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**Trinity Lutheran Church
Milledgeville, IL**

And



**First Lutheran of
Jordan, Sterling, IL**

MAY MISSION FOCUS

Northern Illinois Synod—Mission Fund. See article inside newsletter for more information.

Also, for the United Way’s Let’s Feed Our Children summer program, we will collect creamy peanut butter and grape jelly. (These are specific, any variations will be given to our local food pantry)

JUNE MISSION FOCUS

Northern Illinois Synod In-Kind offering. Various items to assemble quick-relief bags for homeless. See article inside newsletter for more information.

Trinity Lutheran Scholarships

Just a reminder that if your graduating form Junior High or High School this year please let church office know. There will be scholarship information available soon for graduating seniors and returning college students.

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH Of West Jordan
20314 Hickory Hills Road
Sterling, IL 61081
815-225-7410
Worship: Sundays 8:30 AM

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
717 Stover Ave, PO Box 637
Milledgeville, IL 61051
815-225-7410; telcsecretary@mediacombb.net
www.trinitymville.com
Worship: Sundays 10:15 AM

**Glad Tidings
“Sound the Good News”**



8 And the LORD God planted a garden in Eden, in the east; and there he put the man whom he had formed. 9 Out of the ground the LORD God made to grow every tree that is pleasant to the sight and good for food, the tree of life also in the midst of the garden, and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.

Genesis 2:8-9



The old expression “April showers bring May flowers” is in full bloom now as we turn the calendar page to May. It seemed like spring had sprung a winter leak, but all is repaired and the weather is back on track and our flowers are blooming and our vegetables are planted and our farmer’s markets are opening with fresh local produce. We all have different favorite flowers, and all our gardens are unique and beautiful as they come back to life this time of year.

Take a moment and admire your garden, your work. What flowers have already bloomed? What flowers are budding? What flowers have you planted that will come to life later in the season? Doesn’t it just give you great joy just watching it and anticipating all the life that is to come in your garden?

In the second creation story of Genesis, we are told God planted a garden. There God prepared a home for the first man and then the first woman. And God probably was feeling much like you are as you look out on your garden and take delight in the colorful blooms and the sweet scent of each flower. And God probably had great anticipation for how his creation would come to life as the season progressed.

Now many of us tend to read the creation story as a past-tense event. God created. God rested and his creative work was completed. But this is not so. God is not done with creation. In fact, creation happens around us continually. These earliest stories of our Bible are not past-tense, but are on-going stories that we are very much a part of today.

In fact, God placed his first man and first woman in the garden to be partners with God in the continuing work of creation. And that partnership continues today with you and me. We are God’s partners in the continuing work of creation. From planting our own personal gardens, to crafting a house into a home, to caring for the environment beyond just our own 40 acres; we are God’s partners in an on-going and very much always continuing work of creation.

So admire your small corner for a moment, the joy of your chores as your flowers come up. Then take a wider view of all creation—and just think what it can be as we work in partnership with God in bringing to life the creation God has begun and continues through us.

Pastor Jamie Gallagher



Nancy Janssen
Organist
Janet Barkley
Secretary
Jamie Gallagher
Pastor
The People of God
Ministers

N. IL. Synod of the ELCA

Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church
717 Stover Ave, PO box 637
Milledgeville, IL 61051
Phone: 815-225-7410
Partner in Cooperative Ministry
First Lutheran W. Jordan

**EPIC SUNDAY SCHOOL DATES
For the Spring of 2018**

Our 2017-2018 EPIC Sunday School Year Celebrates another year completed on Sunday, May 6th

We will enjoy a hot dog lunch with lots of toppings. We will have some carnival games and activities as well as a reminder of all we have learned this year.

Join us, even if you have missed some (or all) of the EPIC Sunday School dates. This will be a lot of fun.

Pastor Lawyer is retiring:

The members of St. Paul Lutheran Church invite you to join them for a Retirement Luncheon in honor of Rev. Dr. Michael R Lawyer, celebrating 32 years of ministry

Sunday, May 6 at 12:30 PM

St. Paul Lutheran Church, 1001 9th St, Orion, IL

Please contact the church office at (309) 526-8406 if you are able to attend
Pastor Lawyer was at Trinity from June of 1986 to June 1998.

Cards may also be sent to the St. Paul Church office. Any cards brought to Trinity will be forwarded to Pastor Lawyer.

TLC Dorcus Circle/WELCA

Will meet at 2:00 PM on Thursday, May 10th at Kin Stewart's home.

Upcoming Worship Committee Meeting

The Worship Committee is looking for more members of both congregations to help strengthen our worship committee. Our next meeting is on Tuesday, May 15th at 1 PM. If you would like to participate, but cannot in the afternoon, please contact Kim Stewart or Pastor Jamie.

**United Way's Let's Feed Our Children
Summer Program**

We will collect creamy peanut butter and grape jelly for the United Way throughout May. These items are specific. Any variations will be given to our local food pantry.

Milledgeville High School Senior Moments

Trinity will host the Senior Class for their scholarship awards night on Wednesday, May 2nd at 7PM. Come and hear the plans our senior class have for the next phase of their life and celebrate with them the generosity that our community will provide to get them started in that next phase.

The Methodist Church will host the Baccalaureate service on Wednesday, May 16th at 7 PM. Pastor Jamie will be the preacher this year. Join in worship with the graduating class as they pray for God's hand to guide them into the next phase of their lives.

June Picnic

This Summer, our two churches continue our great June tradition of a joint worship service and picnic. Hosted at Trinity, worship begins at 10:15 and the picnic follows.

This year our Picnic and worship theme is the Top Ten Luau's in the Bible. Join us as famous Bible folk singer Hezekiah Buffet tells us about his 10 favorite gigs, sometimes when things went well, sometimes when things got a little mixed up—but always, there was always more than enough food to last for an eternity.

Invite your friends, and join us for our annual outdoor worship and picnic at Trinity on Sunday, June 10th.

Relay for Life

This year's Carroll County Relay for Life will be held on Saturday, June 9th from 5 PM—10 PM

At the Mt. Carroll Church of God

For questions about how to support this year's Relay for Life or to participate, contact Janet Barkley

Joint Worship Services for 2018

Mark your Calendars for these dates when we will worship together this year.

May 27, Memorial Day Weekend, 8:30 AM, Jordan
June 10, Summer Picnic, 10:15 AM, Milledgeville
September 2, Labor Day Weekend, 8:30 AM, Jordan
Dec 16, Christmas Pageant, 10:15 AM, M'ville
Dec 30, New Year's Weekend, 8:30 AM, Jordan

**Northern Illinois Synod—Mission Fund
“Gifts for Mission” Generosity Sunday
Sunday, May 20th, 2018**

A letter from Rev. Kurt Nordby, the NIS Assistant to the Bishop for Stewardship and Development

“Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you to the close of the age.”
Matthew 28:19-20

These words of Jesus remind us of the ministry imperative we have together as a church and how all of us are called to participate in God's mission of proclaiming the good news of Jesus Christ. Our Northern Illinois Synod takes seriously the Great Commission of Jesus to go and proclaim the gospel.

For the past number of years, we have been blessed with the Northern Illinois Synod Mission Fund. The Synod Mission Fund enables us to boldly proclaim the gospel by providing ministry grants in partnership with the ELCA for starting new missions, redeveloping congregations, and providing seed money for specific outreach ministries in congregations.

Our NIS is blessed by a number of new ministries such as Freedom Lutheran Church in Oregon, Dwell in Yorkville, and Intersections in Genoa which was just recently approved by the NIS Council. Grants from our Synod Mission Fund will be vital in supporting these new ministries. Our Synod Mission Fund has been instrumental in the proclamation of the good news of Jesus through new ministries such as Freedom, Dwell, and Intersections.

Indeed our Synod Mission fund is a blessing! However, today the Synod Mission Fund has about a year and a half of life remaining. It is important that we strengthen the Synod mission Fund so that we can continue to be bold in proclaim the Gospel.

NIS “Gifts for Mission” Generosity Sunday is May 20, 2018! In order to strengthen our Synod Mission Fund, we will have a synod-wide Generosity Sunday on Pentecost Day, Sunday, May 20th. The goal of our “Gifts for Mission” program is \$200,000. “Gift for Mission” Generosity Sunday will be an exciting opportunity for congregations and individuals of the NIS to share a one-time gift for the purpose of building our Synod Mission Fund. It is also a meaningful way to participate in the joy of reaching out with the gospel in a way that one congregation cannot do alone. An added blessing of this opportunity is that we will tithe all undesignated gifts for “Gifts of Mission.” The gifts from our tithe will help fund the NIS Nursing School Project in Tanzania.

Please mark your calendars and plan to participate in the “Gifts for Mission” Generosity Sunday on May 20th. It will be a great day of celebration and generosity throughout our synod as we share gifts to enable new ministries to be strong in their ministry, strengthen redeveloping congregations as they transform their ministries, and provide seed money for new outreach ministries in our NIS.

Please prayerfully consider a generous gift to “Gifts for Mission” and help enable our NIS to remain a strong and vibrant missional synod.

**May and June Mission Focuses
Two great ways to be involved in the
Northern Illinois Synod**

The first is Generosity Sunday. See the accompanying letter here on this page to learn more. Then prayerfully consider making a generous donation to the “Gifts for Mission” on Sunday, May 20th.

You simply write your check to Trinity Lutheran or to First Lutheran, and write in the memo line “Gifts for Mission”. Our congregations will each send a check with the grand total to the Synod.

Trinity's Noisy Offering on May 20th will also go to the “Gifts for Mission”. The Synod has named an ambitious goal to raise \$200,000. Yet, we are just 2 of 148 congregations in this synod. This goal is easily achievable. Every little bit helps.

The second opportunity coincides with our Synod Assembly. We are collecting items to make quick-relief bags for the homeless. These items will be taken to the Synod assembly, prayed for, and sent home to congregations who have ministries to homeless people.

We will collect: socks, juice drinks, \$5 gift cards to McDonalds, antiseptic hand wipes, small snacks like granola bars, beef jerky or crackers and cheese, lip balm, hot hands/hand warmers, and a winter hat or scarf. Bring these items into church by Sunday, June 10th, so that Pastor Jamie, Jim and Barb can take them to the Assembly on Friday, June 15th.

Any items collected after June 10th will be given to our local PADS organization for use in the Sterling/Rock Falls area.



Grace Meals will be
Tuesday, May 15th & June 19
11:30 AM here at Trinity.

Our March Southtown Ministry

Will be Tuesday, May 15th & June 19th
at 4:30 PM

June 2018

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|--|---|--|---|--|---|
| | | | | | 1 | 2 |
| | | | | | Birthdays: Dan Nye June Purvis Kristine Faulkner Steven Blake Pastor's Day Off | Birthdays: Carole Adolph |
| 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 |
| Time After Pentecost 8:30a-9:30a Worship @ FWJ 10:15a-11:15a Worship @ Trinity | Birthdays: Cindy Brandt 11a-3p Sewers Meet 1p-2:30p VBS at Milledgeville UMC | Birthdays: Brittany Grenoble 1p-2:30p VBS at Milledgeville UMC | Birthdays: Lee Hinrichs 1p-2:30p VBS at Milledgeville UMC | Anniversary: Dan and Heather Schmidt Birthdays: Jody Armstrong 1p-2:30p VBS at Milledgeville UMC 6p-7:15p Girl Scouts - Basement | Pastor's Day Off 1p-2:30p VBS at Milledgeville UMC | Birthdays: Frank Ward Kurt Landis 6p-10p Relay For Life Mt. Carroll |
| 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 |
| Birthdays: Maddison Janssen Time After Pentecost 10:15a-11:15a Worship @ Trinity 11:30a-1p Joint Church Picnic | Anniversary: Robert and Marlys Carpenter Birthdays: Craig Dusing 11a-3p Sewers Meet | | Birthdays: Ava Schluter Brady Doyle Cory Brubaker 11:30a-1p Synod Youth Lunch | Birthdays: Alexis Matteson Lisa Hinrichs US Flag Day 2p-4p Dorcas Circle | Birthdays: David Folk Justin Janssen Northern Illinois Synod Assembly Pastor's Day Off | |
| 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 |
| Father's Day Time After Pentecost 8:30a-9:30a Worship @ FWJ 10:15a-11:15a Worship @ Trinity | Anniversary: David and Lynette Kent 11a-3p Sewers Meet | Birthdays: Marlys Carpenter 11:30a-12:30p Grace Meals (Trinity Lutheran Church) 4:30p-5p Southtown Ministry (Southtown home, Milledgeville) 7p-8:30p Trinity Council | Birthdays: Carol Schryver | 6p-7:15p Girl Scouts - Basement | Birthdays: Barry Imel John Sauer Justin Peterson Spencer McClaine Milledgeville Jamboree Pastor's Day Off | Birthdays: Corey Gabler June Franks Marsha Gallentine |
| 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 |
| Time After Pentecost 8:30a-9:30a Worship @ FWJ 10:15a-11:15a Worship @ Trinity Milledgeville Jamboree | Birthdays: Caleb VanDyke David Kent Jerry Hereen Trudy Landheer 11a-3p Sewers Meet | Anniversary: Andrew and Janet Barkley Birthdays: Jenn Dettman | | Anniversary: Mark and Jenn Dettman Birthdays: Donna Fields | Pastor's Day Off | Birthdays: Erin Dettman Mike Miller Taylor Anderson Wedding |

May 2018

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--|--|--|---|---|---|---|
| | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 Cinco De Mayo |
| | | Birthdays: Robert Woessner | 7p-9p Milledgeville High School Scholarship Night | Birthdays: Stacey Jacobson 6p-7:15p Girl Scouts - Basement | Birthdays: Al Vickers Barbara Miller Madilyn Todd Pastor's Day Off | Anniversary: Mitch and Sharon Woodard Birthdays: Arden Queckboerner Payton Harris |
| 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 |
| Birthdays: Curt Eubanks Paige Bauling Staci Trobaugh Sixth Sunday of Easter 8:30a-9:30a Worship @ FWJ 10:15a-11:15a Worship @ Trinity 11:30a-1p EPIC Sunday School | Birthdays: Nicole Brokaw 11a-3p Sewers Meet | Anniversary: Antoinette and Korey Fossett Birthdays: James Brubaker Scott Bryson | Anniversary: Steven and Phyllis Jewell Birthdays: Brad Grenoble Craig Bauling Jamie Doyle Katie Gallagher Keagan Livengood Pam Eubanks 9a-12p Pastor at Conference Meeting | Ascension Day 2p-4p Dorcas Circle | Birthdays: Erica Kaufman Patty Murray Shirley Woessner Pastor's Day Off | Birthdays: Kaitlin Dettman |
| 13 Mother's Day | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 Armed Forces Day |
| Birthdays: Emma Sinn Opal Kleckler Mother's Day Seventh Sunday of Easter 8:30a-9:30a Worship @ FWJ 10:15a-11:15a Worship @ Trinity | Birthdays: Bryn Bauling Drew Sauer Le-Anne Nye 11a-3p Sewers Meet | Birthdays: Mia Meyer Samantha Merlak 11:30a-12:30p Grace Meals (Trinity Lutheran Church) 1p-3p Worship Committee 4:30p-5p Southtown Ministry (Southtown home, Milledgeville) | Birthdays: Amanda Schildgen 7p-8p Milledgeville High School Baccalaureate Service (Milledgeville UMC) | 6p-7:15p Girl Scouts - Basement | Birthdays: Donna Landis Pastor's Day Off | |
| 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 |
| Birthdays: Ramona Koett Pentecost 8:30a-9:30a Worship @ FWJ 10:15a-11:15a Worship @ Trinity | Birthdays: Alayna Beckham 11a-3p Sewers Meet | Birthdays: Jeremy Hook Todd Brubaker | | Birthdays: Dan Hinrichs | Anniversary: Darin and Tonya Frederick Birthdays: Andrew McAuliffe Heide Gallagher Birthdays: Jaidon Doyle Pastor's Day Off | Birthdays: Allison Palmer Ronald Sucher |
| 27 | 28 Memorial Day | 29 | 30 | 31 | Notes: | |
| Birthdays: Kennedy Livengood Teresa Wagenknecht Birthdays: Violet Ohlwine Trinity Sunday 8:30a-9:30a Worship @ FWJ | Anniversary: Craig and Kaye Dusing Birthdays: Cory Folk Memorial Day 11a-3p Sewers Meet | Birthdays: Bryce Palmer | | Birthdays: Otto Wagenknecht | | |

First, West Jordan

Worship Helpers

May 6 & 13: Gary and Carol Sibley
Lector: Carol Sibley

May 20 & 27 : LaVerne & Carol Woessner
Lector: LaVerne Woessner

June 3: Dan & Jodi Woessner
Lector: Jodi Woessner

June 17 & 24: Roger Hinrichs & June Purvis
Lector: June Purvis

In our prayers:

From First:

Ruth Borth, Irene Burdick, Sandy Bushman, Linda & Myron Deets, Kyla Eastabrooks, Anita Gilbert, Linda Habben, Milford Habben, Roger Hinrichs, Scotty Powell, Jon Ryner, Hank Woessner

From Trinity:

Lori Anderson, Adlee Barajas, Carl Bauling, Jerry Blair, Ruth and Bill Borth, Cindy Brandt, Leland Bryson, Kyla Eastabrooks, June Franks, Mary Gerdes, Lawrence Maxwell, Kim Mennenga, Barb and Ivan Miller, Dan Nye, Corinne Ohlwine, Craig Schlidgen, Kimberly Tomasi

Milledgeville Jamboree

The weekend of June 22-24, the Village will hold its second annual Jamboree. Lots of fun will be had by all in town.

The ministerium is going to pass flyers around town that week inviting folks to worship in Milledgeville. The flyers will have the worship times of all churches in Milledgeville. If you are interested in helping pass out these flyers, please let Pastor Jamie know.

Northern Illinois Synod Stewardship Workshop

Saturday, May 5th from 9:30 AM to 3PM at Faith Lutheran, Rochelle

The Synod Stewardship Ministry team is hosting an all-day workshop called "Building Fluency in the Language of Stewardship and Generosity"

The cost is \$12 and includes materials and lunch. Please let Pastor Jamie know if you are interested in attending.

Vacation Bible School

The United Methodist Church is hosting Vacation Bible School this summer

Monday, June 4 to Friday, June 8
1:00 PM—2:30 PM

Registration information will be published in our worship bulletins.

Church Leaders Directory

Trinity Lutheran Church

President Kevin Anderson (625-3403)
Vice-President Kim Stewart
Secretary Karen Landers
Treasurer Connie Brockhouse
At-Large Tammy Miller
Sharon Woodard
Harlan Meinsma
Ken Peterson
Custodian Lynn Kaufman
Musician Nancy Janssen
Financial Secretary Ken Peterson

First Lutheran West Jordan

President Jan Wetzel (631-9353)
Secretary Jodi Woessner

Attention Snowbirds

Please let the office know when you leave and return, so we can make sure we send the newsletter to the correct address.
Thanks

Weekly Prayer Supplement

Each day when you take your quiet time to pray, here are some concerns —local and global— for you to include in your daily prayers

Week of April 29—May 5

Pray for new mission congregation and redeveloping congregations; pray for retiring pastors and newly ordained pastors; pray for pastors beginning new calls; pray for congregations seeking a new pastor.

Week of May 6—May 12

Pray for our fields and the seed that has been planted, pray for farmers finishing spring work and preparing for summer work; pray for good weather to sustain our farm lands; pray for fair economic justice for our farmers

Week of May 13—May 19

Pray for our graduating class of 2018—for those graduating from 8th grade and moving into high school; for those graduating high school and turning to a new chapter of life; and for those graduating college with a new degree and a hunger for a new career, pray for teachers preparing to close one year and preparing for a summer of respite and renewal.

Week of May 20—May 26

Pray for our partner ministries in Milledgeville—Chadwick: Chadwick Evangelical Free Church, Pastor Terry Komriska; First Evangelical Lutheran Church, Chadwick, Pastor Chris Schoon; Fairhaven UMC/ Hope UMC/ Hickory Grove UMC, Pastor Mary Bohall; Milledgeville Brethren Church, Pastor Jim Black; Dutchtown Brethren Church, Pastor Rick Koch; Milledgeville UMC, Pastor Sophia Hyon

For the Northern Illinois Synod and Bishop Jeff Clements, for the ELCA and Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton.

Birthdays and Anniversaries

for both congregations will now be listed on our monthly calendar pages.

Please let the office know if your birthday or anniversary information is missing, needs to be corrected, or should be removed. Thank you.

Weekly Prayer Supplement

Each day when you take your quiet time to pray, here are some concerns —local and global— for you to include in your daily prayers

Week of May 27—June 2

Pray for veterans and for families who lost a loved one in the service of our country. Pray for POW's that they may be returned home. Pray for those families whose loved one is MIA and whose whereabouts are known only to God, that they may have peace of mind.

Week of June 3—June 9

Pray for the Relay for Life, for all those suffering from Cancer; give thanks for all who are survivors; pray for all who are researching the cause and for the cure of cancer.

Week of June 10—June 16

Pray for the Northern Illinois Synod Assembly and for the work we share together; pray for the Youth who gather for their own Assembly and who will be riding their bikes from Rockford to Rock Island, lift up the work of all 148 congregations of the Northern Illinois Synod, especially newly formed congregations and those undergoing redevelopment.

Week of June 17—23

Pray for Milledgeville as it prepares for the village jamboree, that all festivities are safe and fun; pray that all who receive an invitation flyer to attend worship in one of our 5 churches hear the invitation and join in one of the worship celebrations that weekend.

Week of June 24—June 30

Pray for our homebound and shut-in members, pray for those who are hospitalized, for those unable to take summer vacation because of job insecurity or under-employment; pray for those who are yearning to reconcile with a family member or long lost friend.

There will be only one newsletter for May and June. For any updates, please check our Facebook pages or read our bulletin inserts.