



Trinity Lutheran Church
Wee Disciples Preschool & Daycare
1226 First Avenue North
Great Falls, MT 59401-3201
(406) 452-2121



September 2019



Pastor's Report

in joy and leave with joy?

Having attended the Synodical Convention of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod I would like to share the theme with you.

When you think “Lutheran,” do you think joy? When you tell your neighbors and friends that you are a Lutheran, do they say that Lutherans are joyful people?

When you go to worship on Sunday morning, do you go in joy, listen in joy, sing

“Rejoice always” (*1 Thessalonians. 5:16*). That is the whole verse — easy to memorize. Rejoice. Always. Because God loves you. Because Jesus died and rose for you. Because the Spirit has called you by the Gospel into this saving faith. Because God is faithful to His promises, and He will surely do it (*1 Thessalonians. 5:24*).

“*Joyfully Lutheran*” is the theme for The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod through the 2019 Synodical Convention. Joyfully Lutheran, we live in response to God’s love for us in the death and resurrection of Jesus. We live joyfully, because God’s love is freely given to sinners through faith for Christ’s sake. We live joyfully, because we do not work to earn God’s love and forgiveness but receive it by faith alone in what Christ has done for us.

Joyfully, we receive God’s Word and Sacraments as His means through which He gives to His children His love and mercy in Christ. We live joyfully, because though we cannot believe by our own reason or strength, the Holy Spirit has called us by the Gospel, enlightens us with His gifts, sanctifies and keeps us in the one true faith in Christ Jesus. We live joyfully, because the Father invites us to pray to Him as children talk to their dear father. We live joyfully, because Jesus has done it all for us.

Our joy is not generic joy. We are not just happy people. We are joyfully Lutheran. We live our lives trusting in the mercy and love of God. Our Savior suffered for us, and we know that our lives also will be filled with trials and suffering, yet we live in joy.

Joy does not mean that we ignore the realities of our lives. Faith in Christ does not remove us from the trials and temptations that befall people in this life. Faith in Christ does not mean that we cannot suffer or sin. Faith in Christ points us to the hope we have in the midst of the difficulties of this life. And Christ is our joy.

The cross is the most prominent symbol of Christianity. We proclaim the Lord’s death until He comes. With our Lord, we know that suffering and pain is inherent in our lives as we dwell in this sinful world. With our Lord, we do not expect sinners to embrace the Kingdom, but trust that it is through suffering and death that the Kingdom comes among us. With the Lord, we bear our own crosses and rejoice in the will of the loving Father, even when it seems hidden from our view.

The Christ on the cross is the Christ who conquered death and the grave. We rejoice, because our sins have been removed from us. We rejoice that death no longer has the final word over our

lives. We rejoice that our Savior is coming again. We rejoice in the promises of life with Him forever. We rejoice that He is with us in His Word, Sacraments and Church.

I, a poor miserable sinner, am Joyfully Lutheran. Because of Jesus. God's love in Christ is the reason for joy. Grace, faith, forgiveness, suffering, learning, repenting, washing, eating, drinking, fellowship, mercy, life together — all joys in Christ.

Rejoice always. Pray continually. Give thanks in all circumstances. In Christ Jesus. Amen.

Pastor Gerald Paul

A Message from the Seminary Student We are Supporting



A Year in Iowa!

As our Vicarage is now over, we reflect on 12 months of incredible experiences and saying goodbye to some amazing people!

In October 2011 I bade farewell to my native Great Britain. I will never forget the tears as I said goodbye to my parents and my dog Archie as I prepared to embark on a new life in the United States of America. Never could I imagine these feelings being surpassed but, for me, leaving Iowa was far

harder than those scenes at a London airport eight years before. To say I had an incredible Vicarage year would be the understatement of the century. Truly, I have never enjoyed an experience as much as the one I had in Denison and Dow City. During my time there I was thrown into the daily life of Church and the role it plays - not just on a Sunday morning but 365 days a year. I attended countless Bible studies and was blessed to lead three separate groups every single week. I visited many members at the various care homes in the community and spent quality time with those in need after they had been admitted to Hospital. Forging these relationships with people - outside the Sanctuary was a major goal and source of satisfaction for me.

I assisted with Liturgy most weekends and preached at least one message a month, as well. One major struggle was leading a **Matins service every fortnight** - considering I am a terrible singer and a mediocre chanter. I am relieved, however, that I survived and did not put off the attendees who came every single week!

Towards the end of my Vicarage I was afforded the incredible honour of leading a Funeral Service while the Pastor was on vacation. This gave me incredible experience and, most importantly of all, the confidence and reassurance that death is not the end but only just the beginning! The highlight of my whole time in Iowa, though, was the time spent with the youth - be it in **Confirmation, Early Childhood Camp, or V.B.S.** Seeing their enthusiasm and willingness to learn was a major source of inspiration for me. Confirmation, with 14 kids, was just an incredible joy - I miss them, very much!

Yes, there were tears on our final weekend and yes there were tears on the journey back to Fort Wayne. I could not imagine this year being or going any better. I had a wonderful mentor in Pastor Loeschen, and a wonderful colleague in Jessica Tibben - the DCE - who was one of the nicest and most incredible people I have ever met! Our hearts are filled with so many precious memories and I thank our Lord for everything because, as we all know; without Him none of this - nothing - would be possible!

Onwards and Upwards!

Being back in Fort Wayne feels very strange but we are excited to be approaching the final stages of our time at the Seminary here in Indiana. It has been such a rollercoaster of emotions - this whole experience - but I am looking to finish my final months to the very best of my abilities.

Getting to this point would not have been possible without your support and prayers. The encouragement, the generosity, everything you have afforded my family and I, means so much to the three of us. I know that God is in control and that He has brought you all into my life for a reason. I am so, so grateful and I thank you, again, for thinking of us. This is not a journey we are taking alone as a family of three - but a journey with you my dear brothers and sisters in Christ! To Him be all the power and glory!!!



Jared, Ana and Zeke Cookery



OCTOBER LAMPLIGHTER DEADLINE

Monday, September 23rd!!

New
OFFICE
HOURS



Beginning

September 1, 2019 the church office
hours will be

Monday through Friday

From

8:00 am to 2:00 pm

We will be closed Monday, September 2nd for Labor Day.



We pray for our members and their caregivers who continue to battle health issues and for our shut-ins:

Paul & Millie Birkholz; Jerry & Colleen Mans; Gary & Rose Shelden and Ruth & Russ Waetzig;

Eleanor Boumans at Highgate House; **Ellen Carpenter** at home; **Anita Erickson** at home; **Rachel Keely** at Park Place; **Lydia Laubach** at the Rainbow Retirement;

Evelyn McNaight at Bee Hive Homes; **Emma Millet** at Golden Eagles; **Bob Nommensen Sr.** at home; **Myrtle Pence** at Benefis Eastview Memory Care; **Alvina Presler** (Millie Birkholz's mother) at Park Place; **Dorothy Rosenberg** at Rivers Edge Assisted Living; **Jay Schlecht** at home; **Ruth Schwartzberger** at home; **Ed Somerfeld** at Meadowlark Assisted Living; **Gordan Stach** at home; **Myrtle Storhaug** at Golden Eagles; **Juanita Winter** at home.

We pray for those serving in the military:

Montana Air National Guard as they are deployed

Sgt. Jaymes Crumley, USAF; **Joshua Graham**, USA (Sherrie Blomstrom's grandson-in-law); **Clifton Grilley**, USN (Headington's son); **Jared Grina**, USN (Headington's son-in-law); **Justin Haydon**, USMC (Kay Kessel's grandson); **Chaplain Scott Kerns**, USAF LCMS Chaplain at Malstrom; **Krista Kotz**, USAF; **Lance Corp. Brendan Murphy**, USMC (Adam's grandson); **Michael Somerfeld**, USN (Gary Somerfeld's son); **Tanner Tilton**, USAF (Millie Birkholz's grandson).

WEDNESDAY MORNING LADIES' BIBLE STUDY



Looking for something to do on Wednesday mornings? Join us for a morning of fellowship and Bible study time on Wednesday mornings at 9:30am in the Stahlecker Room. The group just finished a very interesting study about Joseph and on September 4th we will begin a new study titled *Faith: Depending on God*. This Bible study includes nine individual, stand-alone lessons so if you can't make it every week, but want to attend occasionally, you won't feel "lost" in the lesson and discussion. Lessons include the following titles: 1—In Praise of Faith ; 2—Faith Under Construction; 3—Righteousness by Faith; 4—Faith Without Fireworks; 5—Faith Without Action; 6—Faith That Worships; 7—The Focus of Faith; 8—Faith That Asks; and 9—The Finale of Faith. We will be studying from Genesis, Hebrews, Romans, 2 Kings, 2 Samuel, James, John and 2 Timothy.

Summer has a way of passing quickly --. Just ask the school kids...and the teachers! As September begins with all the school activities, so begins the **Friday Ladies Bible study**. Ladies will gather around God's Word to continue their study of the book of 2nd Peter on September 6th, 13th, and 20th from 1:00-3:00 pm at the home of Marge Johnsten, 3000 8th Ave S. There is plenty of room for more people around the dining room table. Know that you are always welcome!



Ladies and gentlemen are invited to share in the Assisted Living Ministry with hymn singing and a devotion on the following dates. They will gather on Tuesday, September 10th at 11:00 am at Bee Hive Home #2 (Clover), 2816 15th Ave S. On Friday, September 27th they will enjoy their monthly no-host lunch at 11:45 am at Boston's, 1101 7th St S. After lunch many go to Highgate House, 3000 11th Ave S. Our lunch is so popular as a fellowship time together. Try to work it into your schedule! The Lord blesses all of these activities with enrichment!

COMPARISON OF GIVING REPORT ~ 2019

For the period July 28, 2019 through August 18, 2019

Comparison of Income to our Monthly budget needs

Our <u>minimum, monthly budget need</u> is:		\$16,450
July 28 th	\$3,134	
August 4 th	\$4,151	
August 11 th	\$2,580	
August 18 th	\$2,591	
Actual giving for report period:		\$12,456
	a shortage \$3,994	

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



September 10, 2019 at 6:30 pm the **Handbell Choir** will begin their practices. The Handbell Choir is looking for people to join them in ringing the praises of our Lord. They usually play one Sunday a month during the Divine Service. You do not need to read music, just have a love of praising the Lord!

The **Adult Choir** will have their practices on **Wednesday evenings at 6:30 pm** beginning on **September 11, 2019**. Come join the choir in raising their voices in praise to our Lord! Again, You do not need to read music, just have a love of praising the Lord!



WEE DISCIPLES



He said to them, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these." Mark 10:14

Summer with Wee Disciples was a busy time filled with field trips and lots of fun activities. There were approximately 79 children enrolled for the summer program!

August 22nd was our *Back-to-School Open House* and the **first day of school is on August 28th**. We have approximately 70 children enrolled for childcare, preschool, and after school programs for the coming year. Please keep our staff and children in your prayers as we begin another new school year.

The third Tuesday in September, **September 17th**, is our next Fuddruckers' fundraiser night. Thank you to everyone who has attended these events. Coupons are available on the announcement board by the Wee Disciples' check-in computer. You can also take a picture of the coupon with your phone and show it to the cashier, or you can just tell the cashier that you are there for the Wee Disciples' fundraising activity Wee Disciples is also continuing the fundraising through Smith's rewards program.

LWML NEWS



All ladies of the congregation are invited and encouraged to attend any and all LWML happenings here at Trinity and right now, we have a lot going on!

September 14th at 9:30 am will be the first group gathering for the upcoming year. We will meet in the Stahlecker Room for a business meeting and Bible study. The LWML board will meet on September 25th at 11:15am in the Stahlecker Room. If

you have ideas for speakers or activities for our LWML group, please contact one of the officers or come to the board planning meetings.

This fall's LWML Montana District Retreats will be held on September 20-22. The retreats are being held in two locations—the Western region retreat will be at Trinity Lutheran Camp in Bigfork and the Eastern region retreat will be at Makoshika State Park in Glendive. The theme for the retreat is ***For Everything There is a Season, and a Time for Every Matter Under Heaven (Ecclesiastes 3:1)***. For more information about the retreats and for registration forms, check the bulletin board in the Narthex.

2019 LWML Sunday will be on October 6th. This year the theme is ***Faith Like a Mustard Seed***.

Trinity LWML will be hosting the Central Zone Rally here at Trinity on Saturday, October 12th. The theme for the rally is ***In Praise to the Lord***. The registration fee is \$5. The ingathering taken will be non-perishable food items for the Whittier Elementary School food pantry. Everyone is welcome to attend the rally and feel free to bring a friend! If you would like to help with the rally, please contact Sherri VanVleet. Watch the *Grace Notes* for further information.

Mark Your calendars!
Sunday, September 8, 2019

Sunday school

RALLY
Day

*Bring your children, grandchildren and neighbors for Sunday school
age 3 through High school ~ 8:30 am in the Sunday school rooms downstairs
and stay for*

*Adult Bible study ~ 8:30 am in the Stahlecker Room/Library upstairs
followed by*

Divine service ~ 10:00 am

Join us following the worship service for a presentation from the youth who attended Higher Things

*Wednesday evening Confirmation classes and Adult Information classes will be offered this fall
as well. Contact the church office (406-452-2121) for more information.*

Birthdays, Wedding, Baptismal and Confirmation Anniversaries



September 3rd
 September 5th
 September 7th
 September 7th
 September 8th
 September 20th

Jerry ♥ Colleen Mans (58)
 Ed ♥ Sherri VanVleet (49)
 Wally ♥ Diane Thompson (45)
 Seth ♥ Jamey Wheeler (18)
 Adam ♥ Tina Bink (12)
 Chad ♥ Michele Mans (22)

September 1st Kathie Gessaman
 September 5th Jacksin Graves
 September 7th Carolyn Arves, Scott Kessel
 Denise Wegner

September 16th Ericka Neumann
 September 18th Shawna Burkstrand
 September 19th Briana McClendon
 September 22nd Charlotte Morrison

September 8th
Dorothy Rosenberg (80+)

September 10th Brian Felstet
 Pam Grosenick, Pam Nommensen

September 11th Ada Burkstrand
 Christopher Meehan

September 12th Jaymes Crumley

September 13th Patty Jones, Al Redenbaugh



September 24th Jimmy Norris

September 26th Helen Suek (80+)

September 27th Janet Headington
 Tonya Wandke

September 29th Hailey Houle

September 30th Michael Bush

Dayna VanVleet

Brett Stene

September 6th Robert Nommensen Sr.
 Gene Suek

September 9th Clifton Grilley
 Collette Grina

September 10th Doug Nelson

September 12th Dorothy Rosenberg

September 13th Tim Guderjahn

Patty Jones

September 14th Chuck Lorenz



September 15th Karla Adelmeyer
 Cody Stene

September 16th Connie Felstet

September 20th Tracy Martello

September 22nd Wally Thompson

September 24th Pam Grosenick

September 25th Cathy Christianson

September 30th Mason Voegel



September 30th

Emma Hintz

Worship Assistants



Serving this Month

Acolyte ~ Elders

Counters ~ Alan & Denise Wegner

Altar Guild ~ Denise Wegner / Dayna VanVleet

Ushers ~ Alan Wegner / Elders

September 1, 2019 ~ Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost (green)

Audio/Video	Jon Chapman
Duty Elders	Marty Bauer
Organist	Joy Suek

September 8, 2019 ~ Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost (green) ~ Sunday school Rally Day

Audio/Video	Jon Chapman
Duty Elders	Len Koelbel / Shawn Shaw
Organist	Anita Chapman

September 15, 2019 ~ Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost (green)

Audio/Video	Jon Chapman
Duty Elders	Marty Bauer / Shawn Shaw
Organist	Jeannine Eastley



September 22, 2019 ~ Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost (green)

Audio/Video	Jon Chapman
Duty Elders	Len Koelbel / James Neumann
Organist	Anita Chapman

September 29, 2019 ~ Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost (green)

Audio/Video	Jon Chapman
Duty Elders	Roy Arves / Marty Bauer
Organist	Anita Chapman



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