

TrinityLutheranChurch
309 Taylor, PO Box 471
Park Hills, MO63601
(573) 431-3442



Those Serving our Congregation in January, 2021

Altar Guild

Toni Pepper
Tom Pepper

Ushers

Stan Cook
Walter Major
Steve Rion
David Behrens

Elder on Duty

Steve Francis

Trustee on Duty

Scott Hedgecorth

Communion Assistants

Tom Pepper

Sunday

Counting Team

1-3-2021 Terri Schmitt
Charlotte Dole & Jan Faskell
1-10-2021 Kathy Huchison
Donna Mullins
1-17-2021 Del Weinhold
Donita Tressner & Jan Schmidt
1-24-2021 Stan & Sue Cook
Kathy Wahlstrom
1-31-2021 Charlotte Dole
Lois Poth

Liturgical Color

White
White
Green
Green
Green

Acolytes

Brandon Schaupt
Ethan Schaupt
Logan Schaupt
Gavin Schipp
Ethan Shipp
T.J. Jerrell
Cheyenne Primo
Victoria Shipp
Emalee Best
Jesse Best

2020 Financial Update

The table presented contains the offering totals that we received from Jan 1-Dec 30, 2020, along with the 2020 offering income needs to meet our 2020 budget needs.

This year presented to us financial challenges related to the COVID pandemic. We were able to put into place the eGiving option for our givers, which has provided the opportunity of convenience to give online. This eGiving opportunity is easily accessed by going to our church website at <https://www.trinitylutheranchurchparkhills.com>.

We were also able to apply for and receive funds made available as part of the Covid relief process in the way of the Paycheck Protection Program. This was offered to businesses and non-profit organizations this year to ensure that employees would receive their paychecks during the hard financial times that the pandemic caused.

Your faithful giving, through Christ, is exemplified in this summary table. Praise be to God!

Submitted by Terri Schmitt



| Trinity Lutheran Church Giving | 2020 totals |
|--|--------------|
| Loose Plate Offerings | \$2,095.49 |
| Member Offerings-Envelope & E-giving | \$114,543.00 |
| Special Offerings for Helping Hands | \$872.75 |
| Special Offerings for Food Pantry | \$20.00 |
| Special Offerings for Radio Ministry | \$300.00 |
| Special Offerings for Stephen Ministry | \$25.00 |
| Special Offerings from Sunday School & Bible Study used to support selected missions | \$1,701.55 |
| Special Offerings- Portals of Prayer | \$20.00 |
| Special Offerings- St. Paul Lutheran High School | \$980.00 |
| Special Offering- Altar Guild | \$10.00 |
| Anonymous Groups Envelope Offerings | \$580.60 |
| Totals | \$121,148.39 |

| | |
|--|--------------|
| Offering Needs per 2020 Budget | \$136,956.00 |
| Offering Income Jan 1-Dec. 30, 2020 | \$121,148.39 |
| Budget Needs met? Jan 1-Dec. 30 , 2020 | -\$15,807.61 |
| Covid Relief Funds-Paycheck Protection Program(PPP) income received April 15, 2020 | \$ 16,402.00 |
| <i>PPP income made up for offerings deficit, allowing us to meet our 2020 budget offering income needs with an excess of \$594.39. Praise be to God!</i> | \$ 594.39 |

Trinity Times

January, 2021

Mission Statement

To grow in faith in the Triune God, we teach and study God's Word, receive the Sacraments and serve as a joyful witness to believers and unbelievers



Isaiah 40

Even the youths shall faint and be weary, and the young men shall utterly fall, but those who wait on the LORD shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint.

Can you recall a time when you were “at your limit”? You might have even said those words, “I’m at my limit!” Life just threw too much at you in too short a time. Maybe it was something someone else had been saying or doing... for too long, and the words were more like... “They have gotten on my last nerve...” Maybe it was someone

who was upset with *you*, and *their* words were, “I’m am just sick and tired...”

That’s pushed to the limit *and beyond*. But all these phrases all summon up this image of being exhausted. Being at the limit means you have nothing left. And I don’t know about you. But when I hear the words in our reading today. I don’t always feel like I’m just going to hop up from the chair and “mount up with wings like an eagle.” “Walk and not faint” we might be able to manage most of the time, but even that depends on how good a night sleep we got and how much food we ate and how quickly we get up from a prone position. And as for “run(ing) and not grow(ing) weary...” well, it’s been some time since I’ve done a full-on *sprint*... so... I can’t answer that one... but it seems unlikely.

How is all this strength supposed to come back? Let’s be clear here. Every doctor on the face of the planet generally tells us to do some sort of exercise. And even Paul talks of it being of use, when he says, “for physical training is of some value...” so we’re not going to stop being as good a steward of our bodies as we can

manage. But Paul actually finishes the passage by saying, "Physical training is of some value, but Godliness has value in all things." God gives us gifts that last a lifetime *and beyond*. And that's really what this Isaiah passage is getting at. We're talking about God giving us, yes, motivation and strength and drive *for this life... and the eternal* strength we get when God decides to give it to us forever.

Because in Jesus, God took away every pain and sorrow... as well as every sin. He took away every hurt or harm or cause for exhaustion this world throw at us, as well as everything we brought (and continue to bring) on ourselves. After all, how many of our stressors are caused by us chasing, with all our might and energy, after all the wrong things? No wonder we get so tired. There's so much to grab our attention. And we give *into* it so often. We let it have our strength.

Jesus takes the tiredness away. He takes away the distractions. He takes away the biggest weights of all our heaviest sins. He did that. He already did. We're just waiting for the fullness of it to show up. And there's a key word to the passage. All these great gifts are coming to those "who wait upon THE LORD." He's got it. He's taken care of it. And He's made promises of what is to come.

We know this "wings like eagles" passage so well, but we often forget how it starts (emphasis added to the passage): "Have you not known? Have you not heard? The everlasting **God**, the **LORD**, the Creator of the ends of the earth, neither faints nor is weary. **His** understanding is unsearchable. **He** gives power to the weak, and to those who have no might **He** increases strength.

Even the youths shall faint and be weary, and the young men shall utterly fall, but those who wait on the **LORD** shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint."

Indeed the God Who provides for us never gets tired. The Savior He sent, could not be *stopped* from his cross... and the grave he went to couldn't hold him or us. The Spirit who lives in our hearts never sleeps, but constantly prays, and strengthens, and points to the cross... and to the renewed strength that is yet to come. Amen.

Pastor May



Our Mighty Mites

**December \$61.00 – Park Hills Food Bank
January – Missouri District**

The LWML ladies met on December 9 to pack baskets for the First Responders in our area. Baskets of packaged treats were delivered to: Bonne Terre (2), Desloge (1), and Park Hills (2). Since there was a surplus of treats, a basket was also delivered to Terre Du Lac. Included with each basket was a Trinity letter letting them know how much we appreciate their service and dedication to the community.

LWML will not be meeting on January 13th. We hope everyone has a blessed new year.

Charlotte Dole

**"Serve the Lord with Gladness"
Ps. 100:2**



Thank you for your support for the coat collection for SEMO Women's Family Violence Center. Because of your generous participation Thrivent has awarded us a \$250 gift card to be used for Christmas presents for some of the residents there. The staff was so glad to get it because they needed gifts for the 16 year old girl and mother with a baby who moved in Christmas week.

We are continuing to collect clothing and household items for "a Friend's Place". Please sign the Thrivent sign-in Sheet by the mailboxes if you have or are contributing. Thrivent gets volunteer hours credit for your participation. To learn more about Thrivent go to thrivent.com or call 1-800-Thrivent.

Submitted by: Jan Schmidt and Barb Weinhold



- Bethany Caruthers 1-2
- Darren Martin 1-3
- Luke (Schmitt) Marshall 1-5
- James Schmidt 1-6
- Elizabeth Bess 1-10
- Ava Montgomery 1-11
- Debrah Haefner 1-12

- Ardis Tingstrom 1-12
- Darren Ellis 1-13
- David Schmitt 1-13
- Pastor Jeremy May 1-14
- Robert Gibson 1-15
- Terri Schmitt 1-16
- Sue Cook 1-19
- Byanna Jones 1-20
- Dawn Spell 1-22
- Joshawa McSpadden 1-23
- Jan Streckfuss 1-24
- David Behrens 1-25
- Symantha McSpadden 1-26
- Matthew Froidl 1-28
- Jovie (Schmitt) Marshall 1-29
- Carrie Chambliss 1-30
- Erin Gibson 1-31
- Carl Johnson 1-31
- Lana Gibson 1-31
- Tom Wahlers 1-31



*James and Karen Poth
1-3*

*Matthew and Debbi Sopko
1-8*

*Michael and Tennille Montgomery
1-19*



STEWARDSHIP



Time ♦ Talent ♦ Treasure

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

It's a new year. It's a time when we take stock of the year past in order to improve the year to come. It's a time when we sit down to plan and implement what we want to accomplish and even change. Part of that is planning our stewardship for the coming year.

Often, we find this difficult and daunting and even joyless, but it doesn't have to be. In fact, it is really quite simple and full of joy. So, here are some tips to make that planning less stressful. You begin by answering these three questions:

- Who are you?
- To whom do I give?
- And how much?

So, who are you? The Table of Duties in the *Luther's Small Catechism* informs us. Are you a hearer of God's Word? Are you a citizen of society? Are you a member of a family? Stewardship covers these three estates: church, society, and family. We don't particularly struggle to give to society or family. Our struggles, our difficulties, and our questions arise in giving to the Church.

So, what is our duty as members of the Church with regard to giving? Again, the Table of Duties, gives us a guide. If you are a hearer – a member of the Church who receives instruction – St. Paul taught: “Let the one who is taught the word share all

good things with the one who teaches” (Gal. 6:6). This means the local congregation is primary.

Your pastor is the one called to preach the Gospel to you and administer the Lord's blessed sacraments to you. Your congregation is the place where those things happen. Thus, when God calls us to give to the Church, He has the local congregation in mind. For “the Lord commanded that those who proclaim the gospel should get their living by the gospel” (1 Cor. 9:14).

How much do we give to the local congregation? Our only instructions are to give:

- Regularly (1 Cor. 6:1–2);
- Proportionally (1 Cor. 16:1–2; 2 Cor. 8:12);
- Generously (2 Cor. 8:20);
- Of our first fruits (Gen. 4:4; Prov. 3:9; Lev. 27:30); and
- With a spirit of eagerness (2 Cor. 9:2), earnestness (2 Cor. 8:7), cheerfulness (2 Cor. 9:7), and love (2 Cor. 8:23).

In other words, giving to the Church is not to be an afterthought, given after everything else is spent. In this way, it is deliberate. We give regularly – weekly, biweekly, monthly, quarterly, or yearly – keeping in mind our own strengths, weaknesses, and limitations. We set it aside beforehand – before anything else is spent.

From those first fruits, we set aside a proportionate and generous amount. Ten percent was the standard for the Israelites. This was a command for the ancient Israelites. We can give as much as we want, but ask yourself: Do we really want to be

less generous than was commanded of the Israelites? Is the job of the New Testament Church bigger or smaller than the job given to Israel?

And how are we to give it? We give it with eagerness and earnestness. We give it cheerfully and with love, not out of compulsion. For through the preaching of the Gospel and the administration of the sacraments, God has made us His children, forgiven us all our sins, given us grace upon grace, promised us life everlasting with Him in His kingdom, and filled us with His own Spirit, the Holy Spirit. This makes giving a joy, as Jesus said, "it is more blessed to give than to receive" (Acts 20:35).

It's that easy. And it is joyful. For in stewardship, our gracious and giving Lord invites us to take part in the work that He accomplishes here on earth, providing for the ongoing preaching of the Gospel as well as those who are in need. Taking part in that makes all our work holy – work that is done in service to the Lord as priestly members of His kingdom.

†††

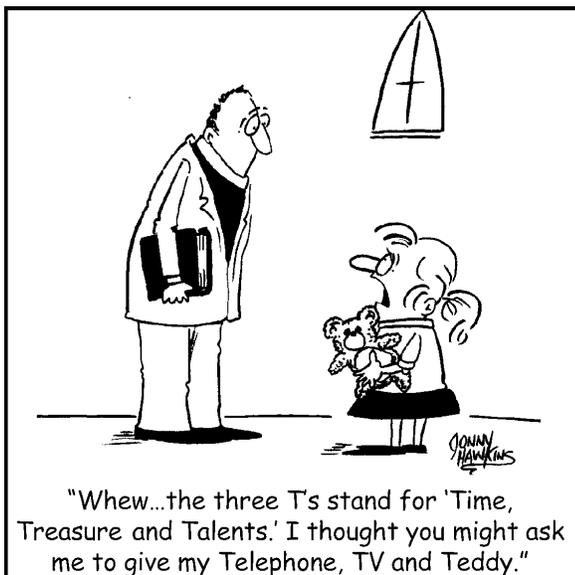


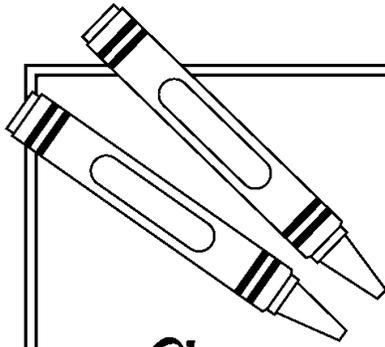
December Church Statistics

| Date | Worship | Bible Study |
|------------|---------|-------------|
| 12-1-2020 | 15 | -- |
| 12-6-2020 | 47 | ?? |
| 12-8-2020 | 10 | -- |
| 12-13-2020 | 35 | 20 |
| 12-15-2020 | 15 | -- |
| 12-20-2020 | 31 | 14 |
| 12-24-2020 | 42 | -- |
| 12-27-2020 | 46 | 19 |

2020 Financial Report

See Financial Update page for the full report.

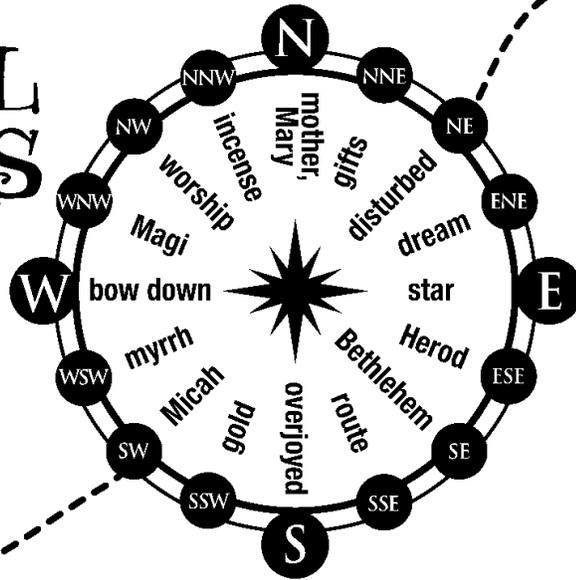




Just for **KIDS**

SPECIAL VISITORS

Matthew 2 tells of visitors who traveled to worship Jesus. Read that story, or see if you can answer the questions below from memory. Use the compass guide to fill in the correct answers.



- Who was king during the time of Jesus' birth? _____ (ESE)
- Who came from the East to worship the one born king of the Jews? _____ (WNW)
- How was King Herod feeling about Jesus' birth? _____ (NE)
- Which prophet did the chief priests and teachers of the law quote when King Herod asked where the Christ would be born? _____ (SW)
- In what city would Christ be born? _____ (SE)
- King Herod lied to the wise men and told them to search and report back so he, too, could do what to Christ? _____ (NW)
- What did the Magi see in the east and follow to find Jesus? _____ (E)
- When the star stopped, how did the Magi feel? _____ (S)
- Who else did the Magi see with Jesus? His _____ (N)
- What did the Magi do first before they worshiped the child? _____ (W)
- Name the three treasures the Magi brought for Jesus. _____ (SSW)
_____ (NNW) _____ (WSW)
- These three treasures were all brought for Jesus as ... _____ (NNE)
- What warned the Magi not to return to Herod? A _____ (ENE)
- The Magi had to return to their country by another _____ (SSE)

Answers: 1. Herod, 2. Magi, 3. disturbed, 4. Micah, 5. Bethlehem, 6. worship, 7. star, 8. overjoyed, 9. mother, Mary, 10. bow down, 11. gold, incense, myrrh, 12. gifts, 13. dream, 14. route