



# Trinity Lutheran Church

*Proclaiming, Teaching and Living the Gospel of Christ!*

## WORSHIP SERVICES

Saturday: 5:00pm  
Sunday: 8:30am

*Holy Communion is celebrated weekly on Saturday & Sunday*

Summer Sunday School  
9:30am-Sundays thru 8/4

Sat. Adult Bible Study 4:00pm  
Sun. Adult Bible Study 9:45am

### *A Prayer for our Nation*

*Heavenly Father,  
Your Son is "a light for revelation to the Gentiles" (Luke 2:32). Let the light of Christ shine brightly in our nation and among our fellow citizens, that "many will see and fear, and put their trust in the Lord" (Psalm 40:3). Make Your Christians bold to speak the light of Your Word into our national darkness; for You live and reign with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God forever.*

*Amen.*



*Concordia Publishing House  
Portals of Prayer  
July-Sep., 2024  
Page 107*

## July 2024 - Newsletter

### VBS 2024 Recap

Many heartfelt thanks to all that helped in any way with VBS 2024. We truly did "*Celebrate the Savior*"! We averaged 100 children each of the five days! Offerings of \$1,400.00 were split between the LCC Comfort Dog Ministry and the Kankakee Pregnancy Resource Center. 174 needed items of diapers, wipes, etc. were also collected for the Kankakee Pregnancy Resource Center, and 227 cans of food were collected for the Herscher Council of Churches July food baskets. The children were challenged to top 2023's donations and met their goal, resulting in Pastor Brown dying his beard blue!!! Thank you to the children, families, congregation and friends for your generosity and your support of these missions. May the Lord bless these ministries with your gifts.

### Special Thanks



We extend our special thanks to Heather Meredith and Heather Thurston, fondly referred to as "the Heathers", for the incredible job they did heading up VBS 2024.

### Pastor Vacation

Pastor & family will be on vacation July 3-9/10. Please contact Pastor Wyeth at 630-957-7681 (call or text) or an Elder if you are in need of immediate pastoral care.

### Herscher Community Blood Drive

There will be an American Red Cross blood drive at Trinity Lutheran Church in Herscher on Thursday, July 11th from 12:00-6:00pm. Call Debbie Chmielowiec for an appointment at 815-954-1363 or visit RedCrossBlood.org. Save time by using your Blood Donor app.



One donation can save up to 3 lives!

### Voters' Meeting

Our quarterly Voters' Meeting will be held Sunday, July 21st at 11:00am. Lunch will be served that day at 10:45am. Among regular quarterly business, nominations will be open for 2025-2027 officers of 3 elders, 1 Board of Education member, and the Sunday School Superintendent position.

255 E. Third Street, P.O. Box 414 Herscher, IL 60941

Phone: 815-426-2262

Web site: [trinitylutheranherscher.org](http://trinitylutheranherscher.org) Email: [trinityherl@comcast.net](mailto:trinityherl@comcast.net)

Visit us on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/trinityherscher](http://www.facebook.com/trinityherscher)

## 2 Timothy – Paul's Pastoral Will and Testament

In the Scriptures there are a few times we get a second letter, and when we do, it's generally because something really bad has happened. With both Corinth and Thessalonians, Paul's first letter led to confusion and hurt, which required a second letter to clean things up. This is understandable – some problems don't get fixed with only one letter.



2 Timothy is different. Whereas 1 Timothy is Paul simply instructing the youthful Timothy about being a pastor, in 2 Timothy there is more weight, more urgency. This is because, quite simply, Paul is about ready to be executed for the faith. Paul is no longer the older pastor giving advice to a young, fellow pastor – Paul is talking to the guy who will take over after Paul himself is dead. It's no longer fatherly advice; it's dad speaking from his deathbed.

As such, 2 Timothy drives to the point of what Timothy is to do and not do as a Pastor. Timothy is to remember that he has been ordained to preach the Gospel, that he is to “fan into flame the gift of God, which is in you through the laying on of my hands” (2 Tim 1:6). You've been called into business of preaching – so don't wimp out and do it. Preach the Gospel, don't be ashamed of it. Protect the truth and defend it. Tell your people what is important – keep the focus on Jesus.

Keeping the focus on Jesus means you'll have to set limits for yourself and for your congregation. Paul reminds Timothy that he'll have to “charge them not to quarrel about words” (2 Tim 2:14). There are some discussions and debates that we could have, but really have nothing to do with Christ and Him crucified. When those happen, it's the job of the pastor to say, “this isn't an argument we need to have.” Timothy himself is to have, “nothing to do with foolish, ignorant controversies” (2 Tim 2:23). Your job is to be a speaker in the Church – be very careful about what you choose to speak about.

That's the point. Preach Christ, even as people fall away, as things go wrong. Preach the word, and stay there for as long as the Lord gives you days to preach. Keep your congregation focused on Christ too. Because everything else is dross, and for when we meet our maker, Christ and Him Crucified is what's going to matter. 2 Timothy is poignant and lovely, and for me as a Pastor it reminds me what standards I ought to hold myself to (and what you as a congregation ought to hold me to as well).

*Pastor Brown*

\*\*\*\*\*

### **Celebrate 102 Years by....."Making a Date with Evelyn!"**



Our eldest member of our congregation, Evelyn Bauer, turns 102 on June 30th. Evelyn's wishes for her birthday are not cards or an open house, but per her request, she would greatly appreciate a friendly visit or phone call from anyone at their convenience sometime throughout the summer. Evelyn resides at Courtyard Estates of Herscher. Kids and dogs are welcomed. Any questions contact Debbie Chmielowiec at 815-954-1363.

## Christian Education Schedule/ Bible Study

**Summer Sunday School** will be held on Sundays through August 4th at 9:30am.

**High School Bible Study** will resume in September. High School aged students are welcome and encouraged to attend the adult studies.

**Sunday Adult Bible Study** is held on Sundays at approximately 9:30am after the Sunday worship service. We are currently studying the *book of Matthew*.

**Saturday Adult Bible Study** is held on Saturdays at 4:00pm before the worship service. We are studying some of the Minor Prophets of the Old Testament.

**Facebook Live devotions** are held online most weeks, Monday through Thursday at 8:00am.

**Be in the Word!**  
**It's a great place to be!**  
**All are welcome!**

\*\*\*\*\*

## Sunday School

Summer Sunday School for Pre-K—8th grade ages will be held through August 4th. We are having fun lessons with different teachers each week. All ages will be combined. Anyone willing to volunteer to teach a Sunday, please contact Heather Meredith or any member of the Board of Education. (Heather Thurston, Laura Peters, & Lynne Noffke). *July and August volunteers needed.*

## Very Special Thanks

For 20 years or so, Earl Jensen has been voluntarily changing the road sign and has recently stepped down from this task. Through wind, rain, sleet, hail, snow, freezing cold, extreme heat etc., Earl has faithfully served Trinity in this manner. *If you ever filled in for him while he was on vacation, you know this is not a simple, easy task. The sign is dated and somewhat difficult to work with.*

We cannot thank you enough Earl for your service. You certainly deserve “retirement” from this chore and you will be missed. You have blessed Trinity through your labors of love, and we are grateful!



## Weekly Bulletin Deadline

Items for the weekly bulletin are due in the church office each **Wednesday by noon**. Thank you!



## Monthly Newsletter Deadline

Articles, announcements and information for the August newsletter are due **Monday, July 22nd by 9:00am**. Thank you!

## Pastoral Care & Church Office Hours

Pastor Brown will be in the office on Mondays & Wednesdays 8:00-11:00am-ish. He will be happy to meet with you at other times as well, just call, text or email.

Pastor's Email: [pastorbrown.trinity@comcast.net](mailto:pastorbrown.trinity@comcast.net)  
Pastor's Cell phone (call or text): 815-953-9995  
Pastor's Office phone: 815-426-2262 x102

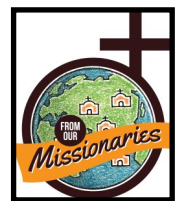
Diane Hart will continue to be in the office as often as needed. Phone messages and email are checked multiple times daily.

Diane's Email: [trinityher1@comcast.net](mailto:trinityher1@comcast.net)  
Diane's Office phone: 815-426-2262 x101  
Diane's Cell phone (call or text): 708-307-2710

\*\*\*\*\*

## Missionaries

Please continue to pray for our missionaries Rev. Shauen & Krista Trump and their family as they continue to share God's love and spread His Word. *See Pastor Trump's latest postcard on the bulletin board kiosk in the Parish Hall.*

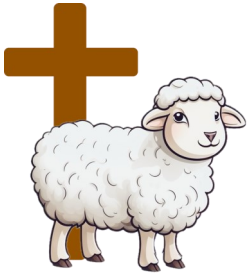


## Courtyard Estates of Herscher Services



A worship service is planned at Courtyard Estates of Herscher on Monday July 1st at 2:00pm. Watch the bulletins for updates.

## Little Lambs Preschool



It's time to answer some questions I am occasionally asked about preschool and what happens over the summer!

### ***Where does Pumpkin go over summer? What does she think of summer vacation?***

Pumpkin, as I am sure most of the congregation knows, is our preschool class pet. She is a bearded dragon lizard that Little Lambs got from the Ruels as a baby back in 2019. She has grown quite a bit since then! Pumpkin stays at the preschool for VBS then goes to stay with Pastor and Celia. Otherwise, she finds the long stretches of no people or activity pretty boring. This also helps us empty out the classroom so that the floor can be cleaned and waxed for the next school year. Bearded dragons are native to the Australian Outback, so they need living conditions that are dry and warm/hot. That means she really likes getting a chance to bask in the sun outside before the corn gets high and makes things humid! She thinks birds are scary, so she prefers to have someone sit next to her to keep her safe.

### ***What do you have to do over the summer to prepare for next year?***

Most of the tasks involve cleaning and organizing. The end of the year is very full: chicks, Easter, Mother's Day, graduation, plus our regular weekly unit themes. That means we have a lot of storage bins we are pulling from all at the same time, translating to a lot to put away when we finally finish! Then there are special tasks, like reorganizing books or music. We also inventory supplies to make next year's supply lists and a summer shopping list.

From a director perspective, there are field trips and special days (e.g., picture day) to schedule for next year so we can make our yearly calendar. Toward the end of July, we send out an invitation to Open House as well as the calendar, supply lists, and important information about how each class works. Then we set the classroom up for Open House at the end of August.

### ***Who takes care of the playground and handles repairs?***

I try to handle small repairs for things like toys or tightening a loose screw here and there. But most of the heavy lifting, so to speak, is done by the church Properties Committee. They are wonderful about handling things quickly and efficiently! Big jobs requiring lots of people require some additional volunteers. For example, when the playground mulch was expanded and replenished, we had a large group of church members helping to move and spread it.

### ***What do you do about summer student birthdays?***

We celebrate every student's birthday. When we have a summertime birthday, we try to celebrate a half-birthday. For example, if a student has a birthday on May 29<sup>th</sup>, we try to schedule it around November 29<sup>th</sup>. Occasionally, we are on vacations for both the actual birthday AND the half-birthday, in which case we ask the student's parents when they would like to celebrate.

— Mrs. Brown

## **Raise Right Gift Card/Scrip Card Program—go to: [raiseright.com](http://raiseright.com) Raising funds with **NO SELLING!****

Trinity's Gift Card Program through Raise Right—This program is available year-round.

All orders will be placed on Mondays, allowing for delivery usually by Thursday of the same week (online orders will be submitted with the paper orders). While they are most popular for holiday and birthday gifts, people also purchase cards to use themselves at places they regularly shop. New customers please contact Diane Hart in the office for the enrollment code or with any questions.



**RaiseRight™**

Simply the right way to fundraise

**Thank you for supporting Little Lambs simply by shopping!**

## **Martha Circle & Trinity Sewing**

Martha Circle will not meet during the month of July.

Trinity Sewing Group will meet on Tuesday, July 2nd from 12:30 to 4:00pm. Anyone may join the group in different positions. We have quite a few tops completed that need tying. Anyone unable to join that day and would like to come another time, let Connie, Cindy or Debbie know. We currently have 124 finished in the closet with quite a few pending.

We are still in need of fabric and sheets for backs. We recently received sheets from two generous individuals, but we will use up quickly. Our goal is around 200 quilts. Thank you for your continued support.

## **Board of Education**

Please contact Heather Thurston for the next meeting date and/or with any questions.

## **Church Council**

The Church Council will meet Tuesday, July 9th at 7:00pm in the Parish Hall.

## **Hannah Circle**

Meetings and Bible Study will resume in September. Have a blessed summer!

*July Card Care: Barbara Schwark*

## **Herscher Council of Churches**

Trinity will distribute our July Food Baskets on Saturday, July 6th from 9:00-10:00am. Please use the north door for pick up. If you know of someone in need, ask them to call County West Market at 815-421-4007 by Wednesday, July 3rd. Our thanks to Trinity's VBS for collecting 220 cans for this outreach!

Herscher Christian Church will distribute food from the IL Food Bank on Tuesday, July 9th beginning at 10:00am.

## **Open House for Norma Bell's 80th Birthday**



You are invited to attend an open house celebrating Norma's 80th birthday held on Sunday, July 28th from 1:00-4:00pm at Trinity in the Parish Hall.

## **LWR School Bags**

Trinity will be filling school bags with supplies for LWR. School bags have been purchased with Thrivent seed money. We are asking the congregation to purchase supplies and drop in the tub at church.

Any cash donations will be appreciated. School sales should be happening within the next month.

Copies of the list will be on the table at church in the Parish Hall. Please remember, rulers need 30-centimeters and ink pens need to be black or blue, **no gel pens.**

- 4 70 sheets notebooks wide or college ruled
- 1 30-centimeter ruler/one side inches
- 1 pencil sharpener
- 1 pair blunt scissors
- 5 ink pens (black or blue, no gel)
- 5 pencils (not sharpened)
- 1 box of 16 or 24 crayons
- 1 2-inch eraser

Please contact Connie Tranos 815-735-9592 with any questions.



## **Christ Lutheran High School**

Save the date—Saturday, August 24th.

**Knight for Christ Benefit Auction.** The event will be held at the Ford County Fairgrounds. Details coming soon...

## **LWML**

Looking ahead:

**Zone 18 Board Meeting** at St. Paul, Bourbonnais Saturday, August 31st at 9:00am.

**Zone 18 Fall Workshop** at St. Paul, Bourbonnais Saturday, October 5th at 8:30am. A light breakfast then a short meeting will be held before we pack our Operation Christmas Child Shoe Boxes.

**NID LWML Convention** will be held September 21st & 22nd at Trinity, Tinley Park. See the flyer on the bulletin board in the Parish Hall.

## Member Birthdays



- 01 Carl Schaumburg
- 02 Carolyn Greene, Megan Kersten
- 04 Carol Jensen
- 05 Brett Harrod, Wanda Janssen,  
Shawn Zirkle
- 06 Rocky Butler, Alyxandria Rink
- 07 Violetta Donovan
- 08 Chelsea Starasinich, Jade Warmbir
- 09 Debbie Dodds, Brian Witheft
- 10 Libby Gross, Madison Moritz
- 11 Jacob Fortado
- 12 Caleb Dehning, Wayne Marti, Austin Yeast
- 13 Jerry Jackson, Abigale Johnston,  
Dolores Warmbir
- 14 Taylor Gaus, Noah Whitesell
- 15 Jill Van Voorst
- 16 Darian Berns, Emily Clapp,  
Leah Grace, Ann Hendrix, Ryan Kruse
- 17 Blaine Dodds
- 18 Celia Brown, Cole Meredith, Duane Sharper
- 19 Susanne Starasinich
- 20 Anita Gordon, JoAnn Dickman
- 23 Brian Berger, Kennedi Huston, Journey Salm
- 24 AJ Shepard
- 26 Rachel Grace
- 27 Norma Bell
- 28 Matthew Jensen
- 29 Jack Peters
- 30 Kelsey Fansler, Emma Van Voorst

*Please notify Diane in the church office if there are any errors or omissions. Thank you!*

### **A Birthday Prayer**

*I celebrate another year of Your blessings, Father, and another year to mark the miracle of life and Your constant protecting presence. I praise You for removing my sin through the water and Word of my Baptism. I remember today that You have given me the promise of life with You through the merits of Jesus, my Savior, who died and rose again. Today let me witness to these gifts through His name.*

*Amen.*

Concordia Publishing House  
Portals of Prayer  
July-Sep., page 111

## Trinity Lutheran Church May 31, 2024 Financial Summary

### General

Beg. Balance	\$21,958.56
Receipts	20,541.82
<u>Expense</u>	<u>29,070.88</u>
Ending Balance	\$13,429.50

### Mission Fund

Beg. Balance	\$ 8,793.00
Receipts	1,925.00
<u>Expense</u>	<u>0.00</u>
Ending Balance	\$10,718.00

### Little Lambs Preschool

Beg. Balance	\$ 9,531.48
Receipts	4,260.00
<u>Expense</u>	<u>4,618.50</u>
Ending Balance	\$ 9,172.98

*Complete financial reports are reported at Quarterly Voters' Meetings held on the third Sundays of January, April, July and October.*



Please contact Diane in the church office if you need to pick up your offering envelopes, have them issued, or wish to be removed from the offering envelope list.

\*\*\*\*\*

### **Sales Tax Exemption**

Contact Diane in the office for a copy (electronic or paper). **This should be used for all purchases for Trinity.** There are additional forms/bar codes available for church purchases made at Home Depot and Menards. Please get a copy of the forms/bar code prior to making purchases. Thank you.

### **Parish Hall Rental/ Property Check-Out List**

The Parish Hall may be rented to Trinity members for various functions. Please contact Diane in the office to schedule, remit rental fee, and obtain a copy of the guidelines. **Reminder, tables and chairs should be left clean and floors swept.** Also, any property borrowed (old tables, kitchen items, etc.) need to be signed out on the check-out sheet in the church office. Please note, per the Church Council, the white tables and chairs may not leave the church property. **Also, all items used are to be returned clean and stored appropriately.** Thank you!

## Redeeming Life Outreach Ministries, Inc. (RLOM)-Illinois Expansion



Contact Barbara Schwark, Trinity's RLOM Advocate with any questions. Visit [rlom.org/expansion](http://rlom.org/expansion) for updates and information regarding the new home in Illinois.



June 3, 2024

Rev. Eric Brown  
Trinity Lutheran Church  
255 E 3rd St  
Herscher, IL 60941

Dear Pastor Brown & Brothers & Sisters in Christ,

Thank you for your generous gift of \$546.45 from Sunday School offerings for the moms and babies of Redeeming Life! What a blessing to partner with your church, particularly with the students and their families, in such a vital way to honor God's gift of life. We are so thankful for your partnership.

Thanks to you, women in desperate situations can find a safe and secure place to live during their pregnancy and afterwards. So much more than just shelter, Redeeming Life's maternity homes offer women in crisis the help they need in the form of individualized programming which helps them set and attain their goals for independence. Our residents are welcomed into a warm and nurturing home where they are cared for and introduced to the hope that is found in Jesus.

With your partnership, Redeeming Life now assists women in Florida and in Illinois, where our maternity homes are located. Baby M just celebrated her first birthday at Redeeming Life! Her mom came to us in a dire situation, yet in one short year, she finished training for a new job and secured full time work, allowing her to save for her goal of having her own place soon. Baby M has always had a safe and living home, thanks to you. She is growing up with a single mom who loves her dearly and is building the skills needed to give her stability.

Thank you for partnering with Redeeming Life. Your generosity changes lives!

Serving God and His Children,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Sheryl".

Sheryl DeWitt, Executive Director  
Redeeming Life Outreach Ministries, Inc.  
407-790-9745 x6 | [info@rlom.org](mailto:info@rlom.org)

### ***The Rewards of Godliness***

It's no secret that you can't bribe your way into heaven. No amount of good works will impress God enough to open heaven's door for their sake. "For the wages of sin is death" (Rom. 6:23) and the person who "keeps the whole law but fails in one point has become guilty of all of it" (James 2:10). Rather, salvation is "the free gift of God ... in Christ Jesus" (Rom. 6:23).



So, your good works won't earn you the reward of heaven. But does that mean that there are no rewards at all? Consider what the Small Catechism says in the "Close of the Commandments":

#### **What does God say about all these commandments?**

He says, "I, the LORD your God, am a jealous God, punishing the children for the sin of the fathers to the third and fourth generation of those who hate Me, but showing love to a thousand generations of those who love Me and keep My commandments." (Ex. 20:5–6)

#### **What does this mean?**

God threatens to punish all who break these commandments. Therefore, we should fear His wrath and not do anything against them. But He promises grace and every blessing to all who keep these commandments. Therefore, we should also love and trust in Him and gladly do what He commands. (SC II)

God promises to bless you in keeping His commandments. What might these blessings be? Well, consider what Paul says about keeping the Fourth Commandment: "Children, obey your parents in the Lord, for this is right. 'Honor your father and mother' (this is the first commandment with a promise), 'that it may go well with you and that you may live long in the land'" (Eph. 6:1–3).

And think about what your life would be like if you went around stealing (breaking the Seventh Commandment), telling lies about people (breaking the Eighth Commandment), and generally being cruel to those around you (breaking all the commandments!). That is obviously not a blessed way to live. In fact, you'd be miserable living that way.

And Jesus says more about what is in store for those who make sacrifices for His sake: "Jesus said to them, 'Truly, I say to you, in the new world, when the Son of Man will sit on His glorious throne, you who have followed Me will also sit on twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel. And everyone who has left houses or brothers or sisters or father or mother or children or lands, for My name's sake, will receive a hundredfold and will inherit eternal life'" (Matt. 19:28–29).

So don't grow impatient in doing good. Follow the Lord who has freely given you everlasting life.



# Serving Our Lord This Month—July 2024

## Elder/Communion Assistant

July 06\* Chip Thurston

July 07\* Alan Janssen

July 13\* Joe Hart

July 14\* Don LaChappell

July 20\* Jerry Brutlag

July 21\* Kim Weerts

July 27\* Kevin Kruse

July 28\* John Varvel

\*Denotes Holy Communion Served

# USHERS

THIS MONTH



### Usher Captains

Karl Kruse (Sat.)

Mike Thomas (Sun.)

### Usher Team

Larry Sharper

Victor Brown; Joe Hart; Brandt Nottke



Paula Kruse  
&  
Pam Peterson

## Altar Flowers

Weekend or date:

July 06/07 *Available*

July 13/14 *Available*

July 20/21 Brian & Lynne Noffke on the occasion of their 42nd anniversary

July 27/28 Eric & Heather Meredith on the occasion of their 12th anniversary



# Trinity— July 2024

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 Courtyard Estates Service 2:00pm	2 Devotion on Facebook Live 8:00am Quilt Tying/ Sewing Group 12:30-4:00pm	3	4 	5	6 Trinity distributes food baskets 9-10am <b>Communion</b> Worship 5:00pm
<b>Pastor Vacation July 3-10</b>						
7 <b>Communion</b> Worship 8:30am Summer Sunday School 9:30am Bible Study 9:30am	8	9 Council 7:00pm	10	11 Blood Drive 12:00-6:00pm 	12	13 <b>Communion</b> Bible Study 4:00pm Worship 5:00pm
<b>Pastor Vacation July 3-10</b>						
14 <b>Communion</b> Worship 8:30am Summer Sunday School 9:30am Bible Study 9:30am	15 Devotion on Facebook Live 8:00am	16 Devotion on Facebook Live 8:00am	17 Devotion on Facebook Live 8:00am	18 Devotion on Facebook Live 8:00am	19	20 <b>Communion</b> Bible Study 4:00pm Worship 5:00pm
21 <b>Communion</b> Worship 8:30am Summer Sunday School 9:30am Bible Study 9:30am Lunch 10:45am Voters' Meeting 11:00am	22 Devotion on Facebook Live 8:00am <b>August Newsletter Deadline 9:00am</b>	23 Devotion on Facebook Live 8:00am	24 Devotion on Facebook Live 8:00am	25 Devotion on Facebook Live 8:00am	26	27 <b>Communion</b> Bible Study 4:00pm Worship 5:00pm
28 <b>Communion</b> Worship 8:30am Summer Sunday School 9:30am Bible Study 9:30am Open House for Norma Bell's 80th Birthday 1:00-4:00pm	29 Devotion on Facebook Live 8:00am	30 Devotion on Facebook Live 8:00am	31 Devotion on Facebook Live 8:00am			
<b>Deadlines for printing: Bulletin announcement deadline-Wednesdays 12:00pm August Newsletter deadline-Thursday, July 20th by 9:00am</b>						