

# TRINITY TIMES

Trinity Lutheran Church

July 2017

## *From the Pastor's Desk*

Members of Trinity,

We just celebrated the 4<sup>th</sup> of July enjoying the freedom to live peacefully, comfortably, and joyfully. Was this always the case? Our ancestors had to fight for these freedoms. Many died to put this freedom in place. Many still die to keep this freedom in place. Many countries still don't have these freedoms and what comes with them. And yet with these freedoms most people live for themselves. Our Constitution, Preamble, Bill of Rights, etc. state the freedoms we enjoy allowing us to live as we wish. But is this really Living?

As Christians do we not have better reasons to enjoy FREEDOM? By the way, believers didn't always appreciate true freedom. Not until the Holy Spirit convicted us of sin, not until grace brought us to see and believe the dying Savior made payment for our sins, not until the new birth in Christ did we begin to live and enjoy these freedoms.

Paul writes, "For me to live is Christ." He stated that because he knew what freedom in Christ truly meant. This implies that the aim and the end of Paul's life was Christ. His very life was Jesus. As a Christian do we live to this standard? The Christian who lives for Christ cannot live for another goal. Our living, our business...are we doing it for Christ or for family and getting richer? We are free. What does that freedom mean? To live for self or for Christ? Now with Christ in our lives we can and will live for Him.

All we do and live for are summed up in these words, "Christ Jesus!" His love, grace, and mercy are why we are here and where we are today.

Pray with me: Lord Jesus Christ, receive me. I pray to live only in You and for You. Let me be ready to be free to work or to sacrifice for You Who worked and sacrificed for me. May I say with all that I am and have, and with Paul, "For me to live is Christ!" Thank You, Lord Jesus, for the blessings of true life, now and forever. Amen.

*Peace, Pastor Thur*

## **Elders**

Elders continue to work on the Inactive List and absent members from Trinity. Personal contact has been made with several families, and a letter is being drafted for approval to be sent to these individuals. We hope to have our Membership List up to date by October.

Duty Elders were reminded to be sure all doors are locked after Sunday Worship. Elder Duty roster is complete through September. We continue to work with Pastor Thur as he gives of his time and talent to keep Trinity going.

The Elders are:

Duane Neal 623-688-6833  
Roland Walter 882-7450  
Ralph Wegner 565-3936  
Dennis Gard 928-379-2191  
Josh Chittick 560-4785  
Mark Johnson 570-7639

Please feel free to contact any of them at any time with comments or concerns.

## **Call Committee**

The Call Committee was notified by Pastor Adam Hengst that he needed to withdraw from call consideration due to complications with his wife's pregnancy. The Committee is therefore bringing Pastor Anton Lagoutine of Conover, NC and Pastor Kent Schaaf of Grass Valley, CA before the

congregation as the remaining candidates for call consideration. Information sheets for each are available in the Narthex or from the Call Committee members. The Voters Meeting to vote on who to extend a call to has been rescheduled for Sunday, July 16 immediately after the worship service.

## **Missions**

There will be a yard sale to benefit the Bridge homeless shelter at the end of September. They are collecting items at the Bridge. If you have donations contact Jackie to arrange drop offs or to have items picked up.

There were 6 ladies that

learned to make the sleeping mats last month. Let me know if you would like to learn how to make them - we can find a time to get together. We especially need people to turn the bags into "plarn". Please continue to bring your bags to church! These mats will be given to the Bridge for those who need them when sleeping outdoors.

This year we will assemble our shoeboxes for **Operation Christmas Child** in early October. This way we can take advantage of clearance school supplies in September and also clearance on summer clothing. I will publish a list of suggestions on items to collect next month. We will not be able to send toothpaste or candy this year.

#### **Transportation Director**

If you would like to volunteer to provide transportation to Trinity members who do not drive, please call Carl Sperling at 565-3212. She has a schedule that is ongoing.

#### **Fellowship Sunday**

The fifth Sunday in July, the 30<sup>th</sup>, will be the next Trinity fellowship opportunity. The theme of this event is Fiesta, and participants are asked to bring their best Mexican dishes to share. There will be a photo booth so bring your Mexican attire to share and be prepared to have a little fun. More on this as the event gets closer, but put it on your calendar now!

#### **Shepherd's New Staff**

Terrylynn and Michael Tito have created a new organization called the Shepherd's New Staff. They would like to unite workers in all of the local churches to care for the needs of the

neediest of our neighbors. Currently they are working with the Bridge to raise awareness and funds for the new homeless shelter in the planning stages. They welcome prayers for proper direction from the Lord. They are still members at Trinity, but felt God's calling for this new ministry.

#### **Upcoming Events**

- July 11, 2017 – Council Meeting @ 6:30 p.m.
- July 16, 2017 – Voters Meeting after the service
- July 30, 2017 – Fiesta Fellowship

#### **Newsletter News**

The newsletter will now be handed out with the bulletins the Sunday after it is published. It will still be e-mailed to those that have signed up for that service. But a number of members have no internet access, so efforts are now to put the newsletter into the hands of any interested party. There will also be a stack on the table in the church narthex.

If you would like to receive the newsletter by e-mail, you can reach Shar Short at [shortstuff1950@gmail.com](mailto:shortstuff1950@gmail.com).

#### **Membership Info**

Address change:  
Trinity Lutheran Church  
208 N Dolores Road  
Cortez, CO 81321

#### **LCMS**

In an article by Megan K Mertz posted June 28, 2017 on the LCMS website concerning upcoming activities for the 500<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Reformation, here is an excerpt. The rest of the article can be read at <https://blogs.lcms.org/2017/new-reformation-resources>.

In the two-part video "[The Luther Mile](#)," viewers follow along on a walking tour of historic Reformation sites in Wittenberg, Germany, with LCMS President Rev. Dr. Matthew C. Harrison and the Rev. Dr. Hans-Jörg Voigt, bishop of the Independent Evangelical-Lutheran Church, the Synod's partner church in Germany. The tour provides informative anecdotes about the people and places that were involved in the Reformation, while giving a glimpse of what those sites look like today.

Part 1 of the video is now available at [lutheranreformation.org/luthermile](http://lutheranreformation.org/luthermile). Watch for Part 2 to be posted in July.

Also starting in July, the videos will be rolled out on Facebook

([facebook.com/TheLCMS](https://facebook.com/TheLCMS) and [facebook.com/StillAboutJesus](https://facebook.com/StillAboutJesus)) and Twitter ([twitter.com/thelcms](https://twitter.com/thelcms) and [twitter.com/StillAboutJesus](https://twitter.com/StillAboutJesus)),

before finding a permanent home on the Synod's [Reformation website](#).

#### **Quote of the Month**

God writes the Gospel not in the Bible alone, but also on trees, and in the flowers and clouds and stars.

Martin Luther

#### **Newsletter Info**

If you would like to submit information to this newsletter or to the website, please put it in Shar Short's box, call her at 970-564-1596, or e-mail her at [shortstuff1950@gmail.com](mailto:shortstuff1950@gmail.com).