



February 2018

Trinity Lutheran Church
Wee Disciples Preschool & Daycare
1226 First Avenue North
Great Falls, MT 59401-3201
(406) 452-2121



Excelling in Everything

I am not commanding you, but I want to test the sincerity of your love by comparing it with the earnestness of others. For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, so that you through his poverty might become rich (2 Corinthians 8:8-9).

Without commands or even arm-twisting, St. Paul encourages, even challenges, the Church in Corinth to demonstrate the sincerity of their faith by their generosity in giving. He does this because giving generously is a gift of the Spirit given to us through the Gospel.

St. Paul wrote: *“But just as you excel in everything—in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in complete earnestness and in your love for us—see that you also excel in this grace of giving” (2 Corinthians 8:7).* In other words, just as we grow in faith and speech and knowledge of eternal things by the Holy Spirit through the Word of God, so also do we grow in giving from the same Spirit through the same Word.

The problem is that the grace of generosity often grows cold in us. It’s not so much that we stop giving, but we don’t put it first. We treat it like all the other bills that must be paid. It becomes a chore, just one more thing to check off a list of things to do. That empties it of its spiritual power and robs us of the joy that Christ and the Scriptures assign to it.

On top of that, since this generosity is linked to faith and knowledge of divine things, a lack of excelling in giving is a sure sign that our faith and knowledge of God are under attack as well.

Thus St. Paul points to the foundation of generosity: the generosity of Christ Himself. Even though He was rich, He became poor so that we who are poor might become rich. Thus, the incarnation, suffering, and death of our Lord on the cross is the reason, source, and driving force for our generosity in giving to the church.

And since Christ who was rich became poor so that we might be rich in His grace—of which generous giving is part—so we also who are rich in His grace can excel in pressing His grace into service toward the gracious work of the church.

Pay attention to what you give to the church so that you may excel at it. And if you find that your heart has grown cold or indifferent toward it, immerse yourself in God’s Word. Read it at home. Attend Bible Class. Hear and listen to it preached in the Divine Service.

Be reminded of what Christ has done for you in His incarnation, suffering, and death. For this will strengthen your faith and knowledge. And where that excels, so will the grace of giving excel also. *(From LCMS Stewardship Ministries).*

Your Shepherd in Christ
Pastor Gerald Paul

MARCH LAMPLIGHTER DEADLINE Monday, FEBRUARY 19TH!!
THE LAMPLIGHTER WILL GO OUT ON THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 22ND

A Letter from the Seminary Student We Support

Members of Trinity Lutheran,

Greetings once again from CTS in Fort Wayne, IN. I pray that all is well for you and that God's peace would be with you. I hope you all had a blessed Christmas, especially since I forgot to send in an update last month. Even though we started a new quarter at the beginning of December, we still had a break for Christmas. So, we had three weeks for classes and then we were off for three weeks. I was able to make it home for Christmas break and spent a wonderful time with some of my family. I even preached for the Christmas Eve service at my home congregation in Laurel.

But, now that we had our break it is back to business as usual. Classes are back in session, and though I tried to get some work done over break I did not get as much as I wanted done, so the work must go on. However, while doing this work the fact that the call service is fast approaching is in the back of my mind. April 25th is the day when it is announced where I will be sent, and this date is fast approaching. All my necessary paperwork is done, so now it is just a waiting game.

I continue to pray that all would go well for you. I am also continually grateful for your generosity and kindness in helping to support me as I finish my seminary career. I ask that you would also keep me in your prayers, which are more important than any financial aid you could give. May you have a blessed Epiphany season, and again thank you for all that you do.

In Christ,
Gideon Pullmann



Wee Disciples Lutheran School and Child Care Center

I was reviewing Lamplighter articles for February to prepare this article and found it interesting that February 2010 had so many similarities to what is happening right now! Thank you for your continued support. I edited only a few portions.

We will concentrate on love this month.

In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins. - 1 John 4:10

We see love, given by God and shared with us as we see: Trinity congregation opening its doors to us to have so many opportunities * Pastors to lead worship with the children of all ages * Trinity members to share Bible stories and other treats with us * people maintaining accounting to pay staff and other expenses * people cleaning fingerprints without frustration * members sharing treats with children * people making crafts for children to create with * snow removal completed during the day while we learn * Staff gifts prepared and given * Box Tops arrive sorted and ready because someone took time to prepare them for submission * Afternoon Bible time for all children each week * and Joyful Sounds * Prayers for children, their families and staff as well.

*Debbie Lee ~ Director
and the Wee Disciples Staff*

40 Days for Life ~ Lutherans for Life

40 Days for Life begins on Ash Wednesday. On Ash Wednesday, which is also Valentine's Day, couples will be standing in front of Planned Parenthood praying. Lutherans for Life will stand from 12:00 to 3:00 pm, one or two couples each hour.

Lutherans for Life organizes three days of the prayer vigil during the Lenten season. Trinity's first day is Friday, February 23rd. The next two dates are Friday, March 9th and Wednesday, March 21st

May the Lord in His grace continue to give strength, faith, patience and peace to each of His own:



Alice Irión at a nursing home in Chinook; **Rachel Keely** at Park Place; **Lydia Laubach** at the Rainbow Retirement; **Ilene Leishman** at home; **Richard Mauseth** at home; **Evelyn McNaight** at home; **Emma Millet** at Golden Eagles; **Alene Morrell** at Rainbow Retirement; **Gladine Nehus** in Helena; **Emil Neumann** at home; **Alvina Presler** (Millie Birkholz's mother) at Park Place; **Bud Quickenden** at Bee Hive Homes, Linden Home; **Ruth Schwartzenberger** at home; **Gordan Stach** at home; **Myrtle Storhaug** at Golden Eagles; **Ted Young** at Missouri River Manor

We pray for those serving in the military:

Jaymes Crumley USAF; **Tech Sgt Jared Dudden USAF** ;**Joshua Graham USA** (Sherrie Blomstrom's grandson-in-law); **Clifton Grilley USN** (Gary & Janet Headington's son) ; **Jared Grina USN** (Janet & Gary Headington's son-in-law); **Tyler Jones USN** (grandson of Roy & Carolyn Arves);**Steffen Meeks USA** (Sherrie Blomstrom's grandson); **Brendan Murphy, USMC** (Gary & Sylvia Adams grandson); **Michael Somerfeld USN** (Gary & Mary Somerfeld's son); **Tech Sgt Tanner Tilton USAF** (Millie Birkholz's grandson); **Senior Airman Brady Toole USAF**



Wednesday Morning Ladies' Bible Study

The Wednesday morning ladies' Bible study has just started a new study "*Woman of God.*" Throughout the ten lessons in the study we will be studying about several women in the Bible including: Mary, Deborah, Abigail, Ruth and Naomi. Join us at 9:30 am on Wednesday mornings in the Stahlecher Room for a morning of study and fellowship.



Thursday Morning Men's Bible Study



Men's Bible Study continue meeting on **Thursday mornings at 6:30 am** for an hour of study and fellowship. All the men of the congregation are invited and encouraged to attend.



February at last! Winter can't last much longer. The robins and bluebirds will be back in six weeks! No thumb twiddling while we wait for them! Lenten services will begin in the middle of the month preceded by friendly soup suppers. Put them on your calendar as a top priority!

Another friendly gathering you will enjoy is the **Friday Ladies Bible study**. They will continue their study of the different types of *Psalms*. Know that you are always invited to join them whenever you have opportunity. The group meets from 1:00-3:00 pm on February 2nd, 9th, and 23rd at the home of Marge Johnsten, 3000 8th Ave S.

Yet another congenial group is involved in the **Assisted Living Ministry**. Ladies and gentlemen will provide a devotion and will lead hymn singing at the following locations. On Tuesday, February 13th at 11:00 am they will meet at Bee Hive Home #2 (Clover), 2816 15th Ave S. They will gather for a no host lunch at 11:45 am on Friday, February 16th at JB's Restaurant, 1322 10th Ave S. Afterward many will go to Highgate House, 3000 11th Ave S. It's always a warm family atmosphere at these various gatherings. Treat yourself to these activities that strengthen the faith and fellowship of all involved!





OFFERING COUNTERS ARE NEEDED to assist the Treasurer and Assistant Treasurer count and record the offerings following each Sunday service. No experience is needed. Please call the church office (452-2121) or sign-up on the Chapel doors in the Narthex if you are willing to assist.

THE NEW CHURCH DIRECTORY IS NOW AVAILABLE.

You should have received one in your Narthex mailbox. If not, please contact the church office (406-452-2121) and we will see to it you get one. Please take some time to transfer your old notes, etc. into the new directory so that you will have the correct, current information. Please recycle your old directories or bring them to the church office and we will recycle them for you.



Please update your directories with the following changes. If you are missing any information, please call the church office and we will get the update to you.

ROSENBERG	<i>address change</i>	301 Beth Drive
Dorothy		Great Falls, MT 59405-3731
	<i>telephone change</i>	406-799-3380
CHRISTIANSON	<i>address change</i>	1220 Wilson Rd
Len, Cathy, Kayla		Power, MT 59468-9526
	<i>telephone change</i>	406-463-2567



Looking for an alternative web-based LCMS supported radio station? KFUAO is the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod answer. On the web at www.kfuam.org they broadcast seven days a week from 6:00 am to 8:00 pm Mountain Time (times vary by month). Check them out on the web at www.kfuam.org.

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 duties are a month at a time to fit your 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.



CALENDAR and CARD SALES - The Youth Group is selling 2018 wall and pocket calendars along with Christmas and Every Occasion cards. Prices are \$7 for wall calendar and cards and \$6 for pocket calendars. You can purchase them in the church office or from a youth.



The ladies of the LWML have selected the LWML Mission projects for 2018. They are: the Indian Ministry Project, the Mercy Home and the local Lutherans for Life. Each recipient will receive \$100.

All ladies of the congregation are invited to attend the LWML Lenten Potluck Brunch on February 10th at 10:00 am in the Fellowship Hall. The theme is *"All Eyes on the Cross"* based on the last seven words Christ gave from the cross. The in-gathering will be non-perishable food items for F.I.S.H. Please bring a breakfast item to share.

Registration forms are now available for the Montana District LWML Convention being held in Missoula. This will be April 20-22, 2018, with the ladies of First Lutheran hosting. The theme is: *"Every Tongue Confess"* based

on Philippians 2:11: ... *and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.* The website to register is: <https://www.mtdistrictlwml.com>. Click on 2018 Convention.

Items needed for World Relief Layette Kits

We have receiving blankets and bars of soap for 10 kits.

Items needed to complete layettes that will fit a six to twenty four month old child are:

Cloth diapers	4 per kit	we have 6	Need 32
Socks	2 pair per kit	we have 10 pair	Need 10
Shirts	2 per kit	we have 2	Need 18
Hoodies or sweater and hat	10 per kit	we have 0	Need 10
Sleeping gowns (no feet)	2 per kit	we have 1	Need 19
Diaper pins	2 per kit	we have 14	Need 6
Small dark colored towel	1 per kit	we have 1	Need 19

Items are needed by the end of April for the next World Relief Drive. There is a storage tub in the library where you can deposit these items.

Read through the Gospels or New Testament in Lent ~ Last year you were challenged to read through the New Testament during the 40 days of Lent OR, if you found that to be too daunting a challenge, read through just the Gospels. Some of you took that challenge. We are again throwing down the challenge to Trinity to read through God’s word during Lent. What better way to prepare for Easter than to read the complete story of Jesus’ birth, life, death and resurrection? So dust off your Bible as we read God’s Word through these 40 days of Lent!

Read through the Gospels or New Testament in Lent		
Day	Gospels only	New Testament
February 14	Matthew 1-3	Matthew 1 - 7
15	Matthew 4-6	Matthew 8 - 12
16	Matthew 7-9	Matthew 13 - 18
17	Matthew 10-Matthew 12	Matthew 19 - 24
18	Take a Break	
19	Matthew 13-Matthew 14	Matthew 25 – end of Matthew
20	Matthew 15-Matthew 16	Mark 1 - 5
21	Matthew 17-Matthew 18	Mark 6 - 11
22	Matthew 19-Matthew 20	Mark 12 – end of Mark
23	Matthew 21-Matthew 22	Luke 1 - 4
24	Matthew 23-Matthew 24	Luke 5 - 8
25	Take a Break	
26	Matthew 25-Matthew 26	Luke 9 - 12
27	Matthew 27-Matthew 28	Luke 13 - 19
28	Mark 1-Mark 3	Luke 20 – end of Luke

Birthdays and Baptismal Anniversaries



February 2018

Birthdays

<i>February 2nd</i>	<i>Terry Pearsall</i>	<i>February 15th</i>	<i>Vi Nell (80+)</i>
	<i>Lois Phillips</i>	<i>February 17th</i>	<i>Louise Kuki</i>
<i>February 3rd</i>	<i>Emily Neumann</i>	<i>February 18th</i>	<i>Michael McPherson</i>
<i>February 4th</i>	<i>Gerhard (Gary) Neumann</i>		<i>Alexandria Young</i>
<i>February 5th</i>	<i>Gary Headington</i>	<i>February 19th</i>	<i>Travis Copp</i>
	<i>Randy Klatt</i>	<i>February 20th</i>	<i>Jon Schroeder</i>
<i>February 7th</i>	<i>Lacee Kuki-Isakson</i>		<i>Lauretta Stanfield (80+)</i>
<i>February 8th</i>	<i>Brayden Ginnaty</i>	<i>February 21st</i>	<i>Hunter Sharrah</i>
<i>February 9th</i>	<i>Ron Lee</i>	<i>February 22nd</i>	<i>Nolan Joyce</i>
<i>February 10th</i>	<i>Jill O'Moore</i>	<i>February 23rd</i>	<i>Rayn Ginnaty</i>
<i>February 11th</i>	<i>Laura Lee</i>	<i>February 24th</i>	<i>Austin Webb</i>
	<i>Linda Wade</i>	<i>February 25th</i>	<i>Jerry Grossnick</i>
<i>February 13th</i>	<i>Jacob Mansch</i>	<i>February 26th</i>	<i>Judy Lively</i>
	<i>Myrtle Storhaug (80+)</i>		<i>Melissa Soldano</i>
<i>February 14th</i>	<i>Caleb Bicsak</i>	<i>February 27th</i>	<i>Tracy Lou Miesmer</i>
			<i>Dakota Sharrah</i>

Baptismal Anniversaries

<i>February 1st</i>	<i>Justin Lee</i>	<i>February 22nd</i>	<i>Kathie Gessaman</i>
<i>February 4th</i>	<i>Mick Jones</i>		<i>Louise Keith</i>
<i>February 7th</i>	<i>Kenzie Legg</i>	<i>February 25th</i>	<i>Maryann Chapman</i>
<i>February 8th</i>	<i>Marty Bauer</i>		<i>Tim Chapman</i>
	<i>James Schuman Jr</i>	<i>February 26th</i>	<i>Anita Chapman</i>
<i>February 14th</i>	<i>Hailey Houle</i>		<i>Samuel Chapman</i>
	<i>Hannah Houle</i>	<i>February 27th</i>	<i>Ed Hickel</i>
	<i>Hayden Houle</i>		<i>Henry Schuman</i>
	<i>Lydia Laubach (80+)</i>		
	<i>Sarah Lautenschlager</i>		

