



March 2018

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



Bearing Good Fruit

Hudson Taylor, a Nineteenth Century British missionary to China, is reported to have said, “God’s work, done in God’s way, will not lack God’s supply.” To know God’s way, we need to know His Holy Word. Or to say it another way: you need to know your Bible.

St. Paul, before he spends two chapters on giving, wrote that every thought is to be taken captive to the obedience of Christ (*2 Corinthians 10:5*).

Doctrine matters. And doctrine matters because the Scriptures matter. And the Scriptures matter because this is where we learn the teaching of Christ. Our thoughts must be brought into line with the teaching of Scripture so that our work is what God wants done and so that we do this work in His way.

A good tree bears good fruit. A bad tree bears bad fruit. We have been made good trees in holy baptism. We are fertilized and pruned for bearing good fruit by constantly hearing God’s Word preached and taught in sermon and Bible Class and in receiving the life-giving, faith-sustaining food of the Lord’s Supper. Remember your doctrine, hold on to the Lord’s teaching, and your thoughts will be taken captive to the obedience of Christ.

Bringing every thought captive to the obedience of Christ is recognizing that God does provide. The Lord’s Prayer teaches us to pray for daily bread. Praying this day in and day out reminds us that the Lord is the giver of our daily bread, and that we are to give thanks for His daily provision of it.

God is rarely early and never late in His work, as Abraham learned, “on the mount of the Lord it will be provided” (*Genesis 22:14*). The Lord’s generosity forms our generosity in return. Thus, we set aside for the work of God a generous, first-fruits, proportion of the daily bread that God has given to us. This act of trust in the Lord’s provision is the working out of our faith in Him.

When budgetary discussions pop up, our natural reaction is to point fingers. But remember your doctrine, and what your mother taught about pointing fingers. Our first natural reaction is not always right. In fact, when our thoughts are brought into captivity of Christ, our first reaction should be repentance.

It should raise questions in our own lives. As good trees in Christ who are to bear good fruit, we should ask whether our thoughts are taken captive by obedience to Christ. Have we given generously? Have we given our first-fruits? You know. And God knows. “For the eyes of the Lord run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to show Himself strong on behalf of those whose heart is loyal to Him” (*2 Chronicles 16:9*).

God will provide. He always has and He always will. He gives His meat in due season. He has not left you as orphans, but has grafted you into His own family. You belong to Him. Remember this, letting this thought dwell in you richly. And you will then be rich toward others. (*LCMS Stewardship Ministries*)

Your Shepherd in Christ

Pastor Gerald Paul

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

A Letter from the Seminary Student We Support

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.

Business as usual is the theme for the past month. Not much has changed here, we get some snow, it melts, and then it snows again. Classes meet, I finish some homework, and then I work on other homework. We are still in the Winter Quarter here, which actually began two weeks before Christmas. This year is the first time I have heard it called the quarter that never ends, but I have to agree with that name. We get three weeks off in the middle of it, but it makes the quarter seem to last forever. Yet, it is drawing to an end, and in two weeks we will be on a break before we start the next quarter.

The reminders that Call Day, April 25th, is approaching have been subdued to this point. It comes up in conversation every once in a while, but for the most part people have been quiet. I expect this change after the start of the next quarter, then it will become an incessant topic. This will also increase the excitement as I wait to find out where I will be called as a pastor. In the mean time I would appreciate your prayers as I wait.

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 have heard there is some interest in my address so I have put it at the bottom of this letter. Again, thank you for all that you have done, and may God bless you as we enter this Lenten season.

In Christ,
Gideon Pullmann

6600 N Clinton St
Box 418
Fort Wayne, IN 46825

Wee Disciples Lutheran School and Child Care Center



Upcoming Wee Disciples events:

March 16th at 5:00 pm – The Missions and Evangelism committee is sponsoring a St. Patrick's Day corn beef and cabbage feed for all Wee Disciples and Trinity families. Please bring a salad or side dish to share. It is wonderful to have several groups of our church involved in outreach and fellowship to Wee Disciples and Trinity families.

We have such an awesome opportunity to share the gospel with children and families each day. Lent is an especially important time. We invite you to share in our Easter Celebration on April 3rd at 6:30 and join us for treats afterward.

Registration is open for preschool, K-1 and After School classes for the 2018-19 school year. Please contact us if you know of someone who may be interested.

Summer Planning is in progress! There are so many opportunities to learn interesting life skills and integrate Bible learning into them. We would love to have congregation members come to share a skill or hobby with the children. Please contact us if you are interested in sharing a Bible story or something you enjoy with the children. It can be any size group!

*God's blessings,
Debbie Lee ~ Director
and the Wee Disciples Staff*

40 Days for Life ~ Prayer Vigil continues through Palm Sunday. LFL has organized three dates for standing in front of Planned Parenthood. The next two are: Friday-- March 9th – 7:00 am to 7:00 pm and Wednesday--March 21st – 7:00 am to 5:00 pm.

Look for a new “promote life” bench ad at 4th and 9th Street South, two blocks from Planned Parenthood. If you don't come and stand, pray at home for an end to this tragedy that has killed 60 times the number of people who live in Montana. There isn't a city in the USA that has 60 million citizens, the number of lives aborted in the last 45 years.

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



Alice Irion 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; **Dorothy Rosenberg** at Rivers Edge Assisted Living; **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); **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 group is halfway through the study *Woman of God*. Each week we study one lesson from the Bible study and will be finished with this study at the end of March. We meet every Wednesday morning from 9:30 am to 11:00 am in the Stahlecker Room. Join us for a morning of fellowship as we study God's Word together.



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.



The bluebirds will be in the mountains and the first robins will be in our yards by the 15th of March. Woo hoo! Can spring be far behind! The return of migratory birds, the reawakening of the earth are welcome signs of God's changing seasons. With the seasonal change from winter to spring, we travel in March through Lent and Holy Week. What a blessing these worship services are as they focus on our Lord's passion.

The **Friday Ladies Bible study** will meet only once this month for Bible study. Join them Friday, March 23rd from 1:00-3:00 pm to enjoy the *Psalms* at the home of Marge Johnsten, 3000 8th Ave S.

Assisted Living Ministry with a devotion and hymn singing will meet at the following locations. On Tuesday, March 13th at 11:00 am they will meet at Bee Hive Home #2 (Clover Home), 2816 15th Ave S. There will be a no host lunch at 11:45 am on Friday, March 16th at Maple Garden, 5401 9th Ave S. After lunch many will go to Highgate House, 3000 11th Ave S. It's been a long and confining winter for some of the assisted living residents. Come and brighten their day with God's love!



Need a Ride to Church? Weather and roads keeping you from getting to Sunday worship? Just don't drive? Need a ride to church? Call the church office (406-452-2121) Thursdays before 3:00 pm and we have a group of people in the congregation who will be more than happy to give you a ride.

Drivers Needed! We are looking for individuals who would be willing to occasionally give a ride to church to some of our members who do not drive. If you would be willing to be on the "on-call" list, please contact the church office.



OFFERING COUNTERS ARE NEEDED to assist the Treasurer and Assistant Treasure 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.

Comparison of Giving Report - 2018

**For the Period January 28th through February 18th
Comparison of Income to our Monthly budget needs**

Our <u>minimum monthly budget need</u> is:	\$16,450
Actual giving for report period ~ \$15,060	a shortfall of \$1,390
January 28 th	\$3,022
February 4 th	\$5,697
February 11 th	\$2,995
February 18 th	\$3,346



If you have any questions, please call me at 868-2260. James Lautenschlager, Assistant Treasurer



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.

EASTER LILIES



The Altar Committee will once again be placing an order for lilies to grace our altar for Easter. If you would like to donate toward the purchase of these lilies, please make a separate check payable to *Trinity Lutheran Church*, designate on the check "**For Easter Lilies**" and drop it into the offering plate. **If you would like your donation in memory or honor of a loved one, please attach a note with the details to your check or contact Cheryl Bauer at the church office 452-2121 with that information.**

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.



Thank you to everyone who attended the work sessions and helped make the backpacks for our Indian ministry project. All 50 backpacks have been completed. The next step in the project will be the purchasing of needed supplies and filling the backpacks. Fifty t-shirts (designed by Pastor Jacobs) have been ordered and

will be given along with the backpacks. Thanks to Heidi, Barbara, and Myrna for applying for Thrivent Action Team projects to help us with this mission outreach project. We are also working on another mission outreach project using funds from a Thrivent Action Team project that Alice applied for--providing snow pants to needy children at a local elementary school and helping purchase either a textbook or reference book for Trinity's seminary student. Trinity LWML recently sent a \$100 donation to the local Lutherans for Life group, fulfilling our first mission project commitment for 2018.

~ Twenty-three people attended the Lenten brunch on Saturday, February 10th.

~ The March 10th group gathering will have a short business meeting at 9:30 am followed by a presentation at 10:00 am by Bonnie Mitchell from *Echoz Pregnancy Care Center*. All ladies of the congregation are invited to attend.

~ Cookies are needed for the cookie trays for Trinity's shut-ins. We will need six ladies to bring two dozen cookies each to the March meeting. We will be packaging the cookies following the meeting and will also be in need of people willing to deliver the cookies to the shut-ins.

~ LWML Board meeting will be on March 28th at 11:15 am.

~ Registration packets for the *2018 LWML Montana District Convention* are available on the narthex bulletin board. The convention will be held at First Lutheran Church in Missoula, April 20-22, 2018.

~ Items are still needed for the layettes and school backpacks for *Lutheran World Relief*. A list of needed items is posted on the narthex bulletin board. Layettes and backpacks will be assembled at the April 25th board meeting. LWR truck will pick up items in Billings on Saturday, May 12th.

The Lutheran Witness and Portals of Prayer ~ It is time again to renew our subscriptions to *The Lutheran Witness* and *Portals of Prayer*.

The Lutheran Witness subscription is \$15.96 for a year and the *Portals of Prayer* subscription is \$8.60 for regular size; \$16.00 for digest size; and \$17.00 for large print.

If you are currently receiving these items and wish to continue those subscriptions, please place your renewal check in the offering plate, mail it or bring it to the church office. **Be sure to indicate what you are subscribing to with specifics so that we get the products you want. Deadline is Monday, April 2, 2018!**

Read through the Gospels or New Testament in Lent ~ continues

Read through the Gospels or New Testament in Lent		
Day	Gospels only	New Testament
March 1	Mark 4-Mark 6	John 1 - 5
2	Mark 7-Mark 9	John 6 - 9
3	Mark 10-Mark 12	John 10 - 14
4	Take a Break	
5	Mark 13-Mark 14	John 15 - end
6	Mark 15-Mark 16	Acts 1 - 6
7	Luke 1-Luke 3	Acts 7 - 11
8	Luke 4-Luke 6	Acts 12 - 17
9	Luke 7-Luke 9	Acts 18 - 23
10	Luke 10-Luke 12	Acts 24 - end
11	Take a Break	
12	Luke 13-Luke 14	Romans 1 - 8
13	Luke 15-Luke 16	Romans 9 - end
14	Luke 17-Luke 18	1 Corinthians 1 - 8
15	Luke 19-Luke 20	1 Corinthians 9 - 16
16	Luke 21-Luke 22	2 Corinthians
March 17	Luke 23-Luke 24	Galatians 1
18	Take a Break	
19	John 1-John 2	Ephesians 1
20	John 3-John 4	Philippians & Colossians
21	John 5-John 6	1 Thessalonians & 2 Thessalonians
22	John 7-John 8	1 Timothy & 2 Timothy
23	John 9-John 10	Titus & Philemon & Hebrews 1 - 7
24	John 11-John 12	Hebrews 8 - end
25	Take a Break	
26	John 13-John 14	James
27	John 15-John 16	1 Peter & 2 Peter
28	John 17-John 18	1 John & 2 John & 3 John & Jude
29	John 19-John 20	Revelation 1 - 7
30	John 21	Revelation 8 - 16
31	1 Corinthians 15	Revelation 17 - end
April 1	It's Easter!	

Wedding Anniversaries, Birthdays and Baptismal Anniversaries



Don ♥ Debbie Lee (37)

March 28th

March 1st

March 2nd

March 3rd

March 5th

March 6th

March 7th

March 8th

March 9th

March 11th

March 13th

March 14th

March 15th

March 16th

March 17th

March 18th

March 19th

March 21st

March 22nd

March 24th

March 25th

March 27th

March 29th

March 31st



Kathleen Hall, Emilie Legg, Randi Meehan

Tristan Almon, Rachel Hill

Michael Bicsak, Sherrie VanVleet

Trinity Legg

Justin Thompson

Alan Larsen

Derek Jones

Rose Shelden

Trina Mans

Marjory Fischer

Ryan Nommensen

Ron Copp

Virginia Abbott (80+), Courtney Western

Ruth Schwartzenberger (80+)

Shawn Shaw

Sylvia Adams, Joyce Stanger, Kelcie VanVoast

Don Lee

Millie Birkholz (80+), Cheryl Dalla Mura, Mick Kessel, Spencer Payne

Matthias Paul, Shelly Vernon, **Juanita Winter (80+)**

Trevyn Mans

Xander Dalke, **Jay Schlecht (80+)**

Jason Young

Ivan Buhmann (80+), Kaci Felstet, Jerry Mans, **Russ Waetzig (80+)**



March 4th

March 5th

March 8th

March 9th

March 10th

March 13th

March 16th

March 17th

March 18th

March 20th

March 21st

March 24th

March 27th

March 28th

March 29th

March 30th

March 31st



Alexandria Thompson, Justin Thompson

Trina Mans

Joseph Nommensen

Anita Erickson, O.D. Jones, Mattie Norris

Blaize Wegner

Kelly Norris, Courtney Walker

Nolan Joyce

Jacob Mansch

Ivan Buhmann

Kaden Hill

Judy Lively, Trevyn Mans

Alan Larsen, Jessi Payne, **Alvina Presler (80+)**, **Myrtle Storhaug (80+)**

Jerry Grosenick, Amayah Hill

Travis Copp, Brayden Ginnaty

Courtney Western

Lacee Kuki-Isakson, Emilie Legg

Gary Neumann, Bud Quickensen Jr.