

OCTOBER 2015

Trinity Lutheran Church
Wee Disciples Preschool & Daycare
1226 1st Ave N
Great Falls, MT 59401-3201
(406) 452-2121

Stewardship

The reason we come to Church on Sunday morning, as opposed to Sunday afternoon or Monday evening, is because it is the first day of the week. The first thing you do this week, before you do anything else, is come to Church. You begin your week with the Word of God, Prayer, and the Holy Communion. You give the first seventh, off the top, of your time to the Lord. He blesses that time. In that time, He forgives your sins, cleanses, and purifies you. He then sends you out into the world, into the week, as *His* in all your days and hours and life.

This is also the reason we pray before we eat. We want to establish that food is a gift from God and that He provides for us through it. Before we eat, we pray. This also blesses the food and makes it holy food because you are holy people.

Nonetheless, we have a tendency to compartmentalize our lives, to separate the spiritual and the secular, to put on different masks at work, with our friends, or at home. This is a fantasy. We are who we are wherever we are. We are the baptized and we never go anywhere alone. Everything we do is spiritual — including our use of time and food and money.



Now, you have a Christian duty to support the Church, to give of your time, money, and abilities so that the Ministry would be conducted among us and that the Gospel would be preached beyond us. How much you are to give is not dictated in the New Testament, unless it is everything. But how you are to give is clear. It is sacrificial, generous, first fruits, and proportional. You are to give a percentage offering—not an amount, but a percentage.

In the Old Testament ten percent was the norm. It's hard to imagine that St. Paul was thinking that "being generous" would be anything less than this. But whatever it is, the point is to set your offerings in comparison to your total income. That is what makes it a sacrifice, a spiritual gift. How much of what the Lord provides do you return?

Next, it is to be first-fruits giving. It comes off the top. You write the check, or pay your offering, before you pay

any of your bills. It is your first obligation and sets your priorities. You don't pay your other bills and then give the leftovers to the Church. You make your offering first, in accordance with whatever promised percentage you made. This is not only first fruits, it is also sacrificial.

And you can always give more. Start with your commitment, with your percentage-based, first-fruits weekly offering, then as you have leftovers, give them out as it pleases you. But start with the Biblical model or percentage, first fruits.

That is how money is to be used and given by Christians. It is to be pressed into the service of the Gospel. It is not actually that hard. Start where you are and work toward greater faithfulness. Start now. Just take what you give now and figure out the percentage of your income and commit to keep that pledge for the year. Over time you can increase that commitment, that percentage. As your income fluctuates, going up or down, so will your offering amount. Set the percentage, then take that out of your check first each week. Make it a priority. It is the most important thing you do with your money. It is a spiritual exercise.

It will feel a little scary at first. Just do it. Take the risk. Set the money aside for the Lord and trust that He will provide. And over time you will find that you really can give more than 1% or even 10%, and even do so without regret. This kind of Biblical, disciplined, first fruit giving takes the unease out of it. It creates cheerful givers because when they drop the offering in the plate, they are already committed. They decided beforehand what to give. They don't think about it. They are glad to fulfill their promise and to be in God's house where He receives them according to grace.

The above thoughts are from LCMS Stewardship Ministry. Hopefully they make you think as you consider your own stewardship of God's gifts to you!

"God loves a cheerful giver." 2 Corinthians 9:7b

Your shepherd in Christ
Pastor Gerald Paul



A CIRCUIT REFORMATION SERVICE
will be held at
Trinity Lutheran Church
ON SUNDAY, OCTOBER 26TH @ 4:00 PM.
WITH A FELLOWSHIP RECEPTION TO
FOLLOW IN THE NARTHEX

Reverend Robert Weishoff will be preaching



LWML Sunday will be celebrated on October 4, 2015. LWML Sunday 2015 is based on *Matthew 6:26, 32b, and 33*. The theme is "*Seek First The Kingdom Of God*".

There will not be an LWML group gathering at Trinity in October. We encourage everyone to attend the LWML Fall Zone Rally at Peace Lutheran in Great Falls on October 10. The rally begins at 10:00 am and the registration fee is \$6 per person. The theme for the rally is "*Bountiful! Sow · Nourish · Reap*". Each attendee is asked to bring a jar of peanut butter for the ingathering. The ingathering items will be donated to the *Helping Hands* food program at First English Lutheran Church. A freewill offering will be taken for Andrew Schlund who will be serving as a missionary to Mexico City. Please sign up on the sign-up list on the bulletin board in the narthex by October 4, if you plan to attend.

The LWML board meeting will be held at 3:45 pm on October 29. We will be making plans for the November meeting and for the Advent/Christmas Brunch in December. Fundraising ideas will also be discussed. Board meetings are open to anyone who is interested in attending!



If you are interested in sharing your talents by serving on the Altar Guild we would greatly appreciate your help. There are no formal meetings and currently each person takes on the duties a month at a time to fit their schedule, with duties shared during Holy Week and Christmas. If you would be interested in just taking on one part of the altar duties such as filling the candles or washing the linens that would be appreciated as well. For more information please contact Denise Wegner at 452-2241 or 791-7275.



FRIDAY LADIES BIBLE CLASS



Women's Bible Study

October's crisp days have arrived. Students are settled in their busy schedules. The garden has been put to bed for the winter. Maybe it's time to treat yourself to a Friday afternoon with the **Friday Ladies Bible Class**, as they continue studying I Corinthians. Your hot cup of coffee or tea is waiting for you! Ladies will meet October 2nd, 9th, 16th, and 23rd from 1:00 – 3:00 pm at the home of Marge Johnsten, 3000 8th Ave. S.

Assisted Living Ministry with hymn singing and a devotion will meet on the following dates at the following locations: Tuesday, October 13th ladies and gentlemen will meet at 11:00 am at Bee Hive Home #2, 2816 15th Ave. S. On Friday, October 30th at 11:45 am a large group will gather for a **no host** lunch at the Bar S Restaurant, 5100 Star Blvd. Later some will go to Highgate House, 3000 11th Ave. S. **NOTICE** "a large group" goes to the Bar S, and "**some**" got to Highgate House. There are many who just come for lunch. The fellowship is great - the more the merrier! Socializing with brothers and sisters in Christ is part of God's plan for us. Always know that you are welcome!





SENIOR CHOIR PRACTICE

Senior Choir will rehearse every Wednesday evening at 6:00 pm, and will sing twice a month. Come raise your voices to the Lord.

BELL CHOIR PRACTICE

Calling all "ring-a-lings"! Anyone want to worship with us in the hand bell choir? We are looking for more "ringers" to join us this fall. Bell Choir will rehearse every Tuesday evening at 7:30, and play once a month on the third Sunday. Please speak with Marjory Fischer or Judy Boyce for more information.

Please prayerfully consider joining one (or both) of our choirs and help us lift our hands and voices in worship to our Lord.



A NOTE FROM THE TREASURER COMPARISON REPORT

For the Period January 1 through September 20, 2015

DATE	NEEDED	RECEIVED
January-August	** \$3,430	\$110,905
September 6	\$3,430	\$3,033
September 13	\$3,430	\$4,627
September 20	\$3,430	\$3,666
TOTAL	\$130,340	\$122,231

To obtain this number, the projected income for 2015 (envelope \$171,366 + plate \$7,000) is divided by 52 or $\$178,366/52 = \$3,430$. Remember that this number (\$178,366) is below our total budget needs. So we are tracking what has been pledged - if I can use that word. Hopefully, the actual giving will be **FAR ABOVE** this number. **If you have any questions, please call me at 761-7073.** Gary Shelden, Treasurer

VAN AVAILABLE – SUNDAY MORNINGS

The church van is available for individuals who are shut-in to attend services at Trinity. Please contact Kathie Sybrant at 231-1291. Pick up will now be every Sunday, because Holy Communion will be celebrated every week. **Drivers are needed!** If you would be interested in helping drive, please call the church office. If three or four people would be willing to serve in this area, you would only have to drive approximately one Sunday a month.



Wee Disciples Lutheran School & Child Care Center

We are at the beginning of school and we have focused on God's Creation. It is important to consider that God has entrusted us with an amazing opportunity to share His Word and Truth with children during 11 hours of the day, each weekday. We pray before and after each meal or snack and talk about love and forgiveness in everyday situations. We have two or three Bible times for different age groups with scripture, verses and songs each day. Tuesday Pastor Paul leads Chapel in the main sanctuary for all children and staff at 9:00 am. Judy comes to sing hymns and help them understand more about His love for them as they learn the church hymns. CPH materials are used in every classroom as we use Bible curriculum prepared specifically for each age group from Infants and Toddlers to Kindergarten. School age children through grade 6 attend after school and on school holidays. They use CPH bulletin and Sunday school materials for their age/grade.

Our goal for October is to cooperate as much as possible with all the activities with the remodeling projects of Trinity. New floor covering will be installed in the main entry of the church. It will coordinate with the narthex and have a rug to help decrease the material coming into Trinity as we all enter our Church and Wee Disciples. The kitchen activities will be moved to the fellowship area and the double classroom. We are so thankful for both of these improvements! It will be very different for us and for the children during this time so we ask your prayers and understanding. If you have specific concerns, please email or call me. We want to work together as much as possible so it will be helpful to know specific joys or concerns.

Kitchen fundraising will be started at Wee Disciples with a **Spaghetti Dinner and Children's Fun Night on Friday, October 2nd**. We will have dinner prepared by 5:00 pm so anyone can come eat in the fellowship area, order for take home, or bring the children to eat, enjoy a craft and some games. We will relax with a movie if you would like to leave the children until 9:30 pm. Everyone is welcome! We will be looking forward to the garage sale on Saturday, October 3rd!

We welcome you to come share a Bible story or project with a small group of children – you can pick the age!

God's Blessings,
Wee Disciples Staff
Debbie Lee, Director
Telephone: 406-771-7882
Email: childcare@trinity-mt.org

REMEMBER OUR SHUT-INS

TRINITY SHUT-INS

May the Lord in His grace continue to give strength and faith, patience and peace to each of His own: **Gary Adams** at home, **Alice Irion** at daughter's home in Havre, **Wes Johnson** in Conrad, **Lydia Laubach** at the Rainbow, **Evelyn McNaight** at home, **Emma Millet** at Golden Eagles, **Gladine Nehus** in Helena, **Alvina Presler** at Cambridge Court, **Char Reehl** at home, **Ruth Schwartzenberger** at home, **Myrtle Storhaug** at The Lodge and **Ted Young** at Missouri River Manor.

NEW ADDRESS

SOMMERFIELD, Scott & Jordan
2411 3rd Ave S, Great Falls, Mt 59405

If you misplace this page with the new information on it, just give me a call here at the church 452-2121, and I'll be happy to get you the page you are missing. Thank you!



God's blessings, Cheryl Bauer, Secretary



On Thursday, October 15th, Dr. Adam Francisco, professor of history at Concordia University, Irvine, CA, will give a public presentation entitled "*Confessing and Contending for the Truth in the 21st Century*". The talk will

be held at Trinity Lutheran Church in Kalispell (400 W California St) from 7:00-8:15 pm with time for questions afterward.

If you have any questions or would like more information please contact Pastor Chad Schopp (406-224-3695).

Please get any newsletter articles and updated information for the church directory to the church office prior to the lamplighter deadline each month. THANK YOU!!



NOVEMBER LAMPLIGHTER DEADLINE – OCTOBER 21ST



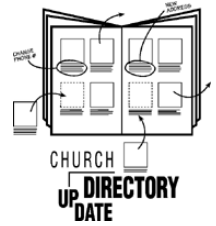
Be sure to check out our website at www.trinity-mt.org If you happen to have any ideas for content, wish to contribute to the website or notice any typographical errors, our Webmaster can be reached at support@trinity-mt.org.

We also have a Facebook page!

Be sure to 'Like'  us on Facebook!

DIRECTORY UPDATE

It has been far too long since we did an actual update on our directory and so I would like to request that each member of Trinity please contact to church office in the next few months, either by email (trinity@trinity-mt.org) or telephone (406-452-2121), and verify that we have the correct and current information on your family (i.e.: home phone, cell phones, email addresses, etc.). Also, if you know of someone that is not coming to church regularly and has changed address or telephone numbers, please let me know this as well.



It is my objective to get a new, updated directory out to the congregation in the first quarter of 2016 so that we will all have better information to stay in touch with each other.

- Cheryl Bauer, Church Secretary

KITCHEN RENOVATION YARD SALE

We are continuing to gather items for the yard sale. You may bring items to the Schuman's at 3426 8th Ave N, (406-761-6657). If you need to have items picked up please call the church office at 452-2121. We need your help with this fundraiser for our kitchen remodel.

The kitchen committee will be sorting, packing and moving the items out of the kitchen. **Your help is needed!!!** We will start on Tuesday, September 29th at 1:00 pm and continue working the afternoons of the 30th and October, 1st until we are finished. Items will be moved to the Schuman's for the rummage sale on October 3rd or stored until after the remodel. Right after the church service, on October 4th, we need some strong men to help move the appliances out of the kitchen and into the double classroom. Thank-you so much for your willingness to help and serve.

Also, we have obtained a \$250 grant from Thrivent to buy the paint and supplies for the Fellowship Hall. We will be announcing a "Painting Party" to spruce up the Fellowship Hall before the new flooring goes in.



October 7 Max & Joyce Bush
 9 Scott & Stacie Olson
 23 Cory & Lois Phillips

October 23 Henry & Alice Schuman
 25 Bud & Betty Quickenden



October 1 Tarl Legg
 2 Channing Hartelius
 3 Vi Biberdorf
 Evelyn McNaight
 4 Jim Going
 5 Elsie Lorenz
 7 Ashley Hill
 Kolter Legg
 Char Reehl
 8 Triston Burkstrand
 Logan Stene
 11 Jan Bicsak
 Kate Duncan
 12 Ryon Burkstrand
 13 Jacob Eberly
 14 Kris Chapman
 Arlene Royland
 15 Caitee Miesmer
 16 Brad Norris
 Zachary Phillips
 Cody Western

October 17 Daniel Chapman
 18 Jacalyn Lee
 19 Ruth Waetzig
 22 Penny Hill
 23 Paul Nordwall
 24 Alexandria Thompson
 25 Shayna Kellogg
 26 Clayton Walker
 27 Addison Teel
 28 Gladine Nehus
 Audrey Strand
 29 Cheryl Bauer
 Bonnie Nommensen
 30 Kay Kessel
 Justin Wade
 31 Samarah Hill
 Norma Nommensen
 Courtney Schroeder



October 1 Flo Winter
 4 Robin Western
 6 Scott Kessel
 7 Cally Felstet
 Bayley Ginnaty
 9 Kelcie Pearsall
 11 David Lietz
 Joshua Pecukonis
 12 Kate Duncan
 Dayna Vik
 17 Christopher Meehan
 18 Vi Nell

October 21 Diane Thompson
 23 Jacob Eberly
 Nolan Teel
 24 Ericka Neumann
 Ted Young
 25 Jeff Thompson
 26 Peggy Norris
 Arlene Royland
 27 Ashley Hill
 29 Jimmy Norris
 Brent Stanger

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
1226 FIRST AVENUE NORTH
GREAT FALLS, MT 59401-3201

Jesus Loves:



Trinity Lutheran Church

www.trinity-mt.org

Also visit & "like" our Facebook Page

Concordia Publishing House

www.cph.org

Higher Things

www.higherthings.org

Issues, Etc.

www.issuesetc.org

LCMS

www.lcms.org

Lutherans for Life

www.lutheransforlife.org

LWML

www.lwml.org

Montana District-LCMS

www.mtdistlcms.org

The Lutheran Hour

www.lutheranhour.org

The Lutheran Witness

www.lcms.org/witness

The Reporter

www.lcms.org/reporter