



TRINITY CONNECTION

JULY 8, 2022

Dear Beloved of Trinity,

I've had a lot of time to think as my sister and I sit vigil at my dad's bedside as he lives out his last days on earth.

There have been so many changes lately. His body is telling him it can no longer function as it has; a hospital bed has been set up in my sister's living room; the Hospice nurse visits more often; gentle hands rotate him; visitors quietly visit; we watch a lot of TV; we learn how to fill syringes of medicine; we learn what happens to the body as it shuts down.

My sister and I have fallen into routines. I sleep on the couch next to his bed listening for his breathing patterns. My sister sets her alarm so we can give him his medication throughout the night. We hold his hands and softly speak words of comfort. I know he hears us. No longer does he wink at us or joke with us. No longer do those bright blue eyes sparkle.

"Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God, trust in me. I go to prepare a place for you. When everything is ready, I will come and get you. You know the way", Jesus told his disciples at his last meal with them. (John 14) His disciples speak perhaps out of fear or uncertainty when they say, "we do not know the way." Jesus assures them, "I am the way, the truth and the life, no one comes to the Father except through me. Do not let your hearts be troubled."

I have spoken these words of assurance at many funerals. I believe them and I trust them. It's a sad time but I have the knowledge that Jesus will take my dad's hand and they will go to that prepared place which is in the everlasting arms.

Sitting at the bedside of a dying person is holy ground. I have had that privilege to be with many people as they breathe their last breath. Right now, it's my dad. It's different for me this time. Still holy, still hard.

I know that most of you have been through what I'm going through now. You have wept and laughed as you sat vigil, also. Joy does come in the morning as promised. And new life still springs forth each day.

Phil and I were on our way to a family gathering as I was to baptize our littlest grandson when we got the call that my dad was unresponsive. We turned around and headed to Rochester. My wonderful son-in-law stepped in and did the baptism and new life in Christ was born. There will be new life for my dad soon. Jesus is the way, the truth and the life. We believe it!

After a day of being unresponsive, my dad had two good days of being alert and talkative. What a blessing that was. But unfortunately, my mom, being home from rehab one week, fell and broke another bone so she's in the hospital. It's very hard on her to be separated from her husband. Please pray for peace to rain down on our family. Pray for a peaceful passing for my dad. I pray for you, also. We are the body of Christ and together we walk the journeys of life.

Our sermon series this week is all about the Gospels, which means "good news". Through life and death, Jesus is the good news for us, my friends

In faith,
Deacon Christie

Church Calendar

Tuesday, July 12

6:30 am: Men's Breakfast

Thursday, July 14

5:30 pm: TOPS

Sunday, July 17

9:00 am: Worship (online and in person)

Blessing of Youth Attending High
School Mission Trip

Upcoming Important Dates

July 23-31: High School Youth Mission Trip to
Huntington, WV

July 27: Trinity Lutheran Preschool Rummage
Sale

Attendance

Sunday, July 3

9:00 am: 132

Church Finances

Week of July 3, 2022

Total Operating Cost: \$11,735

Actual Total Giving: \$ 7,682

Difference of: \$ 4,053

Total operating cost represents all expenses including staff costs, benevolences, supplies, outreach, and our mortgage payment. If you have questions regarding the budget, please contact Tommy Pollema at 321-3057.

Ways to Give

Online

Giving: www.teatrinity.org/give

Text Giving: (605) 777-7223

Envelopes: In-person or
Mail to the church

July Globe Offering

SLOVAKIA MISSIONARY SUPPORT

Prayer Requests

- Greg Myrmoe
- Steve Jelen's dad Gene
- Melva Hilmoe's brother and Sarah Hilmoe's uncle Fred Tidemann
- Michael Schmidt's uncle Larry Schmidt
- Jami Atkin's dad Kevin Roth
- Gordon & Dorothy Fritz's son Carl Fritz
- Deacon Christie's mom, Maxine Thoreson and father Orland Thoreson
- Delmer Otten's mom, Delores Otten
- Janice Gilbert's dad, Dale Hargens
- Delores Wells' brother & brother-in-law, Roy Wells and Jerry Boellaard
- Linda Dannen's sister, Sandi Larson
- Sympathy for the family and friends of Rev. Denice Bossman's wife, Beryl Bossman



Summer Schedule: May 29 — Sept 5

Sunday Worship
Coffee/Cookies: 8:30 am
Worship: 9:00 am

Office Hours
Monday—Thursday
8:30am—4:30pm
Friday: 8:30-Noon

Join us this summer as Deacon Christie continues her Sermon Series "Tell the Story Be the Story". We will also be doing "Name Tag Sundays" as a way to get to know others as we blend our 3 services into one.

WELCA Bible Study

Thursday, July 21
1:30 pm
in the Fellowship Hall



Join us as we study "Crafted in Christ" and how the pieces of our lives and communities are bound together in Christ. All are welcome!



Lutheran World Relief school kits now available!

July 10—Sept. 30

Back to school sales are starting and our Lutheran World Relief school kits are now available in the Gathering Space to pick up! Each empty bag has a supply list attached. Feel free to pick up a bag and purchase the supplies and return to the Gathering Space by the end of September. Contact the church office with any questions.

Pave the Way to Huntington

We are so close to meeting our fundraising goal:

\$2,600

We are in the final couple weeks before our high school youth will be traveling to Huntington, West Virginia. A group of 19 Trinity youth and 6 adult leaders will be serving God and the community of Huntington at a Work Camp through the organization Group Mission Trips.

Please consider helping our youth "Go Serve" and pave their way to Huntington by donating. Your donation can be dropped off at the church office.

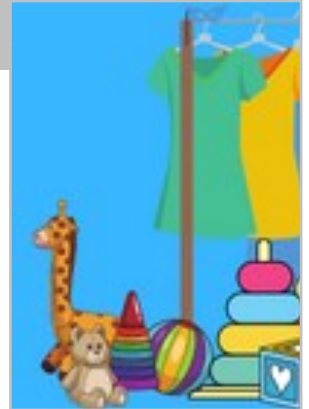
Personal Care and Hygiene Donations Needed

Did you know that the Tea Area Food Pantry not only distributes food to those in need but also personal care and hygiene products as well. We are currently in need of the following:
Shampoo (regular size), Conditioner (regular size), Body wash (regular size),
Toothbrushes, Toothpaste (all sizes) and Liquid hand soap.
Donations can be dropped off at the church office.

Trinity Lutheran Preschool Rummage Sale

Wednesday, July 27
8:00 am to 6:00 pm

Don't miss out on this sale! It's a perfect time to get your back to school shopping done. All proceeds will go to the Trinity Lutheran Preschool. Shop for new and gently use adult and children's clothing, toys and housewares. We are accepting donations of new or gently used items including toys, small housewares, men's, women's, kid's and baby clothing. No kitchen appliance please. Donations can be dropped off at the church.



Sunday School Summer Challenge and Fall Registration

No Sunday School, no problem! We encourage the children to follow Jesus year round!
There is still time to take part in the Summer Challenge!

Sunday School will be starting up soon and our registration is open! Our first day will be Rally Sunday, Sept. 11. Join us every Sunday between worship services, 9:15 - 10:15 am.
Grades Pre-K through 4th grade. Volunteers are needed!

Call the church office for more information!

FLASH BACK: Sunday School kids have enjoyed having the TVs in the rooms!

