

# Trinity Trumpeter



## Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod

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Mission statement: "To make disciples of all people through a faithful ministry of Word and Sacrament."

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## Family Education

*1 These are the commands, decrees and laws the LORD your God directed me to teach you to observe in the land that you are crossing the Jordan to possess, 2 so that you, your children and their children after them may fear the LORD your God as long as you live by keeping all his decrees and commands that I give you, and so that you may enjoy long life. 3 Hear, O Israel, and be careful to obey so that it may go well with you and that you may increase greatly in a land flowing with milk and honey, just as the LORD, the God of your fathers, promised you. 4 Hear, O Israel: The LORD our God, the LORD is one. Love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength. 6 These commandments that I give you today are to be upon your hearts. 7 Impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up. 8 Tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads. Deuteronomy 6:1-8*

In what seems like a lifetime ago I used to teach a course called, "Life-Span Family Education". This month I would like to share with you just a small portion of the insights from that course about the relationship of the Church and the family.

We need to be clear about the place of the family in terms of the teaching ministry of the Church. The Church's teaching agencies can only supplement the work of the home. The problem of course, has been that parents have been allowed to assume too easily that sending a child to catechism class or a Sunday School was equivalent to providing him/her with religious education. It needs to be made very clear to families that acceptance of a child in the church's educational program carries with it the responsibility on the part of parents to carry forward a home program. Parents also need to develop proper attitudes and skills for Christian nurture. We all must recognize that spiritual growth takes place by the power of the Holy Spirit working through the Word. In short, each congregation and family need to take seriously Deuteronomy 6.

This also means that since parents play such a significant role in the process of Christian nurture, the church must prepare them for their priestly functions in the home. This, in essence, calls for life-span family education. Obviously, parents, nor anyone else for that matter, can give what they do not have. Consequently, unless adults are growing in Christian faith and understanding, there will be little vitality in the program of Christian education offered to children and youth. Classes, with capable teachers must be offered on a regular basis as part of an extended curriculum for all adults. Instead of being a mere "holding operation," the local

congregation needs to transform itself into a school for Christian growth to equip its people for their basic Christian living tasks.

One is reminded of the individual and family lifecycle as a framework for developing and offering a relevant and needs-based curriculum in the parish. Let us remember that already in the Church there are rituals and symbols which reflect the individual and family lifecycle. During the stage of *forming the family*, the parish assists not only by providing the setting for weddings but also by making available pre-marital counseling. In the next stage, *enlarging the family*, there is the Baptism of the children. In the stage of *expanding the family*, the opportunity exists to enhance the process of knowing oneself in relation to Christ and confessing one's faith through the educational program called Confirmation. As the period of *extending the family* is reached, the parish is involved again through the marriage of children and can provide support to the parents in the letting-go process and to the newlyweds in terms of pre-marital work and post-marital check-ups. When the stage of *reforming the family* is experienced, the parish may aid the couple in achieving renewed intimacy in the marriage. The parish might provide comfort and assistance at the time of a funeral or offer grief support groups.

Once again, as to parental involvement, it needs to be clearly understood that parental involvement is a sacred obligation. This surely, however, brings leaders in the church to one of today's greatest challenges. This challenge is to enroll both parents and children in the church's religious education program. Given the world we live in today, it is ridiculous and irrelevant to question the role of continuing religious education. Many people seek continuing education so that they may, to the best of their abilities, carry out the duties of their occupation. Why should it be any different in the church, especially in light of the complexities of life in the home, community, society, and world today? Parents will not be involved naturally in this process. They must be enlisted, and here the church needs to be more assertive.

A special note is in order for fathers. Research indicates that fathers are tending to take a more active role in the home. This is a trend to celebrate. The Church, however, needs to be in a supporting role in assisting fathers to assume, along with their wives, responsibility for Christian nurture. Children need co-parenting and strong mothers and strong fathers. We need to remind each other in the Church, however, that the model Scripture presents of God in relationship to His children is one of *strong fathering* --caring (Lk. 15:11-32), responsive to human needs (Titus 3:3-7), respecting (Lk. 3:22), knowing (Jn. 2:24-25), forgiving (Mt. 26:28), and disciplining (Prov. 3:11-12). Certainly, to be a Christian father, he, like a Christian mother, needs the power of the Spirit and the mind of Christ. If we accept the Biblical concept that the father is called by God to be a priest in the home, the Church has the responsibility to help him become a better priest.

<b>To meet our Christian duties, we need the guidance of the Holy Spirit.</b>
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Another special note is in order as well. The Church cannot ignore the fact that many households today are headed by a single parent. All that is said above is meant for that single parent. His or her role is a sacred role, indeed. It is also a very stressful role in today's society. This gives special urgency to the content and process of Christian family education which aims to strengthen the family, support the family in improving family living, and reducing family-related problems.

It is a constant challenge for the Church to examine the framework of life-span education in terms of children, adolescents, and adults to determine "what counts," what will be a needs-based life-span family education, and how does the Word of God address all these areas and concepts, all these ages and stages.

**Where might you use your God given abilities, to aid in any of these educational areas?**

*Pastor Kohnke*

## Ladies Tuesday Bible

The woman's Bible study group will meet in the church again on July 6 @ 12:45. We will continue our Bible Study on Old Testament books of Ezra and Nehemiah. It's not too late to join the study! Hope to see you there. Please let Shirley Holtzen know if you will be joining and she will get you a copy of the study. Ph. 531-289-0396



**Sunday Morning Bible Class:** Study of the Old Testament with Pastor Holtzen. Starts at 9:00am

**Monday Evening Bible study:** is on hold for the summer. See you in person or via zoom in the fall! If you have any suggestions for a study, please let Pastor Kohnke know.

**Sunday School News:** We need one new Sunday School teacher to start in the fall! Please prayerfully consider this position.

## Covid-19 Worship update:

**On Sunday, July 4, 2021 we shall resume communion at the altar.** If you desire to receive communion as we have been distributing it, then you will need to sign up. We will no longer be making a seating chart. At this time, we will continue to receive the offering in the narthex to eliminate the handling of the collection plate. Handshaking will continue to be discouraged. **You will only sign up one time** and you will let the church office know when you are ready to receive communion at the altar.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/904084AADA82BAAFF2-holy>

You will no longer receive an email from the church each Saturday with the Order of service. You can continue to download it off the church website each week. Find the Order of service posted on the Bulletins' page.



**Sunday Circle** will meet next on July 11<sup>th</sup>, after the service.

The Sunday Circle has been busy in May and June completing a new banner for Epiphany and a new banner for Good Friday. We are in hopes of completing more banners in the next few months.

Thanks to all of those who donated old jeans, we will have 20 backpacks ready to give to Bennet School in August. We are hoping to have a door offering on July 25th to help purchase school supplies to fill the backpacks.



## Our Mission Dollars at Work

Our July mission is the Joint Seminary Fund. Excellent seminaries are important to everyone who needs the Gospel. Well-formed pastors, deaconesses, ordained missionaries and theological leaders are vital to our life together as they faithfully and accurately teach the Gospel. For our entire history as The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, well-formed and compassionate pastors have been important because the Gospel, faithfully delivered in Word and sacraments, is essential to each of us. The LCMS supports two seminaries — Concordia Theological Seminary in Fort Wayne, Ind., and Concordia Seminary in St. Louis — with Sunday-morning worship offerings set aside by congregations for district and national/international work. The LCMS national office acknowledges the level of financial subsidy it provides is woefully insufficient to fully operate either seminary, let alone both. The LCMS Joint Seminary Fund was established to supplement the Synod subsidy by directly soliciting the church for charitable donations. Gifts to the LCMS Joint Seminary Fund are restricted exclusively to supporting both of our world-class seminaries.

**Mary & Martha League:** Will meet in person, July 15, 1:30 pm.



The Mary and Martha League would like to thank all of those who helped serve the funerals for Terry Klopfenstein and Arlin Nisley. Those of you who came the night before the funeral to help set up the tables, put on table clothes and move chairs around, we thank you for your extra effort. Those of you helped serve the meal and clean the kitchen, we want you to know that your helping hands made the serving and clean-up flow smoothly and efficiently and we greatly appreciate all your work.

Those of you who stayed to help move tables back into place for Bible Class on Sunday, put away all the extra folding chairs, move the remaining blue chairs into their proper position and launder the table cloths, we want you to know that we appreciate the time and the effort you put into helping. Most of all we praise God for all of you.

We would also like to thank the congregation for their support of the Mite Box Offering. So far this year we have collected \$310.85. Your dollars, quarters, dimes, nickels and pennies are used in Nebraska, throughout the United States and around the world to support mission work of kinds.

We are still looking into ways in which we can help feed the hungry in our community. If any of you have a suggestion, please let one us know and we will look into it.

If any of you would like to join us we meet the third Thursday of each month at 1:30 at the church. We would love to add your smiling face to our group.

**Dinner Out:** Still on hold... but will resume on September 12, 2021. Please share your suggestions for dinner locations with Laura or Karen Luebke.

# PARADES

Bennet 4<sup>th</sup> of July will be held on July 3rd! Registration is that day at 9:00, parade starts at 10:00. Please meet at the County building at the corner of Cottonwood and S 162<sup>nd</sup> St. No later than 9:30 a.m.

Sign up link. No special dress code! If you have a Trinity T-Shirt, please wear it. We will have on hand a variety of Thrivent t-shirts.



## July Birthdays

- 7/1 Kylee Plager
- 7/2 Cathy Plager
- 7/5 Mandi & Allison Kemper
- 7/13 Kelli Classen & Nathan Grimes
- 7/15 Matt Kemper
- 7/16 Cindy Bremer
- 7/18 Alex Broening
- 7/22 Riley Rosecrans
- 7/23 Thomas Cheney
- 7/24 Mae Kemper
- 7/25 Sophia & Grayson May
- 7/25 Megan Rexroth
- 7/29 LoRee May
- 7/30 Kristin Page
- 7/31 Maggie Broening



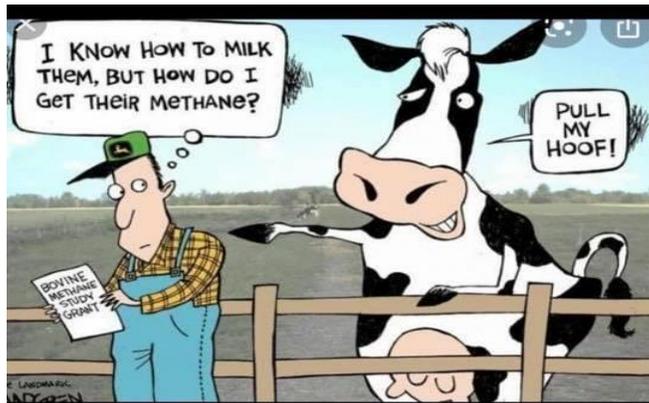
### July Anniversaries

- 7/4 Tanner & Sonnen Maahs
- 7/10 Zach & Rebekah Maahs
- 7/21 Hank & Kilee Oetjen
- 7/24 Jacob & Erin May

**Liberty Bell**, large [bell](#), a traditional [symbol](#) of U.S. freedom, commissioned in 1751 by the Pennsylvania Provincial Assembly to hang in the new State House (renamed [Independence Hall](#)) in [Philadelphia](#). It was cast in [London](#) by the Whitechapel Bell Foundry, purchased for about £100, and delivered in [August](#) 1752. It was cracked by a stroke of the clapper while being tested and was twice recast in Philadelphia before being hung in the State House steeple in June 1753. It weighs about 2,080 pounds (943 kg), is 12 feet (3.7 metres) in circumference around the lip, and measures 3 feet (1 metre) from lip to crown. It bears the motto, “Proclaim liberty throughout all the land unto all the inhabitants thereof” (Leviticus 25:10).



## Alberts Joke of the month!



## From your Secretary!



## Trinity Lutheran Vacation Bible School

### RAIN FOREST EXPLOERS, JESUS LEADS THE WAY!

WOW! A HUGE thank you to all the kids, parents, grandparents, Pastor and the many volunteers that made VBS happen this year. It was such a blessing to be together in person again. The kids really had a great time singing, playing games, making crafts, putting on skits, eating yummy food and most importantly, learning a lot

about Jesus' love and God's promises. Along with the congregation, the students raised \$227.10 in mission funds for "Let the Children Come to Me" a ministry that supports Sunday Schools students in Southeast Asia. We ended the week with a field trip to the Omaha Zoo and a wonderful Sunday Service that included the VBS kids.

THANKS AGAIN to all that were involved! Pastor, Candy, Laura, Kristi, Kilee, Hank, Tim, Shirley, Megan, Olivia, Lydia, Ruby, Bailey, Lori, Steve, Molly, Karla, John, Grace, Jule, Ashley, & Becky.



# July 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3 Bennett Parade 10:00am
4 Independence Day 9 am Sunday School & Adult Bible Study 10 am Divine Service	5	6 Woman's Bible Study 12:45 Fellowship Hall	7	8	9	10 Elder's Meeting 7:00 am
11 9 am Sunday School & Adult Bible Study 10 am Divine Service	12 Voters Meeting Reports due!	13	14	15 1:30 p.m. Mary & Martha League	16	17
18 9 am Sunday School & Adult Bible Study 10 am Divine Service	19 Newsletter deadline!	20	21	22 Newsletter Print Date	23	24
25 9 am Sunday School & Adult Bible Study 10 am Divine Service Mite Box Sunday 11:15 am Voters Meeting	26	27	28	29	30	31

**Those serving in July, 2021 Sunday 10:00 a.m.**

**Elders**

4<sup>th</sup> Hank Oetjen, Tracy Refior  
11<sup>th</sup> Steve Cartagena, Roger Pearson  
28<sup>th</sup> Alan Retzlaff, Tim Holtzen  
25<sup>th</sup> Hank Oetjen, Steve Cartagena

**Altar Guild**

4<sup>th</sup> Becky Nisley, Laura Hametis  
11<sup>th</sup> Sandy Kemper, Allison Kemper  
28<sup>th</sup> Margene Meyer, Kristi Refior  
25<sup>th</sup> Candy Kohnke, Shirley Retzlaff

**Acolyte**

4<sup>th</sup> Ruby & Lydia Oetjen  
11<sup>th</sup> Ruby Oetjen, Knoxly May  
18<sup>th</sup> Ruby & Willa Oetjen  
25<sup>th</sup> Ruby & Zenna Zickafoose

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