



# NEWSLETTER



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 Dan Guericke  
 David Bogenhagen

**President** ..... Dean Suelflow  
**LWML Presidents** ..... Diana Kieffer  
 Hope Circle  
 Pam Hallman  
 Ruth Circle



Send newsletter/bulletin items to Nancy Bogenhagen at *trinitywlsd@gmail.com*.  
**Weekly bulletin deadline is Tuesday noon.** Please email me if you prefer your newsletter emailed to you. Thanks!

# JUNE 2021



## Divine Worship Services

St. Paul 8:30 a.m. Sunday  
 Trinity 10:30 a.m. Sunday

**Bible Study** Book of Revelation — Trinity 5:30 p.m. Wednesdays

## Wednesday School

Trinity 5:30 p.m.

## Lutheran Women's Missionary League

Trinity Hope Circle – June 1, 2021 2 p.m.  
 Trinity Ruth Circle – June 1, 2021 6:30 p.m.

**Father's Day – June 20, 2021.** We thank our Heavenly Father for the gift of fathers in our lives, whether with us here or in our memories.

## Serving the Lord's Church in June

### TRINITY

**Elder** Dan Guericke

**Ushers** Ron Steffen  
 John Geyer

**Acolytes** Hannah Meier  
 Madison Meier

### ST. PAUL

**Elder**

**Ushers** Kurt Fink, Stan  
 Johnson, Lennis Titze

**Acolyte**

**Altar** Kitti DeGeest

## Scripture Readings

June 6 Genesis 3:8–15; 2 Corinthians 4:13–5:1; Mark 3:20–35  
 June 13 Ezekiel 17:22–24; 2 Corinthians 5:1–10; Mark 4:26–34  
 June 20 Job 38:1–11; 2 Corinthians 6:1–13; Mark 4:35–41  
 June 27 Lamentations 3:22–33; 2 Cor. 8:1–9, 13–15; Mark 5:21–43  
 July 4 Ezekiel 2:1–5; 2 Corinthians 12:1–10; Mark 6:1–13

**Websites** – Visit the Services option on *www.stpaulplankinton.com* and *www.trinitywhitelake.com* for the weekly bulletin. Trinity's website also offers links for the live stream of their worship and the printed service that goes with each service. See the News link on both websites for archived newsletters and bulletins.

The **July newsletter** will be available July 4, 2021. Articles are due June 28.



**If you have PRAYER CONCERNS or would like a PASTORAL VISIT,** please contact Pastor Lessman at 605-641-8501.

## Resolving Conflict through the Four G's

- **Glorify God** - How can I please and honor God in this situation, and how can I give witness to what he has done for me through Christ?
- **Get the log out of your eye** - How have I contributed to this conflict and what do I need to do to resolve it?
- **Gently restore** - How can I help others to understand how they have contributed to this conflict?
- **Go and be reconciled** - How can I demonstrate forgiveness and encourage a reasonable solution to this conflict?

### Get the Log Out of Your Eye

*“You hypocrite, first take the plank out of your own eye, then you will see clearly to remove the speck from your brother’s eye.” (Matt. 7:5)*

We dislike confessing our sins. Our nature is to defend ourselves, justifying our words and actions, convincing ourselves and hopefully others of our rightness. However, Scripture teaches us that such thinking is deceptive: **“If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us” (1 John 1:9).**

On the other hand, if we are honest about our sin to ourselves, God, and others, we receive God’s grace in forgiveness and bear witness to our faith in Christ.

A few years ago, I met a young man whose example illustrates this point. To fulfill graduation requirements during his senior year in public high school, Chris registered for a work-study program in the gym for a few easy credits. The honor system required him to record his time for approval by his teacher at the end of the semester.

At first, Chris completed the required tasks and documented his work. But over time, he slacked off in his responsibilities. “After all,” he rationalized, “as long as I hand in a completed log, I’ll get credit.” Near semester end, he realized that he had neglected to maintain his log. He began to plug empty time slots with contrived tasks and then stopped himself. “What are you doing, Chris? You’re a child of God. This is a lie. I can’t make up stuff I didn’t do. But now what? Like, if I’m honest, I’ll fail this class and maybe miss graduation. What will my teacher say? Or my friends? Or my parents! Lord, I have made such a mess of things—help me to know what I should do.”

Chris prayed for God’s guidance right up to the moment he faced his teacher, Mr. Thomas. “Well, Chris, let me see your log.” “I can’t show it to you, Mr. Thomas.” “Why not?” “Because it’s a lie.” “What?!” Chris looked Mr. Thomas in the eye and explained that he had been skipping his scheduled gym time and intended to falsify his records to receive credit. But because he was a Christian, he realized his sin and decided to be honest with himself and his teacher. Chris confessed that he failed to fulfill his responsibilities and deserved an “F.” Mr. Thomas was incredulous. “Why would you tell me this? I don’t understand!” “I told you, Mr. Thomas. I’m a Christian, and because of what Jesus has done for me, I cannot live this lie. Let me tell you about Jesus and what he means to me.”

Chris then shared the Gospel with his teacher. A tear rolled down Mr. Thomas’ cheek, and he shook his head. “I have never met a student like you. You’re right, Chris. Your work is incomplete and you deserve to fail. But you demonstrate an integrity that exceeds what I’ve found in any other student. I’m going to pass you anyway.” Although Mr. Thomas made no profession of faith, Chris understood that his responsibility was to do what was right before God. Chris’ confession of sin also became his opportunity to share the good news of Jesus. He turned his own struggle with sin into an opportunity to glorify God, serving Mr. Thomas and growing in his faith.

*Hymn of the Month*

**770 What a Friend We Have in Jesus**



1 What a friend we have in Je - sus, All our sins and griefs to bear!  
2 Have we tri - als and temp - ta - tions? Is there trou - ble an - y - where?  
3 Are we weak and heav - y lad - en, Cum - bered with a load of care?



What a priv - i - lege to car - ry Ev - 'ry - thing to God in prayer!  
We should nev - er be dis - cour - aged— Take it to the Lord in prayer.  
Pre - cious Sav - ior, still our ref - uge— Take it to the Lord in prayer.



Oh, what peace we of - ten for - feit; Oh, what need - less pain we bear—  
Can we find a friend so faith - ful Who will all our sor - rows share?  
Do thy friends de - spise, for - sake thee? Take it to the Lord in prayer.



All be - cause we do not car - ry Ev - 'ry - thing to God in prayer!  
Je - sus knows our ev - 'ry weak - ness— Take it to the Lord in prayer.  
In His arms He'll take and shield thee; Thou wilt find a sol - ace there.

Tune and text: Public domain

*Matthew 7:7–8; Hebrews 4:15; John 15:14–16; 1 Peter 2:24*

Joseph M. Scriven (b. Seapatrick, County Down, Ireland, 1819; d. Bewdley, Rice Lake, ON, Canada, 1886), an Irish immigrant to Canada, wrote this text near Port Hope, Ontario, in 1855. Because his life was filled with grief and trials, Scriven often needed the solace of the Lord as described in his famous hymn.

Scriven's text clearly arises from his own experiences in life. Although not great poetry, the text has spiritual appeal and an effective repeated phrase, "take it to the Lord in prayer." Because of its simple encouragement to "pray without ceasing," the text is much loved in many circles of Christendom. A collection of his poetry was published in *Hymns and Other Verses* (1869).

Liturgical Use: As a hymn of encouragement to pray amid the "sins and griefs" we encounter on our journey of life. —*Psalter Hymnal Handbook*

[https://hymnary.org/text/what\\_a\\_friend\\_we\\_have\\_in\\_jesus\\_all\\_our\\_s](https://hymnary.org/text/what_a_friend_we_have_in_jesus_all_our_s)





## White Lake 5K Walk/Run

Members of Trinity Lutherans for Life (LFL) are excited to announce that they are stepping up their pace for supporting life! They will be hosting a **Step Up for Life 5K Walk/Run** in White Lake, Saturday June 19, 2021, at 9 a.m. The event will start from the south parking lot at Trinity Lutheran Church, 304 South Johnston Street, White Lake, SD.

All adults, children, and families are welcome to attend. The walk/run will not be a timed event.

Registration is \$25.00 per person or \$50.00 per family. The public can preregister now by going to [www.charityfootprints.com/StepUp4Life/team?id=6117](http://www.charityfootprints.com/StepUp4Life/team?id=6117) and start reaching their fitness goals OR can register in person the day of our event at 8 a.m. If you are unable to attend on June 19<sup>th</sup>, you can still join our team and virtually run or exercise at home. Registration proceeds will support the national Lutherans for Life organization.

**For more information** about this event or how to order a t-shirt contact Kim Lessman, 605-641-8502 or Jane Guericke, 605-207-0625, or follow our Facebook event, Step Up for Life 5K Walk/Run.

**ONLINE REGISTRATION** — [www.charityfootprints.com/StepUp4Life/team?id=6117](http://www.charityfootprints.com/StepUp4Life/team?id=6117)

### JOIN TEAM and Log Activity

1. Register
2. On the next page, choose an option under Donate to Join (\$20 or \$25).
  - Optional: add additional members or enter extra donation
  - Check or uncheck Fee option.
  - Check the disclaimer box (over 13 years of age, etc.).
  - Verify that the amount on the bottom matches your choices.
  - Next.
3. Profile picture (optional)
  - Fill in mailing address and contact number info.
  - Next.
4. Pay to Lutherans For Life
  - Enter CC info.
  - Next.
5. Confirmation page
  - Add email for receipt.
  - Next.
6. Congratulations page.
  - Add optional info.
  - Next.

7. Create or **Join a Team**
  - Scroll down to Trinity Lutherans for Life 5K Walk/Run, White Lake SD
  - Next.
8. Invite Donors (optional) — Next.
9. Share Campaign (optional) — Go to My Fundraising Page.
10. Under upper right profile picture, click down arrow and go to **My Team** to see your addition. My Team page also has the “Log Activity” button for logging your activity.

### TO DONATE ONLY

1. Kim created our Team. Scroll down and click “Support Kimberlea” button.
2. Click on purple “Donate” button.
  - Enter name (you can check to be anonymous), amount, optional message, and check/uncheck fee box.
  - Click “Donate” button
3. Enter Billing Information.
  - Next.
  - Enter CC info.
  - Next.
4. Enter email for receipt. Confirm

## LWML Convention Registration

The state of Kentucky and the local restrictions have changed, allowing LWML to allow more people to attend the LWML Convention, June 24–27, 2021, in Lexington. All praise be to our Lord!

The waitlist has been lifted and all those on the waitlist have been sent notification that they may register. If you have any questions, please contact the LWML.

LWML President Debbie Larson and the Board of Directors ask that you continue to pray boldly, knowing God hears and answers prayers. Together, we will continue to “Running the Race ... Looking to Jesus.”





## WORD FROM THE CENTER: MONDAY, MAY 24, 2021

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 portions of Acts 2 where the Bible tells of these events on the first Pentecost Day: <sup>6</sup> *When they heard this sound, a crowd came together in bewilderment, because each one heard their own language being spoken.* <sup>7</sup> *Utterly*

*amazed, they asked: “Aren’t all these who are speaking Galileans?”* <sup>8</sup> *Then how is it that each of us hears them in our native language?* <sup>9</sup> *Parthians, Medes and Elamites; residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia,* <sup>10</sup> *Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya near Cyrene; visitors from Rome* <sup>11</sup> *(both Jews and converts to Judaism); Cretans and Arabs—we hear them declaring the wonders of God in our own tongues!”* <sup>12</sup> *Amazed and perplexed, they asked one another, “What does this mean?” ... Then Peter stood up with the Eleven, raised his voice and addressed the crowd: ...* <sup>21</sup> *“And everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.”*

### THE ONLY DIVERSITY THAT LASTS!

Churches all around the world sing a hymn titled, “Blest Be the Tie that Binds,” by John Fawcett. The first two stanzas go like this:

Verse 1 - Blest be the tie that binds, Our hearts in Christian love;  
The fellowship of kindred minds, Is like to that above.

Verse 2 - Before our Father’s throne, We pour our ardent prayers;  
Our fears, our hopes, our aims are one, Our comforts, and our cares.[1]

It’s a beautiful song about the power of unity. The only problem today is that unity and diversity are being pitted against each other. We’re told over and over again that there are no over-arching narratives, there are no universal truths, and that diversity is somehow the “solution,” or at least a better representation of reality. Hmm. Now I appreciate a perspective that points out how often we human beings tend to selfishly attend only to our own interests and groups, and then apply the beauty of “unity” only to those whom we like or care about. But it doesn’t follow that raw diversity is any better of a solution. Unity versus diversity is not the vision of the Scriptures or, for that matter, any fair-minded, honorable person; instead, the notion of “unity and diversity” is. “Either/Or?” No! In Christ, it’s “Both/And!” This text from Acts revolves around whether or not there are universals that can bind us all together, universals bigger than ethnicity, language, or country. A follow up question then goes further and seeks to know where such unity can be found.

The Day of Pentecost described in Acts 2 gives a biblical response to these issues. There is only one thing that unifies us beyond our tribal, familial, or cultural associations, and that one thing is the person and work of Jesus Christ for all. There is only one message that can call all of us fully back to our own humanity and our own enduring sense of community. That is the message of repentance and forgiveness in Jesus’ name lived out in grace-filled lives for the sake of others. No government program can do this. No benevolent human ideology can accomplish this. No technology can breach the language/communication barrier that originates not merely in different vocables, but in our fallen hearts and corrupted minds. (Isn’t it interesting that Facebook, which was supposed to create and maintain unity and community across its digital platform, is now being used to target, humiliate, and even control people? Is that real community? I think not.)

What is amazing about the Pentecost event is that the message of Jesus Christ is able to reach all of us within our own unique cultural and familial settings, and still bind us together as one. When each of our identities is firmly rooted in God’s creative, redemptive reality in Jesus, then we can look at the uniqueness of each other with joy, even as we celebrate the “tie that binds.” Unity and diversity, when properly held together, are always a byproduct of God’s overarching message that calls us back to Himself and to each other. In fact, it’s the only unifying diversity that lasts.

PRAYER: Dear Lord Jesus, we need to repent of the notion that there are no unifying messages for us, as well as of our selfish misuse of Your unifying message in ways that cause division. As on that first Pentecost Day, give us the overwhelming joy of being united together as Your children by grace through faith. Then empower us by Your Holy Spirit to proclaim the unique message of Jesus Christ which binds us all as one and move us to be useful in Your hands for the sake of the God-given diversity that lasts forever. AMEN.

[1] Public domain; see, for example, *Lutheran Service Book*, #649.







# HAPPY FATHER'S DAY!



But as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord.

Joshua 24:15

# JUNE 2021

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		<b>1</b> <b>2 p.m.</b> TR Hope Circle <b>6:30 p.m.</b> TR Ruth Circle 	<b>2</b> <b>5:30 p.m.</b> TR Wed School <b>5:30 p.m.</b> TR Bible Study	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>6</b> Pentecost 2  <b>8:30 a.m.</b> SP Service <b>10:30 a.m.</b> TR Service	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b> <b>5:30 p.m.</b> TR Wed School <b>5:30 p.m.</b> TR Bible Study	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>13</b> Pentecost 3  <b>8:30 a.m.</b> SP Service <b>10:30 a.m.</b> TR Service	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b> <b>5:30 p.m.</b> TR Wed School <b>5:30 p.m.</b> TR Bible Study	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> 8 a.m. Registration <b>9 a.m. TR</b> Step Up 4 Life 5K Run/Walk Event
<b>20</b> Pentecost 4 -- Father's Day  <b>8:30 a.m.</b> SP Service <b>10:30 a.m.</b> TR Service	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> <b>5:30 p.m.</b> TR Wed School <b>5:30 p.m.</b> TR Bible Study	<b>24</b>  LWML Convention -- Lexington, KY	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>
<b>27</b> Pentecost 5  <b>8:30 a.m.</b> SP Service <b>10:30 a.m.</b> TR Service  LWML Convention	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> <b>5:30 p.m.</b> TR Wed School <b>5:30 p.m.</b> TR Bible Study	