



NEWSLETTER



In This Issue

May 2024 Events	1
Pastor's Page	2
Main Street Living	3
Birthdays and Anniversaries ...	3
Word from the Center	4
Local News	5
Mother's Day Devotion	6
Calendar	

Contact

Rev. Jens Jenson, Vacancy Pastor
605-682-0455 (mobile)
redemarmour@unitelsd.com

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

www.stpaulplankinton.com
605-942-7364

Elders Justin Everson
Curt Guindon
Mike Tuschen

President Justin Everson
LWML President ... Marlene Johnson

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

www.trinitywhitelake.com
facebook.com/trinitywhitelake
605-249-2333

Elders David Bogenhagen
Dan Guericke
Scott Meier

President Dean Suelflow
LWML Presidents Diana Kieffer
Hope Circle
Brianna Bogenhagen
Ruth Circle



St. Paul's Lutheran Church and Trinity Lutheran Church are members of the South Dakota District of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod.

May 2024

Joint Divine Worship Service Schedule for May

Sunday, May 5, 2024 — 5 p.m. at St. Paul's
Sunday, May 12, 2024 — 5 p.m. at Trinity
Sunday, May 19, 2024 — 5 p.m. at St. Paul's
Sunday, April 25, 2024 — 5 p.m. at Trinity

Confirmation will be held on Pentecost Sunday, May 19, 2024, at St. Paul's. Questioning begins at 3:30 p.m. A reception will follow at 4 p.m. The Rite of Confirmation will take place during the 5 p.m. Divine Service. Confirmands are Alexis Hauge (TR) and Addisyn Everson (SP).

Christian Education

Joint Bible Study – TBD
Joint Confirmation Class — 3:45 p.m., same location as the Divine Service, May 5 and May 12.
St. Paul's Sunday School — 3:45 p.m. May 5.
White Lake Community VBS — May 20–24, 2024.

Lutheran Women's Missionary League

Trinity Ruth Circle – May 1, 2025, 6:30 p.m.
Trinity Hope Circle – May 7, 2024, 2 p.m.
St. Paul's Dorcas Circle – May 13, 2024, 2 p.m.

Serving the Lord's Church in MAY

TRINITY

Elder David Bogenhagen
Ushers Dean Suelflow
Ben Bogenhagen
Acolyte Brant Bogenhagen
Altar Janice Thiry

ST. PAUL'S

Elder Curt Guindon
Ushers Justin Everson
Rodney Weber
Acolyte Karter Weber
Altar Sharon Boyd

Scripture Readings

May 5 Acts 10:34–48; 1 John 5:1–8; John 15:9–17
May 12 Acts 1:12–26; 1 John 5:9–15; John 17:11b–19
May 19 Ezekiel 37:1–14; Acts 2:1–21; John 15:26–27, 16:4b–15
May 26 Isaiah 6:1–8; Acts 2:14a, 22–36; John 3:1–17

The **June 2024 newsletter** will be available on or after April 28, 2024. Articles are due Tuesday, April 23, 2024.

Please send newsletter/bulletin items to Nancy Bogenhagen at trinitywlsd@gmail.com. **Weekly bulletin deadline is Thursday noon.** Please email me if you prefer your newsletter emailed to you. Thank you!



Modern-Day Israel and Christians

The recent conflict between Israel and Gaza has sparked all sorts of theological questions and speculation. There are Christians who believe that we must unequivocally support Israel because “Israel is God’s chosen people.” First of all, Holy Scripture does not speak about modern-day conflicts between Israel and Gaza. When Scripture speaks of the Last Days (which is the time from Jesus to the Last Day) it speaks of various matters pertaining to the church (all those who have faith in Christ). Modern-day Israel is not God’s chosen nation or people. Modern-day Israel is not the Israel of the Old Testament either. They do not follow the same civil or ceremonial laws in the Old Testament, but they are an entirely different nation and polity. Modern-day Israel is also made up of many religions including Judaism (which is the religion of the Pharisees), Islam, believing Jews and Gentiles who are Christians, etc.

Scripture is very clear that only those of faith are true Israel. Only believers are the true people of God. St. Paul writes in Romans 9:6–7a, *For not all who are descended from Israel belong to Israel, and not all are children of Abraham because they are his offspring ...* Not everyone who is a biological descendant of Abraham is Israel. Only those of faith are Israel. St. Paul writes in Galatians 3:7–9, *Know then that it is those of faith who are the sons of Abraham. And the Scripture,*

foreseeing that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, preached the Gospel beforehand to Abraham, saying, “In you shall all the nations be blessed.” So then, those who are of faith are blessed along with Abraham, the man of faith. Only those of faith are true sons of Abraham because they share the same faith as Abraham.

God’s Kingdom is also not confined to the boundaries of modern-day Israel, but His Kingdom extends over the whole world because the Gospel has gone out into all the world. The Lord says of Christ’s Kingdom in Zechariah 9:10, *I will cut off the chariot from Ephraim and the war horse from Jerusalem; and the battle bow shall be cut off, and He shall speak peace to the nations; His rule shall be from sea to sea, and from the River to the ends of the earth.* Jesus sent His Apostles into all the world with the Gospel through which He speaks peace to sinners. Wherever God’s Word and Sacraments are, there is Christ and His Kingdom. In short, modern-day Israel is not ancient Israel and it is not God’s chosen people and nation. Christians, however, may certainly support Israel’s right to defend themselves from the evil attacks of Hamas as we should defend any nation’s right to defend itself from harm.

In Christ,
Pastor Jenson

STAY IN TOUCH

Pastor Jens Jenson, Vacancy Pastor

605-682-0455 (mobile) • [redeemarmour@unitelsd.com](mailto:redemarmour@unitelsd.com)

Websites: www.stpaulplankinton.com ~ www.trinitywhitelake.com

Email: trinitywlsd@gmail.com

Social Media: facebook.com/trinitywhitelake

Recordings of Divine Services: Available on the **YouTube** channel, **Trinity White Lake**.



MAIN STREET LIVING MAY 2024

All programs are interpreted and closed-captioned for the hearing impaired. For more information visit:

www.mainstreetliving.com

Broadcast on KDLT (NBC) channels 5.1 / 46.1

May 5, 2024

10 a.m. "How Come A Nice Girl Like You"

A nurse struggles with what to do after reconnecting with an old boyfriend.

10:30 a.m. Rev. Bob Moeller, pastor at Our Saviour's Lutheran in Pipestone, MN, presents a message titled "How to Overcome the World." This sermon is based on 1 John 5:4-5.

May 12, 2024

10 a.m. "A Will to Live" A man leaves a large portion of his money to the church and hospital, then has his will contested by relatives.

10:30 a.m. Rev. Daniel Deardoff, Sr., pastor at Blessed Redeemer Lutheran Church in Brandon, presents a message titled "A Prayer Meant to be Overheard." This sermon is based on John 17:11b-19.

May 19, 2024

10 a.m. "Man in the Middle" Two men are left with a "secret" when one tells he has terminal cancer.

10:30 a.m. Rev. Steve Schulz, from Mission Central in Mapleton, IA, presents a message titled "The Spirit of Truth." The sermon is based on Acts 2:1-21.

May 26, 2024

10 a.m. "Return Trip" The modern-day story of a prodigal daughter.

10:30 a.m. Chaplain Craig G. Muehler, Director of Ministry to the Armed Forces in St. Louis, MO, presents a Memorial weekend message.



MAY 2024

Colston Heismeyer, SP	May 4
Tige Everson, TR	May 6
James Evans, TR	May 7
<i>Ryan & Kyanna Huff, SP</i>	<i>May 7</i>
Dennis Peters, TR	May 8
Marsha Hauge, TR	May 10
Marlene Johnson, SP	May 10
Nancy Bogenhagen, TR	May 11
Collin Borgmann, TR	May 11
Alice Johnson, TR	May 12
<i>Lennis & Sandy Titze, SP</i>	<i>May 15</i>
Ryan Glissendorf, TR	May 17
Brianna Bogenhagen, TR	May 19
<i>Rodney & Kelli Weber, SP</i>	<i>May 20</i>
Rachel Steichen, TR	May 21
Craig Peters, TR	May 22
Jett Kemp, SP	May 23
Danica Thomas, SP	May 23
<i>Larry & Jean Gerlach, SP</i>	<i>May 25</i>
Dean Suelflow, TR	May 26
Hannah Meier, TR	May 27
Arrick Hauge, TR	May 28
Barbara Gilbertz, TR	May 29
TJ Salonen, TR	May 29
<i>Dale & Deb Pope, TR</i>	<i>May 29</i>
Jean Johnson, SP	May 31



WORD FROM THE CENTER

So, [Jesus] went in to stay with them. ³⁰When He had reclined at the table with them, He took the bread and blessed it, and breaking it, He began giving it to them. ³¹Then their eyes were opened and they recognized Him; and He vanished from their sight. ³²They said to one another, “Were not our hearts burning within us while He was speaking to us on the road, while He was explaining the Scriptures to us?” ³³And they got up that very hour and returned to Jerusalem, and found gathered together the eleven and those who were with them, ³⁴saying, “The Lord has really risen and has appeared to Simon.” ³⁵They began to relate their experiences on the road and how He was recognized by them in the breaking of the bread (Luke 24:29b-35).

WHAT FIRES BURN IN YOUR HEART TODAY?

What a Bible study it must have been that day! On the road to Emmaus, Jesus ROOTED those disciples in the firm promises of the Bible that had come to fruition in Him. Even more, Jesus set their hearts on fire by anchoring their faith in Him in all things (verse 32). That’s a fire which comes from God’s love and grace through faith in the Son of God. It comes from knowing that God’s OFFER OF LIFE AND SALVATION IN JESUS BURNS BUT DOES NOT DESTROY. INSTEAD, IT EMPOWERS US AND SETS OUR LIVES ON FIRE TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE, BOTH NOW AND IN OUR ETERNITY WITH HIM.

In my work in Washington, D.C., I see a lot of passion around town. There are people who are passionate for this policy or that legislation. There are people who think that if we just “restructure” the government correctly, then all of our problems would be solved. (That’s definitely not me!) Then there are people who are passionate about their jobs, their hobbies, or their families. These can all be good, but they must never be the ULTIMATE THING in our lives. Passion, even for the good things in life, must be rooted in the fire that comes by faith in Jesus. Then the fire of our Spirit-inspired passions, rooted in and refreshed by God’s Word and Sacraments, will not devour us. Instead, they will “burn” in us in a way that empowers our lives as Jesus’ disciples and fuels our love for others in His Name.

Jesus speaks bluntly about the things that naturally burn in our corrupted, selfish, and sinful hearts. “Out of the heart come evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, slanders. These are the things which defile the man” (Matthew 15:19-20). Even worse, such fires can blind us to the love that God has for us in Jesus. They can blind us to the wisdom of

God’s Word for our lives and for the lives of those whom we love. The passionate fires of sin and rebellion may seem fulfilling for a time, but those which go contrary to His Word only disconnect us from Jesus and ultimately destroy life.

If you have been singed by those fires or if they are burning out of your control in your life today, hear the good news of this text. Even amidst the fires of hopelessness, ignorance, or unbelief, Jesus comes with the fires of God’s Law to call you to repentance and then, by the power of the Holy Spirit through God’s Word and Sacraments, to open your heart to His grace, forgiveness, life, and salvation. Then the fire of God’s Gospel promise in Christ burns brightly to help you battle the fires of sin and temptation in your life.

So the question posed by this text today is, “What makes your heart burn?” When it’s the Word of Scripture seeking to deepen your faith in your Savior, Jesus Christ, that’s an empowering fire, not a devouring one. When life is continually resourced by the fires of God’s Word in the enduring promises of the waters of Baptism and at the Table of the Lord’s Supper, that’s a heavenly heartburn which offers grace through faith in Jesus. It is sure to not only bless you, but to bless others through you. May that blessing be yours today in Christ, as it was for those who walked with Him so long ago and recognized Him in the “breaking of the bread” (verse 35).

PRAYER: Dear Lord Jesus, open my eyes to see the empowering fire of Your Word as it creates and strengthens my faith in You. Then give me courage to “speak the truth in love” (Ephesians 4:15) with the passion and the humility that comes from receiving the blessings of Your Word by grace through faith. AMEN.

Rev. Gregory Seltz

NEWS

From Our Parish

St. Paul's will be honoring their 2024 **high school graduate**, Jacey Kemp, **May 5, 2024**, with a supper following Divine Service. All are welcome to attend.

Confirmation will be held Sunday, **May 19, 2024**, at St. Paul's. This year's confirmands are Alexis Hauge (TR) and Addisyn Everson (SP). Questioning will begin at 3:30 p.m. A reception will be held following the questioning and prior to the Divine Service. Cake, coffee, and punch will be served.

St. Paul's will hold their church **Spring Cleaning** Saturday, June 1, 2024, starting at 9:30 a.m. A pizza lunch will be served for everyone at noon. We will need all men, women, and children to help if you are able.

Trinity
Lutherans
for Life of
White Lake
will host



their **Annual Diaper Drive from Mother's Day to Father's Day 2024**. Please consider donating diapers and/or wipes. For your convenience, collection totes will be at Ron's Market in White Lake and in Plankinton. Then encourage community members to pick up a donation for their family in August!

Members of Trinity Lutherans for Life are excited that the donations will go directly to help those in our area. The Diaper Distribution will be held Friday, August 2, 2024, from 5 to 7 p.m. Members of the community may come to Trinity Lutheran Church, White Lake, during these set times and pick up what size(s) they need for their child(ren).

Trinity LFL is striving to share the message that life should be supported at all stages. Each phase of life comes with its own challenges and expenses for parents and caregivers. The community diaper drive and distribution help show our love and support for the smallest community members and to celebrate life with our families.

Ink Cartridge Recycling. Due to decreased benefits of recycling, Trinity will no longer be collecting used ink cartridges. Thank you for all who have contributed in the past!



White Lake Community Vacation Bible School

Monday May 20–Friday May 24, 2024
Trinity Lutheran Church
8:30 a.m. to 11 a.m.
Pre-K – 5th grade
Potluck and Closing Program will be Friday night at the White Lake City Park.

For more information please contact Brianna Bogenhagen (605-680-2247).



The **LWML South Dakota District 2024 Convention** will be held June 7–8, 2024 at the Best Western Hotel and Convention Center, Aberdeen, SD under the theme “Inexpressible Joy † Matchless Savior” (1 Peter 1:8–9).

Special Guests are Bible study leader Donna Snow, Keynote speaker Kay Kreklau, LWML Representative Arlene Naasz, and Gifts of Love presenter Katie Gifford.

Deadline for registration and meals is April 30, 2024. (*Nancy's Note – late registrations accepted.*)

Visit sdlwml.org/district-conventions for details.

"Influencers"

I am reminded of your sincere faith, a faith that dwelt first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice and now, I am sure, dwells in you as well. For this reason I remind you to fan into flame the gift of God, which is in you through the laying on of my hands, for God gave us a spirit not of fear but of power and love and self-control (2 Timothy 1:5-7).

Among the many godly mothers and their sons mentioned in the Bible, Eunice and her son Timothy stand out. Timothy was a faithful friend and loyal assistant of the apostle Paul. Though a bit timid in temperament, Timothy joined with Paul on various missionary trips and had even been left in charge of the congregation at Ephesus.

Somewhere near the end of Paul's fight for the faith, he wrote the words in our text above to Timothy. Paul wanted to strengthen the faith and zeal of his young apprentice. He wanted to encourage him to be true and steadfast in what he had learned about Jesus: how He died for our sins, how He rose again to be our Savior, how He is coming back one day to gather all believers to share eternal life with Him.

In his travels, Paul had seen all types of circumstances in the people he encountered. He understood the effect people have on one another — both good and bad. "Bad company ruins good morals," he told the church at Corinth (1 Corinthians 15:33b), warning them of the dangers that lay ahead if they follow their current course. But of Timothy's mother and grandmother, Paul speaks to the grace and goodness of a faith shared and encouraged within a family — how God uses it for achieving His own purposes.

It's a lesson for us today. Many are the influences our children will experience in the course of growing up. If what they find in their homes is but the simple reflection of what they see all around them, well, then theirs will be an uphill battle, to say the least. But when the home is centered in the love of Christ and His forgiveness, children are encouraged by this example. They are empowered by God's Spirit to live a life of faith, firmly grounded in His Word.

Paul understood the tremendous impact of one's upbringing when he wrote this to Timothy: *But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it and how from childhood you have been acquainted with the sacred writings, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus (2 Timothy 3:14-15).* What a wonderful compliment from the apostle to those who raised Timothy!



WE PRAY: Heavenly Father, give us courage to express our faith in our households, loving our families as You have loved us in Jesus Your Son. In His Name we pray. Amen.

From "Blessed by a Christian Mother," a sermon from Rev. Dr. Armin Oldsen, former Speaker of **The Lutheran Hour** | lhm.org/dailydevotions/default.asp?date=20230520



MAY 2024



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1 6:30 p.m. TR Ruth Circle	2	3	4
5 6th Sun. of Easter Events at St. Paul's 3:45 p.m. Confirmation/SS 5 p.m. Joint Divine Service	6	7 2 p.m. TR Hope Circle	8	9	10	11
12 7th Sun. Easter Mother's Day Events at Trinity 3:45 p.m. Confirmation 5 p.m. Joint Divine Service	13 2 p.m. SP Dorcas Circle	14	15	16	17	18
19 Pentecost Sunday Events at St. Paul's 3:30 p.m. Questioning 4 p.m. Conf. Reception 5 p.m. Joint Divine Service & Rite of Confirmation	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> White Lake Community Vacation Bible School "Celebrate the Savior" Trinity Lutheran Church 8:30–11 a.m. each day </div>					25
26 Holy Trinity Events at Trinity 5 p.m. Joint Divine Service	27 MEMORIAL DAY	28	29	30	31	