



St. Paul's
Lutheran Church

SEPTEMBER 2023 NEWSLETTER



Trinity
Lutheran Church

In This Issue

September Events	1
Read Through the Bible	2
Convention Reflections	3-4
Main Street Living	4
Stay in Touch	4
Word From the Center	5
LWML Events	6
Calendar	

Contact

Rev. Jens Jenson, Vacancy Pastor
605-682-0455 (mobile)
[redeemarmour@unitelsd.com](mailto: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.

Upcoming Joint Divine Worship Service Schedule

Sunday, September 3, 2023 — 5 p.m. at St. Paul's
Sunday, September 10, 2023 — 5 p.m. at Trinity, Pastor Grimmer
Sunday, September 17, 2023 — 5 p.m. at St. Paul's
Sunday, September 24, 2023 — 5 p.m. at Trinity
Sunday, October 1, 2023 — 5 p.m. at St. Paul's

Pastor Jenson's schedule: Offutt duty September 4-15, 2023. Pastor Loeslie (Immanuel, Dimock) will be on call for emergencies during this time. Pastor Loeslie's cell: 605-630-1896.

Christian Education

Joint Bible Study— 6 p.m. at the same location as the Joint Divine Service, starting September 24, 2023.

Joint Confirmation Class — Sundays at 3:45 p.m. at the same location as the Joint Divine Service, starting September 17, 2023.

Sunday School — Sunday, 3:45 p.m. September 17, 2023, at St. Paul's.

Release-Time — Wednesdays, 2:15-3:15 p.m. at Trinity.

Lutheran Women's Missionary League

LWML Trinity Joint Annual Meeting Wed. Sept. 6, 5:30 p.m. Ruth hosts.

LWML Mitchell Zion Prayer Service – Thurs. Sept. 7, 7 p.m. (see p. 6)

LWML St. Paul's Dorcas Circle – Monday, Sept. 11, 2 p.m.

LWML SD District Christian Life Workshop – Sat. Sept. 30 (see p. 6)

Serving the Lord's Church in SEPTEMBER

TRINITY

Elder Scott Meier

Ushers Ron Steffen

Dan Meier

Acolyte Taelyn Clark

Altar Barb Gilbertz

ST. PAUL'S

Elder Mike Tuschen

Ushers Curt Guindon

Merlyn Haak

Acolyte Jenna Haak

Altar Cathy Albrecht

Greeters 9-3 Billie Madsen

9-17 Lennis & Sandy Titze

Serving the Lord's Church in October

TRINITY

Elder Dan Guericke

Ushers Dean Suelflow

Ben Bogenhagen

Acolyte Brant Bogenhagen

Altar Jane Guericke

ST. PAUL'S

Elder Justin Everson

Ushers Brent Morenz

Mike Tuschen

Acolyte Addisyn Everson

Altar Marlene Johnson

Scripture Readings

Sept. 3 Jeremiah 15:15-21; Romans 12:9-21; Matthew 16:21-28

Sept. 10 Ezekiel 33:7-9; Romans 13:1-10; Matthew 18:1-20

Sept. 17 Genesis 50:15-21; Romans 14:1-12; Matthew 18:21-35

Sept. 24 Isaiah 55:6-9; Philippians 1:12-14, 19-30; Matthew 20:1-16

Oct. 1 Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32; Phil. 2:1-4, 14-18; Matthew 21:23-27

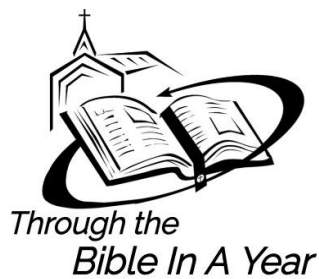
The **October 2023 newsletter** will be available October 1, 2023. Articles are due Tuesday, September 26, 2023.

Please send newsletter and 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!

Many Christians have considered challenging themselves to read through the Bible in one year. Lutheran Women's Missionary League (LWML) is offering you that very opportunity! The Gospel Outreach Committee has created a monthly reading plan to

On Your Mark! Get Set! Open Your Bibles!



SEPTEMBER 2023

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
					1 2 Chronicles 6 Malachi 2:17-3:18 John 9:1-23	2 2 Chronicles 7 Malachi 4 John 9:24-41
3 2 Chronicles 8 Psalm 73 John 10:1-21	4 2 Chronicles 9 Psalm 74 John 10:22-42	5 2 Chronicles 10-11 Psalm 75 John 11:1-27	6 2 Chronicles 12-13 Psalm 76 John 11:28-57	7 2 Chronicles 14-15 Psalm 77 John 12:1-26	8 2 Chron. 16-17 Psalm 78:1-20 John 12:27-50	9 2 Chronicles 18 Psalm 78:21-37 John 13:1-20
10 2 Chronicles 19 Psalm 78:38-55 John 13:21-38	11 2 Chron. 20:1-21:1 Psalm 78:56-72	12 2 Chron. 21:2-22:12 Psalm 79 John 14:15-31	13 2 Chronicles 23 Psalm 80 John 15:1-16:4a	14 2 Chronicles 24 Psalm 81 John 16:4b-33	15 2 Chronicles 25 Psalm 82 John 17	16 2 Chronicles 26 Psalm 83 John 18:1-18
17 2 Chron. 27-28 Psalm 84 John 18:19-38a	18 2 Chronicles 29 Psalm 85 John 18:38b-19:16	19 2 Chronicles 30 Psalm 86 John 19:17-42	20 2 Chronicles 31 Psalm 87 John 20:1-18	21 2 Chronicles 32 Psalm 88 John 20:19-31	22 2 Chronicles 33 Psalm 89:1-18 John 21	23 2 Chronicles 34 Psalm 89:19-37 1 John 1
24 2 Chronicles 35 Psalm 89:38-52 1 John 2	25 2 Chronicles 36 Psalm 90 1 John 3	26 Ezra 1-2 Psalm 91 1 John 4	27 Ezra 3-4 Psalm 92 1 John 5	28 Ezra 5-6 Psalm 93 2 John	29 Ezra 7-8 Psalm 94 3 John	30 Ezra 9-10 Psalm 95 Jude

*We give thanks to you, O God; we give thanks, for your name is near.
 We recount your wondrous deeds (Psalm 75:1).*

REFLECTIONS ON THE SYNOD CONVENTION

Rev. Scott Sailer, LCMS South Dakota District President

My overall impression of the 68th Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS) Convention held in Milwaukee July 29–August 3, 2023, is that our beloved church body, in convention, affirmed that which is of utmost importance: *We Preach Christ Crucified*. That was the theme, and that is what we have done since our Synod's inception in 1847.

The Convention emphasized:

- 1) The centrality of the Gospel (again, the theme drove this home). I would point you to the fine essay presented by Concordia Seminary president, Rev. Dr. Tom Egger, as representative of the fine presentations on the centrality of “Christ crucified.” His presentation begins at the 3 hour and 12-minute mark on the Sunday morning recording. www.lcms.org/convention/national/livestream
- 2) Our firm stance on God's truth, found in His inspired, inerrant Word. Resolution after resolution had us maintaining what God says about marriage, gender, race, life issues, and many more front-page issues today. See especially the resolutions coming out of Floor Committee #11, Church and Culture; for many of those, see the initial *Today's Business* found here: www.lcms.org/convention/national.
- 3) Our commitment to make Christ known here, near, and far. We heard from many international partners in ministry. We considered many witness and outreach matters, especially coming out of Floor Committee #1 (National Witness) and Floor Committee #2 (International Witness). See *Today's Business* at the link above.

Other reports, observations, and opinions:

- 1) The South Dakota District's lone overture submitted, coming out of our last District Convention, gained a little traction this time, after we had submitted a similar overture to a previous Synod Convention. The overture, this time, was 9-17, found in the *Convention Workbook* (p. 380), and it regards eliminating the distinction between electoral circuits and visitation circuits, and eliminating the need to have a certain number of communicant members in order to comprise an electoral circuit (currently, there is to be a minimum of 1500 members and a maximum of 10,000 members to comprise an electoral circuit). This affects voting delegate representation at Synod conventions. Our overture asked the convention to grant 7 to 20 congregations the ability to be represented at Synod conventions by one lay voting delegate and one ordained voting delegate, *no matter the number of communicant members*. Well, our overture was grouped into Resolution 9-06 (To Appoint Task Force to Evaluate Current Electoral Circuit Parameters), found on page 183 of the *Today's Business* noted above, and which was approved by the Convention. So, the matter is going to be studied. We'll see where this ends up.
- 2) The SMP program (Specific Ministry Program), a distance-learning route toward ordination, was a matter that came before the Convention; it came away largely unchanged. I think this is good news for our District, since the ministry of SMP pastors has been a tremendous blessing to us. SMP students will continue to be granted vicar status immediately upon seminary enrollment; they can be ordained after two years in the program. That remains unchanged. The revamping of the Concordia University System (Resolution 7-04B; August 1 *Today's Business*) met with much debate, but in the end, it was adopted by a large majority. I'm hearing that the universities, if not overjoyed by the changes, are satisfied that they will be able to work within the parameters to function as they feel they need to as institutions of the Church firmly committed to our identity as confessional Lutheran Christians. Our universities are such blessings to the Church! Even if the number of church workers produced by our universities is not what it once was, our universities do provide church workers and dedicated laypeople in many, many occupations. And many students, coming to campus as unbelievers, are being brought to faith through the strong witness given concerning the world's Savior!
- 3) The most beautiful and bittersweet moments, for me, came at about 1:30 p.m. on Wednesday, August 2, in the Commemoration of the Faithful Departed. Shown on the screens were pictures of hundreds of ordained and commissioned ministers who, since the last Convention, are now in glory with the Savior. We thanked and praised the God of our salvation for their lives and ministries, and their lives now in glory. There was a big lump in my throat as I saw on the screen the pictures of these servants who served in South Dakota and are now with the Lord: Revs. Ray Adams, Hyle Anderson, Charles Boeder, Paul Consoer, Monte Dell, Bill Dietz, Bob Fedde, and Mr. Marvin Sopko.

(continued on the next page)



MAIN STREET LIVING SEPTEMBER 2023

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

September 3, 2023

10 a.m. "The Sound of Doors Closing" — A man's mid-life crisis and the effect it has on his family.

10:30 a.m. Rev. Robert Hinckley, pastor at Zion Lutheran Church in Chamberlain, presents a message titled "Take Up Your Cross and Follow Jesus." This sermon is based on Matthew 16:24.

September 10, 2023

10 a.m. "Tina" — Two lonely people, a woman and a child, come together through Jesus.

10:30 a.m. Rev. David Strable, pastor at Holy Cross-Trinity-Immanuel Lutheran Churches in Onida-Blunt-Harrold, presents a message titled "Be a Watchman." This sermon is based on Ezekiel 33:7–9.

September 17, 2023

10 a.m. "Look to the Mountain" — A hopeless situation becomes more hopeless when a down and out man kidnaps a young girl for ransom money.

10:30 a.m. Rev. Sam Handschke, pastor at Faith Lutheran Church in Pierre, presents a message titled "What Does Jesus Mean?" This sermon is based on Matthew 18:21–35.

September 24, 2023

10 a.m. "Home Free" — A family learns the real meaning of love, and that it comes free.

10:30 a.m. Rev. Ray Greenseth, pastor at Messiah-Zion-St. Paul Lutheran Churches in Murdo-Presho-Draper, presents a message titled "God Meant it for Good." This sermon is based on Genesis 50:15–21.

LCMS CONVENTION REFLECTIONS, con't.

- 1) I served as Chairman of the Elections Committee. There were 62 elections, and because of delays in vote tabulation, I had to stand on the stage in front of the delegates way, way too long. But it was an honor to serve. And we got the job of electing servants for the Church accomplished.
- 2) My thanks to our sixteen voting delegates and several other advisory delegates and representatives who comprised the South Dakota delegation. They did a great job representing you!

It is a huge blessing to belong to The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod! We are not perfect, but we do keep the main thing the main thing: the blessed Good News of forgiveness and salvation through Christ alone!

STAY IN TOUCH

Pastor Jens Jenson

Vacancy Pastor

605-682-0455 (mobile)

redemarmour@unitelsd.com

Websites

www.stpaulplankinton.com

www.trinitywhitelake.com

Links for the bulletin, printed service, and for the YouTube recording are updated weekly under the Services tab!

Email

trinitywlsd@gmail.com

- Submit newsletter and bulletin articles.
- Update a prayer request.
- Request a digital copy of the newsletter.

Social Media

facebook.com/trinitywhitelake

Recordings of Divine Services

Available on the YouTube channel,
Trinity White Lake.



WORD FROM THE CENTER – August 21, 2023

Welcome to “Word from The Center” MONDAY, a devotional word from the Center of our faith, Jesus Christ, with reflections from His Word. I’m Gregory Seltz. Today’s verses are Matthew 15:21–28, where the Bible says ²¹ *Leaving that place, Jesus withdrew to the region of Tyre and Sidon.* ²² *A Canaanite woman from that vicinity came to him, crying out, “Lord, Son of David, have mercy on me!*

My daughter is demon-possessed and suffering terribly.” ²³ *Jesus did not answer a word. So his disciples came to him and urged him, “Send her away, for she keeps crying out after us.”* ²⁴ *He answered, “I was sent only to the lost sheep of Israel.”* ²⁵ *The woman came and knelt before him. “Lord, help me!” she said.* ²⁶ *He replied, “It is not right to take the children’s bread and toss it to the dogs.”* ²⁷ *“Yes it is, Lord,” she said. “Even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their master’s table.”* ²⁸ *Then Jesus said to her, “Woman, you have great faith! Your request is granted.” And her daughter was healed at that moment.*

WILL YOU LET JESUS DRAW OUT YOUR FAITH?

This event in the Bible is one of the most difficult to read. It is a moment in the life of a woman who is at the end of her rope. She’s overwhelmed by issues with her daughter. Things are out of her control. Her life is in chaos. And yet, at the moment when her life seems to be unraveling, it appears that Jesus “piles on!”

If that’s what it appears to you, keep reading. This event is not really about this woman’s struggles, monumental as they might be. This event is about her trust in God in ALL things. This event is about her trust in the Savior Whom God the Father had sent for her. This event is about the truth that when all one has in this life is Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior, He is all you need.

In fact, this woman knew that when the darkness and chaos of this world seem to overwhelm, then the uniqueness of Jesus shines even more clearly. No matter what she was facing, Jesus was there; no matter what you and I are facing, Jesus is here. That always makes all the difference. Trust IN HIM. She knew that Jesus would do what was best for her and for her daughter. That’s the power of her faith. To that end, ***HER PERSISTENT FAITH DEMONSTRATES THAT YOU CAN ALSO COUNT ON JESUS, EVEN WHEN YOU CAN’T COUNT ON ANYTHING ELSE!***

So even when Jesus is silent for a time, or even when He appears to be unconcerned, the woman in this text urges you not to believe it because Jesus loves you and will do what is best!

She knows what it’s like to hold on to Him no matter what. And she would tell you to COUNT ON JESUS WHEN ALL ELSE FAILS. YOU CAN EVEN COUNT ON HIM WHEN HE SEEMS SILENT FOR A TIME. We know that even beyond her example. We know that’s true because Jesus’ death and

resurrection demonstrate publicly what He thinks about you and me, and what He wants for us all.

BACK TO THE LESSON FOR ONE LAST THOUGHT. WHAT ABOUT JESUS’ RESPONSES? He seems to put her off, even to mildly insult her (see verses 23 and 26). WHY WOULD HE DO SUCH A THING? IT SEEMS SO UNLIKE HIM.

I say it was to EXHIBIT HER FAITH, to demonstrate her faith for others to see! Her faith remains a shining EXAMPLE, especially for those of us today who might be having a hard time with what we think God is doing or not doing for us at the moment. She was in essence saying, “Whatever you do for me, Jesus, IT WILL BE THE BEST FOR ME. I CAN PUT MY TRUST IN YOU ALONE. So I’m committing my life and my daughter’s life to you.” PERIOD.

Some people think that the woman’s faith caused Jesus to act. That misses the whole point. She knew the depth of the mercy of this Jesus who stood before her. He was THE LORD, THE MASTER, WHO WOULD BRING GOD’S MERCY TO HER AND TO ALL (see verse 22)!

I wish I could have seen Jesus’ face. He couldn’t wait to bless her trust in Him. He couldn’t wait to “exhibit” that faith for others to see so that they too would be blessed by it. When you and I are struggling, let the example of this woman’s faith be our faith-commitment too. Then let Him draw out your faith for others to see, empowering your life of trust IN HIM to be the blessing that it is meant to be for those you love. I pray that you will.

PRAYER – Dear Lord, let this woman be an example to us all of faith’s persistence to rely upon You as the source and foundation of our very lives, now and forever! Amen.



LWML PRAYER SERVICE

Presented at
Zion Lutheran Church, Mitchell, SD

Thursday, September 7, 2023
7 p.m.

**“MY SOUL REJOICES: A SERVICE OF
SONG AND PRAYER”**

*But let all who take refuge in you rejoice;
let them ever sing for joy ... (Psalm 5:11a).*

The 2023 LWML Prayer Service, written by former LWML Pastoral Counselor Rev. Dr. Mitchel Schuessler of Clarinda, Iowa, will bless your heart and life as you join with your sisters and brothers in singing songs of prayer and praise to the Lord who continues to bless you daily. Singing familiar hymns, joining together in the Word, and spending time in prayer, individually and corporately, will help you recognize and give thanks for your God-given blessings. “My Soul Rejoices” is filled with hymns, the Word, and prayer.

You can look forward to a joyous and uplifting worship service. Plan now to attend!

LWML SOUTH DAKOTA DISTRICT 2023 CHRISTIAN LIFE WORKSHOP

THE IMPACT OF *Original Sin*

Presenter: Josh Schmitt, DCE
St. John’s Lutheran Church, Yankton

Saturday, September 16, 2023

Peace Lutheran Church
219 E St. Anne St.
Rapid City, SD 57701

Saturday, September 30, 2023

Zion Lutheran Church
1400 S. Duluth Ave.
Sioux Falls, SD 57105

*There will be a silent auction at this
location, with proceeds going toward the
mission goal.*

Registration: 9:30–10 a.m.

Workshop: 10 a.m.–3 p.m.

A morning offering will be gathered for our
mission goal.






A freewill donation will be gathered to cover
lunch expenses.





SEPTEMBER 2023



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
Pastor Jenson will be away September 4–15. Pastor Loeslie is on call.					1	2
3  Fourteenth Sunday Pentecost 5 p.m. at St. Paul's Joint Divine Service	4	5	6 2:15 p.m. TR Release-Time 5:30 p.m. TR LWML Annual Joint Meeting	7 7 p.m. LWML Women's Prayer Service Zion, Mitchell	8	9
10  Fifteenth Sunday Pentecost 5 p.m. at Trinity Joint Divine Service	11 2 p.m. SP Dorcas Circle 	12	13 2:15 p.m. TR Release-Time	14	15	16
17  Sixteenth Sunday Pentecost Events at St. Paul's 3:45 p.m. Confirmation/SS 5 p.m. Joint Divine Service	18	19	20 2:15 p.m. TR Release-Time	21	22	23
24  Seventeenth Sunday Pentecost Events at Trinity 3:45 p.m. Confirmation 5 p.m. Joint Divine Service 6 p.m. Bible Class	25	26	27 2:15 p.m. TR Release-Time	28	29	30 10 a.m.–3 p.m. LWML SD District Christian Life Workshop, Zion SF