



Psalm 98 is often used at Christmas and the New Year because of its celebratory nature. Verse 1 begins *“Oh sing to the Lord a new song, for he has done marvelous things! His right hand and his holy arm have worked salvation for him.”* We are reminded that the Lord indeed has done marvelous things. The right hand of God and his right arm are often word pictures used in the Old Testament to describe the promised Messiah. Verse 2 reminds us that; *“The Lord has made known his salvation; he has revealed his righteousness in the sight of the nations.”* Jesus’ nativity was accompanied by recognition of the nations in the form of the Magi. The Magi were from the East and brought gifts to the newborn king. This birth of the Messiah is offered as proof of God’s steadfast love for his people in Verse 3. Verse 3 states; *“He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel. All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.”* As a result, we are too (Verse 5-6) *“Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth; break forth into joyous song and sing praises! Sing praises to the Lord with the lyre, with the lyre and the sound of melody! With trumpets and the sound of the horn make a joyful noise before the King, the Lord!”* Making music and singing God’s praises is part of worship each Sunday we gather. This ending of this Psalm sounds a bit like the New Testament book of Revelation. The sea and rivers will roar and sing before The Lord comes to judge the earth. (Verses 7-9) *“Let the sea roar, and all that fills it; the world and those who dwell in it! Let the rivers clap their hands; let the hills sing for joy together before the Lord, for he comes to judge the earth. He will judge the world with righteousness, and the peoples with equity.”* All that in one short Psalm!

Our Sunday morning Adult Bible class is starting a study of a book written by Our Synod President, Rev. Matthew Harrison. The book is titled “Take Courage.” Many of members of the class are teaching one or more chapters. I can’t wait to see the different approaches to covering the material by so many talented people. There is plenty of room and no one is singled out to read. Why not come out and be encouraged in your walk with the Lord. That could be a truly God pleasing New Year’s resolution. Everyone is most welcome!!!

The lessons for the Sundays in January include: the Baptism of Jesus, the calling of the Disciples and Jesus healing a man with an unclean spirit. Each Sunday is an opportunity for spiritual growth and most importantly the forgiveness of our sins.

Blessings

Pastor

"PS Gene Menzel passed away on December 19. He was a former Lutheran School Teacher, Principal and District Education Executive. He was a good friend of Laura Pickle, and colleague of Pastor Gary Faith at the Southern District office. Gene was last at Trinity for Laura's funeral."

Bible Quiz

"It is Finished"

Can you name the books of the Bible that end with the following?

1. "Give her of the fruit of her hands, and let her works praise her in the gates."
2. "Now there are also many other things that Jesus did. Were every one of them to be written, I suppose that the world itself could not contain the books that would be written."
3. "The circumference of the city shall be 18,000 cubits. And the name of the city from that time on shall be, The Lord is there."
4. "So Joseph died, being 110 years old. They embalmed him, and he was put in a coffin in Egypt."
5. "The grace of the Lord Jesus be with all. Amen."
6. "These are the commandments and the rules that the Lord commanded through Moses to the people of Israel in the plains of Moab by the Jordan at Jericho."
7. "My love be with you all in Christ Jesus. Amen."
8. "and for his allowance, a regular allowance was given him by the king according to his daily need, until the day of his death as long as he lived."
9. "and were continually in the temple blessing God."
10. "Little children, keep yourselves from idols."



January Birthday

8th Cari Hamrick
 10th Chuck Baldwin
 10th Lanny Reeves
 14th Dylan Richey
 16th Kristin Kelly
 19th Jim Tysse
 24th Jennifer Solt
 30th Carol Murphy
 30th Sharon Wappelhorst
 31st Butch Moore



January Worship Service Helpers

Date	Elder	Usher
January 7th	Darren Genz	John Dexter Wayne Murphy
January 14th	Grant Bissey	Chuck Baldwin Jacob Ashley
January 21st	Kelly Stephens	Dean Hakim Greg Solt
January 28th	John Hooker	Chuck Baldwin Jacob Ashley



The next Ladies Guild meeting will be January 14th, 2024

Bible Quiz Answers

1. Proverbs
2. John
3. Ezekiel
4. Genesis
5. Revelation
6. Numbers
7. 1 Corinthians
8. Jeremiah
9. Luke
10. 1 John



Good News - Sunday School for the youth will begin again on January 7th with Concordia Publishing House 'Growing in Christ' curriculum. Sanne Bissey will teach the Pre-K through 4th grade and Linda Guetschoff will teach the Confirmands/Middle School. Both classes are starting the program with Old Testament 1 lessons.

Let's rally together to make Sunday School a meaningful priority for everyone.

Thanks, Grant Bissey

See You in Sunday School, 9:30a.m.

January 2024 Altar Flowers

7th Altar Flowers are given by Frank Howland to the Glory of God and in celebration of the birth of his mother, Ada S. Howland 01/01/1910 and his granddaughter, Lauren A Susgin 01/03/1996.

7th Altar Flowers are by Sue Jones in celebration of Family Birthday's.

14th Altar Flowers are given by Frank Howland to the Glory of God and in celebration of the birth of his daughter, Pamela M. Susgin 01/16/1969, and his son, Philip M. Howland 01/14/1972.

21st Altar Flowers are given in celebration of Jim Tysse's birthday.

21st Altar Flowers are given by Greg, Jennifer & Avery Solt.

28th Altar Flowers are presented by The Ladies Guild.

Thank You for your support in making the Altar beautiful on Sundays!

(If anyone would like their flower announcement to reflect a special day or person please let Cindy Genz know by email; tlcgadsden@gmail.com or on the Sunday before).

The 2024 flower chart has been posted on the back hallway bulletin board. If you would like to support our Altar Flower program please pick your date/dates on the chart. The flowers are \$20 per vase.



**Our next Monthly Mite collection is January 14th, 2024
Don't forget to fill your Mite Box and bring it in!**



2024 Church Council Meetings and Church Voters Meetings

February 18th, 2024, Church Council

April 21st, 2024, Church Council

May 19th, 2024, Voters Meeting

August 18th, 2024, Church Council

October 20th, 2024, Church Council

November 3rd, 2024, Voters Meeting

In the event there is a need for a special meeting, Dave Tumlin, President, will announce.

The Ladies Guild is hard at work for our community.

In April the Ladies Guild purchased two infant car seats, two baby cribs and two crib mattresses. We also collected baby items (diapers, wipes, clothes, etc.) from our church family, thereby giving over \$800.00 to the Etowah Pregnancy Testing Center.

In May we collected used eyewear and made a monetary donation of \$250.00 to the Joel W. Helms Lion Eye Clinic, in honor of Judy Hicks. This is an on-going project, as we still have church members bringing in eyewear to be donated.

In June we collected household and personal items for "Charlsie House." The Ladies Guild spent \$200.00 on items and also collected from the congregation. The giving from our church family was overwhelming to say the least. When delivered, they were so thankful for all the needed items.

In July, our project was called "Cause for Paws." We collected items, used or new, for the Etowah Pet Center, from our church family. We also had a clean-up day at the center. We ended the project with a Bake Sale & Hot Dog Lunch Plate on July 30th. The money will go toward needed items at the center. This project has been a project of personal time spent by members of the Ladies Guild and our congregation.

In August we prepared care packages for Trinity shut-ins; Pat & Jim Saye, Judy Hicks, Nelda Moore, Susan Robertson, Mavis Moore, Betty Thompson, Kay Hooker, Bob & Esther Donovan, and Sharon Wappelhorst. The packages were delivered by members of the Ladies Guild.

In September we had a BBQ Sandwich Plate and Bake Sale to complete our July project. Thanks to everyone that helped. Also, our care packages have been delivered to the Trinity shut-ins. Just a little thoughtfulness goes a long, long way to those that are unable to do as much as they once did. We also helped with the rummage sale on September 30th.

In October we celebrated LWML month. With a special collection for Mites on October 1st, LWML Sunday. We met our yearly goal of \$600.00. Mary Baldwin set up a Thanksgiving food drive for the "Family Success Center" which will run till November 12th.

In November we bought \$150.00 in groceries and collected food items from the congregation for Thanksgiving food bags which was donated to the "Family Success Center." Thanks to everyone that support this special community project.

In December The Ladies Guild put together Christmas gift bags for Trinity's shut-in and elderly. Those of the church that wished added goodies, gifts and cards. Each bag was delivered by members of the Ladies Guild in time for Christmas. Also, with the help of Joan & Bruce Paige, we made Christmas gift bags for the WellHouse. These bags were picked up by Kinsleigh Hamrick Burns in time for Christmas. The Ladies Guild would like to thank everyone that helped make this Christmas special.

The Ladies Guild ended the year with our annual Christmas Party on December 3rd, 2023. Thanks to Ramona Hicks and Nicole Richey we had great food, a fun game, and yummy goodies to share and take home.

We are always looking for ideas we can pursue for our next community outreach project. If you have a good idea for us please join us the 2nd Sunday of each month. All ladies of Trinity are invited to attend and be a part of our ongoing work in our community. We hope to see you at our next meet working meeting January 14th, 2024.

A New Year – New Opportunities

Each new day brings promise of a new start. For many, the start of a new week is the time to begin that diet, get serious about exercising, or forego TV viewing. For a vast majority, though, there's something especially motivating and invigorating about seeing the JANUARY calendar on the wall. This is the year we'll accomplish great things.

God doesn't necessarily call us to do great things, however. He asks that we be trustworthy in small things (Luke 16:10-11). To that end He gives us gifts to use to build up the Body of Christ and to reach out to the lost.

Some of us have many gifts. People like Michelangelo – painter, sculptor, and poet – and Thomas Jefferson – architect, statesman, and scientific farmer – come to mind. God, the Giver of gifts, knows that the number of gifts each of us has varies. Jesus told the Parable of the Talents pointing up this fact and teaching us that success lies in using what we've been given, not in having the greatest amount.

Our gifts also differ in degree. There are many sculptors but few, if any, compare to Michelangelo. Yet their art can bring satisfaction and inspiration to others. You may not be able to sing opera, but you can sing God's praises. You may not be a great orator, but you can witness to the love and grace of God in Christ. You may not be a mechanic, but you can provide transportation for someone needing to get to an appointment or to church.

That's why God gives us gifts and abilities – that we may be equipped to serve others. The start of a new year offers us an opportune time to assess those gifts and see how we can use them for God's glory and the good of His people. The motivation to do this comes from the same One Who gave the gifts! Just as He was motivated by love for us to give us, not just our gifts, but His greatest gift, His Son, so we are motivated by love for Him to serve those He calls us to serve.



See you in Church on Sunday

January 2024						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 New Year's Day	2 8:30a Laura's Latte Ladies Bible Study at Union Jack 11:00a Men's Bible Study	3	4 11:00a Ladies Bible Study and Fellowship with Mary. 6:00p Chuck has meeting	5	6
7 The Baptism of Our Lord 8:30a Choir Practice 9:30a Sunday School 10:40a Communion 1:00p Youth Confirmation	8	9 8:30a Laura's Latte Ladies Bible Study at Union Jack 11:00a Men's Bible Study	10	11 11:00a Ladies Bible Study and Fellowship with Mary.	12	13
14 The 2nd Sunday after the Epiphany 8:30a Choir Practice 9:30a Sunday School 10:40a Worship 12:00p Elders Meeting 12:00p Ladies Guild Meeting 1:00P Youth Confirmation Mite Sunday	15 Martin Luther King Jr.	16 8:30a Laura's Latte Ladies Bible Study at Union Jack 11:00a Men's Bible Study	17	18 11:00a Ladies Bible Study and Fellowship with Mary.	19	20
21 8:30a Choir Practice 9:30a Sunday School 10:40a Communion 1:00p Youth Confirmation	22	23 8:30a Laura's Latte Ladies Bible Study at Union Jack 11:00a Men's Bible Study	24	25 11:00a Ladies Bible Study and Fellowship with Mary.	26	27
28 8:30a Choir Practice 9:30a Sunday School 10:40a Worship 1:00P Youth Confirmation	29	30 8:30a Laura's Latte Ladies Bible Study at Union Jack 11:00a Men's Bible Study	31			

Make Sunday School Family Time see you at 9:30a

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