

**Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church**

717 Stover Ave, PO box 637

Milledgeville, IL 61051

Phone: 815-225-7410

**Partner in Cooperative Ministry**

First Lutheran West Jordan

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**N. IL. Synod of the ELCA**

Ministers

**The People of God**

Interim Pastor **Rev. Carol Soderholm**

Secretary **Janet Barkley**

Organist **Nancy Janssen**



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**Trinity Lutheran Church  
Milledgeville, IL**



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

**And**



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



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Dear members and friends,

What a perfect way to end the 4 Sunday sermon series on creation than to visit Teddy Roosevelt State Park and Badlands in North Dakota. We just got back. Paul's mother was born in Arnegard, No. Dakota where the Stenjhjem family settled from Norway in 1844. He has had the family Bible which is in Norwegian and dated 1744 since childhood. We delivered it to the Stenjhjem family to be put in the family museum.

We toured the grasslands of No. Dakota, which, like Illinois, were at one time 90% prairie. A few facts: tallgrass prairie covered a third of this continent. The city of Chicago was once a prairie that had a rare flower called *Thysanotus americanus*. This flower was lost in the development of the city.....like a precious bead falling off a necklace. What was lost in the development of Chicago and the suburbs was more like pawning all your grandmother's jewelry....the whole thing pawned off in the interest of industrial development. Of 170 million acres of what was prairie, less than 1% remains today.

Driving through the tallgrass prairie and badlands of the TR State Park, I fell in love with the prairie dog. Yes, the prairie dog: an extraordinary digger. Its burrows channel water and nutrients deep underground. Its doorways and diggings aerate the soil and provided unique germination spots for diverse prairie plants.

We watched the prairie dog work. It was something!! They dig quickly. Then they stick their heads out to see if all is well. Then their little ones scurry out of the hole while mom scurries back and forth between holes - maybe to visit relatives. Believe it or not, they actually kiss. I couldn't believe what I was seeing, so I asked google if prairie dogs kiss. Lo and behold they do !!!!! Which means they probably have an affection, and maybe a joy in the work they do, which is vital to the health of prairie. I could have watched them for hours - cute little diggers!

Then we spent the day wandering, reveling in the beauty of the grasses and the rolling, roiling hills of the badlands.....too magnificent to describe. I came home with a deeper appreciation for our prairie. Everything had burst out in a symphony of color: the yellow and pink and purple coneflowers, the pink of Queen of the Prairie, the purple of purple lust rife, yellow of daisies and blue of sage: the golden brown of big blue stem and the deep green of little blue stem.

While we were out west someone said we had enough acreage to introduce bison - bison to keep the prairie healthy, not bison to eat. Perhaps we will.

This is a love letter friends. Its not a criticism or a complaint about what has happened to our beautiful Earth. It's a love letter to complete the Creation sermon series I just gave in the hope of waking us up to the cry of creation to take better care of her.

I am reading a book Creation and the Cross: The Mercy of God for a planet in peril by Sister Elizabeth A. Johnson, who is a Sister of the Order of St. Joseph and a teacher at Fordham U. in NYC. Read it and let's talk. Admittedly, it's a difficult time to be a Christian. It means we must be involved in more than we ever thought we would be.

Peace and love to my dear friends,  
Pastor Carol



## West Jordan

### Worship Helpers

August 4th & 11th

Lector:

Tom & Trudy Landheerr

Trudy Landeer

August 18th & 25th

Lector

Brian & Paula Beveroth

Brian Beveroth

Circle Hostess: **August 7th** We will be having our annual  
Brunch at the White Pines.

### **2019 Joint Worship Sundays for the Summer**

**Sept 1st** (Labor Day Weekend) 10:15 AM at Trinity

Remind your friends of this date when we share one worship  
service!

### **In our prayers:**

#### **From First:**

Irene Burdick, Sandy Bushman,  
Linda and Myron Deets, Anita Gilbert,  
Linda Habben, Milford Habben, Roger Hinrichs,  
Scotty Powell, Jon Ryner, Sherry Schwartz,  
Ramon Woessner

#### **From Trinity:**

Jerry Blair, Bill Borth, Cindy Brandt,  
Leland & Ruth Bryson, June Franks, Tom Graff,  
Donna Folkers Johnson, Lawrence Maxwell,  
Rick Miller, Vernon Milnes, Corinne Ohlwine,  
Debbie Oldham, Craig Schlidgen, Amy Strehlow.  
Raymond Woessner



## ***How to get what you need at Trinity Lutheran/First Lutheran Church's***

### **Emergency Pastoral Care Concern?**

*Hospitalizations, Illness,  
Family Crisis*

**Call Pr. Carol Soderholm**

**cell phone 312-771-1145**

Do **NOT** rely on the hospital to  
contact the church.

Do **NOT** rely on word of mouth/  
The grapevine.

Do **NOT** rely on mindreading  
skills. Pastor missed that  
class in seminary.

### **Non—Urgent Pastoral Needs?**

*Scheduling a home visit/baptism/  
wedding. Confirmation/Christian  
Ed, Coffee & Conversation*

Leave a message at Trinity for Pr.  
Carol. She will return it as soon as  
possible.

**E-mail Pastor Carol**

**@carol.soderholm@gmail.com**

### **Questions about Administrative stuff?**

*Announcements for the bulletin, ques-  
tions about schedules, Financial ques-  
tions, hall rental, etc....*

Call the Church and leave a message  
for Janet on the Church answering  
machine, for her to return during  
office hours

**815-225-7410 or E-mail Janet at  
telcsecretary@mediacombb.net**

Contact a council member

## **Church Leaders Directory**

### **Trinity Lutheran Church**

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

### **First Lutheran West Jordan**

President Jan Wetzel (631-9353)  
Secretary Jodi Woessner

Interim Pastor, Rev. Carol Soderholm  
Phone # 312-771-1145

Church Secretary Janet Barkley  
Church # 815-225-7410 Cell# 815-590-0520

### Something New

Trinity will be starting a prayer group.  
The prayer meeting will be around 15 to 20 minutes.  
We will be meeting August 5th and August 19th @  
11:15 a.m..

### Trinity Lutheran Church Council Meeting

Trinity will have their next meeting  
On Tuesday, August 13th at 7:00pm

### New Horizons

*So you are no longer a strangers and sojourners, but  
you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of  
the household of God.-Ephesians 2:19*

### Northern Illinois Synod Women of the ELCA 31st Annual Convention

Trinity Lutheran Church 1330 13th St. Moline, IL  
Saturday, September 21, 2019 @ 9:00 a.m.



Morning Message by  
Bishop Jeffrey Clements

### Our Southtown Ministry

Will be Tuesday,  
August 20th at 4:30 PM to 5:00



### August Grace Meals

**NO GRACE MEALS IN AUGUST**

Next grace meal Sept. 17th

### August Trinity WELCA

The WELCA circle has their annual  
luncheon/meeting. We will be meeting at the Mill  
Wheel Tavern/Restaurant at 11:30 a.m. on August  
14th. All women are invited. From both Church's.

### August West Jordan WELCA

Will also be having their luncheon on  
August 7th at the White Pines for Brunch.

Will be meeting at 9:30 a.m.

They have also invited the Trinity ladies.

Need to know by the 29th .

### The Twelve Apostles During Christ's Mortal Life (see Luke 6:4-16)

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| M | U | P | J | Q | G | L | X | F | Y | U | E | K | X | F | H | H |
| Y | H | D | M | U | U | C | L | S | E | T | X | Z | L | H | Z | O |
| Y | M | R | A | J | D | I | P | Z | E | N | S | I | M | O | N | M |
| R | B | O | G | S | X | A | D | R | Z | X | J | B | I | Z | I | A |
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Peter

Andrew

James

John

Philip

Bartholomew

Mathew

Thomas

James Alphaeus

Simon

Judas

Judas Iscariot



## 50 Things You Can Do to Improve Your Ministry

1. Pray for someone who needs your prayers.
2. Feed the hunger. Make a contribution a local food pantry or ELCA World Hunger Appeal.
3. Share your faith. Tell someone what God is doing in your life.
4. Visit the sick or home-bound.
5. Read/study the Bible on a regular basis.
6. Invite someone you know to worship with you.
7. Reach out to someone with whom you have a disagreement and seek to make amends.
8. Practice hospitality. Become acquainted with someone you don't know very well.
9. Thank someone who serves as your "role model" of the Christian faith for the influence that they have had on your life.
10. Volunteer to undertake a community service project.
11. Sign up to help with Sunday School.
12. Become a mentor for someone "new to the faith".
13. Give a hug to someone who looks lonely (with their permission, of course).
14. Provide Leadership for a group that would benefit from your knowledge and expertise.
15. Forgive someone who has wronged you.
16. Sponsor a youth to go to church camp.
17. Model the "godly" life.
18. Send a care letter to someone and let him/her know that you are thinking about them.
19. Serve as a greeter, an usher, a reader or a assisting minister at church.
20. Contribute to the needs of the saints. Give an additional offering to help someone in need.
21. Share your musical gifts. Join a choir or provide special music.
22. Spending time listening to somebody as they share their biggest concerns and their deepest fears.
23. Go on a spiritual retreat to "recharge your batteries".
24. Practice good stewardship of the Earth's resources as you reduce, re-use, and recycle.
25. Begin a Bible study in your home o place of work.
26. Use the gifts that God has given you to do a "Special project" in the community or around the church.
27. Take someone out for a meal, because you have to, but because you want to spend some time with them.
28. Encourage someone to take whatever steps they need to take in order to deepen their faith.
29. Become a "proportionate giver"—some one who gives a specific percentage of their income to support the work of the Church.
30. Provide comfort to those who are bereaved.
31. Show patience under "less than ideal" circumstances.
32. Organize a small group around a common concern that people have..
33. Tell your family and friends how much you love and appreciate them.
34. Be enthusiastic about your ministry, your church, and your faith.
35. Invite others to become involved in a "mission" which you feel very strongly.
36. Use your knowledge and expertise from the secular world to benefit your Church.
37. Remember the Church and other benevolent causes in your estate plans.
38. Write a letter to a politician asking their support of God-like governmental practices.
39. Discover new ways in which you might become a "peacemaker" for someone else.
40. Find out more about church missionaries and see what you can do to support their work.
41. Give up "life-destroying habits "like smoking, and so more things that are "life enhancing like swimming and exercise.
42. Be more intentional about "making a difference" in someone's life.
43. Start a "spiritual journal" by writing down Bible verses that are meaningful to you.
44. Serve as a "crisis hotline" volunteer.
45. Bring a home cooked meal to someone who recently has returned home from the hospital.
46. Share your "faith story" with others who do not yet know God.
47. Engage in a ministry project that is NEW to you.
48. Keep your word when you make a promise.
49. Show mercy to someone who is hurting.
50. Explain to others the difference God has made in your life.

## Why Go To Church!!!!

**I think this is fantastic, I just love the guy's answer, and the interpretation for Bible. Enjoy and pass on.**

*If you're spiritually alive, you're going to love this!*

*If you're spiritually dead, you won't want to read it.*

*If you're spiritually curious, there is still hope!*

A Church goer wrote a letter to the editor of a newspaper and complained that it made no sense to go to church every Sunday.

He wrote: "I've gone for 30 years now, and in that time I have heard something like 3,000 sermons, but for the life of me, I can't remember a single one of them. So, I think I'm wasting my time, the preachers and priests are wasting theirs by giving sermons at all".

This started a real controversy in the "Letters to the Editor" column. Much to the delight of the editor, it went on for weeks until someone wrote this clincher:

I've been married for 30 years now. In that time my wife has cooked some 32,000 meals. But, for the life of me, I cannot recall the entire menu for a single one of those meals. But I do know this: They all nourished me and gave me the strength I needed to do my work. If my wife had not given me these meals, I would be physically dead today. Likewise, if I had not gone to church for nourishment, I would be spiritually dead today!"

When you are DOWN to nothing, God is UP to something! Faith sees the invisible, believes the incredible & receives the impossible!

Thank God for our physical and our spiritual nourishment!  
**IF YOU CANNOT SEE GOD IN ALL, YOU CANNOT SEE GOD AT ALL! B. I. B L. E.** simply means: **Basic Instructions Before Leaving Earth!**

When you are about to forward this to others, the devil will discourage you. So go on! Forward this to people who are DEAR to you and TRUST GOD.

## August Daily Prayer

**Aug. 1st**—God, be near when we cannot sleep and help us release our worries to you. In Jesus' name. Amen

**Aug. 2nd**—Jesus, you gave your life as a ransom for us and for many. Help us to respond with gratitude and joy, and to serve in your name. Amen

**Aug. 3rd**—God, you make all things new. Help us to live for you and in you today, through Christ. Amen

**Aug. 4th**—God, help us to remember that all we have is a gift from you, and to use it for Jesus' sake. Amen

**Aug. 5th**—You are faithful and good in all circumstances, O God, and I am filled with gratitude today. In Jesus' name. Amen

**Aug. 6th**—Loving God, we praise you for your presence and blessings in our lives, through Christ. Amen

**Aug. 7th**—Lord God, all we have is a gift from you. Help us cherish you above all, In Jesus name. Amen

**Aug. 8th**—God, your promises shape our lives. Give us faith to trust in you at all times. In Jesus' name. Amen

**Aug. 9th**—God, you are our strength. Hem us in and fill our hearts with your peace, through Christ. Amen

**Aug. 10th**—God, no matter where we go, help us to trust that you are right there with us, through Christ. Amen

**Aug. 11th**—Fill us with the good news of your love, O God, and open our hearts to embrace it. In Jesus' name. Amen

**Aug. 12th**—God, when we become complacent or apathetic, stir our hearts and give us courage to act, through Christ. Amen

**Aug. 13th**—Enduring God, give me faith to go out with good courage today, for the sake of Christ. In Jesus' name. Amen.

**Aug. 14th**—God, you love us more than we can ever acknowledge. Hold us close today, in Jesus' name. Amen

**Aug. 15th**—God, thank you for claiming us as your beloved and for the future we have in you, through Christ Jesus. Amen

**Aug. 16th**—Might God, establish your justice in every nation, that the poor ones may thrive. In Jesus' name. Amen

**Aug. 17th**—For Jesus' sake, O God, grant us faith to leap into your arms of grace in our moments of despair. Amen

**Aug. 18th**—Lord Jesus, help us to risk choosing you even when it risks our peace and comfort. In Christ's name. Amen

**Aug. 19th**—God, turn my world upside down and make me what you want me to be. In Jesus' name. Amen.

**Aug. 20th**—God, grant that your Word's love may constantly spill from our lips. In Jesus' name. Amen.

**Aug. 21st**—Lord, keep offering to be our God until we follow in faith. In Jesus' name. Amen

**Aug. 22nd**—Lord, overwhelm me with the grace you pour over me, so I can sing your praise. In Jesus' name. Amen

**Aug. 23rd**—Come near, O God, so I can live and worship in your presence, for Christ's sake. Amen.

**Aug. 24th**—Call my name, Lord Jesus, and reveal yourself to me in greater ways each day. In Jesus' name. Amen.

**Aug. 25th**—God, replace our indignation with compassion, and grant us sabbath rest from ourselves. In Jesus' name. Amen.

**Aug. 26th**—God, give us rest from rule-keeping, restore us, and reveal your reign, in Christ's holy name. Amen.

**Aug. 27th**—For Jesus' sake O God, wean me from the ways and words you can't bear. Amen

**Aug. 28th**—Lord, replace our indifference with love and our anxiety with service. In Jesus' name. Amen.

**Aug. 29th**—Humble me, God. Remind me of my place before you, in the name of Jesus Christ, my Lord. Amen

**Aug. 30th**—Lord, strengthen me to worship and obey you until your gentle reign comes in glory. In Jesus' name. Amen

**Aug. 31st**—For Jesus' sake, O God, drive out my discontent and fill me with the abundance of your grace. Amen

## August Daily Devotions



|                 |                                 |
|-----------------|---------------------------------|
| <b>Aug 1st</b>  | Ecclesiastes 1:2, 12-14:2:18-23 |
| <b>Aug 2nd</b>  | Psalms 49:1-12                  |
| <b>Aug 3rd</b>  | Colossians 3:1-11               |
| <b>Aug 4th</b>  | Luke 12:13-21                   |
| <b>Aug 5th</b>  | Colossians 4:2-6                |
| <b>Aug 6th</b>  | Psalms 127                      |
| <b>Aug 7th</b>  | Matthew 6:19-24                 |
| <b>Aug 8th</b>  | Genesis 15:1-6                  |
| <b>Aug 9th</b>  | Psalms 33:12-22                 |
| <b>Aug 10th</b> | Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16            |
| <b>Aug 11th</b> | Luke 12:32-40                   |
| <b>Aug 12th</b> | Isaiah 5:8-23                   |
| <b>Aug 13th</b> | Hebrews 10:32-39                |
| <b>Aug 14th</b> | Jeremiah 23:23-29               |
| <b>Aug 15th</b> | Galatians 4:4-7                 |
| <b>Aug 16th</b> | Psalms 82                       |
| <b>Aug 17th</b> | Hebrews 11:29—12:2              |
| <b>Aug 18th</b> | Luke 12:49-56                   |
| <b>Aug 19th</b> | Acts 17:1-9                     |
| <b>Aug 20th</b> | Luke 6:1-5                      |
| <b>Aug 21st</b> | Isaiah 58:9b-14                 |
| <b>Aug 22nd</b> | Psalms 103:1-8                  |
| <b>Aug 23rd</b> | Hebrews 12:18-29                |
| <b>Aug 24th</b> | John 1:43-51                    |
| <b>Aug 25th</b> | Luke 13:10-17                   |
| <b>Aug 26th</b> | Luke 6:6-11                     |
| <b>Aug 27th</b> | 1 Peter 3:8-12                  |
| <b>Aug 28th</b> | 1 Peter 4:7-11                  |
| <b>Aug 29th</b> | Proverbs 25:6-7                 |
| <b>Aug 30th</b> | Psalms 112                      |
| <b>Aug 31st</b> | Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16           |