

TIDINGS

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church

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August 2024

Volume 64, Number 8

Monthly Newsletter

Summer Schedule—No Sunday School
Worship Service w/Communion @ 9:30 am
Fellowship (after Worship Service)



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Two Realms Theology – Church and State

by Pastor Steve Hagler

In America today church/state issues are common discussion points. Views on church and state discussions seem to be more prevalent in the presidential election years. How does the Lutheran Church view the church and the state? Is this yet another duality? My newsletter articles in the Tidings the last two months were about the Two Kingdoms (Realms) Theology which deals with the duality of the Temporal Realm and the Spiritual Realm. How does the Two Realms Theology relate to the church and the state? Some say there is a direct correlation where the state is in the Temporal Realm and the church is in the Spiritual Realm.

In 1821, a pastor in the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod (LCMS) wrote a letter to James Madison. The pastor included a sermon on church and state he had just preached which was a strongly Lutheran theological sermon. Madison responded with a letter praising the pastor's views. Madison said, "Luther led the way." Madison also stated, "What is due to Caesar and what is due God, best promotes both obligations."

Martin Luther wrote, "Church leaders make for poor kings and kings make poor bishops." From this quote it seems that Luther would favor a separation of church and state like Thomas Jefferson did. However, Luther probably envisioned something quite different in sixteenth century Germany. Luther taught that God established both church and state. Luther maintained that the Christian faith requires obedience to the state because government derives its authority from God. He also taught the caveat that as long as the state does not require Christians to violate God's Word, they should obey. While the role of the church is to proclaim the Gospel, the state is supposed to promote good and punish evil. This is necessary because of human sinfulness. Left unchecked, sin would turn earthly existence into a nightmare.

Thomas Jefferson made a distinction between the church and the state. The two realms is not a Jeffersonian distinction. What Jefferson wants is

what Luther does not want. Jefferson wants a wall of separation. He wants the church and the state to be kept apart. Jefferson wanted to make moral people. John Adams had the idea that you need moral people to make America work. Jefferson liked that idea. Madison and Adams believed that without moral people society would fall apart. So, Jefferson wanted the church to do its moral teaching, but he had no use for church doctrine. He had no use for notions about resurrection. (The Jefferson Bible was a Bible with the miracles cut out, among other things, but kept the moral stuff in his Bible.) Jefferson wanted the state to do all the important stuff and the church to stay out of the way.

Church and state are very different. God has instituted both, but they have distinct purposes and ways of accomplishing their goals. That does not mean they have nothing to do with each other. Christians live in two realms. In one, they hear the Gospel and experience the love of God in Christ. In the other, they experience and obey the law; the law authorized by God through governmental political authority. Christians are to honor that authority, respect government leaders and pray for them and pay their taxes.

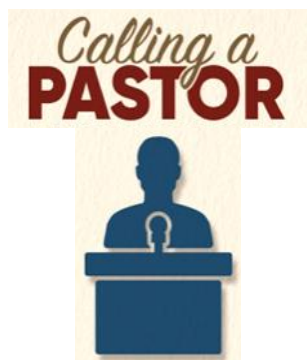
The church does its work within the state or its government. Law and order, peace and prosperity are blessings from God to the church, and the government's task is to protect the church (according to Luther). During the Reformation, Christians (not Lutherans yet) depended on earthly rulers to defend the Gospel from those who wanted to suppress it by force. Church and state in Germany was different than it is today in America, but the two realms apply to both.

***By God's Grace,
Pastor Steve***



Special Congregational Meeting

Sunday, August 4, 2024



Please plan on attending Sunday, August 4, following the worship service to approve the issuance of a Letter of Call to Pastor Ed.

Per our congregation's constitution, a quorum of 30% of voting members must be present. It is very important that all members attend and vote!

If you can't be present in church for the vote on August 4, please call in your vote at (509) 926-7966 prior to that day.

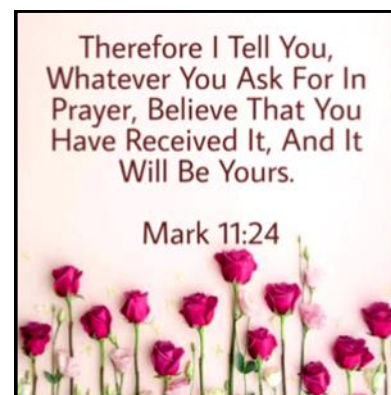
Pastor Call Committee Update

by Marcia Taes

Your Call Committee has formally presented a name to the Council for consideration of the position of full-time pastor at Holy Trinity Lutheran Church in Spokane Valley. Prior to this recommendation the Call Committee and Council met with this candidate and his wife over breakfast for a question-and-answer session. LaLita Tadena and I also attended a church service officiated by this pastor. The Call Committee checked references and they were excellent. We highly recommend this candidate after a background check is completed.

The next steps that I would suggest to Council are:

- Complete background check
- Work on financial package
- Encourage certification with LCMC
- Call all members to invite them to meet candidate
- Have candidate meet with congregation for dinner and short service
- Congregational meeting to extend call
- Encourage certification with NALC
- Congregational Workshop with NALC to set goals this upcoming fall



Please pray...

Heavenly Father, we come before you seeking guidance and wisdom as we search for a new pastor to lead our church. Grant us discernment to recognize the candidate whom You have chosen to shepherd and guide us. Help us find a pastor who is filled with the Holy Spirit, dedicated to Your Word, and committed to nurturing our congregation. Lord, grant us unity as we seek Your will together, putting aside personal preferences and agendas.

May Your grace shine upon our search process, leading us to the individual You have prepared for this sacred calling. We trust in Your perfect timing and surrender our desires into Your loving hands. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

***Respectfully Submitted,
Marcia Taes, Chairperson***

COUNCIL MINUTES

Council Meeting Minutes: July 9, 2024 — “Subject to Approval”

Respectfully Submitted by Nancy Purcell, Acting Secretary

Present: George Simon, Diane Fried, Charlie May, LaLita Tadena, Denel Ingraham, Dan Olson, and Nancy Purcell. Also present were Pastor Steve and Marcia Taes. Pat Woods and Sandy Hoveskeland were absent.

Call to Order: President, George Simon, called the meeting to order at 6:32 p.m.

Devotional: Marcia Taes led a devotional from 1 Samuel 16 on God directing Samuel to anoint David as Israel’s first king and how it relates to Holy Trinity calling a new pastor and listening and praying for God’s direction.

Approval of Minutes: A motion was made by LaLita and seconded by Charlie to approve the June 11, 2024, minutes as presented. Motion was unanimously approved.

Treasurer’s Report: Dan presented the Treasurer’s report.

STCU Checking	\$18,801.69
Schwab Building Fund	\$26,674.86
Schwab Savings	\$132,824.06
Savings – Vanguard	\$0.00



Dan reported that our cash accounts position from last year at this time is about \$21,500 on the plus side. It was also noted that plate offerings are slightly up from last year at this time. Dan further reported that in accordance with his June 19 email to the council, the funds from the Vanguard account had been deposited in the Schwab Savings account. Holy Trinity had received notice that our Vanguard account was a “Legacy Account” and would be upgraded to a new style account effective July 1, 2024. Any changes to the Vanguard account after July 1 would result in fees of \$100 or more. To give Dan time to research the changes and avoid additional fees, it was decided to cash out the account, and deposit the cash funds in the Schwab savings account where they will earn interest. Dan will report back in August as to his recommendations regarding investments for the funds.

Pastor’s Report: As usual, a part of Pastor Steve’s time each month is spent in preparation of the sermon and prayers for the worship service. This month he wrote two articles for the monthly newsletter as he will be on vacation during the newsletter deadline for articles. Steve attends the monthly council meetings, the monthly Worship and Music Committee meetings, meets with Tracy each Thursday, and attends the Breakfast and Bible study on Fridays. This month he preached and served communion at The Grove in Coeur d’Alene. Pastor attends a text study with Pastor Jon and four other people at Peace Lutheran, Post Falls. He visited with four members and presided at two baptisms. Pastor Steve will be on vacation from July 10-24. Pastor Jon Anderson from Peace Lutheran in Post Falls is available in an emergency. Please contact either Tracy or a council member for the telephone number. Pastor Steve will be back in his office on July 25. Pat Woods will present the message on July 14 and Roy Vervair, a member of Peace Lutheran, will present the message on

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COUNCIL MINUTES

(Continued from previous page)

July 21. Steve also encourages everyone to read the article by Rev. Mike Bradley on the LCMC and Rev. Tony Ede on the NALC in the Connections Magazine, which can be found on the information table in the fellowship hall.

Properties and Maintenance: See report submitted by Charlie May. Nancy reported there was a large spot on the carpeting in the fellowship hall and asked that it be brought up at the upcoming user group meeting in July. She also reported that the freezer did not appear to be running cold enough as the ice cream served on Sunday got soft.

Worship and Music: See report submitted by Nancy Purcell.

Congregational Ministries: LaLita reported there was nothing to share for July.

Christian Education: See report submitted by Pat Woods. Because of our summer schedule, there were no changes from the June report.

Social Cares and Concerns: See report submitted by Diane Fried. Diane further reported that the pastor and his wife that met with the Call Committee also contributed items for UGM.

Care Crew: Diane reported that she had contacted Kirsten Peterson and Duane and Janece Scheele. She had also attempted to reach Esther Motika. She visited with and took communion to Arlene Severance, who wants everyone to know they are invited to her 100th birthday party on July 16. Diane reported that she had visited with and taken communion to Cher Brown. Cher had again been hospitalized for a day and is on oxygen 24/7. Please keep her in your prayers.

Old Business:

UGM Field Trip: Dan reported that the field trip to UGM has been cancelled as not enough people had signed up for it.

Call Committee: See report presented by Marcia Taes. The Call Committee and Council met with a possible pastoral candidate. The Call Committee has now presented the name of the pastoral candidate to the Council for consideration in extending a call. Marcia advised the Council that the proposed candidate was not a rostered pastor with either the LCMC or the NALC, but the candidate had offered to take the necessary steps to be certified by both the LCMC and the NALC. The LCMC has indicated to the Call Committee if there is not time for the pastoral candidate to be certified before HTLC places the call, we can call him as a contract pastor while he completes the necessary steps to be certified with LCMC as a Lutheran pastor. Pastor Don Brandt from Lutheran Core, a rostered LCMC and NALC pastor, has been working with Marcia and the Call Committee. Marcia also advised that our liability insurance carrier requires a background check be completed for any pastor we choose to call. After discussion a motion was made by Charlie and seconded by Dan that the Council move forward with the recommendation of the Call Committee to call the presented pastoral candidate. The motion passed unanimously. A background check will be submitted immediately. Dan and

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COUNCIL MINUTES

(Continued from previous page)

George will contact the proposed candidate and arrange for a time for he and his wife to meet with the congregation and will request he present a sermonette for all to hear at that time. It will be followed by either pizza or a potluck. Holy Trinity members have the final voice in the call process.

New Business:

Congregational Workshop: Pastor Don Brandt suggested to Marcia that a time for a workshop for the congregation should be set to discuss the changes necessary to call a full-time pastor and commitment to support the work of a full-time pastor. Because of vacations, it was decided to wait with the workshop until after August.

Compensation Package for Proposed Pastoral Candidate: Council reviewed the tentative compensation numbers received from the proposed pastoral candidate. It further reviewed and discussed the Projected Financial and Giving Impact of a Full Time Pastor that Dan had tentatively put together based on Holy Trinity's giving and assets. Council agreed that the call should be made with faith that giving and membership will increase if we all work together.

Council expressed our thanks to Pastor Steve for all the help and support he has provided us during the last three plus years on our journey to call a full-time pastor. It is greatly appreciated.

Items 2, 3, and 4 of the agenda were tabled for discussion until our next meeting in August.

Next Month Devotional: Diane

Counters for August: George and LaLita

Adjournment: The meeting was closed with prayer at 8:29 p.m.



2024 total donations = 980 lbs.

Contact Drew Taes for information:
drew.taes@gmail.com

Food Bank donations for August:

For the month of August let's focus on back-to-school items like peanut butter, jelly, fruit cups, pudding cups, lunch snacks, ramen noodles, etc.

***Thank you so much
for your donations!***



OUTDOOR SERVICE & CHURCH POTLUCK

All are invited to our outdoor Sunday
Worship Service & potluck.

Sunday, September 8
Starting at 10:30 am

We will set up on the lawn on the
Northwest corner of the property
(by the preschool building)

*You can sign up to bring something for the
potluck on the table in the Fellowship Hall.*



Schedule Change

We will be going back to our
regular worship schedule the
Sunday after Labor Day.

Beginning September 8, 2024,
Worship Service will begin at 10:30 am.

*Sunday school will also resume
on September 8, and begin at 9:30 am.*

Supporting UGM Kid's Camp

By Diane Fried

**Service project at HTLC in partnership
with Thrivent Action Team**
(May 20—July 1, 2024)

Pillows: 14

Shoes:
—Girls 5
—Boys 4

Swimsuits:
—Girls 17

Socks:
—Girls 72
—Boys 32

Shorts:
—Girls 24
—Boys 25

Sweatshirts:
—Girls 3
—Boys 2

T-shirts:
—Girls 7
—Boys 11

Shampoo: 152

Monetary donations
(checks sent to "UGM Kid's Camp")

June 23, 2024 \$447.76

June 30, 2024 \$210.00

Thank you to all who donated.
Your generosity is appreciated!





August Birthdays

David Knight	August 5
Daniel Winchester	August 10
John Fried	August 19
Bill Nelson	August 19
Marcia Taes	August 22
Geri Hagler	August 26
Crystal Seybold	August 26
Lynette Andreasen	August 30
Lester Boudewyns	August 31



August Anniversaries

Drew & Nikki Taes

Married August 6, 2011—celebrating 13 years!

Warren & Rita Moore

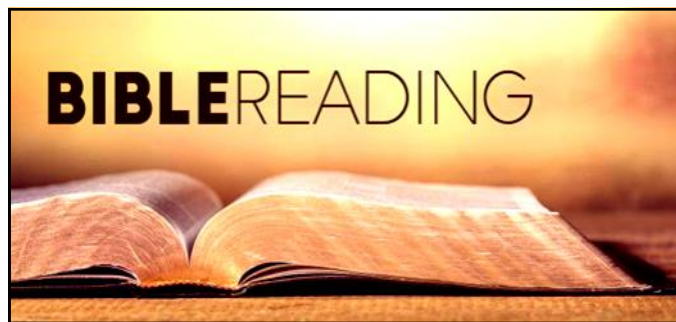
Married August 7

George & Marla Simon

Married August 12, 1978—celebrating 46 years

Steve & Geri Hagler

Married August 18, 1984—celebrating 40 years



August 4 (11th Sunday after Pentecost):

- ✝ Exodus 16:2-4, 9-15
- ✝ Ephesians 4:1-16
- ✝ John 6:24-35

August 11 (12th Sunday after Pentecost):

- ✝ 1 Kings 19:4-8
- ✝ Ephesians 4:25—5:2
- ✝ John 6:35, 41-51

August 18 (13th Sunday after Pentecost):

- ✝ Proverbs 9:1-6
- ✝ Ephesians 5:15-20
- ✝ John 6:51-58

August 25 (14th Sunday after Pentecost):

- ✝ Joshua 24:1-2a, 14-18
- ✝ Ephesians 6:10-20
- ✝ John 6:56-69



August 2024

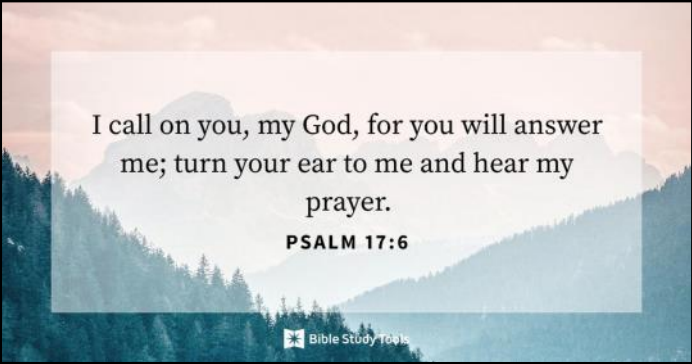
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
28	29	30	31	1	2	3
				Pastor Steve's Office Hours: 9:30 am – 12:00 pm Tracy's Office Hours: 11:00 am – 1:00 pm 12:00 pm AA—VNG 5:30 pm AA—HHG	7:30 am Breakfast and Bible Study Pastor Steve's Office Hours: 9:00 am – 1:00 pm 12:00 pm AA—VNG 5:30 pm AA—HHG 6:00 pm AA-HHG Bingo Night	8:00 am AA—MWU 10:00 am AA—SMM 8:00 pm AA—SNM
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11th Sunday after Pentecost 9:30 am Worship Service & Fellowship 10:30 Special Congregational Meeting 10:00 am AA—SMG 2:00 pm AA—CAYA 7:00 pm AA—SRG	12:00 pm AA—VNG 5:30 pm TOPS 5:30 pm AA—HHG 7:00 pm NA—MNM	12:00 pm AA—VNG 5:30 pm AA—HHG	10:00 am Bible Study 12:00 pm AA—VNG 5:30 pm AA—HHG 7:00 pm NA—WNW	Pastor Steve's Office Hours: 9:30 am – 12:00 pm Tracy's Office Hours: 11:00 am – 1:00 pm 11:15 am—1:00 pm Serving Lunch @ Men's Shelter 12:00 pm AA—VNG 5:30 pm AA—HHG	7:30 am Breakfast and Bible Study Pastor Steve's Office Hours: 9:00 am – 1:00 pm 12:00 pm AA—VNG 5:30 pm AA—HHG	8:00 am AA—MWU 10:00 am AA—SMM 8:00 pm AA—SNM
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
12th Sunday after Pentecost 9:30 am Worship Service & Fellowship 10:00 am AA—SMG 2:00 pm AA—CAYA 7:00 pm AA—SRG	12:00 pm AA—VNG 5:30 pm TOPS 5:30 pm AA—HHG 7:00 pm NA—MNM	12:00 pm AA—VNG 5:30 pm AA—HHG 6:30 pm Council Meeting	10:00 am Bible Study 12:00 pm AA—VNG 5:30 pm AA—HHG 7:00 pm NA—WNW Newsletter Articles Due	Pastor Steve's Office Hours: 9:30 am – 12:00 pm Tracy's Office Hours: 11:00 am – 1:00 pm 12:00 pm AA—VNG 5:30 pm AA—HHG	7:30 am Breakfast and Bible Study Pastor Steve's Office Hours: 9:00 am – 1:00 pm 12:00 pm AA—VNG 5:30 pm AA—HHG	8:00 am AA—MWU 10:00 am AA—SMM 8:00 pm AA—SNM
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
13th Sunday after Pentecost 9:30 am Worship Service & Fellowship 10:00 am AA—SMG 2:00 pm AA—CAYA 7:00 pm AA—SRG	12:00 pm AA—VNG 5:30 pm TOPS 5:30 pm AA—HHG 7:00 pm NA—MNM	12:00 pm AA—VNG 5:30 pm AA—HHG	10:00 am Bible Study 12:00 pm AA—VNG 5:30 pm AA—HHG 7:00 pm NA—WNW	Pastor Steve's Office Hours: 9:30 am – 12:00 pm Tracy's Office Hours: 11:00 am – 1:00 pm 1:30 pm Worship & Music Committee Mtg 12:00 pm AA—VNG 5:30 pm AA—HHG	7:30 am Breakfast and Bible Study Pastor Steve's Office Hours: 9:00 am – 1:00 pm 12:00 pm AA—VNG 5:30 pm AA—HHG	8:00 am AA—MWU 10:00 am AA—SMM 8:00 pm AA—SNM
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
14th Sunday after Pentecost 9:30 am Worship Service & Fellowship 10:00 am AA—SMG 2:00 pm AA—CAYA 7:00 pm AA—SRG	12:00 pm AA—VNG 5:30 pm TOPS 5:30 pm AA—HHG 7:00 pm NA—MNM	12:00 pm AA—VNG 5:30 pm AA—HHG	10:00 am Bible Study 12:00 pm AA—VNG 5:30 pm AA—HHG 7:00 pm NA—WNW			

HOLY TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
PO BOX 141862
SPOKANE VALLEY WA 99214-1862

Return Service Requested

**Holy Trinity Lutheran Church
Mission Statement:**

*“To proclaim the Good News of God’s
Saving Grace and to minister to our
community through our relationship with God.”*



Tidings is published monthly for the members and friends of Holy Trinity Lutheran Church. The material and content of this periodical is intended to be about church business, community outreach, theology, and spiritual inspiration.

If you no longer desire to receive this publication, please email: office@holytrinitylcmc.org, or call: (509) 926-7966

August Events	
Special Congregational Meeting	Sunday, August 4 @ 10:30 am
Serving Lunch at UGM Men’s Shelter	Thursday, August 8 11:15 am—1:00 pm
Council Meeting	Tuesday, August 13 @ 6:30 pm
Newsletter Articles Due	Wednesday, August 14
Worship & Music Committee Meeting	Thursday, August 22 @ 1:30 pm
Mid-week Bible Study	Wednesdays @ 10:00 am
Breakfast & Bible Study	Fridays @ 7:30 am
<p><u>Summer Worship Schedule</u> (May 26—September 1) <i>No Sunday School</i> 9:30 am Worship Service w/Communion Fellowship after</p> <p><u>Regular Worship Schedule</u> (Begins September 8) 9:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship Service w/Communion Fellowship after</p>	