday School Rally Sunday ~ Rally Sunday kicked off the new Sunday school year on Sunday September 8th. The day began with 14 three-year-old through 6th grade students gathering for songs, Bible stories and crafts; six Junior High and High school youth gathered in Bible study and 19 adults



joining Pastor in Adult Bible study. Following Sunday school hour, the congregation gathered for Divine service which ended with the children in attendance receiving their grade-level Bibles and then everyone gathering on the front lawn of the church for a potluck barbeque and some fellowship. Thank you to the Lively's for the donation of the canopy. The shade was nice.



Worship Assistants



Serving this Month

Altar Guild ~ Denise Wegner / Barb Going / Sandy Baranko / Candace Tanksley

Ushers ~ Alan Wegner / Elders

Mid-week Services

October 2 nd		Duty Elder	Martin Bauer
October 9 th	Reading Service	Duty Elder	Martin Bauer
October 16 th		Duty Elder	Martin Bauer
October 23 rd		Duty Elder	Martin Bauer

October 6, 2024 ~ Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost (green)

Duty Elders	Roy Arves / Martin Bauer
Audio/Video	Josh Schultz
Organist	Joy Suek
Acolytes	TBA
Counters	Alan & Denise Wegner

October 13, 2024 ~ Twenty-first Sunday after Pentecost (green)

Duty Elders	Roy Arves / Shawn Shaw
Audio/Video	Cheryl Bauer
Organist	Joy Suek
Acolytes	TBA
Counters	Martin & Cheryl Bauer

October 20, 2024 ~ Twenty-second Sunday after Pentecost (green)

Duty Elders	Martin Bauer / Len Koelbel
Audio/Video	Isaac Schultz
Organist	Joy Suek
Acolytes	TBA
Counters	Alan & Denise Wegner



October 27, 2024 ~ Reformation Sunday (red)

Duty Elders	Len Koelbel / Shawn Shaw
Audio/Video	Josh Schultz
Organist	Joy Suek
Acolytes	TBA
Counters	Alan & Denise Wegner

If unable to serve on your designated Sunday, please contact the church office (406-452-2121) as soon as possible to allow time to find a substitute.

Birthdays

Wedding, Baptismal & Confirmation Anniversaries

October 1 st	Tarl Legg		October 16 th	Brian Flynn
October 2 nd	Channing Hartelius			Brad Norris
October 4 th	Jim Going (90+)			Zach Phillips
October 5 th	Crosley Kotz		October 17 th	Samuel Schultz
	Elsie Lorenz (90+)		October 18 th	Jacalyn Garrison
October 7 th	Ashley Hill	October 22 nd		Clifton Grilley
	Kolter Legg			Penny Hill
	Taylyn Voegel	October 23 rd		Rev. Jonathan Schultz
October 8 th	Triston Burkstrand	October 24 th		Alexandria Thompson
	Logan Stene	October 25 th		Shayna Kellogg
October 9 th	Kayla Christianson	October 26 th		Clayton Walker
October 10 th	Hannah Schultz	October 29 th		Cheri Bauer
October 11 th	Jan Bicsak			Bonnie Nommensen
October 12 th	Ryon Burkstrand	October 30 th		Kay Kessel
October 13 th	Jacob Eberly			Justin Wade
October 15 th	Caitee Miesmer	October 31 st		Samarah Hill
				Courtney Schroeder

October 2 nd	Riley ♥ Krista Kotz (20)
October 3 rd	Larry ♥ Jillian Homan (9)
October 12 th	Matt ♥ Candace Tanksley (13)
October 13 th	Bob ♥ Linda Bergan (51)
October 23 rd	Cory ♥ Lois Phillips (37)
October 23 rd	Henry ♥ Alice Schuman (58)



October 7 th	Cally Felstet	October 23 rd	Jacob Eberly
	Bayley Ginnaty	October 24 th	Ericka Taylor
October 14 th	Easton Payne	October 25 th	Jeff Thompson
October 15 th	Kayla Christianson	October 26 th	Peggy Norris
October 17 th	Christopher Meehan	October 27 th	Ashley Hill
	Evelyn Payne		Samuel Schultz
October 18 th	Vi Nell	October 29 th	Jimmy Norris
October 22 nd	Neil Hamm		Brent Stanger
	Hannah Schultz		



October 4th
 October 14th
 October 17th

Bob Magis
 Randi Meehan
 Courtney Walker