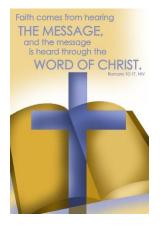
June 2023

News

from the

Pews



Matthew 4:4 – Jesus says: "It is written, man does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God." Jesus said this in response to Satan's attempt to tempt

Jesus into sinning, by trying to talk a very hungry Jesus into turning stones into bread so He could eat – which meant that Jesus would have used His Divine power in a self-serving – and thus sinful – way. Jesus' reaction was a witness to basically say that, in spite of what our circumstances may seem to dictate, there is only one thing necessary – the Word of God.

We forget this so easily. Our lives can be one long, continuous hectic schedule, running ourselves until we can go anymore. When our weekends fill up as they so often do, putting church aside is very easy to do, and is a very attractive option when we have the problem of not having enough time. "I'll miss just this once and make sure I go next time", we say to ourselves. We've all done it, and we all probably will do it again.

But sometimes we forget about just how necessary hearing God's Word actually is. We need it to survive spiritually. If we were to neglect eating for an extended period of time, our physical health would suffer. In the very

same way, our faith and souls need to be fed and nourished, and God's Word is the one and only food that can do the job. Hearing God's Word keeps our faith strong and alive, and conversely, not hearing God's Word causes it to grow weak, which will led to trouble.

I wanted to give this gentle, loving reminder to us all because I don't have to remind you that summer is upon us. This summer may be filled with vacations, travel, visits from family and friends, the beach, Six Flags, baseball games, or swimming at the pool, which means there will be distractions (there always is). And with those distractions, it is easy to put God's Word and church attendance/viewing online aside. But doing that can be very harmful to us.

So, this summer laugh and have lots of fun! Work on that tan, catch up with loved ones, and enjoy and appreciate God's creation. Just try and remember that "Man does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God." Have a blessed summer ... and see you in church!

In Christ,

Rev. Wagner





Scheduled Services

9 a.m. Sundays In-person and livestreamed

6 p.m. Mondays **In-person only**

Bible Study on Sundays will continue through the summer

Enjoy Coffee & after church services.

Office summer hours will begin on Tuesday, 6/13, operating from Tuesdays to Thursdays, 8 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. until August. The office will be closed on Mondays and Fridays during the summer.

Facebook:

months.

Find the orders of worship, along with easy to share video and audio versions of the sermons at

https://www.trinitylombard.org/sermons.

Services and Bible classes air live on Facebook @TrinityLombard

(https://www.facebook.com/TrinityLombard/) and can also be viewed live at https://www.trinitylombard.org/. Worship is online each Sunday morning at 9 am.



The school year concluded Friday, May 26. This month has been a busy month with a variety of activities. We

celebrated National Day of Prayer on May 4 with the students.

The eighth-grade class made their Confirmation on Sunday, May 7.

The seventh and eighthgrade class went to Springfield, II. for their class trip on Wednesday, May 10, and Thursday, May 11. Pastor and I accompanied



the students to various sites throughout Springfield. Our first stop was the State Capitol or the New State Capitol. From there, we had lunch at the Feed Store and ventured to the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum. Later that evening, we went on Lincoln's Ghost Walk Legends & Lore Tour. I have been on this tour numerous times, and it is still one of my favorite parts. We concluded our trip by touring Lincoln's Home and visiting Lincoln's New Salem.

We celebrated National Baking Day; each



classroom celebrated just a little differently. We remembered National Pizza Party Day: the entire school enjoyed a piece of pizza.



Last but not least was the graduation .of Riley Baker, Alexandra Harris, and Ian Lesch.

Congratulations and God's Blessings to you as you take your next step into high school!





The end of the school year was celebrated with a field day. The students had a lot of fun being outside in the fresh air challenging each other.

It is with a heavy heart that I say goodbye to Trinity. Thank you for being my home for the last five years. You accepted me with open arms and made me feel welcome from my first step through the door. You allowed me to grow and push myself to be a better teacher, person, and administrator. I will always hold a special place in my heart for Trinity. Trinity has been a blessing to me and my family. Thank you for everything; I shall never forget my time here!

Honor Roll: 3.0 - 3.5 GPA with only one "C"

Roscoe Barnett Arian Gomez
Addison Meredith Juliana Rivera
Penelope Skyler White

High Honor Roll: 3.6 - 4.0 GPA with only one "C"

Riley Baker Sophia Garcia
Alexandra Harris Ava Harrison
Angelina Iverson Robert Hawn
Ariana Mehrazar Abigail Pilny
Josephine Woods Emma Serwas

Zero Absences:

Jacob Garcia Aidan Harrison Francesco Lamphere Ava Harrison Rhett Winslow

Zero Tardies:

Riley Baker Roscoe Barnett William French Daphne Devasto Markus Fallenius Thomas Fallenius Adrina Gomez Damian Gomez Kaylie Gomez Aidan Harrison Angelina Iverson Summer Kueper Ariana Mehrazar Addison Meredith Olivia Meredith Vincent Moscatello Havlee Yahoudy Penelope Woods Josephine Woods **Gunnarr Tully**

Julia Cox Jacob Garcia Sophia Garcia Chloe Doolin Alaiyah Friend Jakin Friend Arian Gomez Karlo Gomez Kinzie Gomez Ava Harrison Lizzie Hawn Ian Lesch Avery Mueller Charlie Ristich Anna Sage Philip Szozda Linnea Roths **Rhett Winlsow** Isaac Ticaric Mia Walker















Vacation Bible School theme for this year is God's Living Water.

Trinity's FREE VBS program is open to children 3 years-old to students entering 5th grade. VBS begins Monday, June 5, and runs through Friday, June 9. VBS starts daily at 9:15 a.m. and ends at 11:30 a.m. A form to register your child can be found online at

https://tinyurl.com/TrinityLombardVBS

If you have any questions please contact the office at 630.629.8765 or at secretary@trinitylombard.org.

PLEASE COMPLETE A FORM FOR EACH STUDENT.

We will be looking for volunteers to help run the activities. Please consider volunteering; you can sign-up to help by contacting Julie Messina by calling the office or emailing <u>imessina@trinitylombard.org</u>. Please share VBS with all of your neighbors, family, and friends. There is also a link for registration on our website, <u>tlslombard.org</u>.



Parents, Don't Panic!

Parents of Sunday School aged children are invited to participate in Trinity's pastor-led Bible study following the Sunday service. Pastor Wagner continues this class throughout the summer.

Parents find it easy during the school year to send their children to Sunday School in the parish hall, while they themselves attend Bible study in the sanctuary.

During the summer, Trinity has you covered. At the back of the sanctuary, following post-church fellowship time, you will find a cart

full of quiet self directed activities for children. The cart features books to look at and read while you are at Bible study, coloring activities, and a rotating selection of mess-less crafts and activities. There are trays that make working in the pews easier, and bags to take home creations. Also find small bottles of water, a few relatively crumb free snacks, and wipes, just in case.

We welcome you to take advantage of this opportunity to allow your child some creativity time, while you journey in God's Word with Pastor Wagner and fellow Trinity families.

Sunday School resumes in the fall, on September 10, for children aged three through those in 8th grade. Adult volunteers are welcome and needed. If interested in helping, speak with Pastor Wagner or contact Trinity's office, 630.629.8765

or secretary@trinitylombard.org.



Trinity....making sure today's children are taught what truly matters, not only in today's world, but in their eternal life.



FOR YOUR INFORMATION ~ RAISE RIGHT will run through the summer, so be sure to check for the dates and order gift cards to patronize those establishments and places of business where you usually shop. Your school benefits from every gift card you purchase and it really is easy to use. If you have questions or need help filling out the forms, check with Mrs. Moy in the office and she can talk you through it.

* What is RaiseRight?

It is gift card fundraising, also known as scrip fundraising. It is a fundraiser for nonprofit organizations. It's easy and more convenient than selling goods or recruiting volunteers. Earn simply by buying gift cards to **use for everyday purchases**, instead of cash or credit cards. In doing so, you are donating toward your school.

Studying God's Word together is important!



Wednesday morning informal Bible study has concluded for the summer months. We will resume in the fall. The date will be announced.

Pastor offers Online Bible Study, on Wednesday evenings at 6 p.m. LIVE on Facebook @trinitylombard.com.

Pastor Wagner welcomes any of your Bible related questions. *You can interact online as the study is going on. You can also view it online at: TrinityLombard.org.

All are welcome to participate – live interaction is only through Facebook



Mary/Martha extends an invitation to all women to gather together to engage in either a bible study, a project or simply fellowship.

POTLUCK PICNIC – June 16 6:30 p.m.

We will meet in the backyard...

At 118 S Ardmore, Villa Park Bring your favorite summer potluck dish and your laughter, to join in the fun. A main entre, dessert and drinks will be provided.

All women of Trinity are considered a part of Mary/Martha and LWML. There is no membership, just an invitation to gather together as sisters in Christ's name.

Any questions may be directed to Arlene Solyom. Call or text: 630.715.7764.



Thank You!

Thank you to all who helped with Trinity's free shredding and electronic recycling event. In addition to

gifting the community with a one stop drop off for free shredding and recycling of electronics, paper, glass, bottles, metal, cans, plastic bags, and medical



sharps, we collected 20 bags/boxes of non perishable items for local food pantries and more than \$200 in cash for gift

cards toward fresh foods. Trinity students conducted popsicle



evangelism with free icy pops and invitations to Trinity. A shout out to Alex, Anastasia, Beata, Burke,

Carl, Chris, Ed, Emily, Hannah, Jeff, Julie, Pasquale, Lori, Rachel, Riley, Ron, Steve, and Sue, for their time and talents to make it happen.



The recent food collection at the Shredding event helped provide food for local families and individuals in need via the St. Vincent DePaul food pantry at St. Pius X Catholic Church in Lombard, and the York Township Food Pantry. This is an ongoing need PLEASE BRING DONATIONS OF NON-PERISHABLE FOOD AND/OR PAPER GOODS TO BE DISTRIBUTED THROUGH LOCAL FOOD PANTRIES.

Questions? Contact Trinity's office at 630.629.8765 or secretary@trinitylombard.org.



What Do You Want?

One of the best-known and most-beloved psalms is Psalm 23, the "Shepherd Psalm." There

we learn that the Lord is our Shepherd. And since He is our Shepherd, we will not want. We will not suffer want because the Lord, our Shepherd, will lead us to green pastures and beside still waters. In other words, the Lord, our Shepherd, will provide for all that we need in both body and soul.

Yet, we live as though this is not the case. We live as though we actually suffer from want, that the Lord, our Shepherd, will not provide for all that we need. And thus, we live as though the Lord is not our Shepherd. And that means that we live as though we are not the Lord's sheep.

When do we live as though the Lord is not our Shepherd? When we put anything else before Him and His provision for us. When we think that going to work is more important than receiving His gifts in church on Sunday (in violation of the First and Third Commandments). When we fail to give generously of the first fruits of what the Lord has provided for us because we don't know what the future will bring (even though He has promised that He will lead us to green pastures and still waters).

We live as though we are not the Lord's sheep when we think that the Lord is only in the business of helping those who will help themselves. We act this way because our minds are set on earthly, temporal things and not on heavenly, eternal things. We act this way because we have stopped hearing the call of our Shepherd, which comes through His Word.

Through the Word of God, the Shepherd calls us to Himself. Through the Word, the Holy Spirit gathers and enlightens us with His gifts. Through the Word, we are kept holy and nourished in the one true faith, the faith that follows our Shepherd wherever He leads us. He promises to lead us to our true home, to the land flowing with milk and honey, to a better country, not of this world, but a heavenly one.

And so, here's the Good News: the Lord is your Shepherd, even and especially for wayward sheep. For Jesus seeks and saves those who are lost. He finds the lost sheep and carries them back to the fold. He is the Shepherd who lays down His life for His sheep. The Lord is your Shepherd. Let us live as His sheep.

- LCMS Stewardship Ministry



BE PART of Bringing Light to Our Community

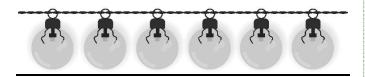
In the first five months of 2023, we've only added

\$160 to Trinity's Capital Campaign for a total of \$36,467.75. As we partner together to bring the Gospel light of Christ to Lombard and the surrounding area, we are seeking to expand and promote our largest evangelism effort: Trinity Lutheran School. Additionally, we are in great need of making our primary church and school bathrooms accessible, and installing a new, modern LED sign at the exponentially busy intersection of Roosevelt and Meyers Rd.

Trinity seeks YOUR ideas for how we can go about Bringing Light to Our Community. You will find a suggestion basket in the parish hall (on the table under pastor portraits), with our campaign progress chart over the pew to the right of it. You may also email your recommendations and thoughts to

BringingLight@TrinityLombard.org.

We give thanks for YOU as we prayerfully request that you take this giving opportunity to heart, consider it before the Lord and with the others in your household, and act as the Holy Spirit directs. There are specially designated envelopes for in person giving on the table in the parish hall and on the pew below the progress chart. If you give online you may set up a recurring or one time gift to the campaign by choosing designated gift and typing Bringing Light into the description box.



Are you on Social Media?



We read a lot about the evils of social media, but as Christians, we understand that God can use ALL things for good. Trinity Lutheran Church and School posts regularly on Instagram, Facebook,

and YouTube. If you access any of these social media channels, we encourage you to follow Trinity, and share the posts on your own social media streams.

It's a gentle, low pressure, way of proclaiming that Christ-centered activities are important in your life. And it makes it easy to invite others to join you for church services and events. *Use the like, follow, and share buttons that are embedded in the apps at https://www.instagram.com/trinitylutheranlombard/, https://www.facebook.com/TrinityLombard, and https://wwww.youtube.com/@trinitylutheran823 or you can easily find the links on Trinity's website at trinitylombard.org.*



Care Net

Roland Warren was recently interviewed by Brian Tome from The Aggressive Life Podcast, where he shares how his own life was touched by an absent father.

In case you don't know Roland's story, while a student-athlete at Princeton, Roland and his girlfriend (now wife) were encouraged to terminate an unplanned pregnancy. Their decision to keep their child began his journey toward Care Net.

Roland shares his experience and wisdom on fatherhood and family. Listen to the podcast at https://hubs.ly/Q01RINyT0



Don't miss this framework: if the circumstances of your birth determine your

worth, then a child born to wealthy parents has more worth than a child who isn't. God says differently. He says we are created in His image; that the circumstances of our conception and birth do not determine our worth.

We must be clear, as terrible as rape is, we must operate from a perspective of justice and mercy for every situation and every life involved. God has made clear that all of life is worthy of protection and that the circumstances of one's conception should not determine his or her worth.

Listen to the newest CareCast: How Should We Address Abortion in Cases of Rape? https://hubs.ly/Q01Rlz8C0

Another simple FUNDRAISER FOR OUR

SCHOOL You can help our school by saving things you would ordinarily throw in the trash. This year we're starting a new fundraiser called Coke Rewards, that is quite generous. We are asking you to save the following COKE PRODUCTS: ~ Coca Cola ~ Diet Coke ~ Coca Cola Zero ~ Sprite ~ Fanta ~ Powerade ~ Mello Yello ~ Dasani ~ AHA ~ Barg's ~ Fresca ~ Smart Water ~ Fuze ~ Pibb Xtra ~ Seagram's ~ Honest ~ Surge ~ Peace Tea ~ Coke with Coffee ~ Coke Energy. There is a tote bin on the wall in the parish hall that is labeled for collection of codes from these products. Sometimes it's on the inside of the bottle cap, or inside the cardboard case; whatever shows the code for the product you used is what we need. You can also sign up at coke.com under rewards and start entering them yourself, but make sure to put in Trinity Lutheran School, Lombard. Thank you for keeping us in mind.

Updates & FYIs...



On May 7, we welcomed into the family of God the following souls through the Sacrament of Holy Baptism:

Maya Lynn Amu, born March 16, 2016, the daughter of Johanna Maurice

and Ishmael Amu. Adlai Marcellus Harris, born May 15, 2011, and Alexandra DorothyLee Harris, born July 16, 2009, the children of Tafanie and Andre Harris.

Also welcomed into God's family, on May 28, was Madilyn Joy Melzer, born on April 27, 2023. Madilyn is the daughter of Ryan Melzer and Dana (Steben) Melzer.

"Now into Your heart we pour Prayers that from our hearts proceeded. Our petitions heav'nward soar; May our hearts' desires be heeded! Write the name we now have given; Write it in the book of heaven!"

Praise God it is with joy we welcome into the family of Trinity Lutheran Church, Johanna Maurice, who, having completed instruction with Pastor Wagner, shared her Confession of Faith.





It all rests on God

There are four primary reasons fewer and fewer people in our nation take God, the Bible or religion seriously. The first three are irrational.

- 1. The belief that science disproves religion.
- 2. The belief that reason and feelings supplant God and the Bible as the only necessary vehicles to morality.
- 3. The "progressive" ideologies of at least 100 years that seek to replace religion.
- 4. The failure of religious people to convince the next generation to be religious.

It should be obvious to any rational person that a God-Creator, is not against number one. The odds against life, let alone intellectual life, are so staggering that atheist scientists are now positing the nonsensical, let alone non-provable, idea of a "multiverse."

Second, our post Judeo-Christian world has produced the most irrational era in modern history. A society nearly all of whose intellectual elite believes that men give birth; that sex is not binary; that children should decide whether they are a boy, a girl or "neither"; that fewer police means less crime; that to aspire to be colorblind is racist, which proves the thesis (attributed to G.K. Chesterton) that when men stop believing in God, they don't believe in nothing; they believe in anything.

Which brings us to the third reason for the demise of religion — secular progressive ideologies have replaced religious ideologies. Marxism, socialism, feminism, environmentalism -- these are secular religions, and they have

caused the moral and intellectual chaos of the modern age.

Here's the conundrum, one reason is that most religious people -- Jews, Catholics and Protestants — *didn't think they would have to make the case for their religion.* We assumed that our children would carry on our religious traditions. We as a society thought, "We go to church/synagogue every week, so will our children. We believe in God and the Bible, so will our children."

As a whole, and as a society we were obviously wrong. Especially with many churches being shut down for three years during the recent pandemic and the years of misinformation being force fed through schools on all grade levels. The enemy of God is at work. We are grateful that what the enemy used as evil, God has used for good with the school shutdowns. The eyes of parents were opened to the hate-filled education their children were being brainwashed with in public schools. We here at Trinity Church and school, hear the true Word of God and the children are taught proven factual history lessons in school. Thank God for that.

John Adams wrote that "Our Constitution was made only for a moral and religious people, it is wholly inadequate to the government of any other." He could have easily written "for a moral and reasoning" people. Or "for moral and forward-thinking" people.

But he didn't. John Adams knew the whole experiment rested on God. It still does.

Gleaned in part from an article by **Dennis Prager**, a conservative, is a nationally syndicated radio talk-show host and columnist.

Remember...we ourselves witness every day, knowingly or unknowingly, how we witness, is how others see our trust in the Savior. How have you witnessed this past month?

Rest in His goodness and grace. Blessings, Board of Evangelism





Trinity Lutheran Church in Lincoln, Nebraska, welcomes and cares for local families through a pro-life ministry called Forward.

Forward exists to care for children outside of the womb..

Moving Families "Forward "

"Now when Jesus heard this, he withdrew from there in a boat to a desolate place by himself. But when the crowds heard it, they followed him on foot from the towns. When he went ashore he saw a great crowd, and he had compassion on them and healed their sick. Now when it was evening, the disciples came to him and said, "This is a desolate place, and the day is now over; send the crowds away to go into the villages and buy food for themselves." But Jesus said, "They need not go away; you give them something to eat" (Matt. 14:13–16).

Every Monday, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., families with young children come to an early 20th-century house in downtown Lincoln, Neb. The building houses "Forward", a pro-life ministry of nearby Trinity Lutheran Church. The ministry's name is a play on the types of items it provides: food, wipes and diapers.

The Rev. Dan Wing, pastor of Trinity, and several members started "Forward" in 2021. Prior to that, Lincoln Right to Life operated a ministry called Diaper Heaven on the property. The pandemic caused several starts and stops for Diaper Heaven, and the lockdowns made it difficult to keep elderly volunteers. When Trinity took over the ministry, the congregation asked Director of Christian Outreach Bethany Mrosko to give it some of her time and attention.

"Forward" exists to care for children outside of the womb. An image depicting Jesus Christ hangs on the wall adjacent to where families browse for donated items. Every week, volunteers give out diapers with a printed invitation to worship at Trinity.

Recently, this provision came through a grant awarded by LCMS Life Ministry through the Synod's 1 John 3 Initiative Million Dollar Life Match, which is providing \$1 million in matching grants to LCMS congregations involved in prolife efforts.

In just four hours on Jan. 9, volunteers gave out 9,230 diapers and served 110 families — including seven families that came for the first time. In every interaction, volunteers seek to move families forward by pointing them to the love and forgiveness found only in Jesus Christ.

Story by Erik M. Lunsford | Spring 2023

Don't Take a Vacation?



Sure - travel, go on a family adventure, head off on a trip, but don't take a vacation from God! As you travel - whether it's across America or just downstate, you can find the nearest LCMS church to attend service at. Visit Icms.org and click on "locators" and search by city or zip code, to find the nearest of over 6,000 Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod congregations in America. Remember, if it is a Divine Service featuring the Lord's Supper, and you plan to commune, let the pastor or an elder know prior to the service that you are already a communicant member of the LCMS.





Strawberry Salad Dressing



This is a cool refreshing dressing to use on salads.

Ingredients:

*2 cups halved fresh strawberries *1/3 cup orange juice

- *1/4 red onion
- *1/4 teaspoon salt
- *1 1/2 tablespoons honey
- *1/3 cup olive oil
- *1 tablespoon poppy seeds

Instructions:

- Add the strawberries, orange juice, onion, honey and salt to a blender or food processor.
- Blend until well combined.
 - Slowly blend in the olive oil until just combined. Taste and add more salt or honey as desired.
 - Pour into a mason jar, add the poppy seeds, cover and shake to combine.
 - Store in the refrigerator and use within one week of making.

★ 52 RESPONSES TO I'M BORED ★

PLAY HOPSCOTCH DRAW WITH CHALK BOTTLE FLIP WRITE A STORY DO A PUZZLE PLAY DRESS UP **BLOW BUBBLES** WALK THE DOG READ A BOOK SEARCH FOR COOL ROCKS HAVE A PICNIC MAKE A PAINTING **BOARD GAMES** LOOK AT OLD PICTURES HAVE A LEMONADE STAND MAKE A TIME CAPSULE MAKE FOIL JEWELRY **PLAY CHARADES** HAVE A STARING CONTEST BAKE A TREAT PAPER AIRPLANE RACE WATCH A MOVIE LEARN A MAGIC TRICK CREATE A SUPERHERO FIND TOYS TO DONATE FIND TOYS FOR GARAGE SALE JUMP ROPE

PLAY TAG WASH THE CAR **BUILD WITH BLOCKS** MAKE UP A DANCE RIDE YOUR BIKE TAKE PICTURES WASH THE DOG PLAY FREEZE DANCE HAVE A TEA PARTY WATER PLANTS MAKE A CRAFT LISTEN TO MUSIC LOOK FOR LADYBUGS PICK FLOWERS WRITE A LETTER PRACTICE A SPORT DIG IN THE DIRT PLAY GO FISH TAKE A BUBBLE BATH BE HELPFUL MAKE SOCK PUPPETS PUPPET SHOW DRAW YOURSELF **FASHION SHOW** FACETIME GRANDMA

All news articles for the next month's newsletter may be summitted if possible by the 20th of the month in order to get proofread and approved by Pastor by the 1st of the month. Thank you. Send to vinjud60@yahoo.com Questions?...call or text - Judy Cuchetto 630.698.2208 at any time.