

## **NEWSLETTER**



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#### Contact

Rev. Brad Lessman

pastorblessman@gmail.com

#### St. Paul Lutheran Church

www.stpaulplankinton.com facebook.com/stpaul/plankinton 605-942-7364

Elders ...... Curt Guindon
Justin Everson
Mike Tuschen
President .... Brent Morenz
LWML President ... Marlene Johnson

#### **Trinity Lutheran Church**

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

Elders ..... Scott Meier
Dan Guericke
David Bogenhagen
President ..... Dean Suelflow
LWML Presidents ..... Diana Kieffer
Hope Circle
Pam Hallman



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



**Divine Worship Services** 

St. Paul 8:30 a.m. Sunday Trinity 10:30 a.m. Sunday Sanctity of Life Sunday

January 24, 2021

**Bible Study** Book of Revelation -- St. Paul 10 a.m. Monday Trinity 5:30 p.m. Wednesday

**Release-Time Class** 

**Youth Confirmation Class** 

Trinity 3:30 p.m. Wednesday St. Paul 1 p.m. Sunday

#### **Lutheran Women's Missionary League**

Trinity Hope Circle – No meeting this month.

Trinity Ruth Circle – January 5, 2021 6:30 p.m.

St. Paul Dorcas Circle – January 12, 2021 7 p.m.

#### **Elders Meetings**

Trinity January 21, 2021 6:30 p.m. St. Paul January 18, 2021 7 p.m.

#### **Annual Meetings**

St. Paul January 10, 2021, 12:30 p.m. Trinity January 21, 2021, 7:30 p.m.

#### Serving the Lord's Church in January

TRINITY
Elder Scott Meier
Ushers David Bogenhagen
Dean Suelflow
Acolytes Jasmyne Lessman
Hannah Meier

ST. PAUL Elder Justin Everson

Ushers Kieth Albrecht, Jaylen Kemp, Josh Kemp

Acolyte Jett Kemp Altar Deb Haak

#### **Scripture Readings**

Jan. 3 1 Kings 3:4–15; Ephesians 3:1–12; Matthew 2:1–12

Jan. 10 Genesis 1:1-5; Romans 6:1-11; Mark 1:4-11

Jan. 17 1 Samuel 3:1-10 (11-20); 1 Corinthians 6:12-20; John 1:43-51

Jan. 24 Jonah 3:1–5. 10; 1 Corinthians 7:29–31 (32–35); Mark 1:14–20

Jan. 31 Deuteronomy 18:15–20; 1 Corinthians 8:1–31; Mark 1:21–28



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



#### What About ...

# The Lutheran Church— Missouri Synod

By God's blessing, The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod is committed to being strongly in the Word, Christ-centered and people-sensitive, reaching out boldly with the Gospel, faithful to the Scriptures and the Lutheran Confessions, and marked by peace and unity in the Lord. This pamphlet will help you better understand what The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod is all about.

#### A peace that passes all human understanding

In the fullness of time, the Son of God descended to earth and became man in the womb of the Virgin Mary. In Jesus, God Himself was with us on earth. Jesus was not only with us, but for us. He came into this sinful and dying world to fight our enemies: sin, death and the devil. He came to set us free. He defeated these enemies by laying down His own life.

Through His perfect life and by His death on the cross, Jesus paid the full debt of sin for all people. He rose again and gives us a new life, a life that has meaning, purpose and direction—a life filled with hope and confidence, even during times of sorrow and trouble. Jesus Christ is with us. He loves us and cares for us, giving us the peace that truly passes human understanding.

#### A Family of Christian Believers

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod is a family of 2.6 million Christians, gathered in more than 6,000 congregations throughout the United States. Our church body was founded more than 150 years ago by a small band of immigrants in America who were dedicated to preaching and teaching the Gospel of the forgiveness of sins through Christ alone. Many of the founders of our Synod were from Missouri, hence the word "Missouri" in our church's name.

Our congregations are united in an association of Christian fellowship called a "Synod," which means "walking together." Every congregation is self governed and unique. We believe and teach the same Biblical truths, but our congregations also reflect the diversity of the people we serve. Some are located in rural areas, others in inner cities. Some are large, others are very small. Most use English, but some offer worship services in Vietnamese, Spanish, Laotian, and other languages. We are a family gathered from all nations, united in the wonderful truth that Jesus Christ is the Savior of the world.

#### Strongly in the Word

The voice of Jesus calls sinners to repentance, and comforts the brokenhearted through the preaching and teaching of His Word from our pulpits and in our classrooms. We are a church that honors the Bible as the written Word of God—the very voice of Jesus, our Good Shepherd. God the Holy Spirit, through this Word, creates and sustains trust in Jesus Christ. Through this living and powerful Word, Jesus Himself rebukes, comforts, forgives and guides His people through the perplexing, difficult and confusing questions and decisions we face in our lives.

We believe strongly that Jesus is with us and that He still rules His church today through His Word. Therefore, we are committed to reading, studying and growing in the Word of God, the Holy Bible. Our church's deeply spiritual and reverent liturgical worship is filled with the Word of God, through which Jesus blesses us with His presence and peace.

#### **Christ-Centered and People-Sensitive**

We treasure the special means by which Jesus Himself dwells among us with His forgiving grace. Therefore, our Synod is very much Christ-centered. Our focus is on Jesus Christ and His presence among us.

We believe that Jesus is present among us through the lifegiving waters of Baptism, a Sacrament that unites us with Jesus' death and resurrection, washes away our sins, and brings us into the body of Christ, the Holy Christian Church. We rejoice in the gracious presence of Jesus in the Sacrament called the Lord's Supper. It is the true body and blood under bread and wine given to Christians to eat and to drink. In this sacred meal, Jesus feeds us and sustains us with the forgiveness of sins, strengthening us for a life of service to Him in this world, and preparing us for life forever with Him in heaven.

As the people of the Missouri Synod, we rejoice in Christ's presence, not only in our public worship assemblies, but also in our daily lives. Whether our place of service is small or great, humble or exalted in the eyes of the world, it is a holy calling in which we serve the Lord Jesus Christ with joyful hearts.

Together and individually, we strive to follow the example of Jesus who loved us and cared for us when we had no strength. Through our church's relief programs, our Synod is present with material and spiritual resources to care for those

#### What About The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod?

who suffer from natural disasters and tragedies in the world. We have built and help to maintain a large network of Lutheran hospitals, nursing homes, and human-care agencies to serve the sick, the elderly, the victims of abuse, those struggling with addictions, and many others coping with difficult situations and transitions in life.

The Missouri Synod has been a strong voice in America in defense of the sanctity and value of all human life from the unborn to the handicapped to the elderly. Because we are people-sensitive, we want to serve others as God has loved and served us in Jesus Christ.

#### Reaching Out Boldly with the Gospel

The Bible calls Jesus "the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world" (John 19:29). Having paid our debt with His blood, Jesus rose from the dead and returned to the heavenly Father to reign over all things. He gave His disciples the command to go into all the world to baptize, teach and observe all that He commanded. He promised that He would continue to be with them through the ages.

Through congregations, and our regional and national offices, we strive to carry out our Lord's command to make known His love and forgiveness to the whole world. The LCMS operates a worldwide mission program, sending more than 400 missionaries into nearly 70 countries around the world. These missionaries bring the good news of Jesus into places where His Name is not yet known and help to strengthen existing churches. Because each Christian is a witness for the Lord Jesus Christ, it is our duty and privilege to tell the good news of Jesus to our family, friends, neighbors, co-workers and all the people God puts in our lives.

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod is a respected leader in the field of Christian education. We place great emphasis on instruction in the Word. We recognize this as one of the most effective ways of reaching out boldly with the Gospel. Therefore, we administer the largest Protestant school system in the United States, operating more than 2,000 preschools, elementary schools, and high schools serving more than 250,000 students. We also value higher education, operating 10 colleges and universities. Our Synod's schools are not merely private alternatives to public education, but Christcentered, Word-saturated havens of God's Spirit.

To maintain the high quality and spiritual direction of our schools, we educate a large number of Lutheran school teachers in our universities. These teachers are dedicated servants of the Lord who are able to lead students into the love of Christ. To fill our church pulpits with mature men of God who know the

Scriptures and are able to proclaim and apply the Word, we operate two seminaries.

#### Faithful to the Scriptures and the Lutheran Confessions

Martin Luther, the great Christian Reformer of the 16th century, boldly proclaimed the Bible's most important message: that Christ came into the world to save sinners, and lived among us to defeat our enemies—sin, death and the devil. Luther believed and taught that Jesus' sacrificial death on the cross washed away the sins of the whole world, and that those who place their trust in Him are forgiven. They are declared righteous and are reconciled to God.

What Luther began in 1517 reached its culmination in 1580, when the official statements of Lutheran belief (the Lutheran Confessions) were gathered together in what is known as the Book of Concord. We place great value in retaining and advancing the cause of the Lutheran Reformation. We see in the Reformation movement the hand of God working to preserve the truth of His Word and the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Therefore, we are committed to genuine, historical Lutheranism.

#### Marked by Peace and Unity in the Lord

Finally, we are united, not by our color, or our occupations, or our social and economic status, but by our union with the living Lord Jesus Christ and our common confession of the truths of His Word. We rejoice and live in the faith that God has given us. We are eager to share that faith with many others, so that all may come to know Jesus Christ, the one who brings us real peace, deep joy and life forever.

Welcome to The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod!

## To locate an LCMS congregation near you or to receive more information about us...

Call: 1-888-THE-LCMS (1-888-843-5267)

Contact: www.lcms.org/contact-us

**Write:** LCMS Information Center

1333 South Kirkwood Road St. Louis, Missouri 63122–7295

— Dr.A. L. Barry
President
The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod
1992–2001





Romans 6:1-10; 1 Peter 3:18-22; Titus 3:4-7

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What a wonderful hymn to start your day, to provide strength and confidence during your day, and to bless with peace at the end of your day!



### E-Newsletter

## News and photographs from The South Dakota District—LCMS

December 15, 2020

#### TRINITY AND ST. PAUL CELEBRATE ANNUAL CHRISTMAS TRADITIONS



Trinity Lutheran Church's LWML, White Lake, hosted their annual community Christmas Caroling December 6, 2020.

The pictured carolers sang outside of church member's windows at the local nursing home and outside other members' homes in the community. Following the caroling, they enjoyed supper and fellowship. It was a wonderful evening!

St. Paul Lutheran Church's LWML, Plankinton, celebrated their annual Christmas party where they had dinner, exchanged secret prayer partner gifts, and sang Christmas carols.

Pastor Lessman was especially in the Christmas spirit in his Christmas suit, gifted to him by a friend from his vicarage congregation.



### **LIFE SUNDAY 2021**

#### "FROM INVISIBLE TO INDISPENSABLE!"



"From Invisible to Indispensable!" is Lutherans For Life's theme for Sanctity of Human Life Sunday, which is set for January 24, 2021. The Life Sunday 2021 theme is based on 1 Corinthians 12:22: "On the contrary, the parts of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable ..." (ESV)

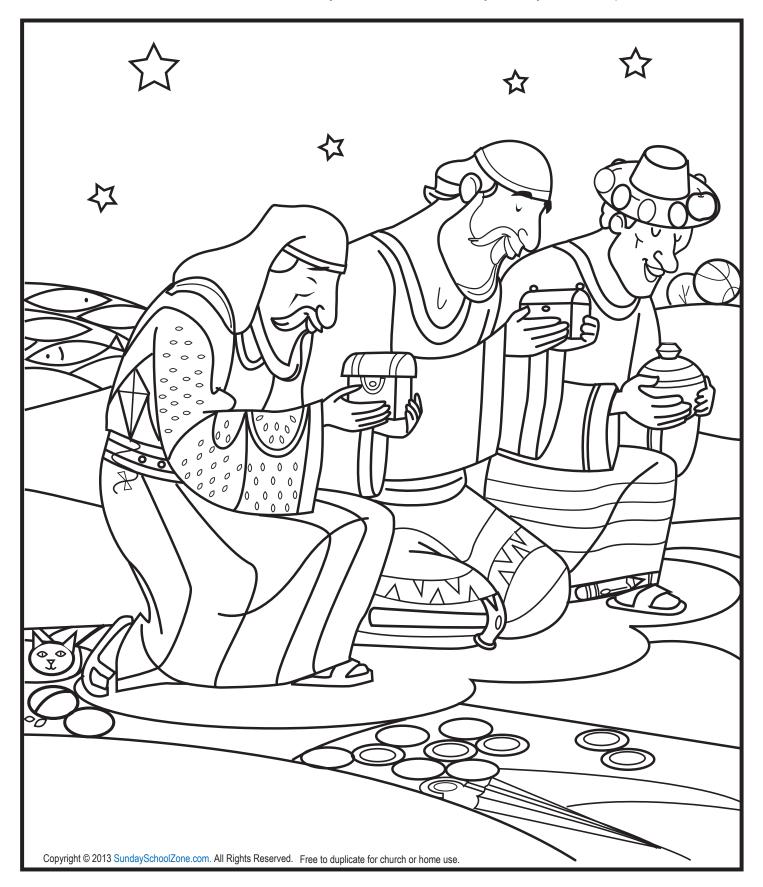
"God creates and redeems and calls every human life as His own precious treasure from fertilization to forever."

- Rev. Michael W. Salemink, Executive Director of Mission and Ministry, Lutherans For Life *lutheransforlife.org* 



### **Wise Men Hidden Pictures**

Find each of these items hidden in the picture: Banana, fish, umbrella, kite, cat, pencil, apple, hammer, ball, and watermelon slice. When you find all the items, you may color the picture.





# JANUARY 2021



	SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1	2
3	Epiphany 8:30 a.m. SP Comm. 10:30 a.m. TR Comm.	4 10 a.m. SP Revelation Bible Study	5 6:30 p.m. TR Ruth Circle	6 3:30 p.m. TR Release- Time 5:30 p.m. TR Wed School 5:30 p.m. TR Bible Study	7	8	9
10	Baptism of Our Lord 8:30 a.m. SP Service 10:30 a.m. TR Comm. 11:30 a.m. SP Potluck 12:30 p.m. SP Voters Meeting	11 10 a.m. SP Revelation Bible Study	12 + 7 p.m. SP Dorcas Circle	3:30 p.m. TR Release- Time 5:30 p.m. TR Wed School 5:30 p.m. TR Bible Study	14	15	16
17	Second Sunday Epiphany 8:30 a.m. SP Comm. 10:30 a.m. TR Comm. 1 p.m. SP Youth Confirm. Class	18 10 a.m. SP Revelation Bible Study 7 p.m. St. Paul Elders	19	3:30 p.m. TR Release- Time 5:30 p.m. TR Wed School 5:30 p.m. TR Bible Study	21 6:30 p.m. TR Elders 7:30 p.m. TR Voters Mtg.	22	23
24	Third Sunday Epiphany 8:30 a.m. SP Service 10:30 a.m. TR Comm. 1 p.m. SP Youth Confirm. Class	25 10 a.m. SP Revelation Bible Study	26	3:30 p.m. TR Release- Time 5:30 p.m. TR Wed School 5:30 p.m. TR Bible Study	28	29	30
31	Fourth Sunday Epiphany 8:30 a.m. SP Comm. 10:30 a.m. TR Comm. 1 p.m. SP Youth Confirm. Class	For you formed my inward parts; you knitted me together in my mother's womb.  I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made.  Wonderful are your works; my soul knows it very well (Psalm 139:13–14).					