

# NEWS OF THE SON

Trinity Lutheran Church — Columbia, MO

## PASTORS' LETTER.....



### January, 2017

A Christ-blest New Year to you in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus. May the blessings of His presence and His peace be with you.

On Sunday, January 8, in the 10:30 worship service we dedicate our newly elected officers and board members and rededicate our incumbent board members for 2017. The officers and board members for this year are the following:

Chairman	Phil Glenn	Board of Stewardship and Finance	Conrad Brown Fred Luetkemeier Laura Grise Richard Mangold Warren Harms Robin Tipton	Board of Social Ministry	Carol Eggerding Theresa Greer Carol Morrison
Secretary	Cynthia Green			Board of TLC Endowment Fund	Eldrid Easterhaus Don Malson Beaufort Katt
Treasurer	Gary Kespohl			Board of Trustees	Karl Christopher Ken Greer Jim Niederjohn
Financial Secretary	JoAnn Schoenike	Board of Early Childhood Education	Karen Niederjohn Virginia Propp Mark Unterreiner	Board of Youth	Kyle Burns Alyssa Famuliner Stephanie Oetting
Board of Elders	Ron Barrett Doug Kiehne Kevin Burns Larry McCoig Ron Dickes Roger Morrison John Frerking	Board of Evangelism	Chelsea Browner Laura Messervy Doug McDowell		
Board of Christian Education	Mary Frerking Teresa Gooch Karen Harms	Board of Parochial Education	Pat Hansen Candice Kling Mary Raisch		

We also express our appreciation and gratitude to the following members who have completed their terms of service during this past year:

Secretary	Debbie Antel	Board of Evangelism	Keith Davis Amy Sanders
Board of Elders	Glen Frerichs		
Board of Social Ministry	Susan Sendelweck	Board of Stewardship and Finance	Karl Christopher Gary Frisch Marvin Koop
Board of TLC Endowment Fund	Daniel Hartman Larry Tate	Board of Trustees	Ron Eilers
Board of Youth	Barbara Sanchez		

May the Lord continue to bless the labors of loving service which have been rendered by His servants over the past year, and continue to reap abundant fruit by the Spirit's blessing in the coming year.

We also wish to thank you for remembering our families during this past celebration of Christmas with the expressions of gratitude, with the cards, and with the gifts which you have shared with us over these past weeks. They are very much deeply appreciated!

Blessings to you in Jesus' name!

*Pastor Kenneth J. Gerike*

*Pastor Brian K. Thieme*

### January 2017

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## BIBLE ADVENTURES

**Sunday, January 22 & 29, 2017** during the Bible Study hour, **third grade students and their families** will celebrate the Bible Adventures Milestone.

We ask that all parents and other primary caregivers of these children put these dates on their calendars to meet for our cross-generational enrichment time. It will be an opportunity to introduce the Bibles to our children and demonstrate how to use the Bible cross-generationally in the home. Please pray for these children and their families as they approach this important milestone.

## BOARD OFFICER INSTALLATION & REDEDICATION

The installation and rededication of the officers and board members of the congregation is scheduled for the 10:30am worship service on **Sunday, January 8th**.

A potluck meal for officers, board members and their families will take place in the church basement following the worship service. An orientation and scheduling session will be held following the meal for the individual boards. The event is scheduled to conclude by 2pm. A letter will be sent to the officers and board members reminding them of the January 8th event.

## 2017 ALTAR GUILD FLOWER CHART

will be posted on the bulletin board across from Pastor Gerike's office soon. Please be sure to sign up for flowers on your special occasions.

**Kent's Floral Gallery** is kindly providing free flowers to Trinity each Sunday. For this kindness, please consider them when you need flowers for any occasion. We ask those who sign up for flowers to give a **\$25 donation to the Altar Guild Fund**, as this money is used to purchase things such as altar linens, candle followers, candles, communion supplies and other much needed items for the church.

## TRINTY LLL FELLOWSHIP CLUB

LLL Fellowship Club will meet for a Bible Study of A Man Named Martin Part 1 (Session 2) on **Sunday, January 8th at 6pm** in the church basement. Please join us for an evening of Bible Study and fellowship.

## ALTAR GUILD MEMBERS NEEDED FOR 2017

Trinity is in need of additional Altar Guild members for 2017 and beyond. Duties include changing the paraments on the altar throughout the church year, setting up and removing items for communion, ordering special flowers during the Easter and Christmas seasons, along with various other small duties throughout the year. If you would be able to assist with this very important ministry of our church, please contact the church office.

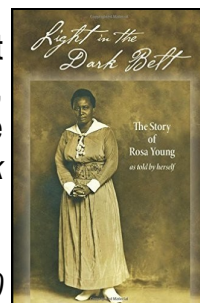
## WOMEN'S SOCIAL CONNECTION

Women's Social Connection will meet on **Friday, January 20th at 1:30pm** at Loanna Thompson's home.

## LIGHT IN THE DARK BELT

In preparation of Rev. Dr. Gray's visit to Trinity LC on February 12/13, 2017, the congregation is being offered the opportunity to read *Light in the Dark Belt*.

*Rosa's passion for education led her to influence the founding of 30 Lutheran schools, 35 Lutheran congregations, and Concordia College Alabama. An advocate for children, she touched the lives of more than 2,000 students in Alabama alone. First published in 1930, Rosa Young's autobiography is a story of faith, courage, labor, and perseverance.*



Please sign up to order a copy of the book by **January 18, 2017**. Sign up hanging across from the church office. \$15 per copy.



## THANK YOU

A big thank you to the church members who cleaned the Fellowship Hall Kitchen on December 20. It is important that we keep the kitchen presentable at all times for our members, guests, and the Health & Fire Dept Inspectors.



## Good Shepherd Lutheran School

January 3rd brings us all back to school after Christmas break.

**Enrollment** — Open enrollment for the 2017-2018 school year has started. If you are interested, schedule a tour today. On

the third Thursday of each month, you can drop in during the Open House from 10am to 2pm and see the school and talk to the teachers. To enroll go to: [www.gsiscolumbia.org](http://www.gsiscolumbia.org) and click on the enroll tab or call the school office for help.

**Kindergarten Roundup** — Come and see what Kindergarten at GSLS is like on January 18 from 5:30-7pm. Spend time with Mrs. Key, work on some crafts, have some refreshments and ask questions.

**Boone Electric Coop** — The middle school students will get a visit from BEC on January 19 and learn all about electrical safety.

**National Lutheran Schools Week** — We celebrate Lutheran Schools January 22-28. The theme this year is "Upon This Rock".

**Room at the Inn** — We are collecting hats, gloves, scarves, and socks for the "Room at the Inn" Shelter. The items will be delivered throughout the winter months so that the people can use them this winter.

**Chapel Offering** — The second quarter offering will be used for *Owen's Mission* at Lutherans For Life. Pastor Whittle will talk to the school about the organization and why supporting this mission is so important.

### Volunteer Opportunities —

- Someone to play the piano during chapel (Wednesdays from 8:25 to 9am)
- Help with Kindergarten Roundup on January 18 from 5 to 7pm (3 people)
- Help with Open House on January 26 from 5 to 7pm (2 people)

*"Rejoice always. Pray without ceasing. In everything give thanks, for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you."* 1 Thess 5:16-18

As always, if you know of a family that is looking for a solid Christian K-8 education, please have them contact the school office for a tour and details about enrollment.

**GSLS Office Phone: 573-445-5878**

GSLS Office Email at [office@gsiscolumbia.org](mailto:office@gsiscolumbia.org)

Also check us out at: [gsiscolumbia.org](http://gsiscolumbia.org)



## Trinity Lutheran Child Learning Center (TLCLC)

December is always a blessed time of year at the Learning Center. We focus our activities not on Santa and the Elf

on the Shelf, but on the birth of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. The children are fascinated by Mrs. White's telling of the



Christmas Story. Mrs. White's husband, Bill, constructed a manger so the students can see a visual of the story of the baby Jesus wrapped in swaddling clothes and lying in a manger. The season is celebrated with a Christmas program where the children sing songs for their parents and grandparents. May the reason for the season stay foremost in your hearts and Merry Christmas from the Learning Center staff and students.

**Current Openings** — We would love to have your child join our TLCLC family! Due to a TLCLC family moving out of the state, we have immediate openings for 4-5 year old students. If interested, please contact the TLCLC office by email at [tlclc@trinity-lcms.org](mailto:tlclc@trinity-lcms.org) or call 573-445-1014.

**Open Enrollment** — January is open enrollment month for Trinity members and current TLCLC families. Pick up **REGISTRATION FORMS** by the Learning Center office starting Sunday, January 8th. You may leave the completed forms along with the proper registration fee payment in our payment drop box.

- Summer and/or Fall Sessions 2017
- Children age 2 years old by August 1st through preK
- Days: MWF, T/Th, or M-F
- Hours: 6:30am to 5:30pm - Full or Part Time

Contact the TLCLC office for more details, by email at [tlclc@trinity-lcms.org](mailto:tlclc@trinity-lcms.org) or call 573-445-1014.

Thank you for your continued support and prayers!  
We are blessed with many wonderful families and staff!

Your friend in Christ,

† *Tammy Mangold*, Administrator

† *Annette Kiehne*, Director

## December 2016 Board of Directors Minutes (Draft Minutes - Yet to be Approved)

The regular monthly meeting of the Board of Directors was held December 13, 2016, beginning at 7:00 p.m. The following people attended: Phil Glenn (Chairman), Pastor Thieme, Alyssa Famuliner, Tammy Mangold, Chelsea Browner, Pastor Gerike, Susan Sendelweck, Gary Kespohl, Ron Eilers, Virginia Propp, Annette Kiehne, Karl Christopher, Mary Frerking, and Debbie Antel (Secretary). Pastor Gerike opened the meeting with a devotion.

Chairman Glenn expressed appreciation to all board members for their service this year, with a special note of appreciation to those whose terms are ending.

Approval of Meeting Agenda: Gary Kespohl drew attention to an item on the GSLS budget, and three agenda items were added. Gary Kespohl made a motion to accept the agenda; seconded and approved.

Approval of Consent Agenda: The consent agenda includes: Minutes of the November 8, 2016 BOD Meeting, Senior Pastor's Report (except Membership Changes), Associate Pastor's Report, Financial Secretary's Report, Board and Committee Reports. Gary Kespohl made a motion to accept the consent agenda; seconded and approved.

### CONSENT AGENDA

The consent agenda minutes and reports are filed in the congregation secretary's notebook. The reports are summarized here. The name of the board/committee representative(s) present at the BOD meeting is listed.

#### SENIOR PASTOR'S REPORT – Pastor Gerike

Visitations: This month; currently 21 being visited. Pre-marital Counseling Sessions: Two sets are being undertaken; weddings scheduled in April and July 2017. Midweek Bible Study on Mondays at 9:00 a.m. (Overflow Area): Bible Study (Lifelight) on David will conclude in approximately one month. Sunday Morning Bible Study (Basement - West): Study of the Sacraments will conclude in approximately five weeks. Adult Information Class: Three sets of classes running on variable dates; one in transition from AIC to membership. Junior Confirmation Class III: Seven in class. Rev. Jerry Riggert taught December 11. January and March classes will meet 6:00-7:30 p.m. February and April classes will meet 12:00-1:30 p.m. Preached at Installation Service December 11 at 4:00 p.m., the Rev. Nathan Wollenberg, Trinity Lutheran Church, Hoyleton, IL. District Board of Directors: Constitution Committee meeting December 22. Policy manual is a work in progress; next meeting is January 5, 2017. (See also Membership Changes.)

#### ASSOCIATE PASTOR'S REPORT – Pastor Thieme

Bible Studies: Laugh Your Way to a Better Marriage ended December 12. One individual has finished going through Adult Instructions. Other Duties: I continue visiting with members in their homes and the hospitalized. I am serving on the 500<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Reformation Committee. One couple is going through premarital sessions. I teach religion classes and will be doing staff devotions at GSLS. Chapel for the Learning Center

and GSLS are part of my duties this month. I will be leading devotions for the Mary Martha Guild this month. I am working with a project in Ferguson. Youth: Senior High Youth Bible Study on Sunday morning, and Christmas caroling on December 11. Junior High Youth confirmation class will meet at noon in December, and the fun day was December 11. District – Fourth Vice-President: Helping with a devotional. Synod: Periodically am asked to look over synodical documents.

#### FINANCIAL SECRETARY'S REPORT – JoAnn Schoenike, Financial Secretary (Not present.)

For the month of November, the Regular Envelope collections are 87.59% of the anticipated monthly amount, Loose Plate collections are 73.37%, and Sunday School collections are 125.36%. The Total Monthly collections are 87.01% of the monthly anticipated amount of \$49,235. The Total Year-to-Date collections through the end of November are 97.30% of the anticipated amount of \$479,465 (sic: \$492,768).

The historic period in the full report is a five-year average which includes 2011-2015 data.

BOARD OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION (Mary Frerking): David and Sherri Attebery hosted approximately 55 people for the hayride on November 12. We had fabulous weather for the hayride, bonfire, food, fun, and conversation. We are continuing with our regular Sunday School curriculum for the year, and the children earn prizes for each memory milestone they reach. Sunday School children, assisted by Carolyn Holste, sang at Lutherfest. There is still an opening for Superintendent. Children of the congregation will tell the story of Jesus' birth and sing several hymns in the Christmas Eve service. The middle school age children will serve as cantors for the Introit and the Gradual. Chris Kespohl and Carolyn Holste will work with the children on their songs and cantor pieces. The Board is continually thankful for the contributions made by all our teachers and substitutes. We discussed the responsibilities and ministry for the proposed position of DCEI, and the results are included in the Description of Ministry.

BOARD OF EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION (Virginia Propp and Annette Kiehne, Director): Fall Enrollment is MWF 82/78; T/TH 76/78. Eight classrooms/eight teachers, one Jesus Time/Music teacher, two classroom aides, one kitchen manager and one assistant cook. Received credit from Concordia Plan Services for workers whose termination reports were delayed. Will submit Accident Insurance Plan paperwork and set up how workers will be charged for the costs. Final budget was approved at December 6 meeting. Trustees are obtaining bids to repair the kitchen AC. Thankful for the work the trustees did to hang mirrors and shelves and repairs to toilets, lighting, etc. We had a gas smell evacuation on November 22, and the vent line was repaired on November 23. Additional recommended repairs to the system in the janitor's closet will be performed over the December holidays. Floors will be waxed December 27-29.

BOARD OF PAROCHIAL EDUCATION (Tammy Mangold,



Administrator): Current enrollment is 39. Enrollment for the 2017-2018 school year will begin January 1. Looking for donations to replace the carpet in three classrooms. We have about \$14,475 pledged for Cornerstone scholarships for the 2017-2018 school year. Chapel offering this quarter and Penny Wars money will go to the Rainbow House. Tammy had a positive meeting with the pastors of Alive in Christ, and the children will sing there in March. Christmas break is December 21-January 2. A financial report is included in the agenda packet.

**BOARD OF YOUTH** (Alyssa Famuliner): We went caroling December 11 and plan to go to Coyote Hills January 15. Super Bowl Sunday sub sandwich sales will begin in January. We are considering a January tubing/sledding event in St. Louis. The youth group trip options have been narrowed to: North Dakota, Colorado, and two sites in New Mexico. We reviewed the ministry description for the DCEI position. We approved \$500 from Account #821-Cassie's Fund to be used to support a mission trip to Haiti. A financial report is included in the agenda packet. The account balance at the end of November: \$3,262.64.

**BOARD OF EVANGELISM** (Chelsea Browner): Thirteen college students and eight hosts have signed up for TLC at TLC. BOD feedback on the November Board of the Month report included whether the Board of Evangelism could use social media as an outreach opportunity. Trunk or Treat was a success, 680 kids attended. Christmas bags assembled by the Mary Martha Guild will be delivered to ten families. The Board of Evangelism and the Board of Social Ministry will host the December 14 Advent Light Supper.

**BOARD OF ELDERS** (Kevin Burns): Hosted the December 7 Advent Light Supper; thanks to all who assisted us. Approved the "Giving Tree" for LFCS. We discussed Feed My Lambs.

**BOARD OF SOCIAL MINISTRY** (Susan Sendelweck): Lutherfest was held November 13, over 100 people attended, and the free will offering totaled \$735. Finished the collection for Warm Up Columbia and yarn donations for ParentLink. Circle of Friends was November 12 at Campus, with Pastor Gerike and 18 other people attending. We distributed 50 pounds of food to the Food Bank. We will co-host the December 14 Advent Light Supper. There is a tree in the narthex for LFCS. Senior Ministry's pie social was combined with the Reformation Committee event and included viewing the movie *John Hus*. Weekly lunches on Thursday at Denny's continue to be well-attended. Next event will be in February.

**BOARD OF STEWARDSHIP AND FINANCE** (Karl Christopher): This board did not meet in December. Member envelopes for 2017 have been labeled. We thank all the members for completing their duties for the board. We will have an orientation meeting in early January to get organized for the new year.

**BOARD OF TLC ENDOWMENT FUND:** Balances as of September 30 are: TLC Endowment Fund: \$15,594.28; Youth Ministry: \$11,845.55; Bourret/Elliott Endowment Fund: \$29,748.76. Dan Hartman resigned effective November 12. The

Constitution says to appoint a voting member to fill the vacancy and since the AOV election is this month, it is recommended we dispense with this appointment. We are changing signature authority at LCMS Foundation to Gary Kespohl, Phil Glenn, and Pete Easterhaus.

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES:** Three bids have been obtained to repair the HVAC system in the Learning Center kitchen, and we recommend the bid from Reed Heating. (See also Old Business - HVAC.) We will coordinate the inspection of the lift. We recommend that Trinity find a handyman who can be available on short notice and also that Trinity's leadership put a high priority on both a short- and long-term master plan for an upgrade to the flooring, walls, and ceilings throughout the entire facility.

**Executive Committee** (Phil Glenn, Debbie Antel, Gary Kespohl, JoAnn Schoenike): A meeting was not held in the past 30 days; matters were handled via email: budget revisions, lift contract, Labor Department Overtime Regulation, panels on the memorial bell tower, and an out-of-cycle facility use request.

**500<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Reformation Committee:** No report.

**Internet Service Provider Update:** A 36-month Service Agreement with CenturyLink was signed October 26, for 100M/100M fiber optic service at the rate of \$314.00/month. The tentative installation completion date is December 27, 2016. Contract with Mediacom (current provider) runs through January 24, 2017 and requires a 30-day notice of termination. Fred Pistel will coordinate all details.

**Board of the Month Report – Board of Trustees:** Ron Eilers noted that the trustees have not received results of the time and talent survey. He stressed the need to find a handyman who can be called on short notice. A list of repair people to call is needed, together with clarification as to cost and payment.

**MEMBERSHIP CHANGES:** Pastor Gerike presented the membership changes.

**Transfer In:** Ms. Karen Easton, Ascension Lutheran Church, Kansas City, MO

**Transfer Out:** Mrs. Cenedra Eaton, Bethany Lutheran Church, Overland Park, KS  
Ms. Margie Hartman, Trinity Lutheran Church, Jefferson City, MO  
Mr. and Mrs. Daniel (Christina) Hartman, Baptized son Peter Hartman, Trinity Lutheran Church, Jefferson City, MO

Virginia Propp made a motion to approve the membership changes; seconded and approved.

**TREASURER'S REPORT – Gary Kespohl, Treasurer**  
For the months ended November 30, 2016, the church income is \$564,744.53 which is 87% of the total budget for the year. The Learning Center income is \$575,195.07 which is 96.06% of the budget for the year. Total income is \$1,139,939.60 which is 81.88% of the budget for 2016.

2014: Regular Envelope: \$505,861; Loose Plate \$20,099; Tuition \$498,591

2015: Regular Envelope: \$520,082; Loose Plate \$19,212; Tuition \$505,723

Through November 2016: Regular Envelope: \$458,488; Loose Plate \$20,282; Tuition \$566,715

After eleven months, the percent of budget used is 91.67% of total budget. Total income through November is \$1,139,939.60 or 91.88% of the annual budget. Expenses are \$1,086,473.50 or 87.67% of the annual budget.

Gary noted a correction to the October report; regular envelopes should read \$417,316. Gary made a motion to accept the correction to the October Treasurer's Report; seconded and approved.

Ten pages of detailed financial reports are in the agenda packet. Gary reviewed the entire report and answered questions throughout. He asked for BOD input as to some of the dedicated accounts.

Alyssa Famuliner made a motion to zero out Special Envelopes Account #837-Mexico Mission Trip and send the \$340.10 balance to the Ysleta Lutheran Mission in El Paso, Texas; motion seconded and approved.

We also discussed and suggested zeroing out Special Envelopes Accounts 245, 263, 811, 812, and 867.

Gary Kespohl made a motion to zero out Special Envelopes Account #838-Madagascar Trip and send the \$50 balance to Stephanie Oetting; motion seconded and approved.

Mary Frerking made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report, with changes, and place it on file; seconded and approved.

## **OLD BUSINESS**

### 2017 Budget Revisions/Discussions:

Chairman Glenn spoke as to the church budget, and Gary Kespohl suggested \$1150 be transferred from the Reformation Committee budget to the Sunday School account. Mary Frerking made a motion to use the remaining balance from the motor coach expense, \$1150, and transfer it to #522-Child Sunday School. The motion was seconded and approved.

Virginia Propp spoke as to the Learning Center budget and noted two changes to the Health Plan and Capital Projects and announced the budget does not include additional days and new programs for 2017.

Gary Kespohl made a motion to approve both the Church and the Learning Center revised budgets for recommendation to the Assembly of Voters. The motion was seconded and approved.

Nominating Committee Slate of Officers: Gary Kespohl made a motion to recommend the slate to the Assembly of Voters. The motion was seconded and approved.

Director of Christian Education Intern – Ministry Description: We discussed details of the description and made a change to the evaluation paragraph. Alyssa Famuliner made a motion to recommend the DCEI Ministry Description (Pages 47-48 of the

December BOD packet), with changes to the evaluation paragraph, to the Assembly of Voters. The motion was seconded and approved.

Account Option (Retirement): Gary Kespohl and Virginia Propp spoke as to the benefit options offered by the Concordia Retirement Plan. Virginia made a motion to change to the "Account" option. The motion was seconded. After discussion, Virginia amended the motion to include that it be a recommendation to the Assembly of Voters.

The motion: To recommend to the Assembly of Voters that we change the benefit option to the "Account" option offered by the Concordia Retirement Plan. The motion was approved.

Personnel Manual Revisions: We discussed a draft of proposed changes.

Regarding benefits available through Concordia, Gary Kespohl made a motion that workers are to bear the premium costs through a payroll deduction for the Accident Insurance Plan (AIP), effective January 1, 2017. The motion was seconded. Discussion included an option to "grandfather", minimum and extra coverage, and an option to amend the motion. The question was called; seconded and approved. The original motion that workers are to bear the AIP premium costs effective January 1, 2017, was approved.

Regarding proposed changes to Paid Time Off (previously Paid Days Off), after lengthy discussion, Ron Eilers made a motion to table this item to the January BOD meeting. The motion was seconded and approved. Chairman Glenn will discuss the matter with the Executive Committee and schedule a work session to resolve it.

Key Policy – Third Reading: The change made last month was reviewed, and Karl Christopher made a motion to recommend approval of the Key Policy to the AOV. The motion was seconded and approved.

HVAC – Learning Center: Ron Eilers made a motion to accept the \$1525 bid from Reed Heating to modify the ductwork above the Learning Center kitchen to get heat and air conditioning into the kitchen from the two adjoining systems. The motion was seconded and approved.

GSLS Classroom Floor Replacement: Gary Kespohl reported that the cost for materials is \$6300, and he is trying to set up volunteers for December 27.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### Facility Use Request:

December 17, 11:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m., Fellowship Hall and Kitchen, Graduation Dinner, per Stephanie Stansell (transferring member). (12/3/2016 Executive Committee)

Schedule of 2017 Worship Services (January-June): Mary Frerking made a motion to accept the schedule, with noted changes, and recommend approval to the AOV. The motion was seconded and approved.

AOV Meeting Dates for 2017: Alyssa Famuliner made a motion to recommend to the AOV that the following dates be set for AOV meeting dates in 2017: February 19, May 21, October 15, and December 17. The motion was seconded and approved.

GSLS Lease: Chairman Glenn reported work on the lease is not completed.

2015 Church Financial Review Report: Chairman Glenn reviewed the report and the recommendations, which will be added to a list maintained by the congregation secretary.

Lift Inspection Contract: Ron Eilers recommended we not sign the proposed contract from Missouri Stairway Lift. Ron has contacted other inspectors and will follow through on the inspection.

Request for Sharing Moment and Free Will Offering: Alyssa Famuliner made a motion to approve a request by Sylvia Glenn, Life Team, for a Sharing Moment and Free Will offering for Lutherans for Life during the January 15 and 16, 2017 services. The motion was seconded and approved.

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

LLL Fellowship Club Update: Not disbanded; meet the first Sunday of each month September-June.

Assembly of Voters Meeting: December 18, 12:00 p.m.

Board of Directors Agenda Planning Meeting: January 6, 2017, 6:30 a.m.

Installation and Rededication of Officers and Board Members: January 8, 2017, 10:30 a.m.

Orientation of Officers and Board Members: January 8, 2017, 12:00 p.m.

Board of Directors Meeting: January 10, 2017, 7:00 p.m.

### ADJOURNMENT

Ron Eilers made a motion to adjourn; motion seconded. The meeting adjourned at 10:08 p.m. Pastor Thieme closed the meeting with the Collect of the Day.

Debbie Antel, Secretary

**January Board of Directors agenda items are due to the church office by noon on Friday, January 6, 2017.**

## WHY I AM LUTHERAN...



My parents, John & Martha Fischer, were early Lutheran missionaries in China. A brother, a sister, and I were born there. In our early childhood, our family came to the United States. My dad became pastor of a country congregation near Hannibal, MO. I attended eight years in their Lutheran school. Each fall our teacher would share with us information about Martin Luther and the Reformation.

Years later I was a principal and 6-7-8th grade teacher in two Lutheran schools, in Iowa and Colorado. Each year in October we had special studies about Martin Luther and the Reformation.

As I think about the Reformation today, many good memories return about those special days in the classroom.

~John H. Fischer     *January 2017, on the celebration of the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation*

## THE LUTHERAN WITNESS RENEWAL



If you would like to receive the **Lutheran Witness** please enclose \$16.00 in your 2017 designated envelope and return it before **January 25, 2017**.

If this is a new membership—contact the church office to be added to the list. New subscriptions will begin with the April issue. Questions - please contact the church office at 573-445-2112.

## KEYS TO CHURCH

If you are no longer in need of your church keys, please turn them into the church office for redistribution. If you are a new board member and need church keys, please make a request and we will get you the copies you require. Thanks!

~Debbie Antel



January 15<sup>th</sup> is Sanctity of Life Sunday which will be celebrated under the theme **Here We Stand**, which, not coincidentally, was the theme of the Lutherans For Life National Conference in October 2016. Following is the summary of the conference as published on the Lutherans For Life website:

“Over 200 Lutherans gathered October 21-22 at St. Michael’s Lutheran Church in Bloomington, Minnesota, from across the United States and Canada for the 2016 Lutherans For Life National Conference. The theme: **Here We Stand**.

In her welcome to the conference, LFL President Lynette Auch said, “Could there possibly be a more appropriate conference theme than ‘Here We Stand’ as we step into the 500th anniversary year of the Reformation or a more appropriate verse than Ephesians 6:13: ‘Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand firm’? There is no doubt that the days are evil and ‘every one of us is in need of the righteousness that God gives freely by His grace to people who don’t have righteousness of their own,’ as [Martin] Luther came to understand. We need to put on the whole armor of God to stand firm in that faith ... So, let us say yes to the opportunities before us that God has prepared for us to do! To say ‘Here We Stand’ ... in defense and protection of the precious and vulnerable human lives that are the handiwork of God from the moment of conception to natural death ... to teach our children and grandchildren who they are and WHOSE they are. Scripture reminds us that we are NOT our own ... in defense of marriage as God designed it between one man and one woman and sex as a gift from God to be shared within the marriage bed only ... Your presence here means that you support the life-affirming ministry of Lutherans For Life. May God bless you and challenge you as ‘Here We Stand’ For Life!”

Focusing on the conference theme in his opening worship service sermon, Rev. Michael W. Salemink, executive director of Lutherans For Life, said, “You cannot slip beyond the reaches of the long arm of the Lord God Almighty ... We carry grief so heavy and guilt so haunting that we believe it a freedom to end our own lives. We haul fear so chilling and failure so choking that we tolerate terminating our sons and daughters and advocate euthanizing our mothers and fathers. We hold hearts so broken and divided that we accept lust rather than aspire to love. We drag underbellies so vulnerable and blind sides so exposed that we separate children from marriage. We lug spines so stiffened and skin so hardened that we settle for human rights instead of insisting on heaven’s gifts ... We should know better ... We all require armor, a Savior, deliverance, redemption. We all crave compassion, forgiveness, mercy, grace. Here we stand. We do not stand alone. We never stand alone. You do not get to stand alone, but you do not have to stand alone. Another One stands in your place ... Jesus Christ is the armor of God, the whole armor of God, for you and for us all. He shelters, sustains, protects, and defends any who have not and cannot do so for ourselves ... Here we stand, neither stampeding nor strutting. Here we stand in joy and not out of anger, in hope and not out of fear, because we stand to forgive and not compare, to save and not compete. Here we stand to relieve and release, not to accuse. Here we stand to listen, assist, accompany, embrace, and befriend, not to attack. Here we stand speaking truth and sharing love because we stand overcoming sin and selfishness, death and the devil, and not against one another. Here we stand firm but gentle, strong but humble, even after so long and before such odds. Here we stand, Gospel-motivated voices, Lutherans For Life, because we can do no other, God help us.”

In her plenary address, co-founder and former president of Lutherans For Life, Dr. Jean Garton, said “I’m going to make sure I’m with the right group ... If you read the media, they’ll tell you that people who are ‘anti-choice’ are rabid, rigid, ranting, raging, radical rebels. But I know that you are patient, pious, peaceful, prayerful, passionate, patriots. That’s you ... The naysayers have tried to bury us many times. But the truth is that this great pro-life movement of which Lutherans For Life has been a part since the very beginning, this great movement is alive and well and growing. But with our public, persistent pursuit of protection for the unborn and now, increasingly, the ‘long-born,’ there is a price to pay—and no surprise about that. When Jesus sent out His disciples ... He said He was sending them out like sheep among the wolves. And not much has changed ... We need to be prepared for the incredible battle ahead.” She thanked those in attendance for the “natural, needful work that all of you do.”

In 2017, Lutherans For Life will be having four regional conferences (instead of one national conference) in Ft. Wayne, Indiana; New Braunfels, Texas; Lincoln, Nebraska; and Pekin, Illinois. The next national conference will be in 2018. Watch for more details at a later date.” Won’t you plan to attend the next regional or national conference to learn more about how you can speak for those who cannot speak for themselves?

Life Sunday is a good time to remember the financial needs of Lutherans For Life. Please give generously to this organization that is on the forefront of educating Lutherans to affirm the life that God gives in all its stages.

In Christ, who gives value to all human life from the moment of conception to the moment of natural death.

*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).



## THE LUTHERAN HOUR

The Lutheran Hour (TLH) radio program, with the Rev. Gregory Seltz as Speaker, proclaims the salvation story of Jesus every week to hundreds of thousands of listeners. TLH weekly 1/2 hour program can be read and/or heard on [www.lhm.org](http://www.lhm.org), on a mobile app, through an email, or several different radio stations broadcast TLH.

Station	City	Freq	Band	Day/Time
KMCV	Jefferson City	89.9	FM	Sun 8a
KLTE	Kirksville	107.9	FM	Sun 8a
KMMO	Marshall	1300	AM	Sun 10a
KMCR	Montgomery City	103.9	FM	Sun 9a

## JANUARY CRAFT NIGHT

Vesper Guild will continue our monthly Craft Night in January. We welcome fellow crafters to join us on **Wednesday, January 4th** beginning at 6:30pm until 8:00pm in the Fellowship Hall. Plan to enjoy fellowship, fun and snacks while working on crafts (for the Fall Craft fair)! Questions, contact Betty Buchheit at 573-823-2664.

## SEMINAR OF RECONCILIATION

"Go and Be Reconciled: What Does This Mean?" A one-day seminar of reconciliation will be held on **Saturday, February 11, 2017** from 8am to 4:30pm here at Trinity LC.

Who should attend? Pastors, Elders, Church & School Staff and Leaders. There is a \$20 registration fee per person, lunch is included.

Conflict in congregations can cause hurt and divisions that divert our attention from the work that the Lord has given to us. This seminar is intended to help congregational leaders to model Biblical approaches to conflict.

"Go and Be Reconciled: What Does This Mean?" reflects on the biblical teaching for reconciliation while reviewing the six chief parts of Christian doctrine from Luther's Small Catechism. The study answers "What does this mean?" through two parts: "Be Reconciled to God" and "Be Reconciled to Others."

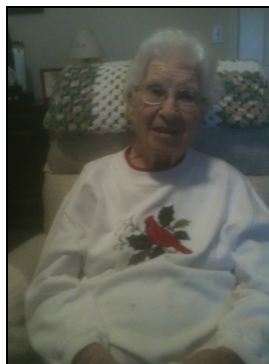
More info can be found on the MO District website

## New Members

JOHN CLAY



ROSE VONGOGH



*Dear Church Family,*

*Please call the church office when:*

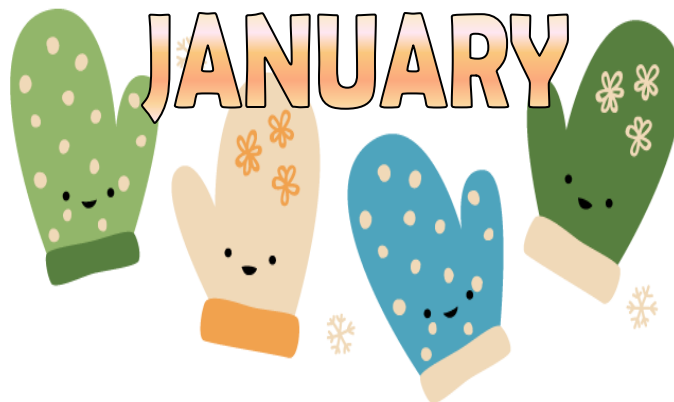
- a member of your family is admitted to the hospital so visits can be made
- someone you know is very ill or has passed away
- your class or group would like to use the church for a meeting or event so it can be scheduled on the church calendar
- your contact information changes
- you are planning to move
- 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



Telephone: 573-445-2112 Or by email: [church@trinity-lcms.org](mailto:church@trinity-lcms.org)

# Birthdays

<b>2</b> Candace Sall Elena Scharlott Karla Yung	<b>11</b> Patty Kespohl Brian Thieme	<b>23</b> Debi Derendinger Sophia Thompson
<b>3</b> Hadwig Brown Larna Mack Gail Schuster	<b>12</b> Sophia LaFoy	<b>24</b> Mya Monroe
<b>4</b> Doug McDowell Brian Whittle	<b>13</b> Adam Francis	<b>25</b> Frances Kiene
<b>5</b> Carrie Whittle	<b>15</b> John David Banks	<b>27</b> Emilee Buchheit
<b>6</b> Reece McMillen Corie O'Neill	<b>16</b> Jon Harpert	<b>28</b> JoAnn Schoenike
<b>7</b> Chase Hemmer	<b>18</b> Jeffrey Arnall	<b>29</b> Debbie Antel
<b>8</b> Andy Luetkemeier Joanna McDowell	<b>19</b> Keri Thoroughman	<b>31</b> Joseph Sall
<b>9</b> Beth Sall	<b>20</b> Larry McCoig	Donald Schmidt
<b>10</b> Nathan Eckhoff	<b>21</b> Connie Coil	<b>31</b> Jere Francis Meredith Stone
	<b>22</b> Shane Brown Amanda Thieme	
	<b>27</b> Laura Messervy Denise Tackitt	



# Anniversaries

Veryl & Margie Freese	January 1, 2001
Joseph & Candace Sall	January 9, 1993
Jeff & Angel Arnall	January 10, 1998
David & Katie Campbell	January 10, 1992
Jon & Karly Berendzen	January 19, 2008
Gary & Patty Kespohl	January 27, 1968
Bill & Joyce Raines	January 27, 1963

The information for Anniversaries & Birthdays is obtained from our Shepherd Staff database. If your information is incorrect or omitted, please contact the church office so this information can be updated in the computer. We need your help to keep our records up to date.



## JUNIOR HIGH YOUTH GROUP

**JCC Confirmation Schedule:** JCC Class: January 8, 15, 22, and 29 at 6pm. **Sunday, January 8th** there will be a FUN NIGHT in the gym following JCC classes at 7:30pm.

### Acolytes Schedule:

The signup emails for JCC II acolyte in January have been sent. Please sign up accordingly.

### JCC TRIP TO CREATION MUSEUM & ARK

The plans for the Creation Museum & Ark Tour on February 17-20 trip are being finalized. We will send out a flyer soon with all the details.

## SENIOR HIGH YOUTH GROUP

### SR High Youth SUMMER MISSION TRIP MTG

Join us on **Sunday, January 29th** beginning at **noon** in the Fellowship Hall for a Summer Mission Trip meeting.


### COYOTE HILLS MEAL



We will need SR High youth helpers on **Sunday, January 15th** to assist in serving a meal at Coyote Hills Children's Home. Please sign up on Youth bulletin board if you are available to help.

### SUPER BOWL SUB SALES

We will need youth helpers on **Saturday, February 4th** to assemble the sub sandwiches for the Super Bowl Sub Sales. Please sign up on Youth bulletin board if you are available to help. Funds raised will go towards the summer mission trip.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 8a Worship / Comm 915a Bible Study 1030a Worship / Comm	2 6p Worship / Comm  <b>GSLS &amp; TLCLC CLOSED</b>	3	4 825a GSLS Chapel 9a TLCLC Chapel 530p Board of Early Childhood Ed 630p Craft Night	5 630a Men's Bible Study 9a TLCLC Chapel 1130a Senior Ministry Lunch	6	7
8 8a Worship / Installation 915a Bible Study 1030a Worship / Installation 12p Orientation Potluck & Meeting 5p Handbell Practice 6p JCC 6p LLL 730p JR High Youth Fun Night 730p JCC III Parent Meeting	9 9a Bible Study 6p Worship / Comm	10 7p Board of Directors	11 825a GSLS Chapel 9a TLCLC Chapel 920a Mary Martha Guild	12 630a Men's Bible Study 9a TLCLC Chapel 1130a Senior Ministry Lunch 7p CLAS School Board (Trinity)	13	14
15 8a Worship / Comm 915a Bible Study 1030a Worship / Comm 4p SR High Youth Coyote Hill meal 6p JCC	16 9a Bible Study 6p Worship / Comm  <b>GSLS &amp; TLCLC CLOSED</b>	17 630p COOL Girls 630p Vesper Guild	18 825a GSLS Chapel 9a TLCLC Chapel 530p GSLS Kindergarten Roundup	19 630a Men's Bible Study 9a TLCLC Chapel 1130a Senior Ministry Lunch	20 130p Women's Social Connection	21
22 8a Worship 915a Bible Study 915a Bible Milestones 1030a Worship 6p JCC	23 9a Bible Study 6p Worship / Comm  <b>LUTHERAN</b>	24  <b>&lt;- -&gt;</b>	25 825a GSLS Chapel 9a TLCLC Chapel  <b>SCHOOLS</b>	26 630a Men's Bible Study 9a TLCLC Chapel 1130a Senior Ministry Lunch 530p GSLS Open House  <b>&lt;- -&gt;</b>	27  <b>WEEK</b>	28
29 8a Worship / Comm 915a Bible Study 915a Bible Milestones 1030a Worship / Comm 12p SR High Youth Summer Trip Mtg 6p JCC	30 9a Bible Study 6p Worship / Comm	31 7p Board of Elders				

Trinity Lutheran Church  
2201 West Rollins Road  
Columbia, MO 65203

WORSHIP SERVICE TIMES:  
SUNDAY 8:00 AND 10:30 A.M.  
MONDAY AT 6:00 P.M.  
SUNDAY SCHOOL/BIBLE CLASS  
— 9:15 A.M.

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PERMIT NO 184

PHONE: 573-445-2112  
FAX: 573-445-4078  
EMAIL: CHURCH@TRINITY-LCMS.ORG

*"Return Service Requested"*

xx

### GSLS BLUE & GREEN GALA

The GSLS Blue & Green Gala is set for **Saturday, March 4, 2017**. A Silent Auction is part of the evening and collection of auction items is well underway. Would you like to donate to the auction, but aren't sure how? Please check the bulletin board across from Pastor Gerike's office. There is a black board with gold stars designating gift card that are needed. We appreciate all help in making this auction a success!

### SHOP WITH SCRIP FOR GSLS

GSLS will continue with the SCRIP gift card fundraiser again this school year. Please consider purchasing gift cards throughout the year to support the school, a percentage of proceeds comes back to GSLS and has been used to purchase curriculum, playground equipment and other needed items for our school. There are order forms available in the school and church offices.

### SUPER BOWL SUB SALES

Trinity's SR High Youth will be selling sub sandwiches for Super Bowl Sunday again this year. They are raising funds for the 2017 summer mission trip. **Please place your order on any Sunday in January - all orders due by January 30th.** Order forms will be in the Sunday Church News. There will be a order folder hanging on the Youth bulletin board across from the church office.

Sandwich toppings available:

- Salami, Bologna, Ham
- Salami, Roast Beef, Ham
- Salami, Turkey, Ham

(all sandwiches will include Swiss & American cheese)

**\$4 each or 8 for \$25**

