

MAY 2019



CHRIST IS RISEN

Because of the Cross, we have:

Forgiveness for our sins
Reconciliation to the Father
Hope for the future
Redemption for our souls
Healing for our bodies
Victory over death
Restoration of our lives
Deliverance from the enemy
Soundness of mind
...and God's Transforming Grace
wrapped in His Amazing Love.

© By M.S.Lowndes

PASTOR'S MESSAGE

One of cool things about living in a small town, as my family and I did for the first six years of my ordained ministry, is the connection you can have with the local press. As clergy, the editors do listen to, and share your voice. I would write once per year as part of the Mitchell Ministerial Association. The following is an article I wrote about letting others help you. In this particular situation it was written towards elderly parents, but today I would also add the situation where you need any kind of help. It is OK to not be the master of your own universe, (see M.S.Lowndes' poem above – Jesus has already done ALL the work necessary for your salvation).

The
Mitchell Advocate

FAITH MATERS – MAY 2008

In a recent article in your publication by a woman whose father had died, the woman told of her father's pre-arranged and pre-paid funeral which included a family cemetery plot that had been bought years before. This is nothing particularly new – many folks do this kind of arranging. The writer went on to say that she recommended talking to a pastor about the various options for funeral services. She encouraged people to finalise details and even pay for them, if possible, so that the children would not need to make

what might be difficult decisions at that difficult time. Also, in the article she told of her father's concern that I think is a fairly common emotion, that parents do not want to be a burden on their family, especially through their dying.

This got me wondering what does our Bible have to say about this? I would point to God's directive "to honor your father and your mother" (Exodus 20:11). These are good words at the best of times. But surely, they are even better words at the worst of times – that is - when a parent dies. Surely it is an honour to make arrangements for your parent's funeral and not something to be avoided – difficult as it might be. I think part of what the article writer is emoting, comes from how our societies work today. In our modern age we have become very good at avoiding the subject and reality of death. Our advances in medical science and care are outstanding and have given us the impression that we have an ability to delay, defer and may even avoid death, if we take the claims of cryogenics to heart.

Yet a parent's death is a time to honour them; it is not easy; it is not an immediate once only thing either. Honouring, like grieving, may take more time than just the days surrounding the funeral. You may agree with me or not – feel free to have that conversation with me if you will. But rather than calling me to talk about this, I encourage you to talk with your children, talk with your parents about this. And to parents who might voice a similar emotion, like the woman's father of not wanting to be a burden to your family; your children will want to do this. So, parents: I suggest you too remember God's directive "to honor your father and your mother" **and let your children do just that** – honour you. What does that mean? Honest conversation about funeral plans, wishes, arrangements, costs, etc. If that means a pre-arranged or pre-paid funeral, then let there be that honour in those arrangements. If it does not mean pre-arranging, then trust your children and let them honour you. Either way - you are not a burden – let your children honour you as God commands.

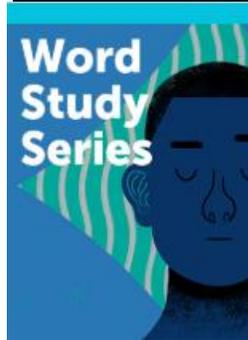
Pastor Steve Johnston

*(St. Peter's Lutheran Church, Brodhagen
May 2008)*

Until All Are Fed - Singing With Our Neighbours

Tuesday 14 May – 7 pm - Redeemer Lutheran Church, 1 Frank Place, London ~ The Inshallah London choir are leading, "Until all are fed | singing with our neighbours" in support of: St. Andrew Memorial Anglican & Redeemer Lutheran Church's Community Breakfast Program. This will also feature choirs from both congregation PLUS a chance to sing-along – so come and sing with us. This is a FaithLife sponsored event (Redeemer). Free will donation.

Adult Education (Bible Study)



Wednesdays 2:00 to 3:30 pm | "Word Studies" ~ Explore important Hebrew words that are foundational for understanding the biblical story. We'll unpack the original meaning of these words and show how they illuminate our understanding of the world still today. No reading preparation

required. Each week we will explore two different words.

We are finishing this series in May:

May 1 Session 4. Khata - "Sin" –

Pesha - "Transgression"

May 8 Session 5. Avon - "Iniquity"



May 15 to June 5 - Seven Stories: How to Study and Teach the Nonviolent Bible (Anthony W Bartlett - Author) more information later.

June 12th (early evening/late afternoon – TBA) Visit to the London Mosque

MEMBERSHIP REVIEW



For years Trinity has been reporting a baptized membership of over 800. The reality is that Trinity has not had 800 plus members for many years. So Pastor Steve and Annette undertook a review of our membership to identify the real number – a census if you will –

but people didn't need to travel by donkey, or Subaru, back to their home towns, we simply used our collective knowledge of who we knew that were still in contact with our community.

From our membership database we produced a report of those we were not sure about still being in contact, and council reviewed that report in January 2019 to aid the accuracy of the report. The technical definition of membership is; participating in Holy Communion or making a financial contribution to Trinity's ministry in the last year. However, being a graced filled people, we were more liberal with our inclusion of baptised membership.

At our April 8th meeting this year council approved and accepted the Baptized Membership report which totals 275 Baptized Members (as of 31 December 2018). With that realistic number in mind we are amending the counts on page 8 of the Annual Report for 2018 to read thus:

Previous count for 1 January 2018:	864
Adjusted Membership Count	
as of 1 January 2018	275

Statistics 2018

Baptisms	2
Transferred In	1
New Members	1
Total New	4
Deaths	6

Membership Count as of	
31 December 2018	273

The only significant change that this lower membership number makes to our relation to the ELCIC is; that we no longer can send TWO delegates to the Eastern Synod Assembly. Our financial contributions to the Eastern Synod and National Church are NOT apportioned – we support the ELCIC as we are able. We have some licencing costs which are based on average worship attendance, again no impact.



Parish Council News

Council met on April 8, 2019. We are pleased to report LSSL has given Trinity Lutheran a gift of \$4,000.00 which will help a great deal. LSSL has also given \$750.00 to be used for Vacation Bible School. Each of the three Lutheran churches participating in hosting VBS received this amount.

The repair process for our main doors (right side) is underway with parts ordered and tradesmen are at the ready. We are thankful repair is an option since it is more financially viable than replacement. Thanks also to Steve Krautner and Robert Sellars for their work on this and so many other issues in the day to day care of our building. Kudos to Randy as well. Every church should have a great team like ours.

Nancy Manners is planning for a SOC event scheduled for the weekend of May 4. This includes activities on Saturday and worship with us on Sunday May 5. We expect about 50 young people and helpers.

Council is reviewing the membership list for Trinity to make it more current.

Worship services, such as we enjoy each Sunday, require thought and effort from many people even if it does look seamless. Have you ever thought of volunteering to read the scripture lesson or be an acolyte or crucifer? If your answer is yes, please consider letting Annette in the office know. I can say personally it is very fulfilling indeed and also gives insight into the order of our services.

As I have said in the past, please give us your thoughts comments and suggestions. Council is here to serve.

Yours in Christ,
Cheryl Millar

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH - STRATEGIC PLAN MEETING - SUNDAY 4 MARCH 2018

Executive Summary (2019 April 10th)

The minutes from this 2018 meeting were not included in the 2018 Annual Report – this was an error of omission. The full minutes of this meeting are available at the church office. The following is a summary of those minutes for your information.

Meeting called to order at 12 pm by Deb Pepers

Pastor Steve spoke as the leader of the Visioning Group and made these points:

- This a flexible document to cover 2018-2022
- Today’s meeting is to ask and answer, “Is this a good idea and, are the details good enough to start?”
- The visioning group developed a “vision statement” plus four strategic objectives. The visioning group members self-selected which strategic objective group they wanted to join.
- Copies of the full strategic plan were available prior to the meeting.

VISION STATEMENT

“Trinity Lutheran Church is a community inspired by God to share Christ’s good news by what we say and do.”

Objective #1 - Tell the Good News

- Goal A Video record interview about sharing the good news.
- Goal B Intergenerational Worship
- Goal C Sharing Scripture - Make an introduction to scripture book to include of stories from our congregation. Many people at the meeting shared thoughts and ideas about this.

Objective #2 – Learn the Good News

- Goal A Form an elder’s prayer group – to pray the needs of our community
- Goal B create more Study & Fellowship Groups

Objective #3 – Live the Good News

- Goal A Host Welcoming Events – BBQ, Christmas Tree Lighting, Yard Sale, etc.
- Goal B Outreach to the impoverished and marginalized in London.
- Goal C Pastoral Care to include congregational members as well.

Objective #4 – Rejoice in the Good News

- Goal A Praise God through Music ; Choir Festival – A lot of discussion was had on this topic
- Goal B To be a grateful environment – to look nominations for recognition and thanks
- Goal C “Fun Sundays” to help make worship and learning more fun and accessible for children. There was some discussion on this topic

MOTION – Accept the Strategic Plan in principle, not including cost or dates.

Cheryl Millar made the motion. Seconded, Vivian Parker. M/S/C

Meeting adjourned at 1:40 pm.

VISIONING GROUP MEMBERS

Reinhard Helbing	Heather Holmes	Alice Johnson	Pastor Steve Johnston
Emily Kmith	Phoebe Kmith	Olof Kristjansdottir	Janelle Lightbourne
Laurie Meadows	Cheryl Miller	Lydia Reinhard	Linda Reynolds
Prince Wright			

TLW

Seniors' Worship and Lunch: Tuesday 14 May at 11:30 am. Come for worship and communion and then join your friends for lunch. Back by popular demand, Swedish meatballs and noodles and of course dessert, will be served. New faces are always welcome, so bring a friend or two. If you need a ride to church call Annette in the church office at 519-432-4832.

Strawberry Lunch & Fashion Show: Be sure to mark **Sunday 23 June** on your calendar. We will have a delicious lunch with a fresh strawberry dessert on the menu. Strawberries should be at their peak at this time. As an added attraction, Trinity models will be showing spring and summer fashions. Come and enjoy the food and the show. Be inspired by reasonably priced clothing. Guests are always welcome, so be sure to invite your friends. Tickets will be on sale from 1 to 16 June. Cost is \$10 for adults, \$5 for children aged 5 to 12 years, and those under 5 years of age are free.



My Sisters' Place: Donations tend to slow down considerably after Christmas, but the needs stay the same. Please continue to add much needed items to the donation box in the Koehler Hall. Personal care items, feminine hygiene products, hair accessories, baseball caps or sun hats (NEW), sunscreen and small gift items (for birthdays) are always needed.

~ Lydia Reinhard

MEN'S CLUB

The Men's Club BBQ will be held at the church on **Saturday 1 June at 5:30 pm.** This is open to all men of the congregation.



Mark your calendar for our Annual Yard Sale being held on **SATURDAY 1 JUNE FROM 8 AM UNTIL NOON**

To reserve your table(s) give Annette in the church office a call at 519-432-4832

JOIN US FOR A COMBINED WORSHIP SERVICE & LUNCHEON

Trinity, along with Redeemer and St. Ansgar will gather for a combined Service & Luncheon

on

SUNDAY 30 JUNE AT 10:30 AM

at

**ST. ANSGAR LUTHERAN CHURCH
600 LAWSON ROAD**



Please bring along a salad and/or dessert to share.

(Note - there will be no service at Trinity)

**IT'S TIME TO START THINKING ABOUT
POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION BURSARIES & SCHOLARSHIPS**

Information and applications for the TL Ristine, CJ Killinger and GH Dobrindt Bursaries are now available from the church office.

Lutheran Social Services is also offering a Scholarship.
Information is also available from the church office.



PLEASE NOTE:

Application deadline for **all** bursaries & scholarships is **31 May**.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Dates: 22-26 July – 9 am to 12 pm

Ages: 3-12 years

Cost: Free

Location: Trinity Lutheran Church, 746 Colborne St.

Registration: www.trinitylondon.ca



TO MARS AND BEYOND!

One small step for your kids...one giant leap for God's Kingdom!

Blast off with the first VBS to land on the moon! The kids will discover the wonders of God's universe. They'll become Voyagers on a journey through space, exploring where God's power can take them.

Daily Flight Plan

1. Daniel trusts God in the lion's den - Go beyond with faith!
2. Queen Esther Takes a Stand - Go Beyond with Boldness!
3. The Good Samaritan Helps a Fellow - Go Beyond with Kindness!
4. Jesus Heals 10 - Go Beyond with Thankfulness!
5. Jesus Comforts Friends on the Way to Emmaus - Go Beyond with Hope!

A ministry of: Trinity, St. Ansgar and Redeemer Lutheran Churches.
Thanks to Lutheran Social Services for their financial support.

Saturday June 1st
11:30 am to 3:30 pm
with Bishop Michael Pryse

Bring your questions

- Lunch (no cost)
- Conversation & Questions
- Worship

Register with your pastor by May 25th

Thames Ministry Area Event
St. Ansgar Lutheran Church | 600 Lawson Rd, London



SERVING IN MAY

	<u>5 MAY</u>	<u>12 MAY</u>	<u>19 MAY</u>	<u>26 MAY</u>
Communion Assistants	Ted Reinhard Reinhard Helbing	Steve Krautner Anthony Pepers	Katelyn & Emily Inch	Heather Holmes Brady Hough
Ushers	Nancy Hickling Brady Hough Lawrence Petch	Glenn & Cathy Egan Nancy Henkel	Bob & Carolyn Sellars Vivian Parker	Dave & Pauline Hutchison Jean Krautner
Acolyte	Heather Holmes	Steve Krautner	Alice Cooper	Jeff Holmes
Crucifer	Cheryl Millar	Anthony Pepers	Nathan Killinger	Heather Holmes
Reader	Teresa Nicholds	Jean Krautner	Vivian Parker	Jeff Holmes
Greeters	Nancy & Herb Henkel	Alice Johnson Francis, Francis Jr. & Lisa Hinnah	Gerry Wigelsworth Fred Schmidt	Vivian Parker Janelle Lightbourne
Altar Care	←-----Carol Boyd, Jean Hohnstein & Laurie Meadows-----→			
Refreshments	Phoebe, Robert & Emily Kmith	Julia & Dennis Liska	Barb Hamilton Linda Reynolds	Cheryl Millar Teresa Nicholds
Prayer Rotation	Thames Ministry Area for our work and celebration together	Our Anglican neighbours – St. Paul's & the Bishop of Huron Linda Nicholls	Retired Pastors Rev. Jack Dressler Rev. Jim Garey Rev. Tom Ristine Rev. Jo von Schmelting Rev. Glen Sellick Rev. Bob Zimmerman Rev. Paul Sodtke	Rev. Katherine Gohm Redeemer, London

Note – Volunteers are always needed and greatly appreciated.
If you are interested in volunteering, please call Annette in the church office.

MAY

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 Bible Study 2 pm 	2 Boundaries Workshop 9 am Participation House 9 am Choir 7:30 pm	3 LCFI 7 pm	4 Participation House 9 am SOC 
5 3 rd Sunday of Easter SOC LCFI 2 pm	6 Northern Hospitality 5:30 pm Rug Hooking Guild 6:30 pm	7 LCFI 9 am Inshallah Choir 5:30 pm LCFI 7 pm	8 Bible Study 2 pm	9 Lions 6 pm Choir 7:30 pm	10 LCFI 7 pm	11
12 4 th Sunday of Easter	13 Rug Hooking Guild 10 am Council 7 pm	14 Sr. Worship & Lunch 11:30 am Inshallah Choir 5:30 pm LCFI 7 pm	15 Bible Study 2 pm	16 Participation House 9 am LCFI 10 am Choir 7:30 pm	17 LCFI 7 pm	18 Parkinson's Support Group 2 pm
19 5 th Sunday of Easter LCFI 2 pm	20 LSS 9 am <i>Newsletter items due 9 am</i> <i>Office Closed</i>	21 Participation House 9 am Inshallah Choir 5:30 pm LCFI 7 pm	22 Bible Study 2 pm	23 Choir 7:30 pm	24 LCFI 4 pm	25 LCFI 8 am Participation House 9 am Liberian Group 5 pm
26 6 th Sunday of Easter LCFI 2 pm	27 Rug Hooking Guild 10 am	28 Inshallah Choir 5:30 pm LCFI 7 pm	29 Bible Study 2 pm	30 Participation House 9 am Choir 7:30 pm	31 LCFI 7 pm	