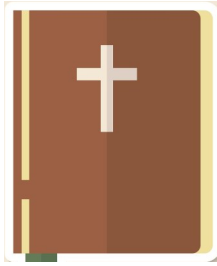


# July 2026

Elder: Derek Allen  
 Altar Guild: Lynn Eilts  
 Stewardship: Sonya Kruid



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	
<b>EVERY SUNDAY</b> 9:15 am Bible Class 10:30 AM WORSHIP COMMUNION ON 1ST, 3RD & 5TH SUNDAYS www.trinityhawarden.com trinityhawarden@gmail.com		1	2	3	4	 No Worship	
		Pastor & Corinne Lowe on vacation July 1-10					No Bible Study
5 See Every Sunday Usher Team: Dave Zierke Greeters: Denny & Mary Acolyte: Everly, Lydia Camera: Derek Allen A/V: Mary Ortner Accompanist: Peggy Christensen	6	7	8	9	10	11	
Pastor & Corinne Lowe on vacation until July 10.							5 pm Worship
12 See Every Sunday <b>11:30 am Church Council Mtg.</b> Usher Team: Denny Peters Greeters: Mary K, Audree O Acolyte: Kade Camera: Derek Allen A/V: Brett Anderson Accompanist: Peggy Christensen	13	14	15	16	17	18	
						8:30 am LWML Breakfast meeting at Central Cafe  5 pm Worship*	
19 See Every Sunday <b>8:30 am Elders Mtg.</b> <b>11:30 am Voters Mtg.</b> Usher Team: JP Breugem Greeters: Corinne & family Acolyte: Janissa, Paisley Camera: Justin Ortner A/V: Curt Anderson Accompanist: Sharon Wakeman	20	21	22	23	24	25	
Vacation Bible School July 20-24 6pm-8pm						Vacation Bible School July 20-24 6pm-8pm  5 pm Worship	
26 See Every Sunday Usher Team: Jerry Wakeman Greeters: Tom & Janie Acolyte: Arlett Camera: Justin Ortner A/V: Larry Bauder Accompanist: Tracy DeBruin	27	28	29	30	31		
				10 am Bible Study			



## NEW SUNDAY BIBLE STUDY

### America 250- Living as Christian Citizens

We will discuss America's founding fathers and their understanding of the Christian faith. How the U.S. Constitution forms our life as Christian citizens, and what we can do to remain faithful to Christ and citizens as we move into the future. We will begin on July 12 at 9:15 am.



**ELDERS** meet at 8:30 am on Sunday, July 19th.

**LWML** will have our annual breakfast meeting on Saturday, July 18 at 8:30 am at Central Café. Our July mission is Mites.



The quarterly **Church Council** meeting will be after worship on Sunday, July 12. The quarterly **Voters** meeting will be after worship on Sunday, July 19.

**SINCE JULY 4<sup>TH</sup>, 1776, THE UNITED STATES HAS BEEN THE LAND OF THE FREE.**

Father, thank You for the freedoms we enjoy in our country. But thank You more for the freedoms Jesus Christ won for us all. Amen.



## What will your funeral say about you?

### What do you want people to remember?

One thing I am certain of as a pastor is that, unless Jesus returns, which I hope He does soon, everyone is going to die. That means you and me, too. Are you ready? Christians live by faith with the certainty of death. Our faith says- Jesus died and rose. What happens to Jesus will happen to us. Scripture is clear-

### What will your funeral say about Jesus?

That's the most important question. We poor sinners are only dead men and women walking without Him. Our funerals are a confession of who Jesus our Savior is and what He has done. Make your funeral about Jesus- His is the only Word that matters.

Knowing that you're going to die should prompt you to plan for it, especially the church service. Some questions to consider-

What's my confirmation verse (Pastor preaches on that, usually)?

What other readings from Scripture are meaningful to you?

What hymns are we going to sing? FYI funeral singers are few and far between. It's likely your brothers and sisters gathered in the congregation will be the singers and they should. Music has become controversial in funeral planning. Recorded music is strongly discouraged and sometimes impossible due to copyright law. You can't just play what you want- it's the law. In some cases, music can be inappropriate for a Christian service or not in line with what Scripture teaches. Music should confess clearly who Jesus is. We should use our hymnal, *Lutheran Service Book*. Also, there are a lot more options to sing beyond Amazing Grace, How Great Thou Art. These aren't bad choices, but I encourage you to be creative. If you have questions or ideas, talk to pastor in advance. He really doesn't want to upset your family at the funeral meeting while they grieve you.

Who do you want to do what? You need an organist, pallbearers, etc.

Pick them to give your family an idea. Keep in mind, God-willing, you may out live them or they may not be physically able at the time of your death.

Where do you want to be buried? It's always the best practice to be buried- your family and friends need a place to go to remember you.

**Please see Lycia for a detailed form to fill out this information**



### Vacation Bible School

“Join us for a Tropical Trek where we will learn how Jesus came to seek and save the lost (Luke 19:10)! As we traverse fun and exciting places, like a dormant volcano and island caves, we’ll discover how God finds us and helps us in every challenge we face.”

VBS will be July 20-24 from 6-8 pm. A light meal will be served during VBS.

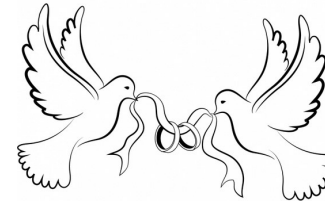
There will be a short program Friday, July 24, at 7:50, with treats and fellowship after.

### **Volunteers are still needed!**

Registration for students and volunteers:  
<https://vbsmate.com/trinityhawarden>

Donations are needed for supplies, meals, and crafts. The Amazon wish list can be found here:  
[https://www.amazon.com/registries/gf/guest-view/2IG66GIC1FE12?ref=cm\\_sw\\_r\\_apin\\_ggr-subnav-share\\_WZYSP6XJTQBB9RSGN7JH&language=en-US](https://www.amazon.com/registries/gf/guest-view/2IG66GIC1FE12?ref=cm_sw_r_apin_ggr-subnav-share_WZYSP6XJTQBB9RSGN7JH&language=en-US)

If someone would like to volunteer or donate and doesn't want to use the links, they can contact Kara Vander Hamm.



Dave Zierke and Coya Night Pipe were united in marriage on June 12, 2026 here at Trinity.

Congratulations & God's Blessings to you both!



### **PRAYER CHAIN**



God has called us to pray and promised to hear. Need a prayer? Please call Jean Toft at 551-6990 and she will pass your prayer requests to those who will pray. There is always room for more to join this prayer group. Give Jean a call.

Two new banners have been given by Barb Cain and family, and Margaret Berg and family, in memory of Marge Dimmick. They are red and will be used for Reformation, Confirmation and Pentecost. We thank them for this gift to Trinity in Marge's memory. They will be dedicated in October for Reformation.



**LWML** met on June 15. We held a short business meeting, a devotion, then “toured” the kitchen. Nancy Buryanek and Sharilyn Buryanek organized some cupboards and Nancy made a map of the kitchen that tells the location of pans, utensils, silverware, mixer, crock pot, etc. The map is on the wall in the kitchen. A first aid kit and a LifeVac (airway clearance device) are also located in the kitchen.



We voted to give \$500 to West Sioux Schools for kids with unpaid lunch balances.

Swaddling Clothes also reported that they served 21 babies/toddlers with diapers in May. The program has seen steady growth. In July, they will be passing out Arch books to parents so they can read Bible Stories to their kids.

Our mission project for June was Lutheran Bible Translators. (We send \$50 to our monthly mission projects.)

All women in our congregation are welcome to join LWML (Lutheran Women Missionary League). Just attend the next meeting— Saturday, July 18, at 8:30 am at Central Café for breakfast!



Here is a partial list of new items the LWML has purchased to complete the necessities in the kitchen: pans with lids, colander, electric griddle, electric roasters, 10 quart crock pot, hand mixer, pie servers, tongs, clear beverage dispensers, three 5 gallon Igloo coolers, utility cart, and drawer dividers.



### Becoming God’s Giving Channels

Our heavenly Father, Who has created us and redeemed us through Jesus, has chosen to work through us to support and carry out His work here on earth. God blesses us financially not to only provide for our needs but to have resources that He can channel through us for purposes that He directs. God uses us as giving channels to help the poor, support His Church, and extend His kingdom here on earth. God gives through us.

In Martin Luther’s Large Catechism, we read the following sentence in his explanation of the First Commandment, “Creatures are only the hands, channels, and means by which God gives all things.” As Luther tell us, “God gives all things” through us. Our heavenly Father uses us as His channels to fund His mission and ministry. So how wide is your channel? Is it as wide as a roaring river like the Poor Widow (Luke 21:1-4), who gave away all she had? Or is it like the Rich Ruler (Matthew 19:16-22), who was no channel at all because he kept all that He had even after Jesus told him to give his riches to the poor? The size of our channels will vary. As our faith matures and our relationship with Jesus deepens, our channels will become wider. In our Christian journey, our channels may begin as little trickles until they become wider, and, for some, as wide as a roaring river.

While we may be more focused on the amount of money that flows through our channels, God looks at our hearts. He wants us to give from loving and giving hearts. When our hearts are right, our channels will be wide open. God knows that what we can give is also determined by our income and the savings and investments that we may or may not have. God has given us different amounts of wealth, so our giving capabilities vary. As our faith grows and we begin to understand the importance of giving, our giving channels will widen. Our hearts determine the flow and our wealth or lack of it reflects the size of our offerings. Through the work of the Holy Spirit, we are enabled to give and to keep on giving for the purposes for which God will direct. The openness of our channels is much more important than size of the gifts that goes through them. Through faith, our giving will increase as God increases our income and wealth. The Apostle Paul wrote, “*You will be enriched in every way to be generous in every way, which through us will produce thanksgiving to God*” (2 Corinthians 9:11). God provides each of us with resources not just for our personal comfort but in order to enable us to be generous. Through our generosity, the recipients of our gifts will give thanks and praise to God.



## From Pastor's Desk...

Good Government is a gift from God (Romans 13:1) according to the Bible. Luther affirms this in his article on "Daily Bread" in the Small Catechism. This July 4, we celebrate the 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of our nation's founding with the signing of the Declaration of Independence. For 250 years, for better or worse, for richer and poorer, in sickness and in health, we have been privileged to live in the land of the free and the home of the brave.

Like a marriage, the relationship between government and people can go well, but can be rocky at times, and in the worst cases, tyrannical. Most of the people I know are quite fearful at worst or hesitant at best when it comes to government interaction in our daily lives. Experience tells us the marriage of people and government should serve one another, but with some clear boundaries in place. That's why our founding fathers set up a complex system of laws to ensure that both government might be held at bay and we would be a nation governed for the people and by the people.

The relationship with good government is only possible when laws are enacted and enforced for the well-being of others, when order is maintained, and justice prevails. Law protect the innocent and punish those who do evil. Preserving peace and punishing evildoers is the primary function of government (Romans 13).

Living as citizens means recognizing this and making good use of good laws as obedient citizens, acknowledging bad ones, praying for our leaders, gathering for worship. For us as Christians, one of the most important tenets of our government is the freedom to exercise our religion found in Article I of the U.S. Constitution. This clause, not only prevents the government from establishing or prohibiting a religion, but, also, allows for the free exercise of religion. This means the government cannot by law interfere with you practicing your Christian faith. Many immigrants, especially German Lutherans who founded the Missouri Synod, immigrated to this country for this very freedom.

Life as citizens in this republic involves careful and intentional practice of our rights as citizens and working with others to preserve and promote good government. Since good government is a gift from God, we should use it as means to serve our neighbor by living our lives of faith as citizens.

May God preserve and defend our nation. May He promote our liberties among us and may the relationship between citizens and government be one of mutual respect, ordered, and peaceful. May God maintain our right to gather as Christians to worship our God and promote Christian living by serving our neighbor according to God's Word.

## Happy July Birthdays!

- 2 Joyce Boerma, Axel Ruhland
- 5 Paul Janssen, Aspen Ruhland
- 7 Cory Aldrich, Mike Schurman
- 9 Cathie Brown, Coleen Riediger
- 11 Shelly Aldrich, Angie Van Wyhe
- 13 Katie Clarey, John Eilts, Breanne Noble
- 14 Quincee Reed
- 16 Eastyn Utech
- 19 Samantha Anderson
- 24 Anna Pulfrey
- 25 Janie Murren
- 26 Rudy McVay, Norma Petry
- 28 Jamie Moothart
- 29 Jeff Petersen, Pria Utesch



## Happy July Anniversaries

- 7 Randy & Barb Ballard 22 yrs
- 17 Tyler & Alyssa Van Wyhe 6 yrs
- 19 Mike & Heather Schurman 18 yrs
- 21 Kody & Michalle Hedden 36 yrs



**Almighty God, ruler of all nations, we thank You for the blessings You have bestowed upon the United States of America and her people for 250 years. We pray that You would grant her good and wise government and sustain her in peace and security, especially so that Your Holy Gospel may be confessed openly and received gladly by her people. Bless the celebrations of this milestone, that they may unite our country as a people and cause us to renew our commitment to the public good. Let all Christians give respect, honor and love where each is due, as servants of Christ in this world whose eternal citizenship is in heaven. Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayer.**



## **JULY 2026 NEWSLETTER**



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