

News

from the

Pews

October 2024



So, this past September, I attended my first **LWML** (Lutheran Women's Missionary League or Lutheran Women in Mission) NID District Convention. I have been the LWML NID Zone 6 Pastoral Counselor since this past winter. It was a very joy filled time seeing the passion for Jesus that women throughout the district put on full display.

Every meeting I have attended so far, has shown the importance of God's Word to the LWML. I have had the joy and privilege of leading the opening for the meetings with a great Bible study. Likewise, at the LWML convention a guest Devotion leader, Christa Petzold, who is a very accomplished author, led a wonderful opening devotion.

It's easy to see how important mission work is to the members of the LWML. At the meetings I have attended, there is always a well put together presentation of the extensive work done overseas and at home, supported in the name of Christ and through the LWML. For example, at the recent convention, there were reports given about the literally hundreds of missionaries in all parts of the world that the LWML is helping to support. In that way, many people are hearing about Jesus that would not

have had the opportunity to hear the message were it not for the LWML.

I have thoroughly enjoyed my time thus far as LWML Zone Counselor and I look forward to what is ahead. I also am very glad to have attended this year's LWML NID convention. Not only did I enjoy the presentations that I saw, but I was given an opportunity to reconnect with sisters in Christ throughout the district that I don't often get a chance to see. In addition, I made some great new friends!

LWML is an organization that I'm proud to be associated with, and I can now recommend consideration to all of the women of Trinity to engage in the ministry. You don't have to "join", you are invited as a Lutheran woman, to come and see for yourself what the Lord is doing through the LWML. Have a blessed October and see you in church!

In Christ,

Rev. Wagner

17 And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.” Colossians 3:17

News From the
Interim
Principal's Desk



Scheduled Services 9 a.m. Sundays

In-person and livestreamed

MONDAY NIGHT weekly services are back at 6pm.

Enjoy Coffee & fellowship after church services on Sundays.

SUNDAY MORNING Bible Class has resumed, following fellowship.

SUNDAY SCHOOL, has returned, following the service & Fellow-ship time

WEDNESDAY MORNING BIBLE CLASS is once again meeting, with 9:15 coffee, Study to begin at 9:30

WEDNESDAY EVENING ONLINE LIVE BIBLE STUDY 6PM

TRINITY'S OFFICE HOURS: 8 am to 3:30 pm. Questions? Call 630.629.8765 or email secretary@trinitylombard.org

Facebook: Additionally: keep up with Trinity news from church and school on Facebook [@TrinityLombard](https://www.facebook.com/TrinityLombard) and Instagram <https://www.instagram.com/trinitylutheranlombard/>.

Find the 9 a.m. orders of worship, at <https://www.trinitylombard.org/sermons>.

Services and Bible classes air live on Facebook @TrinityLombard (<https://www.facebook.com/TrinityLombard/>) or live at <https://www.trinitylombard.org/>

Things Coming Up

- October 3: Hands On Family Fun Night, 5:30-7 p.m. (for families with preschool and kindergarten age children) - flyer attached
- October 14: NO SCHOOL - Columbus Day
- October 18: NO SCHOOL - Teacher Institute Day
- October 26: Fall Festival Trunk or Treat, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.
- October 27: Students sing in church service, 9 a.m.

James Baerenklau is the current Interim Principal and 7th & 8th grade teacher ibaerenklau@trinitylombard.org



On September 27th, this was a great idea! Thanks to Pastor Wagner and Trinity's seventh and eighth grade class for supporting Trinity Lutheran School with their trip to Rainbow Cone today. Trinity received 20% of all purchases from our Trinity family.



Families with kindergarten or preschool aged children are invited to a special time of fun activities preceded by a light supper. It's FREE and open to the community. [630.627.5601](tel:630.627.5601) or secretary@trinitylombard.org.



Hands-On Family Fun Night

for preschool & kindergarten

FREE & OPEN TO THE COMMUNITY

Thursday, October 3, 2024

5:30 - 7 p.m.

includes COMPLIMENTARY pizza, salad & fruit dinner
at **Trinity Lutheran School**
(located on the northeast corner of
Roosevelt & Westmore-Meyers Rd in Lombard)

Enjoy exploring the world of shapes through a variety of hands-on creative activities. These interactive experiences are led by Trinity's Early Childhood Education teaching staff.



Please RSVP
by September 27 to
secretary@trinitylombard.org
or 630.627.5601

Trinity Lutheran School
1165 S Westmore-Meyers Rd
Lombard, IL 60148

630.627.5601
trinitylombard.org
[f@TrinityLombard](https://www.facebook.com/TrinityLombard)

Join in any time for SUNDAY SCHOOL



Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me"...

Here are three great reasons for your children to attend Sunday School at Trinity:

1. Each Sunday following after church fellowship, your children will have a chance to focus on the message given in the readings from the service and will "take away" a simple understanding of one key idea to put into practice in their lives.
2. Children will each be welcomed, reminded that they are special and unique, be told that God created and loves them, and invited to talk about Jesus' plan for his or her life.
3. As you help your child participate in the life-impacting study of God's Word, you have a wonderful opportunity to grow in your own faith

by attending Trinity's concurrent adult Bible class.

Sunday School meets most Sundays, following post-church fellowship in the parish hall. All children, ages 3 through 8th grade all welcome.

Volunteer helpers are welcome. Please notify Pastor Wagner if you are interested in helping with this ministry to our young members and visitors



Trinity Was Well Represented at Northern Illinois District Lutheran Women in Mission Convention



What happens when you gather mission minded, servant hearted, Lutheran women together from all around Northern Illinois? Ministry, fellowship, and fun! Trinity was well represented at the LWML Northern Illinois District 2024 Biennial Convention held at Trinity Lutheran Church in Tinley Park on September 21. The LWML is short for Lutheran Women's Missionary League, now known as Lutheran Women in Mission.

The LWML is an official organization of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod. Every confirmed female in the denomination is

automatically a member. Trinity's official voting delegates to the 2024 convention were Sue Niehaus and Linda Johansen. The alternate delegates were Rachel LaMontagna and Hannah Solyom. Also attending from Trinity were Deb Scott, and Lori Solyom. Former Trinity Principal Julie Messina joined Trinity's contingent in the place of Arlene Solyom who was registered but unable to attend. A handful of men at the event included pastors, ministry representatives, and husbands, and our own Pastor Wagner – who serves as the LWML Zone Counselor for Trinity and several other nearby LCMS congregations which comprise Zone 6.

At the convention, delegates voted on Mission Grant proposals. These grants are financed through the LWML's commitment to gathering "mites" for missions. The Biblical story of "The Widow's Mite" from Mark 12:41–44 and Luke 21:1–4 is the model for having a heart that gives to God. As we return to Lord our time, talents, and treasure, giving monetary mites is perfect companion to pair with the spiritual discipline of serving one another, doing good works to the glory of God. This servant hearted mindset is exemplified in the LWML motto, taken from Psalm 100:2, "Serve the Lord with gladness."

Trinity's awaited CreatorSpace – STEM Lab was one of twelve proposed Mission Grants on the ballot but was **not** among those top grants selected to be funded at this time, however Trinity member Lori Solyom was elected to the position of LWML NID Vice President of Communications.

In addition to voting on Mission Grant recipients and electing officers, convention attendees got to hear from Mission Advocate David Fiala, who works in LCMS Mission Advancement helping coordinate support for international missions out the synod's headquarters in St. Louis. Breakout sessions featured representatives from [Walcamp Outdoor Ministries](#), [Voice of Care](#) (which equips churches to include people with disabilities), [MOST Ministries](#) (short term mission opportunities), [LINC Chicago](#) (which empowers local ministry leaders, particularly in urban areas), [Lutheran Bible Translators](#), and [Dakota Boys and Girls Ranch](#) (which works with troubled and traumatized children and youth). A Friday evening

servant event brought early arrivers together to tie fleece blankets, decorate care packages, and make journal covers for [Phil's Friends](#) (providing hope to cancer patients and their families) – as well as assembling Gospel bracelets for [MOST Ministries](#) mission trips. Following the servant event, Friday night participants gathered for Word and Sacrament in the Divine Service. Those coming to the convention were invited to bring Gifts from the Heart to benefit [Redeeming Life Outreach Ministries'](#) new Illinois maternity home in East Dundee. Hundreds of items for new and expectant moms and their babies were collected.

Lutheran Women in Mission, or LWML, began more than 80 years ago here in the Chicago area and today encompasses thousands of Lutheran women all across America. From September through May each year, Trinity's Lutheran Women in Mission, known as the Mary Martha Guild gather together – usually on the first Thursday of the month - for fellowship, fun, food, and service. During summer months, a women Bible study and social time is hosted offsite. Watch Trinity's weekly bulletins and the monthly News from the Pews for info on Mary Martha activities and gatherings.

We thank those from Trinity who were able to attend, those who continue to serve. All women and girls are invited to participate in Trinity's Lutheran Women in Mission activities.

Submitted by:
Lori Solyom
LWML NID Vice President of Communications.



Notes from the Elders

Please join the Elders to thank and honor the faithful members of the Altar Guild, who for many years have served Trinity. We acknowledge past Altar Guild Members as well as present. These dedicated few members have quietly and efficiently taken on all the

chores to present our Altar, paraments and church decor in the best possible way to glorify God.

The Altar Guild members are led by Marlene and Kenn Krohse and include Nadine Anderson, Beth Kraegel, and Dawn and Ron Tyler. “They have faithfully been the unseen assistance to the Elders and all Trinity Members.

Each week they are preparing Trinity's sanctuary and Altar, with paraments for the church seasons along with washing and ironing Altar covers, filling/refilling candles with oil and helping to maintain all of the communion ware for the Lord's table and supplies we use each week.

Thank you Altar Guild for blessing us all with your faithful service to Trinity!

Praise be to God,
Ron Niehaus
Board of Elders, Chair



*News
from the
Board of
Ed:*

This years classes are “up and running”. And, we are still continuing the process of cleaning up and fixing "the room at the top of the stairs," which began this summer. A group of great volunteers helped us move some furniture out, and the room is currently being painted by Kevin Tulley and his family. Our plan is to turn this underused space into a STEM lab area for our students. While we were not fortunate to be awarded the grant that we applied for, we are looking at other ways we can fund this

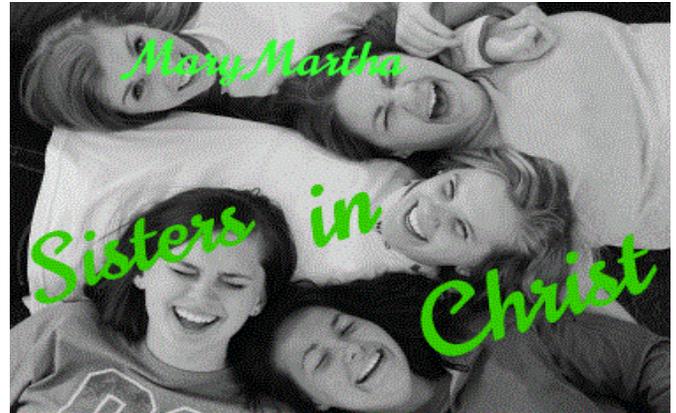
project so we can have STEM "up and running" in the near future.

The Board is searching for a PE teacher to fill the position that will be open after Christmas. Our current PE teacher, Mr. Justin Allegretti, will be leaving to begin his student teaching. He has been a blessing for our school, and we wish him well as he continues his education. We will miss him.

Please continue to pray for our school - our students, our teachers and staff, and the families who support this mission. And we will continue to pray for you - the members of Trinity Lutheran Church - who continue to support the work being done.

Submitted by:
Sue Niehaus
Board of Ed, Chair

Mary/Martha is not exclusive to a few,



it's for all women of Trinity to engage in friendship and service together at our Trinity Church "home".

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

Please Join Mary/ Martha

October 10th

6:30 p.m.

For:

A presentation by some of the LWML Participants to the LWML Convention as well as a short Bible Study.

LWML Glimpses: Worshiping God with hundreds of other Christians was truly inspiring. I laughed as the Skit Guys used volunteers to retell the story of David and Goliath. I cried as Olympian Scott Hamilton spoke of his faith and health struggles. Team building, working with families, and sharing Jesus with young children were a few of the excellent sectionals I attended.

Written by, Deb Scott

All women are invited. We will meet in the Parish Hall. We will enjoy dessert, friendship and laughter.

Any questions may be directed to Arlene Solyom at 630-715-7764 or Judy Cuchetto 630-698-2208. Call or text.

Fall into Fun
at
TRINITY LOMBARD

Saturday
October 26, 2024
11 a.m. to 1 p.m.
FREE Fall Fest with Trunk or Treat
Please bring donations of non-perishable foods or paper goods to benefit area food pantries

Saturday
November 9, 2024
9 a.m. to 2 p.m.
FREE Holiday Craft Show
This holiday extravaganza features 70+ crafters and artisans, plus a Vendor Village, pet adoption, resale emporium, Kids Korner activities, and concessions.

Trinity Lutheran School is still accepting limited registrations for students age 3 through 8th grade for the 2024-2025 academic year. Email secretary@trinitylombard.org or call 630.627.5601 for information or to schedule a tour.

Trinity Lutheran Church and School - TrinityLombard.org
1165 S Westmore-Meyers Rd - Lombard, Illinois - NE corner at Roosevelt

Looking Ahead



Trinity's 2024 Holiday Craft Show

Saturday, November 9, 2023: Trinity's Annual Holiday Craft Show (9 a.m. to 2 p.m.) will feature a large assortment of purveyors of handmade, homemade or one-of-a-kind items, as well as a Vendor Village and pet adoption station. The festive event will feature an on-site lunch, free Kids Korner supervised activity tables, baked goods, and a popular resale area, Aunt Teak's Beautiful Junque Emporium.

To sign up for a craft or vendor space, email events@trinitylombard.org. You may also pick up an application in Trinity's office.

Volunteers are needed. There are tasks for all ages and all levels of physical ability. NO EXPERIENCE

NEEDED - WILLING SPIRITS AND READY SMILES APPRECIATED.

Assistance is welcome:

- Thursday, November 7, anytime between 3 p.m. and 10 p.m. (set up)
- Friday, November 8, anytime between 10 a.m. and 9 p.m. (set up)
- Saturday, November 9, anytime between 6 a.m. and 5 p.m. (set up/show/clean up)

If you are able to help in any way, contact Arlene Solyom at 630.715.7764 or notify Trinity's office.

Donations of hand-crafted items, baked goods, or objects for the rummage sale (no clothing please) will be accepted in Trinity's gymnasium, via the back parking lot, Thursday, November 7, between 4 and 10 p.m., or Friday, November 8, between noon and 9 p.m. If you need to drop off items prior to November 7 or need to arrange pick up of item, contact Trinity's office at 630.629.8765 or secretary@trinitylombard.org.

Proceeds from the event support the service ministry of Trinity's Mary Martha Guild and LWML Lutheran Women in Mission.



The Fall season makes us think of warm meals shared. There are those who don't have that luxury.

Just think, if everyone brought 1 food item a week it would always be ready to share.

God provides the means to provide food for those who are not able to do so through their own means. By bringing non-perishables (rice, pasta, mac-n-cheese...) canned goods, breakfast cereals, granola bars etc. along with you when you come to worship services, you are helping to provide nourishment and kindness to those in need.

To contact Ron or Dawn Tyler or if you have questions, please call the church office.

Trinity Lutheran Church and School contributes to the local food pantries: York Township and St. Vincent de Paul at St. Pius X Catholic Church. Questions? Contact Trinity's office at 630.629.8765 or secretary@trinitylombard.org.

“Eating is not an optional ‘habit’, it’s a necessity.”

The Lord receives His own!

John 3:16 “For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.

Alvin W. Miller



**December 25,
1929 - September 11,
2024**

Alvin Miller (Best known as Al to his friends) was 94 years old. Beloved husband of the late Arlene Miller, nee Reinke; loving father of Scott (Julie) Miller, and the late Susan Benson; devoted grandfather of Jeremy Miller, Eric (Danielle) Miller, and Kevin (Lillian) Miller; great-grandfather of Sabrina Miller; cherished friend of Eileen Ulbricht.

A funeral for Al was held at Trinity church on September 21, 2024. A viewing was held from 9:30 AM until time of funeral at 10 AM at Trinity. Al’s Interment was at Elm Lawn Memorial Park. A luncheon followed back at Trinity. Memorials to Trinity Lutheran Church, or Zion Lutheran Church are appreciated.



Beyond the Booth

September 13, 2024

By Joel Biermann

Throughout the month of September, *The Lutheran Witness* shared articles from the [August 2020](#) print issue.

Religion and politics

One of the cherished notions that typically guides the lives of Americans is that politics and religion do not mix. Of course, there are some areas of overlap that Americans accept and even expect, like a prayer at a presidential inauguration or candidates ending speeches with “God bless America.” But, on the whole, it is taken for granted that there needs to be a clear distinction or even a wall of separation between church and state. People do not want the government telling them what to believe about God, and they do not want the church telling them how to vote. Actually, they do not want anyone telling them how to vote.

In our lives as citizens of a democratic republic, the voting booth is considered sacred ground.

In this revered space each person exercises his right of franchise and votes for people, proposals and platforms as he chooses.

Voting, it seems, is the ultimate exercise in individual choice and the expression of

personal opinion. No one tells you how to vote; no one but you decides how you cast your ballot. And no one knows your vote unless you tell them — well, almost no one.

God knows, of course; Christians know that. And Christians know that strict divisions between the different parts of their lives make no sense, or at least they should not make any sense. As people who follow Christ, we understand that no part of our lives lie beyond the claim of our Savior and Lord. As believers, we belong to our Lord completely, and our lives are normed by Him entirely.

God directs all the spiritual and all the material aspects of our lives. He teaches us not only how to receive His gifts and worship Him, but He also teaches us how to be creatures as He intended. Such direction touches every part of our lives — including the political part of being the citizen of a nation. There can be no doubt, then, that God most certainly goes with you into the voting booth and has something to say about the ballot you cast.

Now, it's once again time for the Elections.

(Who do you vote for?) The answer to that question is never short. Instead, I point our members to two basic Scriptures about the relationship of the Christian to government and politics.

First, Romans 13: "Let every person be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and those that exist have been instituted by God."

Next, to Acts 4 and 5, where Peter and the other apostles say: "We must obey God rather than men."

Right now, I can't give the direct desired answer. I just don't know. Sorting out parties and candidates is terribly frustrating. There is no "perfect" answer. Too many promises have been broken. And the truth is, electing even the "right" candidate will not fix a broken, sin-filled world.

None of this means I won't vote. We Christians should responsibly exercise the freedom to

elect our officials. But there is more to this than just voting.

We also have great liberty to speak to elected officials and to hold them accountable for what is allowed on their watch. Those who bear the name of Christ must pray for these officials, encourage them in their vocation, and lovingly communicate the beautiful worldview the Lord holds out in Scripture (and not necessarily with a direct reference to the Bible).

With the murder of the unborn and the perversion of marriage heralded as normal and preferable, now is no time for the church in America to be silent. We dare not sit this one out.

Though we (may) despair of the available candidates, grieve decisions of the courts and mourn the fruits of elections, **we still act, remembering that God says: "the Most High rules the kingdom of men and gives it to whom he will and sets over it the lowliest of men" (Daniel 4:17).**

Gleaned from an article taken from
Lutheran Witness

By [Rev. Kevin Roop](#)

Published in the Lutheran Witness

All news articles for the next month's newsletter may be submitted 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 via text or email to

vinjud60@yahoo.com

Questions ... call or text - Editor, Judy Cuchetto (630) 698-2208 at any time.
