

TRINITY TIMES

Trinity Lutheran Church

October 2015

From the Pastor's Desk

"Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his love endures forever." Psalm 118:1

Greetings in the name of Jesus!

As the forgiven people of God we can take the above verse to heart and praise our God. We have so much to be thankful for. Especially for the life Jesus won for us at the cross and the empty tomb. We will have a chance to have a special day for giving thanks. Join us on Thanksgiving morning and lets start the day in worship. Have a great November.

In Jesus, Pastor



Elders

The Elders will be meeting on November 8. Please let us know if you have any concerns you would like for us to address. We will be finalizing the calendar for the year.

The Elders are:

Larry Gessner	565-6371
Kelly McCabe	565-7269
Marty Ruggles	565-4049
Joe Stevens	565-3679
Roland Walter	882-7450
Ralph Wegner	565-3936

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

Stewardship

Note: This is the first installment of this article – See December issue for conclusion.

I visited my parents recently, who still live in the house I grew up in, and belong to the same Lutheran Church I grew up in. My Dad and I were remembering some of the people in our church when I was a child, and some of the challenges that congregation has faced over

the years. Unlike Trinity in Cortez, my Dad's Trinity Lutheran Church is a big congregation with lots of members, a church and school campus with a large staff, and a budget that seems enormous compared to ours. Even so, they've faced financial problems over the years just as we do. As we talked, I was reminded again that within a Christian community, we give to our church and our neighbors because God first has given to us. Then I found the article below, by Reverend Jeff Hemmer, that was another reminder of what God gives us, and how. These are excerpts from *Grace and Every Blessing: The Gifts Hidden in the Commandments* by Rev. Jeff Hemmer

Gift giving is such an intrinsic part of the Creator's nature that even in His Law He intends to give gifts, gifts that can only be received in the keeping of His commandments.

What gifts?

I. You shall have no other gods.

This commandment is the easiest. What gift does God intend to give? Himself. No other god can save, no other god gives forgiveness. He is the God who gives life and forgiveness.

II. You shall not misuse the name of the LORD your God.

What gift does God intend to give through the Second Commandment? His name. He gives His name to each of us first in Holy Baptism. Like a mother writing a child's name on all of the things he will take to school, God marks us as His own, placing His triune name upon each of us in the waters of Holy Baptism. Suddenly, the otherwise terrifying holy name of God is given to us as a gift, to call upon in every trouble, pray, praise and give thanks.

III. Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy.

What gift does God give through this commandment? His Word. The Word of God is how we receive faith (Rom. 10:17). It's how we have life (Ps. 119:25).

God doesn't want us to attend Sunday morning services so that we fulfill some kind of obligation or return after six days off to tell Him how awesome He is. He created Sunday mornings and the Divine Service for the purpose of delivering His gifts: His Word and His Sacraments. The gifts are free and frequent. All we have to do is be where they're given to us.

Sew 'n' Sews

Sew 'n' Sews welcome anyone who likes to work to make something that will benefit those in need. During November we will meet Nov. 11 and 18 so there will not be a conflict Thanksgiving week. Questions can go to Shar Short at 564-1596 or Mary Mahaffey at 562-4750.

Operation Christmas Child

Operation Christmas Child will be concluding on Sunday, November 15 after church and fellowship. A potluck lunch will be held and then we will commence on the box stuffing! There are flyers on the back table in the narthex that detail what can be included. Larger batches of items like pencils and toiletries can be shared among all the boxes. If you would rather give cash, see Jackie Snow.

Hopes Kitchen

The hungry are still with us. The numbers for both kitchens are up and staying there. Thankfully the volunteers have been fantastic with their time and the community is so supportive with their donations. We really are blessed to live in this part of the state and world. Remember that with

Thanksgiving and Christmas coming, that is another opportunity to be of service with the community dinners held on those days.

Jesus came to serve and not to be served. Each of us is also called to serve those around us - not out of selfishness or ambition or conceit. We are called to serve because it is the will of God that we do so.

The Bridge

The Bridge opened this past month and has been busy since the gitgo as their opening coincided with the rains that came. As always they can use volunteers as well a variety of products: toiletries, socks, towels, etc. Volunteers can be for the occasional evening shift or you can volunteer to cook a meal.

Larry Gessner

Upcoming Events

- November 10, 2015 – Church Council Meeting @ 6:30 p.m.
- November 15, 2015 – Operation Christmas Child Party – 11:30 a.m.
- December 2, 2015 – Lenten Services begin @ 7 p.m.

Membership Changes

Transfer Members:

Gregory and Jolene Ausburn
Cheyenne & Morgan.
P. O. Box 363, Towaoc,
CO 81334

The Ausburn family has moved here from Gun Barrel City, TX.

Velma Carlson
Madison House
120 S. Madison, Cortez.
She does not have a phone yet but you can reach her by calling Madison House at 565-2047 and asking for Velma.

Web Site

The Web Site is up and running. Pages include Calendar, Service information, What We Believe, Church Organization, Newsletter and much more. Pictures will be updated and a History page added in the future. Give it a look at trinitylutheranchurchcortez.com. Shar Short

Volunteer Needed

If you have some extra time during the week and knowledge of technical devices, Wayne Hite could use your help in taping and burning copies of the Sunday sermon. Give him a call at 882-1438.

Joke of the Month

A Football team was on the field during practice, when to their surprize, a big turkey suddenly walked up to the coach and demanded a tryout. "Are you crazy," hollered the coach, "we don't give tryouts to turkeys." Before he knew it the turkey started dashing towards the football and made a fantastic catch. "That was amazing", exclaimed the coach "I have never seen anything like that! How much do you want for a year?" "Don't worry about money," said the turkey, "let me just ask you something, does the season go past thanksgiving?!"
greatcleanjokes.com

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.