

# TRINITY TIMES

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Trinity Lutheran Church

July 2015

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## **Elders**

The Elders will meet on July 12 following the service. If you have anything you would like to bring to our attention, please let one of us know.

Like many of you we have been busy enjoying our summer, both at home and away. Please try to find it in your schedules to attend church wherever you may be. It is always interesting to see new faces in a new church. It drives home the meaning of our "Synod" to see other Lutherans professing their faith.

Enjoy your summer and keep your fellow Christians in your prayers.

The Elders are:

Joe Mahaffey 562-4750  
Larry Gessner 565-6371  
Bill Whitthans 533-9055  
Kelly McCabe 565-7269  
Marty Ruggles 565-4049  
Joe Stevens 565-3679

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

## **Church Council**

The next Church Council meeting will be held on Tuesday, July 14, 2015 at 6:30 p.m. The slate of candidates for the 2015/2016 officers will be finalized.

## **Stewardship**

We give Thee but Thine own,  
Whate'er the gift may be;

All that we have is Thine alone,  
A trust, O Lord, from Thee.

May we Thy bounties thus  
As stewards true receive  
And gladly, as Thou blessest us,  
To Thee our first-fruits give!  
(LSB 781:1-2).

In many congregations these stanzas are sung every Sunday when the offerings of God's faithful people are received. It's a sung reminder of who God is and who we are in relation to Him, of what God does for us and gives to us, and how we respond to His generosity.

We are stewards of God's varied grace to us. As stewards we acknowledge that God owns all things and that everything in heaven and on earth belongs to Him (1 Chron 29:14; Ps 24:1; Ps 100:3; 1 Cor 4:7; 1 Cor 6:19). Even we ourselves—all that we are and all that we have—are His. We are His because He created us, preserves us, redeemed us, and sanctifies us. As the stewards of what He has done for us and given to us, we give of our first fruits to Him and His Church.

And the Lord receives them and presses them into a use all His own. He sanctifies it. He hallows it. He uses it to ensure that the Word of God is still preached among us. He uses it to ensure that there is water for Baptism, bread and wine for His Holy Supper. He uses what He

gives to you and what you give back to Him for your good. Everything that happens in the church is purchased with the giving of the saints from what God has provided them. Holy giving from holy people pressed into holy service.

But there's more. For our giving does not just make the liturgical life of the church possible. It's not just the necessary means by which the vessels and sacramental elements, the hymn books and pastors are made available. The giving of God's stewards is part of the liturgy itself, part of the Divine Service. It is one of our responses within the liturgy where we, not just with words spoken or sung, but with deeds declare, live out and live in, the excellencies of Him who called us out of darkness into His marvelous light (1 Pet 2:9). Our offerings are part of God's sanctifying work that He has us do in the Divine Service for the life of the world.

That's what makes our stewardship so precious and significant. God hallows what we give and employs it to sanctify us and others. And that is why we sing: "And gladly, as Thou blessest us, To Thee our first-fruits give!"

June Stewardship Article from [lcms.com](http://lcms.com)

### **Ruth Guild Picnic**

Mary Mahaffey invites all women of the church to come to a potluck picnic lunch after church at 12 p.m. on Sunday, July 19. And Joe Mahaffey is inviting any men that want to come along! The Mahaffey's new cabin at Groundhog is the destination. More details and directions are coming.

### **Lunch & Games**

Lunch & Games is on summer break. Stay tuned for info on the start up in the fall.

### **Sew 'n' Sews**

Sew 'n' Sews are on Summer break. If you would like to piece a top at home or cut squares, give Shar Short a call @ 564-1596.

### **Hopes Kitchen**

Ah, summer - a time for kids to enjoy their break from school and for a number of them to participate in the lunches at Hopes Kitchen on both sides of the counter. We have a faithful few who show up every summer to help out with whatever they can do for us. Having these teens around gives me hope that some in the younger generation will be there to take over when older ones can no longer do the task. Of course, we are seeing a significant increase in the number of youngsters enjoying a meal as well.

Donations can always be utilized and for those of you with gardens please keep us in mind if you have any excess produce you need to get rid of. Fresh fruit and vegetables are really enjoyed by our clients and if there is a large amount of it, we freeze what we can for future use or pass it out to folks. Canned and dry goods

are always put to good use as well.

Time - for those of you who feel they could serve in some capacity or other, talk to me. We would be happy to work you into the schedule even if it were one day a month. Speaking of this, the Methodist Thrift Shop is really in need of volunteers as well. Again, volunteer for as little or often as you would like and do things like sorting donations, pricing, working the front counter, etc. The Thrift Shop is a large supporter of Hope's Kitchen both with cash as well as gift certificates to a variety of volunteers.

Larry Gessner

#### **Upcoming Events**

- July 12, 2015 – Elder's Meeting after church service
- July 14, 2015 – Church Council Meeting @ 6:30 p.m.
- July 19, 2015 – Ruth Guild Summer Get-together @ Joe and Mary Mahaffey's cabin

#### **Volunteer Needed**

Each Sunday the entire worship service is taped and downloaded on to DVDs that are distributed to those who cannot attend church. This usually takes several hours a week and requires a computer for burning the DVDs. If you would like to help in this important outreach, please check in with Eleanor at the church office or talk to Wayne Hite at 882-1438.

#### **Poem of the Month**

Refreshing Waters  
Sometimes I feel I'm in a desert  
Trying to find my way  
The heat beating down with no

relief

With no shelter through the day

Day and night, I cry out to God  
That He will come to my aid  
And just when I feel like giving up,  
In His refreshing waters, I wade

For God supplies streams of hope  
That flows to wash over me  
It seems, though, for a brief moment,  
A short and temporal relief

Then once again I'm in the desert  
Enduring the heat and the wind  
Not long, O Lord, I start to pant  
For refreshing waters within

I have to stop and ask myself,  
Why am I where I am?  
It seems I'm wandering aimlessly  
With no purpose, direction or plan

I long, O God, to find a way out,  
No longer to be in this place  
When, O God, shall I be released  
And dwell in your mercy and grace?

I long for your refreshing waters  
To daily be part of my life,  
To continually be immersed in the streams  
Of the blessings that flow from Christ.

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#### **Newsletter Info**

If you would like to submit information to this newsletter, 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).