



NEWSLETTER



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Contact

Rev. Jens Jenson, Vacancy Pastor
605-682-0445 (mobile)
redemarmour@unitelsd.com

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

www.stpaulplankinton.com
605-942-7364

Elders Justin Everson
Curt Guindon
Mike Tuschen

President Marv Jira

LWML President ... Marlene Johnson

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

Elders Dan Guericke
David Bogenhagen
Brian Hall

President Dean Suelflow

LWML Presidents Diana Kieffer
Hope Circle
Brianna Bogenhagen
Ruth Circle



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. Thanks!

MAY 2022

Joint Divine Worship Services

Saturday, May 7, 2022 — 6 p.m. at Trinity
Saturday, May 14, 2022 — 6 p.m. at St. Paul's
Saturday, May 21, 2022 — 6 p.m. at Trinity
Saturday, May 28, 2022 — 6 p.m. at St. Paul's
Saturday, June 4, 2022 — 6 p.m. at St. Paul's, with Confirmation

Joint Youth Confirmation and Saturday School Classes

4:45 p.m. on the same dates and in the same locations as the Saturday Divine Worship Services listed above. The final Saturday School class for the 2021–2022 school year is May 14th. The final Confirmation class will be May 28th.

Bible Study – Book of Daniel

7–7:45 p.m. at the same dates and in the same locations as the Saturday Divine Worship Services listed at the top of the page.

Release-Time Class

Trinity 2:15 p.m. Wednesday, May 4th

Lutheran Women's Missionary League

Trinity Hope Circle – May 3, 2022, 2 p.m.
Trinity Ruth Circle – May 3, 2022, 6:30 p.m.
St. Paul's Dorcas Circle – May 9, 2022, 2 p.m.

Council Meeting

St. Paul's — May 11, 2022, 7 p.m.

Serving the Lord's Church in MAY

TRINITY

Elder David Bogenhagen
Ushers Dean Suelflow
Ben Bogenhagen
Acolytes Jacob Doering
Joshua Doering
Altar Janice Thiry

ST. PAUL'S

Elder Curt Guindon
Ushers Justin Everson
Rod Weber
Lane Wessling
Acolyte
Altar Sharon Boyd

Scripture Readings

May 7 Acts 20:17–35; Revelation 7:9–17; John 10:22–30
May 14 Acts 11:1–18; Revelation 21:1–7; John 16:12–22
May 21 Acts 16:9–15; Revelation 21:9–14, 21–27; John 16:23–33
May 28 Acts 1:12–26; Revelation 22:1–6, 12–20; John 17:20–26
June 4 Genesis 11:1–9; Acts 2:1–21; John 14:23–31

White Lake Community Vacation Bible School, "Cave Quest:

Following Jesus the Light of the World" will be hosted by St. Peter's Catholic Church from 8:30–11 a.m. May 23–27, 2022. Contact Laura Hall for more information (407-474-9134).

The June 2022 newsletter will be available on/after May 28, 2022. Articles are due May 24, 2022.

SHOULD WE PRAY OR TALK TO THE DEAD?

Prayer falls under the Second Commandment: *Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord Thy God in vain.* What does this mean? *We should fear and love God that we may not curse, swear, use witchcraft, lie or deceive by His name, but call upon it in every trouble, pray, praise, and give thanks.*

Prayer is an act of worship. If we call upon the dead, then we are giving them worship which is forbidden (also, God alone is omnipresent and is able to hear the prayers and sighs of all people from all over the world). Not only is it forbidden for us to speak to the dead, but they do not hear us nor are they watching over us. God alone hears us and He alone is watching over us and helping us. Those who die in the Lord are with the Lord in glory, resting from their labors, and awaiting the day of the resurrection when soul and body are reunited to live on the new earth for all eternity. Isaiah 63:15–16, *Look down from heaven and see, from Your holy and beautiful habitation. Where are Your zeal and Your might? The stirring of Your inner parts and Your compassion are held back from me. For You are our Father, **though Abraham does not know us, and Israel does not acknowledge us**; You, O Lord, are our Father, our Redeemer from of old is Your name.*

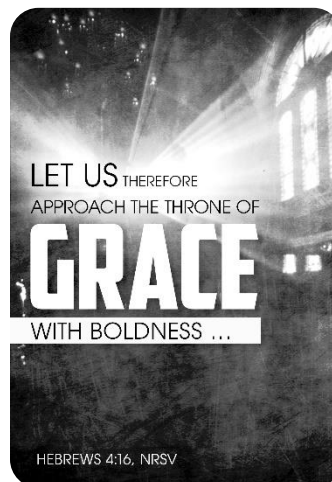
Notice what Isaiah says of the patriarchs Abraham and Israel. They do not know their descendants, nor do they acknowledge them. Why? They are no longer with us in this fallen world, but they live in glory and are thus ignorant and unaware of our matters. Since they are no longer in the world this means they can neither understand our thoughts, sighs, and desires nor look into our hearts. Only God searches and looks into our hearts.

There is no command from God to pray to the dead and no promise that they will hear. Scripture says prayer belongs to the Lord alone. In the early church there was never any talk about praying to the Saints or speaking to them. Calling upon the Saints came about over time like many bad things

that entered the church (purgatory, indulgences, etc.).

We should not make a practice of talking to the dead even though we miss them. Their bodies are in the grave, but their souls live with Christ. When we feel sorrow over loss God wants us to speak to Him for He will hear, answer, and comfort. The dead do not hear us nor are they watching everything we do, but they are in bliss with Christ. Talking to the dead leads to idolatry and leads away from the Gospel which gives eternal life in the forgiveness of sins.

God knows our sighs and sorrows and He is able to sympathize with us. Hebrews 4,



For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin. Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

We should not pray or talk to the dead because it is idolatry and vain. Scripture also forbids us from trying to contact the dead. If a Christian pursues this, then they are departing from the faith and will be speaking to the devil. Deuteronomy 18:9-14, *When you come into the land that the Lord your God is giving you, you shall not learn to follow the abominable practices of those nations. There shall not be found among you anyone who burns his son or his daughter as an offering, anyone who practices divination or tells fortunes or interprets omens, or a sorcerer or a charmer or a medium or a necromancer or one who inquires of the dead, for*

whoever does these things is an abomination to the Lord. And because of these abominations the Lord your God is driving them out before you. You shall be blameless before the Lord your God, for these nations, which you are about to dispossess, listen to fortune-tellers and to diviners. But as for you, the Lord your God has not allowed you to do this.

We honor the Saints who have gone before us by thanking and praising God for them and their confession and by imitating their faith, hope, love, and other Christian virtues. In our sorrow we speak to Christ who is the resurrection and the life and we find comfort and support from our fellow saints who are sojourning with us. To God be the glory.

In Christ, Pastor Jenson

Call Day 2022

South Dakota District Calls

Concordia Seminary St. Louis

Jacob Friedrich received a call to serve as a vicar at Peace Lutheran; Brookings; Redeemer Lutheran, Flandreau; and Zion Lutheran White.

Thomas Mueller received a call to be the pastor at Zion Lutheran, Waubay and Emanuel Lutheran, Sisseton.

Concordia Theological Seminary Ft. Wayne

Joseph Greenmyer received a call to serve as a vicar at Zion Lutheran, Mitchell.

Stay in Touch

Websites

www.stpaulplankinton.com

www.trinitywhitelake.com

Links for the bulletin, printed service, and link 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.

Recordings of Divine Services

Available on the YouTube channel,
Trinity White Lake.



Main Street Living May 2022

All 10:30 a.m. programs are interpreted and closed-captioned for the hearing impaired. For more information visit:
www.mainstreetliving.com

* **Main Street Living will be pre-empted by sports programming on 5/8, 5/22, and 5/29.**

May 1, 2022 – KDLT (NBC)

10 a.m. **“No Place to Hide”** A pastor, who has to face the death of his wife, cannot find comfort.

10:30 a.m. **Rev. Terry Makelin**, pastor at St. Paul Lutheran Church in Freeman, SD, presents a message titled “St. Philip and St. James and the Apostles.” This sermon is based on John 14:1–14.

May 8, 2022 – ODLT (FOX) *

10 a.m. **“Dead End”** Because of frustration with his life, a man turns to drinking and another woman.

10:30 a.m. **Rev. Matthew Bless**, pastor at Concordia Lutheran Church in Vermillion, SD, presents a message titled “The Good Shepherd Cares for His Sheep.” This sermon is based on John 10:22–30.

May 15, 2022 - KDLT (NBC)

10 a.m. **“The Main Event”** A boxer who is hit by a car becomes embittered until he meets a cheerful 8-year-old girl.

10:30 a.m. **Rev. Steve Weispfennig**, Senior pastor at St. John's Lutheran Church in Yankton, SD, presents a message titled “Restored.” This sermon is based on Revelation 21:1–7.

May 22, 2022 – ODLT (FOX) *

10 a.m. **“The Prisoners”** An elderly woman is attacked and terrorized by a teenage gang.

10:30 a.m. **Rev. Ryan Loeslie**, pastor at Immanuel Lutheran Church in Dimock, SD, presents a message titled “Praying In Jesus' Name.” This sermon is based on John 16:23–33.

May 29, 2022 – ODLT (FOX) *

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. Paul Sajban**, pastor at The Lutheran Church of Our Savior in Windom, MN, presents a message titled “His Untarnished Crown.” This sermon is based on Ephesians 1:15–23.



WORD FROM THE CENTER – April 18, 2022

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 reading is Luke 24:5b-7, where an angel speaks these words to the women at Jesus’ empty tomb: *Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here; he has risen! Remember how he told you, while he was still with*

you in Galilee, “The Son of Man must be delivered over to the hands of sinners, be crucified and on the third day be raised again.”

DON'T LOOK FOR WHAT REALLY MATTERS IN THE WRONG PLACES!

There are days when we are reminded that certain things matter, but that other things matter the most! This is one of those days! When it comes to finding a good place to help you to “get your act together” or “get your life together,” it may be profitable to look at a healthy eating guide, the latest personal planner, or some self-motivating books or novels. But none of those places can truly deal with the issues that ail us. On Easter Sunday, God calls all of humanity to look into the empty tomb of Jesus to come to terms with their deepest need, and also to see His answer for it. Human beings are sinful, broken, and incapable of their own rescue. God the Father sent His Son Jesus to live our life, to die our death, and, by His resurrection, to give us eternal life as a gift. So, look into His empty tomb today. It matters for you!

First, it’s important to realize why it’s important to look into this particular tomb, the empty tomb of Jesus the Christ. In his book, *Therefore Stand*, Wilbur M. Smith notes that, “of the four great religions of the world resting directly upon personalities rather than upon some philosophical system, the Christian FAITH is the only one that even talks about an empty tomb in relation to its founder, JESUS.” He adds, Buddha is dead, Mohammed is dead, Confucius is dead, BUT CHRIST IS ALIVE! But there is even more.... of all the great leaders of the world.... THE PHAROAHS, THE GENERALS, THE WARRIORS, THE EMPERORS, THE KINGS, EVEN THE PRESIDENTS.... You can visit THEM AT THEIR IMPRESSIVE TOMBS! BUT THEY’RE STILL DEAD.^[1]

But the One born of a virgin, who suffered under Pontius Pilate, the One crucified, dead and buried, THIS JESUS, THIS ONE ALONE IS ARISEN AND LIVES AND REIGNS TO ALL ETERNITY.

And, most importantly, the empty tomb of Jesus demonstrates the success of His mission as this world’s Messiah, this world’s Savior. The CROSS PROCLAIMS OUR NEED FOR A SAVIOR, AND THE EMPTY TOMB PROCLAIMS THAT THERE IS ONLY ONE SAVIOR FOR THE WORLD. Jesus is the one Lord, crucified and risen, who, as the Bible says, “has destroyed death and has brought life and immortality to light through the gospel” (2 Timothy 1:10).

Several years ago I was privileged to lead a group of people to the traditional site of the empty tomb of Jesus. It was an awesome experience. When we stood together at HIS EMPTY TOMB, we were invited to believe and proclaim THAT HE DID ALL OF THIS FOR THE WHOLE WORLD, which means He did this FOR EACH ONE OF US as well! Today, by faith, I pray that you can say that too. Don’t look for answers to the ultimate questions of life in people or places that will only disappoint. Look to Christ’s cross and empty tomb, the place where God fulfills His promise of life and salvation for you, now and forever.

PRAYER: Dear Lord Jesus, Your cross and resurrection are public displays of the uniqueness of Your saving mission and ministry. Help me to realize the awesome truth that You did all of that for each one of us because You love us. AMEN.

^[1] Wilbur W. Smith, *Therefore Stand: A Plea for a Vigorous Apologetic in This Critical Hour of the Christian Faith* (Moody Press, 1945).



Lutheran Family Service

For more than a century, **Lutheran Family Service** has been there for people in their time of need providing a variety of services including unplanned pregnancy support, marriage counseling, mental health counseling, adoption services, church worker wellness, and youth and elderly outreach. Lutheran Family Service also offers a number of congregational outreach programs designed to equip people with what they need to successfully manage life challenges before they become a crisis.



Lutheran Family Service is an outreach ministry of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod that depends on gifts from individuals, organizations, and congregations along with some private sources of funding within communities served to carry out our mission. No government funds are sought or accepted so as to not limit our intentionally Christ-centered witness. The organization's annual budget is supported each year through a combination of charitable gifts and fees paid by those receiving service, most based on ability to pay and some—such as pregnancy counseling and clergy consultation—provided at no charge.

Our mission is simple: We walk with people who are experiencing hard times and are there for them just as God has been there for us.

Our values are clear: Grace, Life, Family, Compassion, Accountability and a personal relationship with Jesus Christ, the Son of God, who came into this world to redeem us. Jesus is the cornerstone of our ministry and the focus of all that we do in serving people.

Our impact is profound: Every day, the men and women of Lutheran Family Service bring the good news of the Savior and His love to the world, one hurting or needful person at a time. Lutheran Family Service exists to serve those who need it—to help the pregnant young woman without a plan, the frustrated teen who struggles to understand himself and the couple in need of competent help to repair their broken marriage relationship. That's why Lutheran Family Service is here, and we will be here for you.

Lutheran Family Service is a private, not-for-profit organization. We help anyone in need, regardless of their faith. You do not have to be Lutheran or Christian to use or support our services.

The main office is in Fort Dodge, Iowa. Funds are being raised to establish an office in Sioux Falls, South Dakota. The voting assembly of the 2021 South Dakota District—LCMS convention ratified Resolution 2-01*, which continues the agreement between the South Dakota District—LCMS with Lutheran Family Service.

A free-will offering for LFS will be gathered following the May 7, 2022, Divine Service at Trinity.



* ... That the South Dakota District will commit to LFS \$75,000 for 2022, \$75,000 for 2023, and \$50,000 for 2024 to fund start-up costs and the operation of this ministry with the goal being that after that a good portion of the costs would be taken care of by fees for services and gifts from individuals and congregations, **AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:** That half of the commitment, for 2022–2024, would come from gifts and bequests that the District has received over the years and the other half would come from the congregations of the South Dakota District, committing “an over and above” giving similar to our present “Together in Mission (TIM)” gifts.



A Mother's Day Prayer

Dear Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,

Your great Trinitarian love has given every one of us a mother.

As she remains alongside me and carries my crosses with me, I come to know Your own presence and power.

Thank you that she prepares, preserves, and protects Your gift of life.

Thank you that she shows me devoted attention and affection from You.

Thank you that she reflects how gently You instruct and how relentlessly You defend me.

Thank you that she conveys your patience in her listening, assisting, and encouraging.

Thank you that she sacrifices her body to serve my well-being after the example of Your Son.

Thank you that she stretches her heart to heal and strengthen mine because You have created, redeemed, and called every human being as Your precious treasure forever.

For the sake of our Savior Jesus Christ, grant unto her a double portion of the loving-kindness You have showered upon me through her.

Increase her comfort and confidence in her mothering as a holy and blessed vocation from Your hand.

Bless especially the ones upon whom the burden and work press heaviest, including single mothers, stay-at-home mothers, mothers who work outside of the home, mothers of large families, and mothers whose sons or daughters have extraordinary needs.

In the mercy of Your forgiveness, in the promise of new creation, and in the communion of Your kingdom, relieve our sisters for whom motherhood has brought loss or sorrows, as well as Your daughters who have not known the joy of motherhood.

With Your Son, Your saints and angels, and the righteous women who have gone before us to deliver the faith, gather them, and by their witness gather us, into the never-ending wedding feast of the Lamb, where they will shine with Your own glory and honor. Amen.

lutheransforlife.org



MAY 2022



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
May 1 1st Sunday of May	2	3 2 p.m. TR Hope Circle 6:30 p.m. TR Ruth Circle	4 2:15 p.m. TR Release-Time (final class for 2021-2022 school year)	5	6	7 Fourth Saturday in Easter Events at Trinity 4:45 p.m. Confirmation/Sat. School 6 p.m. Joint Divine Service 7 p.m. Bible Study
8 2nd Sunday of May	9 2 p.m. SP Dorcas Circle	10	11 7 p.m. SP Council Mtg.	12	13	14 Fifth Saturday in Easter Events at St. Paul's 4:45 p.m. Confirmation/Sat. School 6 p.m. Joint Divine Service 7 p.m. Bible Study
15 3rd Sunday of May	16	17	18	19	20	21 Sixth Saturday in Easter Events at Trinity 4:45 p.m. Confirmation 6 p.m. Joint Divine Service 7 p.m. Bible Study
22 4th Sunday in May	23	24	25	26 Ascension	27	28 Seventh Saturday in Easter Events at St. Paul's 4:45 p.m. Confirmation 6 p.m. Joint Divine Service 7 p.m. Bible Study
8:30-11 a.m. White Lake Community Vacation Bible School "Cave Quest: Following Jesus the Light of the World" Hosted this year by St. Peter's Catholic Church.						
29 5th Sunday of May	30	31	June Joint Service Schedule June 4 St. Paul's, with Rite of Confirmation (Jenna Haak, Jett Kemp, Karter Weber) June 11 Trinity June 18 St. Paul's June 25 Trinity			