



OCTOBER 2023 NEWSLETTER



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Contact

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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
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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, October 1, 2023 — 5 p.m. at St. Paul's
Sunday, October 8, 2023 — 5 p.m. at Trinity
Sunday, October 15, 2023 — 5 p.m. at St. Paul's
Sunday, October 22, 2023 — 5 p.m. at Trinity
Sunday, October 29, 2023 — 5 p.m. at St. Paul's

Pastor Jenson's schedule: Offutt duty October 16–18, 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. October 29 at St. Paul's.

Joint Confirmation Class — Sundays at 3:45 p.m. at the same location as the Joint Divine Service.

Sunday School — Sunday, 3:45 p.m. October 1, 15, and 29, 2023, at St. Paul's.

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

Lutheran Women's Missionary League

LWML Mitchell Zone Fall Rally — Sun. Oct. 1, 12:30 p.m., Armour

LWML Trinity Hope Circle — Tues. Oct. 3, 2 p.m.

LWML Trinity Ruth Circle — Wed. Oct. 4, 6:30 p.m.

LWML St. Paul's Dorcas Circle – Monday, Oct. 9, 2 p.m.

Quarterly Voters Meetings

St. Paul's — Sunday, October 1, 2023, following the Divine Service.

Trinity — Sunday, October 8, 2023, following the Divine Service.

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

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

Oct. 8 Isaiah 5:1–7; Philippians 3:4b–14; Matthew 21:33–46

Oct. 15 Isaiah 25:6–9; Philippians 4:4–13; Matthew 22:1–14

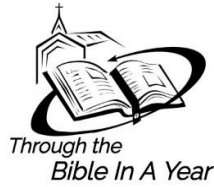
Oct. 22 Isaiah 45:1–7; 1 Thes. 1:1–10; Matthew 22:15–22

Oct. 29 Revelation 14:6–7; Romans 3:19–28; John 8:31–36

The **November 2023 newsletter** will be available October 29, 2023. Articles are due Tuesday, October 24, 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 guide you.



October 2023

1 Nehemiah 1-2 Psalm 96 Revelation 1	2 Nehemiah 3 Psalm 97 Revelation 2	3 Nehemiah 4 Psalm 98 Revelation 3	4 Nehemiah 5:1-7:4 Psalm 99 Revelation 4	5 Nehemiah 7:5-8:12 Psalm 100 Revelation 5	6 Nehemiah 8:13-9:37 Psalm 101 Revelation 6	7 Nehemiah 9:38-10:39 Psalm 102 Revelation 7
8 Nehemiah 11 Psalm 103 Revelation 8	9 Nehemiah 12 Psalm 104:1-23 Revelation 9	10 Nehemiah 13 Psalm 104:24-35 Revelation 10	11 Esther 1 Psalm 105:1-25 Revelation 11	12 Esther 2 Psalm 105:26-45 Revelation 12	13 Esther 3-4 Psalm 106:1-23 Revelation 13	14 Esther 5:1-6:13 Psalm 106:24-48 Revelation 14
15 Esther 6:14-8:17 Psalm 107:1-22 Revelation 15	16 Esther 9-10 Psalm 107:23-43 Revelation 16	17 Isaiah 1-2 Psalm 108 Revelation 17	18 Isaiah 3-4 Psalm 109:1-19 Revelation 18	19 Isaiah 5-6 Psalm 109:20-31 Revelation 19	20 Isaiah 7-8 Psalm 110 Revelation 20	21 Isaiah 9-10 Psalm 111 Revelation 21-22
22 Isaiah 11-13 Psalm 112 1 Thes. 1	23 Isaiah 14-16 Psalm 113 1 Thes. 2:1-16	24 Isaiah 17-19 Psalm 114 1 Thes. 2:17-3:13	25 Isaiah 20-22 Psalm 115 1 Thes. 4	26 Isaiah 23-24 Psalm 116 1 Thes. 5	27 Isaiah 25-26 Psalm 117 2 Thes. 1	28 Isaiah 27-28 Psalm 118 2 Thes. 2
29 Isaiah 29-30 Psalm 119:1-32 2 Thes. 3	30 Isaiah 31-33 Psalm 119:33-64 1 Timothy 1	31 Isaiah 34-35 Psalm 119:65-96 1 Timothy 2				

*Sing to the LORD, bless his name;
tell of his salvation from day to day (Psalm 96:2).*



Only take care, and keep your soul diligently, lest you forget the things that your eyes have seen, and lest they depart from your heart all the days of your life. Make them known to your children and your children's children (Deuteronomy 4:9).



Let the little children
come to me....

LUKE 18:16

Dear Christians, the summer has certainly flown by and I pray that you all had a good summer. Your calendars are probably pretty full right now with school, sports, concerts, and other things starting back up. Like all parents, I take great interest in what my children are learning, doing, and I think about their futures. What do I want my children to be when they are grown? I certainly want them to be hard workers, I want them to marry young and have children, and so on. You probably have other thoughts about what you want your children and grandchildren to be when they grow up. Above all things though, we should all want our children and grandchildren to be Christians. Jesus says in Matthew 6: 19–21, *Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal, but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal... Therefore do not be anxious, saying, "What shall we eat?" or "What shall we drink?" or "What shall we wear?" For the Gentiles seek after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them all. But seek first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.*

Unbelievers want and seek many of the same things for their children as we do for ours. However, we Christians seek one thing above all things and that is the Gospel which is the greatest treasure. The Gospel is our greatest need because we are sinners and death is near. Death comes for all whether they are successful, rich, poor, etc. The Gospel absolves sin and freely gives hope, peace, light, and everlasting life. If you have the Gospel, then you have, as Jesus says, the one thing that is necessary. The world is passing away with all of its treasures and pleasures, but the Word of the Lord endures forever. We want our children to hold fast to His Word all their days.

We want our children, above all things, to be Christians and then everything else falls behind that. How do we sustain and nourish the faith of our children and grandchildren? How do we nourish and sustain our own faith? The answer is the Gospel, God's Word and Sacraments, which we gather around every Sunday. Through the Gospel God has worked faith in our hearts and through the Gospel our faith is nourished and strengthened. If we stay connected to the vine, then we continue to grow and be nourished.

If we neglect church, then we neglect the Gospel which is to neglect our salvation and go back to sin, death, and unbelief. Faith wants to hear God's Word and receive His Sacrament. The Third Commandment says, "Remember the Sabbath Day to keep it holy. What does this mean? We should fear and love God that we may not despise preaching and His Word but hold it sacred and gladly hear and learn it."

If we neglect church, then what will our children and grandchildren learn from this example? They will learn that the Gospel is not important and not necessary. If we neglect church, then what do you think our children and grandchildren will do in the future? They will continue to do what they did growing up, not going to church. *Train up a child in the way he should go; even when he is old he will not depart from it (Proverbs 22:6).* Be faithful in hearing God's Word and receiving the Sacrament. If you have not been in church in a long time, then repent and come back. Gather around Jesus who absolves all sin and welcomes us all. The peace of the Lord be with you.

In Christ, Pastor Jenson



MAIN STREET LIVING OCTOBER 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

October 1, 2023

10 a.m. "Like Father Like Son"

A father's example leads to his son making questionable choices at school.

10:30 a.m. "By What Authority?"

Rev. Gregory Hinners, pastor at St. John-St. Peter and Our Redeemer Lutheran Churches in Norris-Midland and Philip, SD presents a message based on Matthew 21:23–27.

October 8, 2023

10 a.m. "Families Come First"

A man contends with the demands of his career, promotion, and his vocation as a father.

10:30 a.m. "The Anatomy of a List"

Rev. Randy Sturzenbecher, pastor at Divine Shepherd Lutheran Church in Black Hawk, SD presents a message based on Deuteronomy 10:12–21.

October 15, 2023

10 a.m. "Conspiracy of Silence"

A husband and wife come to grips with a terminal illness.

10:30 a.m. "More than Just Keeping a Positive Attitude"

Rev. Albert Sutton, pastor at Evergreen Lutheran Church in Evergreen, SD presents a message based on Philippians 4:4–12.

October 22, 2023

10 a.m. "Big Account"

An advertising agency art director learns the impact of his work on his family and others.

10:30 a.m. "The Things of God"

Rev. Norman Wacker, pastor at Mount Calvary and Bethlehem Lutheran Churches in Sundance and Moorcroft, WY presents a message based on Matthew 22:15–22.

October 29, 2023

10 a.m. "The Sexton"

A pastor and a sexton (church caretaker) with magical powers fight an eerie duel in a church.

10:30 a.m. Guest presenter to be announced.

STAY IN TOUCH

Pastor Jens Jenson

Vacancy Pastor

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Websites

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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 – September 25, 2023

Welcome to “Word from The Center” MONDAY, a devotional word from the Center of our faith, Jesus Christ, with reflections on His Word. I’m Gregory Seltz. Today’s verses are from the Prophet Isaiah, chapter 55, verses 6-7, where he says, ***Seek the Lord while He may be found, call upon him while He is near; let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; let him return to the Lord, that He may have compassion on him, and to our God, for He will abundantly pardon.***

THE OFFER OF GOD’S COMPASSION AND PARDON IS REAL — DON’T MISS IS IT!

Today many people are running around demanding apologies and retribution. It’s a very difficult time in our country because many don’t truly believe in “right and wrong” anymore, yet they are certain that their accusations against others are just. Even worse, most really have no idea as to what should be done to responsibly change things. Sinful people have a bad habit of pointing fingers at others and demanding that others change, as if their accusations against others somehow get them “off the hook.” Our text for today doesn’t let anyone get away with such things. In life, the main question is, “What does God think about our lives, according to His standards?” Then, when we fail to meet those standards, a follow up question asks, “Is there any hope?” Isaiah calls us all to account before the Lord in thought, word, and deed, and then invites us to return to God in repentance and faith. Real blessing only happens there. That’s the main question. That’s the main thing.

I was reminded about how destructive it can be when that “main question” is avoided. When I was in Germany several years ago, we had a young woman (not much more than 21) who led us through the Dachau death camp. It was a sobering experience. It’s hard to imagine how human beings could do such things. Unfortunately, sinful human history is littered with similar, sickening acts. Many Germans

have had to struggle with the fact that such things happened in their midst. Many wondered how such things could have happened in a country that was so “progressive” intellectually and culturally at the time. How, indeed? But, sadly, what I learned that day at Dachau was that, instead of individually asking the main question of why so many of them had fallen away from God, many Germans preferred to find scapegoats, blaming the citizens who lived nearby the camp, projecting all that “sin” on to them. This young guide was one of those scapegoats. She wasn’t even born WHEN the atrocities happened, yet many Germans had “tarred and feathered” her merely because she was BORN THERE. They claimed, “It was the people of Dachau, you see, not us.” As a result, young people like this woman would be forced to live in shame so that others could go on their merry way. The problem? The main question still was unanswered.

We, as Americans, are dealing with many issues today, and **the real problem is that we don’t see how far we’ve fallen away from the things of God**, the moral truths of the Bible. Many think that politics can “save” us. Politics won’t save a people who feel no need to get right with God on His terms. Like Isaiah, Jesus reminds us of that urgency. Jesus declares that whoever hates his brother is a

murderer (see Matthew 5:22) and adds, "Whoever looks lustfully at a woman has committed adultery in his heart" (Matthew 5:28). He concludes that in order to meet God's standard, we are to "be perfect as your heavenly Father is perfect" (Matthew 5:48).

When you begin to feel the real weight of your own sin before God, Isaiah invites us to "seek the Lord while He may be found." Don't give into the temptation to falsely cast your guilt on to another person. Don't give in to the temptation to blame your parents, your teachers, or "the system." Sin, your sin, is so much more than all of that, but forgiveness for your sin is the beginning of living a "free life" that no government can ever take away. When the crushing reality of your sin hits home, that's the time to realize that God has a message for sinners like you and me. Realize that there is one who took away the crushing blow of your

sin and mine as only He could. While it's wrong to cast your guilt upon others, Jesus invites you to bring your sins to the cross, because He is your Savior. Isaiah tells us to seek the Lord. Jesus tells us to put our faith in Him (John 14:1).

I don't know if we're going to come out of the sin-denying, libertine malaise of today because I haven't yet seen a "turning to God" moment. People aren't asking, "What does the Bible say about things?" or, "What does God think about our lives, about my life?" Yet, amazingly, many of those same people are confident about other people's sins, while remaining oblivious to their own. In the midst of this, take Isaiah's advice, "Return to the Lord" and be honest before Him, "for he will abundantly pardon." Then **live lives of grace and truth towards others**. That's not just a start; that's the only thing that will last.

PRAYER – Dear Lord, give us confidence to trust in Your "exposing" Word, as well as Your "saving" Word. Then give us courage to live lives graciously in Your name toward others. AMEN.

What was the world like during the time of the Reformation? The world was changing. New scientific discoveries had opened pathways for understanding more about our complex universe. The ocean, once feared for its danger and depth, was tamed for travel and trade. Peasants and workers, laboring under harsh and relentless conditions, sought revolution. The bubonic plague had claimed the lives of about 75 million people from 1347 to 1351. It continued to reappear and panic European cities. Political alliances, long forged between pope and prince, fractured as power centers shifted. Gutenberg's press (1455), the first to use movable type, transported ideas from one person to the next with swiftness and ease. As the medieval era collapsed into the modern, changes seemed everywhere and limitless.




Yet even during these changing times one thing remained constant: our God, who grants forgiveness and grace to His people through Jesus Christ. Despite advances and transformations in science and society, politics and publication, God was working. He gave hope and life by His Spirit through Word and Sacraments. He bestowed comfort and joy in trying and often perilous situations. In changing times, His promises through His Son did not change, nor will they ever. They will never be altered, nor revoked. His Word pronounces us righteous through faith in His Son, Jesus Christ. He alone is our Life and our Peace.

<https://resources.lcms.org/history/a-reformation-timeline/>



October 2023



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1  Eighteenth Sunday Pentecost Events at St. Paul's 3:45 p.m. Confirmation/SS 5 p.m. Joint Divine Service 6 p.m. SP Voters Meeting	2	3 2 p.m.  TR Hope Circle	4 2:15 p.m. TR Release-Time 6:30 p.m.  TR Ruth Circle	5	6	7
8  Nineteenth Sunday Pentecost Events at Trinity 3:45 p.m. Confirmation 5 p.m. Joint Divine Service 6 p.m. TR Voters Meeting	9 2 p.m.  SP Dorcas Circle	10	11 2:15 p.m. TR Release-Time	12	13	14
15  Twentieth Sunday Pentecost Events at St. Paul's 3:45 p.m. Confirmation/SS 5 p.m. Joint Divine Service	16	17	18 2:15 p.m. TR Release-Time	19	20	21
	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;"> Pastor Jenson out of the office. </div>					
22  Twenty-first Sunday Pentecost Events at Trinity 3:45 p.m. Confirmation 5 p.m. Joint Divine Service	23	24	25 2:15 p.m. TR Release-Time	26	27	28
29  Reformation (Observed) Events at St. Paul's 3:45 p.m. Confirmation/SS 5 p.m. Joint Divine Service 6 p.m. Bible Class	30	31	<i>For I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes (Romans 1:16).</i>			