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Contact

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* OFFICE HOURS *

St. Paul's, Tuesdays, 9-11:30 a.m.
Trinity, Wednesdays, 9-11:30 a.m.

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
109 W State St., Plankinton SD 57368
www.stpaulplankinton.com
605-942-7364

Elders Curt Guindon
Mike Tuschen

President Rodney Weber

LWML President ... Marlene Johnson

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
304 S Johnston St., White Lake SD 57383
www.trinitywhitelake.com
facebook.com/trinitywhitelake
605-249-2333

Elders David Bogenhagen
Ben Bogenhagen
Scott Meier

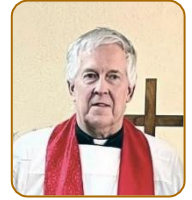
President Dan Guericke

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.

HOW GREAT IS THE FATHER'S LOVE FOR US!



Dear Members of Trinity and St. Paul's,

All through the Bible we read of how God became angry with nations and individual people. Romans 1:18 says, *For the wrath of God is being revealed from heaven against all godlessness and wickedness of people who suppress the truth by their wickedness.* God's anger is a righteous anger because of sins.

God became angry with Cain when he killed his brother Abel. Because of what Cain did, God put a curse on him and told him he would be a wanderer on the earth. According to Exodus 32:10, God was angry with the Israelites for creating a golden calf which they worshiped. God said He would consume them for their idolatry. Numbers 11:1 says, *Now the people complained about their hardships in the hearing of the Lord, and when He heard them, His anger was aroused. Then fire from the Lord burned among them and consumed some of the outskirts of the camp.* There are many other examples of God's wrath brought down on people because of their sins and refusing to repent.

The Bible says that all have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God. This means that all deserve to be forever separated from God in hell. **But the Good News of the Bible is that God loves us so much that He would send the Savior to take all of our sins upon Himself so that those who believe in Him are saved from hell and given the free gift of heaven.** Romans 5:1 says, *Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. What a wonderful gift!* It is something we should celebrate every day. We should worship and praise God for this in church every chance we get. When the Apostle John considered the great love of God for His people he wrote, ***How great is the love the Father has bestowed on us that we should be called children of God! And that is what we are.***

Pastor McKillop



WORD FROM THE CENTER

Freedom to Do Good!



⁹And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up. ¹⁰So then, as we have opportunity, let us do good to everyone, and especially to those who are of the household of faith.
(Galatians 6:9–10).

Would you agree with me that there is a weariness in our culture today, especially for those who try to reflect biblical values in their lives? When Christians “speak the truth in love” (Ephesians 4:15), our culture often responds by refusing to acknowledge any limitation on one’s lifestyle and ridiculing the notion of there being any accountability concerning the biblical view of truth, love, morality, or, for that matter, even life.

What has been ramping up the last few years (and this is a strategic thing for the “secular-pietistic-statists” in our midst) is the public shaming, demonization, intimidation, and even legal punishments for those who merely confess Christ, His grace, His mercy, His love, and His service to and for all. In that sense, it is a different time in America. The notion that we are “freed to serve” others on God’s terms has been recast as, “Free to do whatever I want unless you can stop me.” And those of us with a proper sense of our own sin, brokenness, and need for grace realize that two “freedoms” are at work in our culture today. One is real freedom; the other counterfeit. One freedom flows from a grace relationship with God in Christ that strives to freely do what is right in God’s eyes. The other is license to do whatever we please on our own terms, as if the solutions to our deepest problems were within our grasp.

In the book of Galatians, St. Paul instructs us in the power of **authentic freedom** which comes from Christ’s life, death, and resurrection, and it is offered to all as a gift of grace (Galatians 5:1, 13). In our passage today, Paul reminds us that this **authentic freedom has real purpose in this life — it is a freedom to serve**. It is the joyful opportunity to reflect the gracious love we’ve received so that others might also come to know the real freedom that Christ has made possible for them. The power of this “good news” freedom enables you to live life with the enduring

perspective that **Christ has set you free now and on into eternity**. That’s a freedom in Christ that’s always looking for ways to do good “as we have opportunity.” That’s a freedom active in love (Galatians 5:6), eagerly looking for ways to be His people for others until we reap the harvest of God’s work for us in Christ. Wow, **that’s freedom IN ACTION by the power of His love and mercy, all received by faith alone!**

So, on this July 4th weekend, be reminded of the fact that **you need this love and the world needs it too**. Because of the freedom that believers in Jesus have in Him, along with the gift of temporal freedom that God has granted citizens of this country, you have numerous opportunities to **SHARE THIS LOVE!** **As believers, we “get to” shift our focus away from ourselves** — which is hard to do, I’ll grant you. But we can, because Christ always has His gracious, loving eyes on us. He enables and empowers us to face whatever we are up against today. This allows us to see more clearly the opportunities for love and service that are presented to us each day.



In Christ, YOU ARE FREE FROM being ruled by your burdens and YOU ARE FREE FOR doing good to others, all to the glory of God. So, take up the challenge to do good, as you “have opportunity,” not because you have to, but because **you get to**. Remember these things as well: money can’t give life meaning; power and prestige, even education and technology, can be both a blessing and a curse. But living each day in the freedom that comes by faith in Christ, and then looking for ways to love and serve those whom God brings into your path, that’s a way of life that endures forever. Freedom provides opportunities to do good work. In Christ, look for those things today. Others will be blessed that you do, and so will you!

PRAYER: Dear Lord Jesus, help us to be ready to do good as we have opportunity, to share the love and grace we’ve received so abundantly from You. AMEN

Rev. Dr. Gregory P. Seltz

JULY 2026

Serving the Lord during July 2026

Trinity

Elder Scott Meier
Ushers Dan Guericke
Dan Meier
Acolyte Britton Bogenhagen
Altar Jane Guericke

St. Paul's

Elder Mike Tuschen
Ushers Kieth Albrecht
Josh Kemp
Acolyte Addisyn Everson
Altar Deb Haak
Greeters July 5 Kieth & Cathy Albrecht
July 12 Merlyn & Deb Haak
July 19 Marv Jira
July 26 Carol Schaeffer

Scripture Readings for Sundays in July

July 5 Sixth Sunday Pentecost Zechariah 9:9–12; Romans 7:14–25a; Matthew 11:25–30
July 12 Seventh Sunday Pentecost .. Isaiah 55:10–13; Romans 8:12–17; Matthew 13:1–9, 18–23
July 19 Eighth Sunday Pentecost Isaiah 44:6–8; Romans 8:18–27; Matthew 13:24–30, 36–43
July 26 Ninth Sunday Pentecost Deuteronomy 7:6–9; Romans 8:28–39; Matthew 13:44–52

Synodical News — Harrison Elected to Sixth Term as LCMS President

The Rev. Dr. Matthew C. Harrison, having received more than 50% of the votes cast in the third ballot for the election of the president of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS), is the president-elect for the 2026–2029 triennium. It will be his sixth term in office.

The election for the position of Synod president began last fall with an online nominating process, that concluded Feb. 18, or five months prior to the start of the Synod convention, with a report to the secretary of the Synod. The resulting candidates for the office of president were the five ordained ministers who received the highest number of votes in the nominations process and who consented to serve if elected. The voting began June 6 (six weeks prior to the convention) via Internet balloting.

The 5,478 pastoral and lay voters validly registered by the congregations and parishes of the Synod before the deadline, or their substitutes, served as the voters for this election. Sherm Fuerniss, Delmont, and Rev. Daniel Grimmer, Mitchell, are the delegates for the LCMS SD District Mitchell Circuit. A total of 5,038 votes were cast in the third round of voting, constituting a vote percentage of 92.0% of the electorate. (The voter percentage was 85.4% in the first round and 88.4% in the second round.)

The 69th Regular Convention of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod is scheduled for July 18–23, 2026, in downtown Phoenix. The theme will be “Christ Is Risen Indeed,” based on 1 Corinthians 15:20–22: *But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. For as by a man came death, by a man has come also the resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ shall all be made alive.* Read more at lcms.org/convention/national.

Newsletter

The **August newsletter** will be available on/after August 2, 2026. Please submit news/articles to the parish secretary at trinitywlsd@gmail.com by Tuesday, July 28, 2026. If you would prefer an emailed digital newsletter instead of a printed copy, please contact Nancy at the same email address. *Thank you!*



MAIN STREET LIVING JULY 2026

All programs are interpreted and closed-captioned for the hearing impaired.
www.mainstreetliving.com

Broadcast on KDLT (NBC) channels 5.1 / 46.1

July 5, 2026

10 a.m. "A Dream of His Own" A father and son are at odds when their construction company will evict an Indian family.

10:30 a.m. Rev. Michael Kumm, pastor at Holy Cross Lutheran Church in Dakota Dunes, SD, presents a message titled "Rest for the Weary". The sermon is based on Matthew 11:25–30.

June 12, 2026

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. Paul Sajban, pastor at Lutheran Church of Our Savior in Windom, MN, presents a message titled "Good Soil, Healthy Plant". The sermon is based on Matthew 13:1–9, 18–23.

June 19, 2026

10 a.m. "Interlude" A husband and wife struggle with marital issues.

10:30 a.m. Rev. Dr. Nabil Nour, pastor at Our Redeemer Lutheran Church in Sioux Falls, SD, presents a message titled "A Promise Filled with Hope". The sermon is based on Romans 8:24–25.

June 26, 2026

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

9:30 a.m. Rev. Christopher Amen, pastor at St. Paul Lutheran Church in Pipestone, MN, presents a message titled "Worth Everything". The sermon is based on Matthew 13:44–52.



July 2026

Stephanie Everson, SP	July 1
Evelyn Greene, SP	July 4
Liam Thomas, SP	July 5
Shawnda Thompson, TR	July 6
<i>Kurt & Donna Fink, SP</i>	July 6
Deb Pope, TR	July 8
Maxine Warnke, SP	July 10
<i>Kieth & Cathy Albrecht, SP</i>	July 10
Karen Meier, TR	July 14
Trey Dozark, TR	July 15
Paul Everson, TR	July 18
<i>Matt & Jayna Doering, TR</i>	July 18
Erin Thomas, SP	July 21
Deb Pickart, SP	July 24
Theresa Glissendorf, TR	July 25
Dick Markhardt, TR	July 26
Daniel Greene, SP	July 27
Michael Hempel, TR	July 28
<i>Josh & Ferra Kemp, SP</i>	July 28
Ryker Clark, TR	July 29
Tyree Everson, TR	July 30
Myshelle Everson, TR	July 30
Charles Fink, SP	July 31

DIAPER DISTRIBUTION DATE IS SET

Trinity Lutherans for Life would like to **thank you** for your generous donations for our 26th annual diaper drive!

We are excited to announce that the **8th Annual Diaper Distribution** date is set for **Friday, August 14, 2026, from 5 to 7 p.m.** We invite everyone to participate in this event and to celebrate family with us by stopping in at Trinity Lutheran Church, White Lake and picking up diapers for their children during this time. For more information contact Jane Guericke 605-207-0625 or Nancy Bogenhagen 605-249-2570.

Moments with Mary Jo

SUMMER BLESSINGS!



Mary Jo Stier
LWML District President

The dog days of summer are upon us. In June, we gathered in the beautiful Black Hills, joining together and sharing the “Confidence in His Grace” at our district convention June 5-6. If you were there, I hope that the Spirit of the Lord filled your hearts as you heard the Word, participated in servant events, learned about the Mission Grants and enjoyed fellowship with your LWML sisters.

This event couldn't be accomplished without the help of many people. Thank you to the ladies of the Black Hills Zone and everyone who has helped to organize this convention in any way, big or little.

As we begin a new biennium, we say thank you and praise be to God for everyone who gives their time, talents and treasures to further the kingdom of God.

I thank the outgoing officers — Dianne Hemminger, Heather Miller, Luann Zuercher, and Paula Warren along with Pastor Mosemann (even though he is staying on for two more years). May God bless each of you as you continue to work in His harvest fields. There are many opportunities to share your gifts and talents within the LWML.

If you are interested in serving on a committee, please reach out to me.

“And let us consider how we may spur one another on toward love and good deeds, not giving up meeting together, as some are in the habit of doing, but encouraging one another—and all the more as you see the Day approaching.” Hebrews 10:24-25

As we journey into the 2026-2028 biennium, I pray that you can participate in the many LWML activities and Bible studies in your groups, zones and the district.

Please continue to fill your mite boxes.

I hope to see you in Oklahoma City for the 2027 National LWML convention, “Transformed in Christ,” based on Romans 12:2.

May the Triune God bless you each day as you feel the “Confidence in His Grace.”

LWML MITCHELL ZONE UPDATE

By Diana Kieffer,
Mitchell Zone President

Mitchell Zone's Christian Life Workshop was held at Zion Delmont April 25, 2026.

Rev. Dr. Brian Mosemann presented the Bible study "How to Handle the Sword" based on Ephesians 6:11–17. The Bible study was engaging, intertwined with humor.

Each participant received an inflatable sword, called "Sword of the Spirit."

Mites collected were \$341 and Gifts from the Heart for Lutheran Braille Workers was \$915.

A delicious noon luncheon was served by the Delmont ladies.

LUTHERANS FOR LIFE



South Dakota 12th Grader Wins Lutherans for Life National Essay Contest

By Jill Johnsen

A South Dakota high school senior was announced the winner of the national Lutherans For Life Essay contest, marking the first time a South Dakota participant has won the national award.

Olivia Brown of St. Paul, Spearfish, received first place in both the South Dakota Lutherans for Life essay contest and the national contest.

Olivia's essay competed in a field of 15 states and was declared the winning essay in the 9th–12th grade category.

There is very strong competition for this contest and Olivia has been entering and winning the South Dakota contest since middle school.

SOUTH DAKOTA DISTRICT CALL STATUS AS OF 6/24/2026

PENDING – ORDAINED

Name	Present Congregation	Calling Congregation	Date Received
Schewe, Caleb	St. John's, Monticello, IA	Divine Shepherd, Black Hawk, SD	6/7/2026

ACCEPTED - ORDAINED

Name	Present Congregation	Calling Congregation	Date Accepted

DECLINED - ORDAINED

Name	Present Congregation	Calling Congregation	Date Declined
Andreasen, Jordan	Office of International Missions	St. Peter, Wentworth, SD	6/1/2026
Davis, Chris	Emmanuel, Milbank, SD	Redeemer, Fairhope, AL	6/20/2026
Smith, Jacob	St. Paul's, Aberdeen SD	South Shore Trinity, White Bear Lake, MN	5/15/2026

VACANCY STATUS

City	Church	Position	Status/Man Called	Date	Vacancy Pastor
Black Hawk	Divine Shepherd	Senior Admin.	Calling from the field	5/4/2025	Dennis Mercer
Blunt-Harrod-Onida	Trinity Immanuel Holy Cross	Sole Pastor	Calling from the field	9/21/2025	Michael Kumm David Otten
Brookings	Mt. Calvary	Associate Pastor	Calling from the field	6/02/2025	Matthew Wurm
Corona Wilmont	Trinity Our Savior	Sole Pastor	Calling from the field	11/16/2025	Chris Davis
Cresbard-Wecota	Concordia-Immanuel	Sole Pastor	Calling from the field	10/30/2022	David Otten Tom Penrod
Huron	Mt. Calvary	Sole Pastor	Calling from the field	6/23/2025	Phil Andreasen
Pierre	Faith	Sole Pastor	Calling from the field	5/18/2026	Michael Kumm
Plankinton-White Lake	St. Paul-Trinity	Sole Pastor	Calling from the field	8/1/2021	Don McKillop
Rapid City	Peace	Sole Pastor	Calling from the field	9/7/2025	Terry Naasz
Reville Milbank	St. John Bethlehem	Sole Pastor	Calling from the field	2/14/2026	Nathaniel Brown Thomas Puffe
Sisseton Waubay	Emanuel Zion	Sole Pastor	Calling from the field	8/4/2025	Jonathon Varns Robert Mueller
Tripp Delmont	Emmaus Zion	Sole Pastor	Calling from the field	1/5/2026	Joseph Greenmyer Ryan Loeslie
Wagner-Fairfax	St. John-Trinity	Sole Pastor	<i>Pastor-Elect Morgan Phillips</i>	12/23/2024	Jens Jenson Gary Jacobson
Wall-Creighton	First - Emmanuel	Sole Pastor	Calling from the field		Lucas Edwards
Watertown	Mt. Olive	Sole Pastor	Calling from the field	12/29/2025	Aaron Asmus
Wentworth	St. Peter	Sole Pastor	Calling from the field	9/15/2024	Wayne Bernau
Sioux Falls	District Office	Assistant to the President	Evaluating Needs	12/21/2025	

JULY 2026

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
			1	2	3	4 Independence Day
5 Sixth Sunday Pentecost  Divine Services 8:30 a.m. Trinity 10:30 a.m. St. Paul's	6	7 TR Hope Circle 1 p.m. TR Ruth Circle 6:30 p.m.	8	9	10	11
12 Seventh Sunday Pentecost  Divine Services 8:30 a.m. Trinity 10:30 a.m. St. Paul's	13	14	15	16	17	18
19 Eighth Sunday Pentecost  Divine Services 8:30 a.m. Trinity 10:30 a.m. St. Paul's	20	21 Trinity Voters 7 p.m.	22	23	24	25
LCMS Synodical Convention — Phoenix, AZ — July 18–23, 2026 — "Christ Is Risen Indeed"						
26 Ninth Sunday Pentecost  Divine Services 8:30 a.m. Trinity 10:30 a.m. St. Paul's	27	28	29	30	31	