

# News of the Son

Trinity Lutheran Church — Columbia, MO



January  
2023

## *Our Life With God, Part 2*

"What does God expect from us" is not unusual, but have you ever pondered, "What can you expect from God?" Who is God?

Keeping in mind that we are spiritually dead (Ephesians 2:1-5), blind (II Corinthians 4:1-4), and enemies of God (Romans 5:6-10), how do we know we have a loving and gracious God? How do we come to Him? How can we believe in Him?

When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth, for he will not speak on his own authority, but whatever he hears he will speak, and he will declare to you the things that are to come. He will glorify me, for he will take what is mine and declare it to you. All that the Father has is mine; therefore I said that he will take what is mine and declare it to you. (John 16:13-15).

It is not by our reason or strength that we come to God or even know who He is. So it is that the Holy Spirit calls (II Thessalonians 2:14), enlightens (II Corinthians 4:1-6), sanctifies (Romans 8:9 & II Thessalonians 2:18), and keeps (Philippians 1:6) in the true faith.

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy Christian Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting.**

The Holy Spirit does not leave us in the dark, but He would have us know without a doubt that we have a God who loves us. He reveals and points us to our Savior.

And no one can say "Jesus is Lord" except in the Holy Spirit. (I Corinthians 12:3b)

"But when the Helper comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth, who proceeds from the Father, he will bear witness about me. (John 15:26).

Jesus, the Son of God, freely redeems you with His precious blood and Holy innocent suffering and death (Colossians 1:13-14, Titus 2:14, Hebrews 2:14-15, I John 3:8).

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Knowing Christ's Love  
Seeking His Will  
Spreading His Word

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For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, not a result of works, so that no one may boast. (Ephesians 2:8-9).

**And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died and was buried.  
He descended into hell.  
The third day He rose again from the dead.  
He ascended into heaven  
and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.  
From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.**

Because of Jesus, we are the children of God, and He is our heavenly Father.

But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons. And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" (Galatians 4:4-6).

As your Father, He created you (Psalm 139:13-14). He provides and guards you every day (Nehemiah 9:6).

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth.**

The ancient Creed encapsulates what God we do have. It also reminds us of what we can expect from God. He is our loving heavenly Father who created the world and us. He continues to provide and keep us. The Son purchased and saved us by no work of our own but purely out of His goodness and mercy. The Holy Spirit gathers God's people and delivers to them the gifts of God.

Our God is indeed gracious and loving God, and we should expect nothing less than how He gives Himself to us.

Your Servant in Christ,

*Rev. Brian K. Thieme*

A summer conference for  
Trinity high school and  
college students



# BEYOND REASONABLE DOUBT

Higher Things Conferences 2023

**Southern Illinois University**  
**Carbondale, Illinois**  
**July 18-21, 2023**

**OR**

**Trinity University**  
**San Antonio, Texas**  
**July 25-28, 2023**

**INFORMATION SESSION**

**Sunday, January 15, 2023 at 12pm in the Fellowship Hall**  
**Watch your mailboxes!**

**[www.higherthings.org](http://www.higherthings.org)**

## 2023 Member Contribution Envelopes

Please pick up your box of envelopes for 2023 off the tables in the overflow room.

There is a new number for 2023 for the majority of our members, so do not use these envelopes until 2023. Thank you.

If you cannot locate your box, please leave a message for the Financial Secretary and she will be happy to assist you.



## Lutheranism 101

In January, we will begin a new session of **Adult Catechism Classes!** These will be held on Wednesday afternoons at 1 p.m. starting January 18, 2022.

Members are welcome to join the class!



## Scholarship Opportunity

Interested in becoming a church worker (pastor, deaconess, DCE, teacher)? Trinity Lutheran Church offers scholarships for students pursuing church work.



### 1. Eligibility

- Scholarships may be awarded to students studying for an LCMS church vocation (pastor, teacher, DCE, deaconess, etc.)
- Recipients must be attending an LCMS university or seminary.
- Recipients must be a member of Trinity Lutheran Church.

### 2. Application and Approval

- Potential recipients must submit a written letter of application to the Board of Directors.
- Scholarships may be renewed annually if the recipient requests continued support by submitting a written letter of application to the Board of Directors.
- Applications for summer school scholarships will be considered.
- Scholarships and their specific amounts must be approved by the Assembly of Voters.

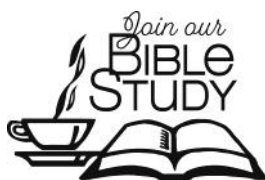
### 3. Administration

- Scholarship checks will be written to the institution (or its appropriate subunit) on behalf of the recipient. Checks will not be written directly to the recipient.
- Scholarship funds will first be drawn from the budgeted line account item (account 534). If the budgeted account is depleted, funds may also be drawn from the dedicated LCEF scholarship fund (account 195).
- If the budgeted line account has a balance at the end of the fiscal year, the balance will be moved into the dedicated LCEF scholarship fund.

## Men's Thursday Morning Bible Study



Pastor McCalley is leading a study on death and dying. The study covers issues and concerns of pastors, families, and funeral home directors during times of loss and grief. We'll take a look at the ministry of the funeral service, cremation versus traditional burial, advance planning, etc. Everyone is invited to this study (if you can force yourself out of a warm bed to attend at 6:30 AM on Thursday). Please join us!



Join us for Bible study on Sundays at 9:30 a.m. and Mondays at 9 a.m. Pastor Thieme is teaching a series on 1 John.

## Life Team News



- In January, we invited Pastor James Lamb to preach and teach on Life Sunday, set up a display in the narthex, had a sharing moment and a freewill offering.
- In February, we held a Life Team training for 8 people and explored the scriptural basis of the team and its purpose for our congregation.
- At our meeting in March, we filled goodie bags for our homebound members and welcomed 4 new members to our team! We reviewed the test which our members took to be certified and discussed ideas for future events. We also (with Heather's help) sent information about the Midwest March for Life to every LCMS church and school in Missouri. We also decided to resume having meals at our meetings.
- In April, the new members of our team were installed and commissioned and received certificates as well. The Midwest March for Life was held on Wednesday, April 20th in Jefferson City. The annual LFL meeting was held on April 23rd at Prince of Peace Lutheran Church in St. Louis and several of our team attended. The topic was human trafficking and how to help end it. We hope to share information about this topic in the months to come, as well as information on end of life issues.
- In May, the annual LFL Diaper Drive was held starting on Mother's Day. It ran through Father's Day and we collected 3,148 diapers and 19 packages of wipes. These were donated to LFCS and My Life Clinic.
- In July, the Life Team helped with VBS by serving a meal, setting up a LFL display, and handing out a children's book titled *Alive Before You Were Born* to about 20-25 families.
- In August, we made plans for a movie night in September and we showed the movie *Wonder* to about 20 people. We served pizza and snacks. We also asked the church to sponsor a table at the Life Network banquet on Thursday, September 15th. They agreed and we were given a table for 8 in priority seating, 4 copies of a pro-life book, and our church's name was included in the program and on the screen at the banquet.
- In October, the Life Team filled and delivered Reformation Day goodie bags to our homebound members and participated in Trunk or Treat. Along with candy, we handed out information about Luther's stand on life issues and Life Is A Gift coloring books.
- In November, we made plans for Life Sunday and had a guest speaker at our meeting, Kaitlyn Banning, leader of Mizzou Students for Life, who told us about her group's efforts to spread information about alternatives to abortion. She was a dynamic speaker and we hope to have her back. Her group is hosting an event in December and we plan to let the congregation know more about it.
- In December, we will be delivering goodie bags for the homebound and finalizing plans for Life Sunday. Our speaker is Trumane Orson, from LFCS of Mid Missouri. He will be speaking to the Adult Sunday School class on Life Sunday, January 15th, from 9:30-10:15 a.m. We will also have a sharing moment and a freewill offering for LFL Adoption Fund. This fund was set up to help offset the cost of adoption, which is very expensive. We thank the congregation for all of the support we have received this year and look forward to starting our fifth year as a life team in 2023.

Blessings,

The Life Team



**A blessed New Year to each of you,**

**If you are tempted to be discouraged by the pro-death culture around you and wonder who is going to speak up for the preciousness of every human life that God creates, redeems and calls, take heart! God is raising up a new generation of voices for life. The following is the 8th grade winner of the Lutherans For Life national essay contest and her essay:**

**Alyssa Bivens**

**2022 National Essay Winner – Grades 6-8**

Good Shepherd Lutheran School, Collinsville, Illinois

Illinois First Place

Essay Title: The Blessing of Life

Alyssa Bivens is currently a freshman at Metro East Lutheran High School in Edwardsville, Illinois. She was recently valedictorian of her 8th grade class at Good Shepherd Lutheran in Collinsville, Illinois, and has been published in three poetry volumes. Alyssa enjoys playing soccer and deer hunting in her free time.

**The Blessing of Life by Alyssa Bivens**

"In America, suicide is the tenth leading cause of death, with one person taking their life every eleven minutes ("Facts about Suicide"). However, this is not God's will for the world. The Psalmist reminds us of God's view on human life by saying, **"... the Lord protects him and keeps him alive; he is called blessed in the land; you do not give him up to the will of his enemies"** (Psalm 41:2 ESV). Clearly, God values life and has called us to help others value it, too.

First, God has called us to help our neighbors in their struggles. In one of his letters, Paul wrote, **"Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ"** (Galatians 6:2 ESV). Encouraging private meetings with a pastor or setting up a time to share experiences with others in similar situations are two ways that the Church can remove the burdens of those who want to commit suicide. By sharing their feelings with people who can empathize, they will hopefully see their blessings, how they bless others, and that God will help them through their situation.

Additionally, God calls us to pray in unfortunate circumstances like these. Peter states in his first book, **"Casting all your anxieties on him, because he cares for you"** (1 Peter 5:7 ESV). Unfortunately, reminding people with suicidal thoughts of their blessings can be ineffective. Prayer is powerful, so in this case, we must take it to God, trusting that He will guide this person through their trials or comfort others who are affected. We must believe that God will protect and bless them.

Most importantly, God has a plan. According to Jeremiah, God says, **"For I know the plans I have for you,' declares the Lord, 'plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope'"** (Jeremiah 29:11 ESV). God will use their pain to bless their future; He won't give up on them, so neither can we. He will use that person to bless others, so with God's help, we must remind them of this and encourage them not to take their life.

Ultimately, God values life and wants us to share that message. He calls us to help and pray for our neighbors who want to commit suicide because He promises He has a plan for everyone. God will protect and bless His creation; we must trust Him, follow His commands, and share His Word.

Work Cited: "Facts About Suicide." *Centers for Disease Control and Prevention*, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 24 Feb. 2022, [www.cdc.gov/suicide/facts/index.html](https://www.cdc.gov/suicide/facts/index.html)."

**Remember to celebrate Life Sunday this month and give thanks for young voices like Alyssa's.**

**In Christ,**

**Sylvia Glenn**

Feel free to call me (573-592-7866) for information or concerns about life issues. For those who have had an abortion, there is a **word of hope!** "He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds" (Psalm 147:3). For confidential post-abortion **referral, counsel, and reconciliation** call WORD of HOPE, toll-free 888-217-8679, or visit [www.word-of-hope.org](http://www.word-of-hope.org).



## Board Member Installation & Orientation

Welcome new officers and board members!

Officer & board member installation will take place on January 8, 2023 at the 10:30 a.m. service. Lunch and orientation will follow at 11:45 a.m. More information will be sent to participants via mail.



- LEAD TEACHER—INFANT ROOM
- TEACHER'S AIDE

If interested in exploring employment with our center:

- Send an email to Annette Kiehne at [TLCLC@trinity-lcms.org](mailto:TLCLC@trinity-lcms.org)
- Call us at 573-445-1014
- Text Annette directly at 573-864-6168
- For more information, check out the job posting on Indeed ([www.indeed.com](http://www.indeed.com))
- Area college students may apply on Handshake at [www.joinhandshake.com](http://www.joinhandshake.com)



BOCE wants to invite all of God's children to Sunday School hour.

Grades pre-K–5th meet in the gym and 6th–8th meet in the classroom attached

to the fellowship hall from 9:30am to 10:20am. The high school youth meet in the youth room and the adult bible study meets in the fellowship hall from 9:30 am to 10:15 am.

We would like to extend the invitation to everyone to study scripture during Sunday school hour after coffee and donuts. We look forward to seeing you there!

## 2023 Trinity Lutheran Church Officers and Board Members

### President

Larry McCoig

### Secretary

Mary Frerking

### Treasurer

Warren Harms

### Financial Secretary

Pat Hansen

### Board of Christian Ed.

Connie Coil

Daniel Hakes

Sarah Thieme

### Board of Early Childhood Ed.

Justin Ferris

Rachael Marler

Terri Shank

Dan Watts

Phyllis White

### Board of Elders

Benjamin Asbeck

David Attebery

Ron Barrett

Jim Cherrington

John Frerking

Daniel Hartman

Carey Smith

### Board of Evangelism

Patti Haubein

Dianne Mirtz

James Roberts

### Board of Social Ministry

Emily Derendinger

Larry Samuel

Travis Vellema

### Board of Stewardship and Finance

Keith Davis

Jensen Duenckel

Kathy Ferguson

Dennis Haubein

Richard Mangold

Karen Niederjohn

### Board of TLC

#### Endowment Fund

Gary Frisch

Norm Gephardt

Rob Hall

### Board of Trustees

Kevin Hughes

Gary Kespohl

Doug McDowell

### Board of Youth

Chris Bailey

Jacque Eckhoff

Lisa Mefrakis

Board of Directors reports & agenda items are due by the end of the day on Wednesday, January 4, 2023.

The Board of Directors will meet Tuesday, January 10, 2023 at 6:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

The Assembly of Voters will meet next on Sunday, February 26, 2023 at 12:00 p.m.

## December 6, 2022 Board of Directors (draft meeting minutes)

- I. **Opening Hymn** #348, verses 1&2, *The King Shall Come When Morning Dawns*.
- II. **Attendance:** Larry McCoig (President), Warren Harms (Treasurer), JoAnn Schoenike (Financial Secretary), David Attebery, Doug McDowell (Trustees), Nick Couper (Endowment), Annette Kiehne (Director TLCLC), Pastor Thieme, Pastor McCalley, Mary Frerking (Secretary), Gary Kespohl (Trustees), Carole Eilers (BOECE) and Karen Harms.
- III. **Approval of the Meeting agenda:** Motion was made to amend the agenda to include a TLC Financial Review report under Old Business and the Adopt a Student Program POA under New Business. A motion to amend the agenda as noted was made and seconded. Motion approved without further discussion.
- IV. **Treasurer's Reports:** No report due to preparation and presentation of the budget.
- V. **Approval of the Consent Agenda:**
  - A. Minutes of November 8, 2022, regular meeting
  - B. Pastors' Reports: No Reports
    1. Membership Changes (Information only)
  - C. Financial Secretary's Report: Report
  - D. Board Reports:
    1. Christian Education: No Report
    2. Early Childhood Education: No Report
    3. Director of TLCLC: No Report
    4. Elders: Report
    5. Evangelism: No Report
    6. Social Ministry: No Report
    7. Stewardship and Finance: No Report
    8. Trinity Lutheran Church Endowment Fund: Report
    9. Trustees: Report
    10. Youth: No Report
  - E. Committee Reports:
    1. Executive Committee: No Report
- VI. **Old Business:**
  - A. Endowment Fund – proposed By-Laws change: The Chair of Endowment reviewed the proposed changes to the By-Laws for the Endowment funds. The BOD will review the proposed changes so they can be discussed at the January 2023 BOD meeting and make a recommendation to the voters at the February

2023 AOV meeting.

The Chair also has a question as to whom should be responsible for Special Purpose Funds. Where are archived documents stored for the church? There is a need to put archives in order. There has been no withdrawal for the last three years. The President, Treasurer and Chair of the Endowment Fund have authority to request checks from the LCMS.

The President reviewed the provisions of the Constitution which addresses changes to the By-laws, and what is required of the Committee in to request a withdrawal of funds from the Endowment Fund.

There was discussion about making a withdrawal of funds from the LCEF funds. The President reported that if endowment funds are used for the purpose for which the funds were donated, there is really no problem with the withdrawal of those funds for those items.

Motion was made to table the proposed changes to the January 10, 2023, BOD meeting. Motion was seconded. Motion approved without further discussion.

- B. Trustees – Report on Infant Room: Trustees made a verbal report on the status of the Infant Room. The church has contracts and bids and has purchased some items for the room. The total cost of the renovation to date is \$17,450. Furnishings will be an additional cost. The exterior door to the Infant Room is expected around January 26, 2023. The TLCLC also discussed some of the furnishings for the room.
- C. Nominating Committee Report: The Chair of the Elders verbally reported that there is one addition to the slate of members: Ethan Mott has agreed to serve on the Board of Youth. We are still looking for one member for the Board of Trustees and one for the BOECE.
- D. Proposed Budget for 2023: The Treasurer made a motion to approve the budget as proposed. Motion was seconded. The Treasurer then reviewed the proposed budget for 2023. Treasurer noted Regular Envelopes was increased by \$11K to have a balanced budget, which will be submitted to the AOV next week. It will be helpful if the respective boards are present to address any specific questions about the budget for each board for 2023. Motion approved.
- E. Financial Review Committee (Handout at the Meeting): The Committee is made up of chair, Phil Glenn, with Eldrid Easterhaus, John Berendzen, Conrad Brown, and Erika Mouser. The report will be provided to the AOV in December for information only.



Intermissio: Pastor Thieme led the BOD in singing verses 2 & 3 of Hymn #348.

## VII. New Business:

- A. 2023 Board of Director's and Voter's Assembly meeting dates and times: The President reviewed the proposed dates for BOD and AOV meetings for 2023. Motion was made and seconded to adopt the proposed dates for 2023, and to amend the list to change the November 2023 BOD to the 14<sup>th</sup>, and the December 2023 BOD to the 12<sup>th</sup>. Motion was approved as amended.
- B. Life Team Sharing Moment Request: Motion was made by the Life Team for approval to provide a freewill offering for the Lutherans for Life Adoption Fund, on January 15, 2023, and (as amended) on the 1/16/2023. Motion as amended was approved without discussion.
- C. Bus Use Request – December 15 to the Lyceum Theatre: Trustees made a motion to approve the Bus Use Request. Motion seconded and approved without further discussion.
- D. Plan of Action Presentation- presented by BOECE to AOV: The BOECE is seeking approval as set forth in #7 of the POA report to disperse the funds as set forth in the grant. The chair of the BOECE reviewed the POA as set forth in the report. The money has not yet been received by the BOECE. The BOECE will provide additional information to the AOV to explain how the payroll taxes will be paid.
- E. Plan of Action: Adopt a Student (Handout): Pastor Thieme reviewed the Motion as set forth in the POA as submitted to the BOD. Motion was seconded. Motion was approved after a brief discussion.

## VIII. Announcements:

- A. The next BOD meeting is scheduled for January 10, 2023, at 6:30 pm.
  - B. The next regularly scheduled AOV meeting is December 11, 2022, at 12:00 pm.
- IX. **Adjournment:** Motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 8:09 pm.
- X. **Closing/Claudendo:** Pastor Thieme led the BOD in singing verse 3 of Hymn #348.

Respectfully submitted by Mary A Frerking  
December 8, 2022

## December 11, 2022 Assembly of Voters (draft meeting minutes)

The AOV Regular December 2022 meeting opened at 12:03 pm. There is a quorum.

- I. **Opening Devotion:** Pastor McCalley led the members in singing verses 1- 3 of Hymn #334, *O Lord, How Shall I Meet You*.
- II. **Introduction of first-time attendees to the Assembly of Voters:** None.
- III. **Attendance Roster:** Larry McCoig (President), Warren Harms (Treasurer), JoAnn Schoenike (Financial Secretary), Pat Hansen, Karen Eastman, Karen Niederjohn, Norm Gephardt, Dan Watts, Donna Watts, Karen Harms, John Frerking, Nick Couper, Carole Eilers, Dennis Haubein, Patti Haubein, Jim Cherrington, Dianne Mirtz, Phyllis White, Annette Kiehne, Joanna McDowell, David Attebery, Pastor Rattelmuller, Ken Greer, Teresa Greer, Pastor McCalley, Tom Myers, Gary Kespohl & Mary Frerking (Secretary).
- IV. **Addition of items to the Agenda:** It was noted there are changes to the Nominating Committee Worksheet. Changes are noted in Old Business below.  

A question was raised if the Building Committee was making a report. No report is included as part of this AOV packet.

  1. The President noted the HR Committee Reports on Bereavement Leave and Jury Duty Leave, plus the Financial Committee Report, all should be moved to Old Business and will require approval of church members.
  2. The President also noted two additional membership changes - a member Baptism and Transfer Out, both of which are set forth later in these Minutes.
- V. **Approval of Agenda:** Motion was made to approve the agenda: Motion was made, seconded, and approved to amend the agenda to reflect the changes noted above.
- VI. **Approval of the Assembly of Voters minutes:**
  - A. November 13, 2022, Assembly of Voters Meeting: Motion was made and seconded to approve the November 2022 Minutes. Discussion followed. One change to the Minutes was noted on page 4 of the AOV Packet – as part of the discussion of the BOECE budget, the Minutes should read “[Q]uestion was raised when the under 2-year-olds will be able to attend.”
- VII. **Pastor's report:** No questions of this report by church members.
- VIII. **Membership Changes since November 13, 2022, AOV meeting:**

In: None.

Baptism:

- a. Robert Hamisch Clark by Baptism on November 13, 2022.
- b. Sutton Allen Gravitt. Son of Asa Linneman and Joathan Allen Gravitt on November 13, 2022.

Profession of Faith: None

Out:

- a. Timothy and Joni Schaumburg to Christ the King Lutheran Church, Lake of the Ozark.

IX. **Financial Secretary's Report:** The Financial Secretary reviewed the attached report. At the bottom of the page, it is noted we received 52 responses from giving units to Stewardship promise cards. If no card has been turned in to date, the Financial Secretary will use the amount promised from 2022. Motion made and seconded to accept the Financial Secretary's report from November 2022. Motion approved without further discussion.

X. **Treasurer's Report:** No new report since November 2022.

XI. **Board Reports since November 2022** (for information only): See attached reports. Trustees reviewed parts of its report. Trustees advised Pro Foundation is going to work on the North side of the Learning Center b/c it is settling again. A question was raised about the bid from Foundation Recovery for \$30K to raise the pad by the Learning Center b/c it is not in the current Trustees' budget. The cost to lift the floor should be covered by the Pro Foundation warranty. If the warranty work does not fix the issue, Trustees will need to work with Foundation Recovery to do the repairs.

Endowment noted a change to their report on page 10 of the AOV Packet - the gain or loss for the Bourret/Elliott Fund should be a loss of (\$8,598).

XII. **Miscellaneous Reports:** (Information Only):

- A. Life Team Report: Life Team noted no changes to their report.

XIII. **Old Business:**

- A. Nominating Committee Slate of Board Members for 2023: The attached worksheet is revised to delete Ethan Mott from the Board of Youth, and there to note an Open spot remaining on the BOECE. It was also noted Larry McCoig would remain as President, Mary Frerking as Secretary and Warren Harms as Treasurer – these positions are elected annually, with a maximum of five 1-year terms. Pat Hansen is submitted as the candidate for Financial Secretary.

The President opened the floor for additional nominations. A motion was made and seconded to approve the nominations as listed and updated. From the floor, Trustees received a nomination of Kevin Hughes as an additional member to the Trustees. No other nominations from the floor were offered. The motion, as revised with the addition of Kevin Hughes, was approved without further discussion. Motion was then made to elect the slate of officers as noted. Motion seconded. Motion approved for the election of the slate of board members without further discussion.

B. HR Committee Report – Bereavement Leave & Jury Duty Leave: The HR Committee was asked to review these two Leave benefits/policies. They are now being offered for member approval. The HR Committee moved to approve these benefit policies. Motion was seconded. It was noted these benefits covers all church non-called members. There is no time limit on when you can take these benefits. The policies could be amended to provide for abuse of these policies. Motion to approve both the Bereavement and Jury Duty Leave policies was approved without further discussion.

C. Financial Review Report: The Financial Committee was asked to review the last two years of the TLC financials and as required by the By-Laws. Motion was made and seconded to approve the report as submitted. Motion was approved without further discussion.

XIV. **New Business:**

- A. 2023 Meeting schedule for BOD & AOV: Motion was made and seconded to approve the BOD & AOV meeting schedule for 2023. The members need to approve the AOV schedule of meetings only. It was noted there has been a conflict in the past with the scheduled AOV meetings and other church activities (for example college students meet monthly and has conflicted with AOV meetings). It was recommended that we do not have an AOV meeting four days before December in 2023. However, it is difficult or impossible to get the financial reports earlier in the month, and it can also be difficult for the Secretary when a BOD and AOV meeting are in the same week. Motion to accept the 2023 schedule of AOV meetings was approved without further discussion.

B. Plan of Action: BOECE – Missouri DESE Grant on funds for Retention of Child

Care Staff: Motion was made and seconded to approve the BOECE POA as submitted. After allowing the members several minutes to review the POA, discussion followed. Four members of the BOECE were present at the AOV meeting. The chair of the BOECE reviewed several key points of the POA. This grant has no control by the government and with no cost to the church or the Learning Center.

This grant recognizes staff that stay – like a retention bonus for full time staff only. There are 14 members who would be eligible for these bonuses. The Learning Center already has a year-end bonus for the staff. Current part-time members and two full time members would be eligible for the regularly scheduled year-end bonuses.

Once the grant money is received, the Learning Center has 45 days to spend the money, or it must be returned. The Learning Center wants approval from the AOV so they are able to spend the money if the grant is approved.

The additional 10% included with the grant will cover the FICA the church would be required to pay as part of the bonuses. The grant defines who gets what amount of the bonus based on how much time the staff has been employed. No discretionary decisions are made on how much money any one receives. These proposed amounts will be greater than what current staff would have received for 2022. This is a one-time grant for 2022 only.

Motion as reported was read again to the members. The motion was approved without further discussion.

C. TLC Budget for 2023: The Treasurer is submitting the Budget 2023 for approval. Motion was seconded. The Treasurer reviewed the 2023 budget for the members in attendance.

The first column on page 4 of the 2023 Budget shows a balanced budget for 2023.

The increase of the Learning Center budget to meet this budget was 7%. A concern was raised whether the Learning Center can meet the 2023 budget. The BOECE Chair reported the Learning Center had a successful summer program which brought in additional income beyond what was anticipated, so that they believe they will meet a 15% increase in budget from 2022 to 2023. The Learning Center believes they will make this budget increase for 2023. The difference b/t 2022 approved budget and the 2023 budget is \$100K. Where is that money coming from? The Director reported this \$100K will come from three areas: 1.

The addition of the Infant Room (@\$40K), 2. Spring & summer tuition which increased by @\$30K, and 3. A 7% tuition increase of \$30K, for a total of \$100K.

It was also noted there are @\$80K are in reserves from the PPP savings account which could cover any shortfall. There should be a total of @\$133K in reserves for 2023 available for any potential shortfall.

A question was raised about Acct. #547, Church Maintenance, non-routine. If this congregation votes to approve the building project, then will savings disappear? President noted not necessarily, because the members could only approve the use of some of the savings account monies of the church. If all our additional cash is spent, where will that money come from to make costs for a project such as the repair of the floor of the Learning Center? We cannot budget for the floor repair b/c it is an unknown. The budget is a projection based on the best information you have at that time.

Another member noted we may have unexpected costs that can arise in 2023 – for example our furnaces are 32 years old, and we should budget for these types of potential contingencies. The President noted that 5 years ago we only had one Trustees account, and now we have several accounts b/c we realized we have an aging building that may need repairs.

Trustees reported that before the board submitted its budget for 2023, Trustees requested a review of both the church AC units and furnaces. Only one AC in the Learning Center needs to be replaced for a cost of \$5500. This cost to replace the Learning Center AC unit is in the Trustees 2023 budget.

May have to take from savings if we build a new Narthex because there are items/costs that are not within the current budget.

Motion for approval of the 2023 budget was approved without further discussion.

XV. **Announcements.**

A. The next BOD Meeting will be on January 10, 2023, at 6:30 pm.

B. The next regularly scheduled AOV meeting will be February 26, 2023, at 12:00 pm.

XVI. **Adjournment:** Motion was made and seconded to adjourn. Motion approved. Meeting was adjourned at 1:40 pm.

XVII. **Closing Devotion & Prayer:** Pastor McCalley led the members in singing versus 4-6 of Hymn #334.

Respectfully submitted by Mary A Frerking  
December 12, 2022

SERVING THE LORD IN  
**Latin America & the Caribbean:**  
**missionaryMAC**



December 2022

News from Volunteer Coordinator Erin Mackenzie | [missionaryMAC.blogspot.com](https://missionaryMAC.blogspot.com) | [f erin.mackenzie5](https://www.facebook.com/erin.mackenzie5)

(If you received a hard copy of this and would like to help me be green and save on postage, please email [erin.mackenzie@lcms.org](mailto:erin.mackenzie@lcms.org).)

### Mayan Math

There are 32 Mayan languages—not dialects, mind you—spoken in the present-day nations that made up their ancient empire, which traces back 2,000 years before Christ. One such nation is Belize, where I had the opportunity to travel last month and plan to travel again in February 2023. Its most widely spoken Mayan language is Q'eqchi'. Let's count to 10!

1	jun
2	qui'b
3	oxi'b
4	kahi'b
5	ho'b
6	gua'kib
7	gwu'kub
8	gwaxa'kib
9	be'le'b
10	la'jeb

### The Most Beautiful Inheritance

*The lines have fallen for me in pleasant places; indeed, I have a beautiful inheritance.* (Psalm 16:6)

Recognizing a desire for deeper relationships with Christ and with each other amongst LAC's preteen and teen girl MKs, a few of my missionary colleagues capitalized on a COVID-induced reliance on all things virtual to get a Bible study just for them off the ground in April 2020: "Beautiful Inheritance." The format, makeup, and leadership has since morphed some, but Beautiful Inheritance remains a safe space to grow in the Word and as sisters in Christ. With [Deac. Christel Neuendorf](#) having taken the reins, the group currently meets the first Saturday of each month for 30 minutes of study—in English and Spanish breakout rooms—followed by 20 minutes of a large-group art activity.



I pinch hit and led session 3 of a study on the fruit of the spirit this month (from the [Pauls'](#) kitchen table in Grand Cayman!). Through the lens of "Jesus Calms a Storm," 7 girls ages 8-14 from 5 countries and I considered what we associate with peace, when we especially desire peace, and how Christ brings a peace "not as the world gives" (John 14:27)—beginning with His birth.

Indeed, Advent and Christmas are apt seasons in which to ponder peace. Angels sang "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth *peace*..." (Luke 2:14) to herald the arrival of the Christ child, and the hymns and carols that echo them are myriad. LSB 380:3 reiterates "Hail, the heav'n-born Prince of Peace!," whilst LSB 363:1 exhorts the "Holy Infant" to "Sleep in heavenly peace."

Indeed Jesus is peace personified, our Prince of Peace (Isaiah 9:6). But it was the Prince of Peace's very *not* peaceful death and subsequent resurrection that assures us an eternity of "pleasures forevermore," as the Psalmist concludes in verse 11, and there could be no inheritance more beautiful.

**Making  
Disciples  
for Life** 





## Praises and Petitions

1. Thanksgiving for the arrival of Daniel (Cuba) and Oscar (Mexico), two new residential seminary students, this month.
2. Thanksgiving for God's protection during Hurricane Season 2022.
3. For fellow missionary Jamielynn (LAC Regional Team) and her husband Rafael, [awaiting their Chilean visas](#) so Rafael can continue down the path to ordination.
4. For the St-Oniges, ONM (Office of National Mission) missionaries in Montreal, Canada, dealing with the repercussions of a car hitting their house.
5. For peace in the aftermath of a governmental coup in Peru.

## Close, but no cigar!

Speaking of [stunning LCMS crosses](#), check out the one inlaid into the locally crafted humidor in the Concordia the Reformer Seminary (CMSCR) library. Yes, *that* kind of humidor. Why not capitalize on the DR's ubiquitous cigar industry to simultaneously display and protect 200+ historic Lutheran catechisms?

The collection formerly belonged to Jacob Schmalzle, the son of missionary parents who served in Kenya in the late 1990s, but now graces four temperature controlled, backlit shelves thanks to the generosity of Our Savior Lutheran Church in Houston, TX, a faithful DRLM partner, who acquired and donated it. Seven of the catechisms were published in the 17th century, 12 in the 18th century, and 92 in the 19th century; the remainder are more modern.

Thanks be to God that these treasures of the faith have found a home where so many can admire and appreciate them, and even more so, for the succinct explanation of said faith contained within the pages of each of them!



Left: 5k! In the Zona Colonial, the day after returning from Belize, with friends Kelsey (far left) and Franco (2nd from left).

Right: Revs. Fritsche, Fritz, Krey, & Navarro consecrate 9 DR deaconesses at a joint worship service in the capital on 10/30 (1 had a work commitment; she'll be consecrated 12/31).



Above: Fun photo op with Santiago's most iconic structure, "The Monument."

## Quote of the Month

"You can be miserable before you have a cookie and you can be miserable after you eat a cookie but you can't be miserable while you are eating a cookie."

—Ina Garten

To support the LCMS through me, you may give a tax-deductible gift...

- **online**, securely from any device: [lcms.org/givenow/mackenzie](https://lcms.org/givenow/mackenzie);
- by **phone**: 1-888-843-5267 (donor care rep) or text **LCMSMACKENZIE** to 41-444;
- by **sending a check** (with "Mackenzie/Latin America" on the memo line) to:
  - ⇒ LCMS, PO Box 66861, St. Louis, MO 63166-6861; or
  - ⇒ Mission Central, 40718 Highway E 16, Mapleton, IA 51034.







# January

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

**2**  
Elena Scharlott

**3**  
Gail Schuster

**4**  
Doug McDowell

**5**  
TJ Marler  
Bob Watts

**6**  
Reece McMillen  
Corie O'Neill

**7**  
Chase Hemmer  
Andrew Saeger

**8**  
Andy Luetkemeier  
Joanna McDowell  
Sadie Schneider

**10**  
Nathan Eckhoff

**11**  
Patty Kespohl  
Brian Thieme

**12**  
Sophia LaFoy  
Terri Shank  
Stephanie Stansell

**13**  
Forrest Firestone

**15**  
John David Banks  
Melba Hall

**16**  
Heather Asbeck  
Jon Harpert

**18**  
Jeffrey Arnall  
Josiah Thieme  
Keri Thoroughman

**19**  
Emma Harlan-Raisch  
Larry McCoig

**20**  
Connie Coil

**21**  
Amanda Thieme

**22**  
Kimberly Cameron  
Denise Tackitt

**23**  
Debi Derendinger  
Colton Douglass  
Sophia Thompson

**24**  
Mya Monroe

**25**  
Jordan Bedsworth  
Frances Kiene

**27**  
Emilee Buchheit

**28**  
JoAnn Schoenike

**29**  
Debbie Antel

**30**  
Wayne Armbrust

**31**  
Meredith Stone

David & Katie Campbell .....January 10, 1992  
Tom & Nancy Schultz .....January 11, 1992  
Jon & Karly Berendzen .....January 19, 2008  
Chuck & Jessica Murphy .....January 21, 2009  
Justin & Marilyn Ferris .....January 22, 2021  
Gary & Patty Kespohl .....January 27, 1968  
Bill & Joyce Raines .....January 27, 1963

## Announcement Submissions

Items for the monthly **News of the Son** are due to the church office **by the 20th of the month**.  
Announcements for the **Trinity Weekly News** are due to the church office **by end of day on Wednesdays**.  
Please include the following information:

- group/event name
- date & time (one-time or recurring event?)
- location
- other relevant information—sign-up/registration, deadline, cost or materials needed, length of time to run the announcement, etc.

## Dear Church Family,

### Please contact the Church Office when:

- † a member of your family is admitted to the hospital so visits can be made
- † someone you know is very ill or has passed away
- † you would like to be assigned a Stephen Caregiver to help you through a difficult time
- † your class, board, or group would like to use the church for a meeting or event so it can be scheduled on the church calendar
- † your contact information or address changes
- † a new baby arrives in your family
- † a member of your family leaves home for college, joins the military, or is getting married
- † you would like to have a member call you to visit or assist you in some way
- † you have a prayer request
- † you would like to share your time and talents
- † you feel the church can assist you in any way



TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

# January 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>1</b> <b>New Year's Day</b> 8a Divine Serv w/ Comm 930a Sun. School 1030a Divine Serv w/ Comm	<b>2</b> 9a Bible Study 6p Divine Serv w/ Comm.	<b>3</b> 530p Pickleball 530p BoECE 6p Stephen Min 630p BoCE	<b>4</b> 9a TLCLC Chapel	<b>5</b> 630a Men's Bible Study 9a TLCLC Chapel 11a Communion @Lenoir 530p Pickleball	<b>6</b>  Pastor Thieme's Day Off	<b>7</b>
<b>8</b> 8a Divine Serv w/ Comm. 930a Sun. School 1030a Divine Serv w/Comm. 1145a Lunch& Board Orient. 5p Handbells 6p Choir 6p LLL Fellowship	<b>9</b> 9a Bible Study 6p Divine Serv w/ Comm.	<b>10</b> 530p Pickleball 6p Vesper Guild 630p BoD	<b>11</b> 9a TLCLC Chapel 930a Mary Martha Guild	<b>12</b> 630a Men's Bible Study 9a TLCLC Chapel 530p Pickleball	<b>13</b>  Pastor Thieme's Day Off	<b>14</b>
<b>15</b> 8a Divine Serv w/ Comm. 930a Sun. School 1030a Divine Serv w/Comm. 12p Higher Things Info session 5p Handbells 6p Choir 6p JCC	<b>16</b> 6p Divine Serv w/ Comm.	<b>17</b> 530p Pickleball	<b>18</b> 9a TLCLC Chapel 1p Lutheranism 101 530a Life Team	<b>19</b> 630a Men's Bible Study 9a TLCLC Chapel 530p Pickleball 6p Bd of Evang	<b>20</b>  Pastor Thieme's Day Off	<b>21</b> Israel Trip training 9a-3p
<b>22</b> 8a Divine Serv w/ Comm. 930a Sun. School 1030a Divine Serv w/Comm. 5p Handbells 6p Choir 6p JCC	<b>23</b> 9a Bible Study 6p Divine Serv w/ Comm.	<b>24</b> 530p Pickleball	<b>25</b> 9a TLCLC Chapel 1p Lutheranism 101	<b>26</b> 630a Men's Bible Study 9a TLCLC Chapel 530p Pickleball 6p Bd of Elders	<b>27</b>  Pastor Thieme's Day Off	<b>28</b>
<b>29</b> 8a Divine Serv w/ Comm. 930a Sun. School 1030a Divine Serv w/ Comm. 12p Bd of Youth- 5p Handbells 6p Choir 6p JCC	<b>30</b> 9a Bible Study 6p Divine Serv w/ Comm.	<b>31</b> 530p Pickleball	<b>1</b> 9a TLCLC Chapel 1p Lutheranism 101	<b>2</b> 630a Men's Bible Study 9a TLCLC Chapel 530p Pickleball	<b>3</b>  Pastor Thieme's Day Off	<b>4</b>

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Columbia, MO 65203-1433

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TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

**Divine Service:**

Sunday 8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.  
Monday 6:00 p.m.

**Bible Study & Sunday School:**

Sunday 9:15 a.m.

Phone: 573-445-2112

Fax: 573-445-4078

Email: [church@trinity-lcms.org](mailto:church@trinity-lcms.org)

Website: [trinity-lcms.org](http://trinity-lcms.org)

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