

St. Paul's Lutheran
Church
Plankinton, SD

JULY 2025

NEWSLETTER

Trinity Lutheran
Church
White Lake, SD

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Contact

Rev. Don McKillop, Vacancy Pastor
605-840-0554 (mobile)
prdomc5897@yahoo.com

* 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 Justin Everson
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 Scott Meier
David Bogenhagen
Ben Bogenhagen
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.

This Month's Events

Divine Worship Service Schedule 2025

Divine Services at St. Paul's 8:30 a.m.
Divine Services at Trinity 10:30 a.m.

Christian Education

Bible Study – Summer Break
St. Paul's Sunday School – Summer Break
Trinity Release-Time – Summer Break

Lutheran Women's Missionary League

Trinity Hope Circle – Tuesday, July 1, 2025, 2 p.m.
Trinity Ruth Circle – Tuesday, July 8, 2025, 2 p.m.
St. Paul's Dorcas Circle – Summer Break

Meetings

Trinity Quarterly Voters Meeting – Wed., July 9, 2025, 7 p.m.
St. Paul's Council Meeting – Monday, July 14, 2025, 7 p.m.
St. Paul's Qtrly Voters Meeting – Sun. July 27, 2025, 9:30 a.m.

JULY 6, 13, 20, 27, 2025

TRINITY

Elder Scott Meier
Ushers Dan Meier
Dean Suelflow
Acolyte Dayton Simpson
Altar Jane Guericke

ST. PAUL'S

Elder Justin Everson
Ushers Kieth Albrecht
Josh Kemp
Acolyte Jett Kemp
Altar Deb Haak

AUGUST 3, 10, 17, 24, 31, 2025

TRINITY

Elder David Bogenhagen
Ushers Ron Steffen
Dan Guericke
Acolyte Brant Bogenhagen
Altar Janice Thiry

ST. PAUL'S

Elder Curt Guindon
Ushers Larry Gerlach
Jett Kemp
Acolyte Tayven Weber
Altar Cathy Albrecht

Scripture Readings for Sundays in July

July 6 Isaiah 66:10–14; Galatians 6:1–10, 14–18; Luke 10:1–10
July 13 Leviticus 19:9–18; Colossians 1:1–14; Luke 10:25–37
July 20 Genesis 18:1–10a; Colossians 1: 21–29; Luke 10:38–42
July 27 Genesis 18:20–33; Colossians 2:6–15; Luke 11:1–13

The **August 2025 newsletter** will be available on or after July 27, 2025. **Articles are due Tuesday, July 22, 2025.**

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!



RESTING IN HIS GRACE

I am sure that you are familiar with Martin Luther's Morning and Evening Prayers. Luther's Morning Prayer is a great way to start the day. It is a prayer of thanks for keeping us safe, and of praying for God's protection and God's guidance in the future. And how wonderful that God sends His angel to watch over us. **Luther's Morning Prayer** is, *"In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen. I thank you, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have kept me this night from all harm and danger; and I pray that You would keep me this day also from sin and every evil, that all my doings and life may please You. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen."*

Luther also wrote an Evening Prayer that is a great way to end the day! **Luther's Evening Prayer** is, *"I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have graciously kept me this day; and I pray that You would forgive me all my sins where I have done wrong, and graciously keep me this night. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen."*

Even as Christians, we never know what is going to happen in the coming day. When we are going to bed at night, we can think back on the day and know how that day went. It could have been a good day, or not a good day. We think of what happened on that day, and even though we can't always see our sins, we know that we have sinned against God many times and in terrible ways. (Jeremiah 17:9) And sometimes we do things to hurt other people. Maybe we had a bad day in other ways. If it was a bad day, what do we do? As we think back over the day, we think what we would have done differently, or said things differently. We think of what we will do tomorrow.

As believers, we know that we are forgiven of all sins. What a relief! And it also gives to us the desire to live for God in the future. We rest in His grace, and we pray, "For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things." In this prayer, we are really saying to Jesus, "Forgive me of my sins, turn the troubles of this life from woes into blessings, through Jesus. Amen."

Pastor Don McKillop



MAIN STREET LIVING JULY 2025

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

Broadcast on KDLT (NBC) channels 5.1 / 46.1

July 6, 2025

10 a.m. "To the End of Time" A physicist is confronted with the reality of his weapon, the utility of radiation and the blessing of Christian hope.

10:30 a.m. Rev. Sam Pitsch, pastor at Our Redeemer Lutheran Church in Moorhead, MN, presents a message titled "Help Wanted". The sermon is based on Luke 10:2.

July 13, 2025

10 a.m. "A Face from the Past" -A man struggles to come to terms with the memory and feelings of guilt of his estranged father.

10:30 a.m. Rev. Corey Aker, pastor at Faith Lutheran Church in Sioux Falls, SD, presents a message titled "The Good Samaritan". The sermon is based on Luke 10:25-37.

July 20, 2025

10 a.m. "Love Not Enough" A young couple struggles mightily with the decision to marry, exploring what is truly important.

10:30 a.m. Rev. Brett Simek, pastor at Our Redeemer Lutheran Church in Sioux Falls, SD, presents a message titled "The Good Portion". The sermon is based on Luke 10:38-42.

July 27, 2025

10 a.m. "A Different Way" - Cousin Stanley visits the Fisher family and creates a difficult situation with the neighbors.

10:30 a.m. Rev. Matthew Bless, pastor at Concordia Lutheran Church in Vermillion, SD, presents a message titled "Walking in Christ". The sermon is based on Colossians 2:6-15.



JULY 2025

Stephanie Everson, SP	July 1
Evelyn Greene, SP	July 4
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
Jailey Baumiller, SP	July 13
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
<i>Terry & Brenda Anthony, SP</i>	July 25
Dick Markhardt, TR	July 26
Jeremy Johnson, SP	July 27
Daniel Greene, SP	July 27
Michael Hempel, TR	July 28
<i>Josh & Ferra Kemp, SP</i>	July 28
Cain Tobin, SP	July 29
Ryker Clark, TR	July 29
Tyree Everson, TR	July 30
Myshelle Everson, TR	July 30
Charles Fink, SP	July 31



WORD FROM THE CENTER

A BRIDGED GAP CAN STAND IN THE GAP!

¹⁹that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation. ²⁰Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, God making his appeal through us. We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God (2 Corinthians 5:19–20).

In Washington, D.C., it is truly miraculous when people can bridge the gap between the great divides in our culture without demeaning what is precious to us in the process. In fact, it's virtually impossible today. Why? Because in life in general, people more and more treat others as enemies to be vanquished, rather than people to be loved and served. And politics, at its core, is ultimately not about service, but power. Oh, people speak about a "benevolent" government, but there is no such thing. When you forcibly tax people, garnish wages, and demand obedience, and then punish those who do not do as the law requires, that's about power, not benevolence (no matter how much of other people's money one gives away). When you can force people to do what you demand that they do, that's about power. As a result, true reconciliation between disparate people is a rare and miraculous thing in our lives in general, and virtually impossible in our nation's capital. So what to do? Don't look to ourselves or even the power of our government for genuine and lasting reconciliation. Instead, look to Christ alone!

That's why our verses for today are so wonderful. There is a miraculous reconciliation that we can know and receive in our lives. And, yes, it can transform our lives, our relationships, and even our communities by extension. The message of the Gospel quite literally bridges sinful humanity's gap with God by reconciling us back to God. And here's what will really blow you

away: It didn't happen by power, coercion, or pressure. (That's why even "good" government can't save us, and even our best policies are never going to reconcile us where it really matters.) No, the God of Scripture, who is righteous, holy, and even all-powerful, miraculously reconciled a sinful, rebellious world back to Himself through service, sacrifice, and mercy. God has done all of that in Jesus Christ for you, for me, and for all.

So, think about this today. You have been reconciled to God, despite your sin and guilt. You have been given a new lease on life, even though your own efforts testify to your heart that you don't really deserve it. And you've been given an eternal "retirement" plan that is as sure and certain as the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Get up every day and, with the voice of faith, echo and affirm this biblical truth: "I am a redeemed and reconciled child of God."

Then, with that perspective on life, begin to take up the challenges of living graciously towards others in the same way God has acted toward you. Realize that the very reconciling work of God that draws you close to Him can then extend through you as you prayerfully serve others in the way that He has served you. Let faith in Christ, who "bridged the gap" between you and God through the cross, give you the strength to "stand in the gap" for others so that they might also know His love. Let that testimony be a reality in your life in order to bless you and those around you every day.

PRAYER: Dear Lord Jesus, thank You for the Gospel which reconciles the world back to You through Your cross and resurrection. By Your Holy Spirit, give me faith to trust that message for my life and then grant me the courage to put that reconciling message to work for others.
AMEN.

Rev. Gregory Seltz

In God We Trust

Benjamin Franklin designed the first coin of the United States. It was minted in 1787 and featured the motto "Mind Your Business." This phrase was replaced in 1792 with "E Pluribus Unum."

"In God We Trust" first appeared on U.S. coins in 1864 during the Civil War. The motto continued to appear on American currency until President Theodore Roosevelt removed it in 1907. The American public strongly opposed this change, leading to the phrase's restoration and eventual codification. On July 30, 1956, President Dwight D. Eisenhower signed a joint resolution of Congress officially establishing "In God We Trust" as the national motto.

The words were first used by Francis Scott Key in *The Star-Spangled Banner*, fourth verse, where he wrote:

*Oh, thus be it ever when free men shall stand
Between their loved homes and the war's desolation!
Blest with vict'ry and peace, may the heav'n rescued land
Praise the Pow'r that hath made and preserved us a nation!
Then conquer we must, when our cause it is just,
And this be our motto, "In God is our trust"
And the Star-Spangled Banner in triumph shall wave
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave!*

Some have speculated that adopting this motto was a response to the rise of the atheistic Soviet Union during the Cold War. Others have challenged its use, arguing it violates the First Amendment.

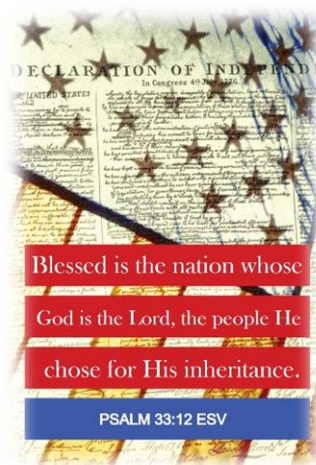
As we celebrate America this July, let us pause and thank God that we live in the United States, a land of religious liberty.

On July 6, 1776, the *Pennsylvania Evening Gazette* published the Declaration of Independence on its front page, spreading the news to the public. Today, you can receive updates from the Lutheran Center for Religious Liberty*, an advocate for religious freedom, by subscribing to their email list at www.lcrlfreedom.org/#subscribe

*The Lutheran Center for Religious Liberty (LCRL) is a religious liberty organization in Washington D.C. that serves as a voice for the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod and its partners in the public square. We are in D.C. to be an ADVOCATE for our Churches, Schools, and Universities ... Why? Because the government is encroaching more and more into the arena of the Church and its work, and Gods' people have a role not only in sharing the Gospel, but in helping society/culture in being humane, civil, and temporally just. *For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, saith the Lord, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, to give you an expected end ...* (Jeremiah 29:11ff)

Diaper Distribution Date Is Set

Trinity Lutherans for Life would like to **thank you** for your generous donations for our 25th annual diaper drive. We are excited to announce that the Diaper Distribution date is set for **Friday, August 1, 2025, 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.



Aurora County Cancer Fund

Survey for Support Group Meetings

It was brought to our attention that a support group for family members of a cancer patient would be beneficial to our communities. This group will be open to the public and ALL counties. Meetings will be held in an Aurora County facility.

Please circle or complete your responses to the following questions.

Gender: Female Male Private

Residence: Plankinton Stickney White Lake Other: _____

Age: _____

Relation to Cancer patient: _____

Type of Cancer: _____

Which town would be easier for you to attend a meeting?

Plankinton Stickney White Lake

Which day or days of the week? (Please circle all days that apply.)

Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday Sunday

What time of the day? (Gatherings would be no longer than one hour.)

8 a.m. 9 a.m. 10 a.m. 11 a.m. 12 noon

1 p.m. 2 p.m. 3 p.m. 4 p.m. 5 p.m. 6 p.m. 7 p.m. 8 p.m.

We are in the process of asking people to be present to assist with questions, concerns, and education for our support group. Please list someone you that you think would be easy to talk with. _____

We have asked about a few local buildings, but just in case, please list a place that you may know of where we could hold a monthly meeting. _____

Completed survey may be emailed to accf@outlook.com, mailed to P.O. Box 292, Plankinton, SD 57368, or dropped off at any Ron's Market location.

Aurora County Cancer Fund would like to thank you for your time in completing this survey.

JULY 2025

SUN		MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1 TR Hope Circle 2 p.m.	2	3	4 Independence Day 	5
6 	Fourth Sunday after Pentecost Divine Services 8:30 a.m. SP 10:30 a.m. TR	7	8 TR Ruth Circle 2 p.m.	9 TR Voters 7 p.m.	10	11	12
13 	Fifth Sunday after Pentecost Divine Services 8:30 a.m. SP 10:30 a.m. TR	14 SP Council 7 p.m.	15	16	17	18	19 
20 	Sixth Sunday after Pentecost Divine Services 8:30 a.m. SP 10:30 a.m. TR	21	 LCMS Synodical Youth Gathering July 19–23, 2025 New Orleans, LA		24	25	26
27 	Seventh Sunday after Pentecost Divine Services 8:30 a.m. SP 10:30 a.m. TR SP Voters 9:30 a.m.	28	29	30	31		