

News from the Pews

June 2020



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 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. COVID-19 has turned the world upside down. 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 an

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 lead 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 different in that there may not be as much vacations, travel, visits from family and friends, the beach, Six Flags, baseball games, or swimming at the pool. But nonetheless, 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, 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



*WORSHIP WITH US –
Every Sunday, at 9
a.m.*

**Find Trinity’s
Church Services and
Bible Studies online**

at TrinityLombard.org and Facebook

If you missed joining Trinity online for church this (or any) weekend, you can still take part. Relive the Sunday morning services, find the orders of worship, along with easy to share video and audio versions of the sermons at <https://www.trinitylombard.org/sermons>. You'll find recent online Bible study videos there too.

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 a.m. (Central) and Bible studies air each Thursday evening at 6 p.m. (Central).



We had the privilege of having Pastor Kellerman from our linkage church (First Bethlehem) join Pastor Wagner for the Ascension Day service. You can

relive the evening vespers online at any time; <https://www.trinitylombard.org/sermons>.



Principal's Message

END OF THE SCHOOL YEAR

Friday, May 29, was the last day of school. Classes have been held virtually since Tuesday, March 17, 2020. Students had virtual spirit days the entire time. There have been many different themed days. I want to thank everyone who participated in the virtual spirit days.

We will be holding drop-off/pick-up days for students to return materials and pick up anything that they left at school and any awards and report cards. Parents need to sign up for a 10-minute time slot. The teachers will pack up all of the belongings in the school for them to take home. Drop-off and pick-up will be taking place on Monday, June 8, from 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. and Tuesday, June 9, from 12:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. Here is the link to sign-up for your spot if you have not done so yet. <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050A4EA4A92FAAFE3-endofthe>

Trinity Lutheran School Parents



End of the Year Drop Off/Pick Up

Choose a 10-minute time slot to drop off supplies and

assignments and pick up your child's report card and anything else that belongs to your child. Please make sure you come at the beginning of your chosen time slot. Pick one time slot per family.

Parents will pull up to the front door of the school building. Teachers will bring out the student's belongings to the car. We will have families place the materials to be returned in a bag in the trunk of the vehicle. Teachers will make the exchange in the trunk of the car to keep all involved safe.

SUMMER CAMP

Summer camp is tentatively set to open on Monday, June 15. We will be following guidelines set by the CDC and IDPH to keep campers and staff safe. The most important direction is to stay home if you do not feel well.

Campers and staff will be required to wear



face coverings, temperatures will be taken upon entry of the building, and the groups will be nine campers to one teacher. Campers will be allowed to play outside during the day. Face coverings will need to be worn in the classrooms. There is a limit of eighteen spots for summer camp this year. Students will be kept in two separate classrooms and will not be allowed to interact between classes. *(see list of supplies needed labeled "Summer Camp".)*

GRADUATION

We have eight students that will be graduating this year. We do not have a date set for graduation yet. We are hoping to be able to hold a graduation service at the end of July. We are waiting for the state to allow gatherings of 50. The service will be live-streamed as well for those that will not be permitted to attend the ceremony in person. There will be an announcement sent out to everyone once we can determine a date.

Blessings,

Julie Messina
Principal
7th & 8th Grade Teacher
Trinity Lutheran School
Lombard, IL
JMessina@trinitylombard.org
630-627-5601 ext. 205

OUR GRADUATES



Jordyn Mardini



Giovanna Ramirez



Julia Lesch



Lucia Giurdanella

Trinity Graduate-to-Be Wins Lutherans For Life of Illinois Essay Contest

Trinity Lutheran School 8th grade student Julia Lesch, days away from graduation, learned that she is the state winner for the 2020 Lutherans For Life of Illinois Essay Contest. As first place winner in the 5th through 8th grade category, Julia wins \$100 and her paper advances into to the national Lutherans For Life competition.

Students in Trinity's journalism class for 7th and 8th grade were assigned to write a life-affirming essay based on Lutherans For Life's 2020 conference theme: "From Invisible to Indispensable..." and conference Bible verse: "On the contrary, the parts of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable" (1 Corinthians 12:22).

Trinity's young authors chose their own topics and wrote about adoption, disability, suicide, cancer, depression, parenting, and in Julia's case, euthanasia.

Ms. Lori Solyom, journalism instructor, noted that many of the students drew from very personal experience to write heartfelt essays that presented a Biblical view of the sanctity of human life. "This assignment was a marvelous opportunity to expand the experience of these young writers," she shared, "And it was a wonderful occasion for us as a class to discuss the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod's unapologetically pro-life teachings. I congratulate Julia on her winning essay, and all of the students for their bravery in sharing



Penny Loera



Maria Gronwald



Michael & Allison Gagliano

these compelling, personal stories that bear witness to God's beautiful gift of Life."

Read Julia's winning essay below:

Why Euthanasia is Murder by Julia Lesch
Trinity Lutheran School, Lombard, Illinois - 8th grade

Euthanasia is defined by Dictionary.com as "the act of putting to death painlessly or allowing to die, as by withholding extreme medical measures, a person or animal suffering from an incurable, especially a painful, disease or condition." Painlessly ending suffering may sound good, but euthanasia is murder no matter what kind of justifications people offer.

Supporters call it "mercy killing" or sometimes, "assisted suicide," and say that it is "death with dignity," an active choice to spare oneself or a loved one from suffering needless pain. It may seem to be humane, but it is a violation of God's role as the giver of life.

Those who accept the idea of euthanasia ignore or forget the possibility of a miraculous recovery. In rare cases, people have awoken from a long-term coma and others have healed while on life support. A miracle could happen. Even if there is no obvious miracle, that person, even if they are unresponsive, is still a child of God.

The story of Terri Schiavo is a sad one. Time Magazine recounts how Terri collapsed from cardiac arrest, depriving her brain of oxygen and was in fully dependent care for 13 years until a judge ordered Terri's feeding tube removed. This contrasted with the wishes of Terri's parents, who knew that she would wish to remain alive. Terri was a child of God and should have gotten the chance to live. God is the true judge of life and death, and it should not be the decision of a human court authority.

People on life support might be invisible. Many would argue that they are worth little because they're not contributing to society. However, they are indispensable in God's eyes.

Everyone contributes, even the weakest among us, by demonstrating God's strength. Pontius Pilate may have been seen as a faithless, godless man who sent Jesus to the cross. Yet that damnable act saved the world from the certainty of hell. Terri Schiavo may have seemed invisible, but 1 Corinthians 12:22 assures us that our worth is not found in our contribution to society, but in our creation by God.

God created Terri. He made Pontius Pilate. He brought you and I into being. We are indispensable. We are valuable. We all deserve the right to live. Only God has the right to determine our last days. No matter what anyone labels it, euthanasia is murder.

Cited Sources:

"Euthanasia." *Dictionary.com*, Dictionary.com, www.dictionary.com/browse/euthanasia?s=t.

Sanburn, Josh. "Terri Schiavo Impact on Right to Die Movement." *Time*, Time, 31 Mar. 2015

time.com/3763521/terri-schiavo-right-to-die-brittany-maynard/.

Editor's note: Trinity Students are given a thorough, fully rounded education. And their journalism skills under the instruction of Mrs Solyom, will give them an advantage when they enter high school.

If you are in need...

Trinity is partnering in a **Food Pantry** with nearby St. Pius Catholic Church and Sacred Heart Catholic Church. If ***you or anyone in the area is in need of food***, call 630.300.4350. Leave a message with your name, phone number, address, and the number of people in household. You will receive a call back to arrange a date and time for a local Knights of Columbus volunteer to deliver groceries. Thank you to Trinity members Ron and Dawn Tyler for helping to set this up.

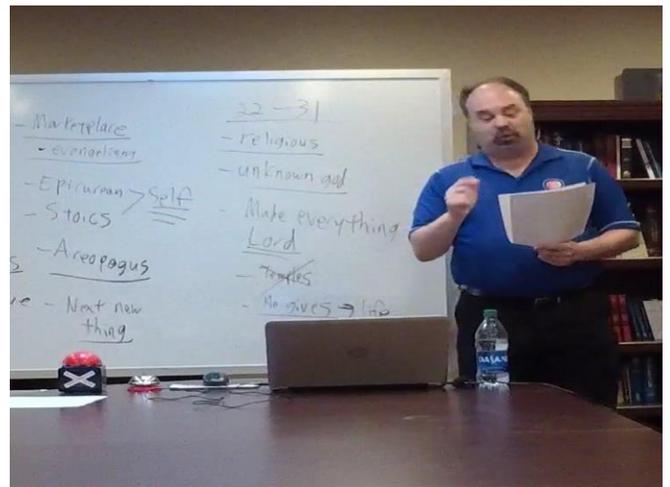
Trinity has helpers willing to run errands, prepare and deliver meals, and provide you with a fabric face mask if you don't have one. Please let us know if you are in need of these or other services. Email Secretary@TrinityLombard.org or leave a voicemail message at 630.629.8765.

Even at those times when Trinity's office must be closed (such as during Illinois' stay-at-home mandate), you can still be connected. Trinity's primary email address, secretary@trinitylombard.org is regularly monitored and voicemails left at 630.629.8765 are listened to. News from Trinity community is distributed via email (*do we have your current email address?*), Trinity's website – www.TrinityLombard.org, and social media sites – Facebook www.facebook.com/TrinityLombard and Instagram www.instagram.com/trinitylutheranlombard. School families keep up to date with the JupiterEd app.If you ever have a critical need, please let Trinity know so that can connect you with appropriate help and resources.



Studying God's Word together is important!

Pastor has been offering Online Bible Study, Thursdays at 6 p.m. (Central). It is viewable for you to participate



LIVE on Facebook [@trinitylombard](https://www.facebook.com/trinitylombard)

or email questions by noon on Wednesdays, to Secretary@TrinityLombard.org .



There will be a specific topic for the study, but Pastor Wagner welcomes any of your Bible related questions.

You can also view it on the internet using www.TrinityLombard.org . View Pastor on utube video invitation here: <https://youtu.be/yI0y8iOr0U4>

All are welcome to participate

If you have been blessed by the worship services online, these are the people to thank ... beside the Holy Spirit.

Pastor Wagner
Kurt Linstead
Ron Tyler
Robert Lustrea
Earl Flurkey
Sam Gronwald
Lori Solyom
Rachel Solyom
Hannah Solyom



SUNDAY SCHOOL is ONLINE

Learning and Serving Online

Sunday School offers regularly online and home-based activities here:

<https://www.trinitylombard.org/sunday-school-activities>. You'll find activities, story time, service projects, craft and snack ideas with experiment or game activities, coloring pages, and devotions. Some items are downloadable to print. If you do not have the ability to print, please email secretary@trinitylombard.org and request the desired Sunday School activities via mail. Please include your mailing address.

Blessings in the Name of Our Risen Savior Jesus Christ,
Lori Solyom

Trinity's Youth Group and NEW Young Adult Group

Get up to date information on Youth group from Scott Gronwold at sjohn75@gmail.com and the NEW Young Adult group from Hannah Solyom at hannahsolyom@yahoo.com.

If you are in need of...

- A FACE MASK
Donelle (Doni) Foreman has been making washable cloth masks
- A WEEKLY MEAL

A group led by Jen Gronwald has been lovingly preparing meals and running errands

- HELP WITH ERRANDS
Kevin Tully



Thank you for helping

Contact Trinity's office with an email to Secretary@TrinityLombard.org or leave a voicemail message at 630.629.8765. We thank God for the kindness of those stepping up to be Jesus' hands and feet.



NEW Trinity Tech and Communications Team

Trinity is seeking tech-savvy members willing to be part of our tech and communications team. With expanded online opportunities, maybe you would be a good fit to join a new team of online, IT, broadcast, and social media volunteers. Have an interest? Let us know with an email to Secretary@TrinityLombard.org or leave a voicemail message at 630.629.8765.

Did you miss anything...?

If you missed an earlier edition of Trinity's News from the Pews church newsletter or any of the copies of Trinity Lutheran School News & Views (the student-created school newsletter). You can find them at Trinity's website online at <https://www.trinitylombard.org/news-from-the-pews>.



Looking forward to Sunday School in the Fall: Help is always welcome.

Adult and youth members of Trinity Lutheran Church are invited to prayerfully consider serving with Sunday School. At Sunday School, children from age 3 through 8th grade hear weekly that Jesus loves them. Bible stories and lessons illustrate how God the Father created us, sent His Son Jesus Christ to die for us and rise again, and sends us the Holy Spirit to help us live daily in Christ. Simple snacks are served. Crafts, activities, and mission service projects help student apply the Biblical truths learned.

Helping hands are needed in this multi-age setting that meets in Trinity Lutheran School's early childhood wing. Trinity's children's Bible time meets weekly after church, ***hopefully beginning the week after Labor Day and continuing until the week before Memorial Day.***

Chief requirements include a patient with His little ones! To volunteer, please speak with Pastor Wagner or contact Trinity's office, 630.629.8765 or secretary@trinitylombard.org.

TRINITY'S FISCAL YEAR BUDGET reminder

Trinity's Fiscal Year Budget Process has been delayed as a result of the "stay home" order brought on by the global coronavirus pandemic. Rest assured, church leadership has been communicating and steps are being made to protect Trinity's financial health at this time that is both economically

and socially difficult. While church boards and Trinity's Church Council have been able to keep in touch online, we are unable to conduct a Voters Assembly until we can convene in person. Please feel free to mail in your Giving Commitment cards (Trinity Lutheran Church, 1165 S Westmore-Meyers Rd, Lombard, IL 60148) or bring them when you next return to Trinity's sanctuary in person.



Mary Martha meets one day a month, usually the first Thursday. DATE CHANGE FOR JUNE....

We do plan on meeting. We will meet at the home of Judy Cuchetto for a backyard picnic. Plenty of space to social distance. Bring a dish to pass (entrée provided). June 11 at 6:30 p.m. 118 S Ardmore, VP.

Text RSVP Arlene Solyom at 630.715.7764 or call 630.620.0599 to carpool.

ALL GOOD GIFTS – some things are worth repeating ... and thank you for your support

Giving back...Trinity relies on your gifts and offerings and is especially grateful for those made during this challenging time. There

are two easy alternatives to placing money in the offering plate.

1. Give online at <https://tinyurl.com/vbb68ns> - or click the green donate button at www.TrinityLombard.org.
2. Mail a check payable to *Trinity Lutheran Church* to: Trinity Lutheran Church, 1165 S Westmore-Meyers Rd., Lombard, IL 60148.

An additional note about charitable giving...

Gifts to Trinity Lutheran Church and School are always tax deductible, but when Congress recently passed the CARES Act in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, it included a partial deduction for charitable contributions. This provision encourages individuals to contribute to religious, charitable and educational organizations by creating a new “above the line” deduction for all taxpayers. This deduction will permit a taxpayer to deduct up to \$300 of annual cash contributions regardless of whether the taxpayer itemizes contributions or takes the new, higher standard deduction.

If you are still in a position to give charitable gifts this year, we encourage you to take advantage of this opportunity.

“Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of light...” James 1:17

The LCMS: Religious liberty during reopening (5.20.20)

Rev. Dr. Matthew C. Harrison, president of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, addressed

the church regarding the changing situations as states and communities face reopening.

“We are now seeing a different phase in government, and that is resulting in a different response from the church,” Harrison said.

The LCMS is working with Alliance Defending Freedom, First Liberty and the Becket Fund to defend religious liberty where needed.

View the video here:

https://youtu.be/V3p3VL_UnF0

Read President Harrison’s comments below:

I’m Pastor Matthew C. Harrison. Grace and peace in Christ to all of you. As restrictions descended upon our nation, including the church, we began consulting with legal counsel and friends like the Alliance Defending Freedom, with whom the Missouri Synod has been involved in several key religious freedom Supreme Court cases. It’s clear that in times of threat to public health, Constitutional case law allows for limitations to First Amendment rights, but only under strict limitations.

One, religious community may not be treated unlike other similar communities. A limitation must pass strict scrutiny. It must be the least restrictive means to achieve the government’s aim to protect the public.

Neither the Synod nor the districts have any ability to control a congregation’s response to the virus, thank God, but we have all advocated that congregations follow local guidelines for the sake of the Fifth Commandment, care for our neighbors, and the Fourth Commandment, respect for legitimate authority. And you, the pastors and people, have bent over backward to be safe and continue to serve your people and the mission of the Gospel of Christ’s glorious and free forgiveness. Thank you.

I know you're tired. Christ will sustain you in the vocations He has called you to serve.

I've been in continuous contact with district presidents and many other pastors and laypeople of the Missouri Synod. Our staff has been in daily contact with the Alliance Defending Freedom, First Liberty, and now also the Becket Fund.

We are now seeing a different phase in government, and that is resulting in a different response from the church. As political and public will now shift toward reopening, we're informed that local and state policies are often unclear and even treat religious communities differently than others. Nor are such regulations the least restrictive means for achieving government ends.

One governor proposed to open bars, restaurants and malls, while retaining a 10-person limit on all churches.

Our districts involved are seeking legal redress when none other than Saint Paul, whose rights as a Roman citizen were violated. He appealed to Caesar. He used the government process available to him.

The apology to the Augsburg confession states: the Gospel not only approves outward governments, but also subjects us to them (Romans 13).

Our government allows legal and other forms of redress. As Christians, congregations, and districts, it is God-pleasing when we in good faith and conscience take advantage of them.

As I have carefully watched the past months unfold upon us, I've noted over and over again that one's attitude toward government actions depends greatly upon whether the virus has impacted a person's home or territory, family, or church, or not. I don't want anyone to view this virus in a cavalier way and I've witnessed a few doing so. What I'm interested in is

continuing to stand with the districts, pastors, and congregations of the LCMS, and particularly as the challenging issues of reopening are upon us. Feel free to contact us for information or assistance. We have helpful friends in the Alliance Defending Freedom, First Liberty, and the Becket Fund, and many others.

We will make it through this. We don't quite know what's on the other side, but we know Christ has been through every cross. He's walking beside us now and He awaits our arrival into a future determined by Him alone.

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you. The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you His peace. Amen.

[<https://blogs.lcms.org/2020/religious-liberty-during-reopening/>]



Thank you !!

Have you driven by and noticed our church grounds looking beautiful. Thank you to the volunteers who cleaned, clipped, mowed and raked. We honor the Lord as we care for the property He has entrusted to us.



PRAYER PARTNERS

If you have a prayer request or would like to give an update on someone we have

been praying for, please contact Pastor Wagner. Or you can also submit your request directly to Nadine Anderson at 630 629-2197, or email duke3579@comcast.net.

Are You Struggling? God has not forgotten you "I will never desert you, nor will I ever forsake you." Hebrews 13:5c

THERE IS HOPE...

If time alone leaves you struggling with feelings of depression, guilt, grief, anger or regret and there's an abortion in your past, Word of Hope can help. Word of Hope offers confidential counseling, support, resources and referrals for anyone dealing with the after-effects of an abortion. If you or someone you know is suffering from grief over an abortion, call 888.217.8679 or email info@word-of-hope.org. It's caring and completely confidential.

News coming from the Pews –

Recipes or suggestions from our "church family" are welcome, If you have anything you'd like to contribute, please feel free to text, or email your ideas or your requests.

Supplies needed to begin Summer Camp

To begin summer camp the requirements are very, strict about children having their own individual supplies for projects. If you would care to donate toward the supplies it would greatly be appreciated. Please text or call Rachel Solyom at 630-363-4336.

- 4 boxes of gallon Ziploc bags
- 4 boxes of quart Ziploc bags
- 4 boxes of sandwich bags
- 4 boxes of snack bags
- 2 boxes of self-adhesive name tags
- Coloring books
- 10 packages of Elmers Glue Sticks
- 5 packages of Dry Erase Markers
- 20 pillowcases



Recipes Passed Down

Light and refreshing

This recipe is in memory of Marga Nordman. She was lovingly known for her "mock" desserts and meals.

Orange Pie

- 1 – 3 oz. orange Jello
- 3/4 c. sugar
- 3/4 c. boiling water
- 1 T. dry orange Kool Aid or Tang
- 1 can mandarin oranges
- 1 large can chilled evaporated milk
- 1/4 lb. soda crackers
- 3/4 stick margarine, very soft
- 1/2 c. brown sugar

Crush soda crackers and mix with brown sugar and margarine, pat evenly around the bottom and sides of a big pie plate. Set aside. Drain oranges and reserve the juice. Dissolve Jello and sugar in boiling water. Add saved juice from oranges, and add 1 T of dry Kool Ade. Let sit until cool and syrupy. Beat chilled milk until very stiff, fold in cooled Jello and fold in oranges. Pour in pie crust. Let chill in refrigerator until set.



Orange **Pie**



Out of the Window

By Bob Gehrt

I look out my window, and what do I see?
A world full of blessings for you and for me.
Tulips are budding, and soon they will bloom...
And there'll be enough color to fill up a room.
Hear the birds chirping as they go on their way,
I wish I could know what they're trying to say.
The trees have been blooming, a beauty to see
Snow white are their blossoms, as clean as
can be.
Our friends have been walking to get some
fresh air.
Some have gone out with a walker or chair.
As Spring chases the last of the winter away,
What is in store, we wonder and say.
Will there still be more snow yet this year...
Or will it be sun shiny, bright and quite clear.
It's hard to be certain, but one thing we know,
Our God will be with us wherever we go.

Note: Bob took a fall while walking outside of Park Pace. He got a black eye and got a few stitches on his head. He's healed well and gets around in an electric wheel chair while outside now. Nothing keeps his spirit down. He sends greetings to all.

Update FYI's:



Installation

Pastor Zimmer

On May 17, Pastor David Zimmer was (virtually) installed as

Pastor of Divine Shepherd Lutheran Church in Bolingbrook. We will miss him and his family very much. It has been a blessing to have them here at Trinity. We pray God's blessings and fruitfulness on his ministry in Bolingbrook.

The promise fulfilled

John 14:3 (NIV)

"And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am."

Frank Boomhower, Pastor Boomhower's, beloved father, received the promise at age 93, on May 20. A private funeral was held Saturday, May 23, at Knollcrest Funeral Home. If you would like to send a card to Pastor Boomhower, his address is:
21 w 305 Audobon, Lombard, IL 60148

All news articles for the next month's newsletter may be submitted by the 20th of the month. Send to vinjud60@yahoo.com

Questions ... call or text - Judy Cuchetto 630.698.2208 at any time.

Note: Not guessing anymore how long we will be doing NFTP via email.

Articles of interest are welcome as well as suggestions. Enjoy and be blessed!

