



Trinity Lutheran Church
605-498-2343
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www.teatrinity.org

TRINITY CONNECTION

JUNE 16, 2023

...When he had spent everything, a severe famine took place throughout that country, and he began to be in need. So, he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed the pigs. He would gladly have filled himself with the pods that the pigs were eating, and no one gave him anything. From the Parable of the Prodigal son in Luke 15:14-16

Dear friend in Christ,

Many years ago, the Lutheran professor, Mark Allan Powell, asked his class of twelve American seminary students why the son in the parable was hungry. Each of them quickly responded, “because he squandered his money.” Finding this response interesting, Dr. Powell created an experiment where he asked 100 people to listen closely to the parable and then retell it in their own words. Of the 100 hundred only six mentioned the famine, even though it is clearly mentioned in the text as one of the reasons. The group was diverse in age, ethnic background, and socioeconomic status. The only thing they had in common was being American. Still intrigued, the experiment spread to a Lutheran seminary in St. Petersburg, Russia where he gathered fifty students to retell the story. Forty-two of the participants said that famine was the reason the son was hungry. Why did they respond this way? From their grandparents, these students had learned that it doesn’t matter how much money you have when a famine strikes. When there is no food, everyone starves. From 1941-1944, St. Petersburg, then known as Leningrad, lived under total siege during the Nazi advance into Russia. Some estimate that nearly 800,000 inhabitants died from exposure and starvation.

Powell called the first groups, “famine-forgetters.” If a person has never been truly hungry, it can be difficult to imagine the reality of starvation and food insecurity. This Sunday, we continue with our sermon series entitled “Bridges to the World” with an exploration of this parable and education about Lutheran World Relief and ELCA World Hunger. You may know about LWR mainly through the distribution of quilts, school kits, and hygiene kits that Trinity has assembled for many years. Did you know that economic development, sustainability, and food security programs are key to these ministries as well.

Jesus feeds people in body and soul. We are invited to examine our own thinking and blind spots so that we can feel others, too.

Peace and best wishes,
Pastor Tom Opoien

Church Calendar

Summer Office Hours

8:30 am - 4:30 pm Monday - Thursday

8:30 am - Noon Friday

Tuesday, June 20

6:30 am: Men's Breakfast

Thursday, June 22

11:15 am: Meals on Wheels Delivery

1:30 pm: WELCA Bible Study

5:30 pm: TOPS

Sunday, June 25

8:30am: Coffee and Cookies

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

Tuesday, June 27

6:30 am: Men's Breakfast

9:30 am: Blood Pressure Screening

10:00 am: Over 55 Meeting and Potluck Lunch

Upcoming Important Dates

July 4: Church office closed due to the holiday

Attendance

Sunday, June 11

9:00 am: 208

Church Finances

Week of June 11, 2023

Total Operating Cost: \$13,205

Actual Total Giving: \$12,533

Difference of: - \$ 672

Year to Date

Total Operating Cost: \$316,920

Actual Total Giving: \$212,764

Difference of: \$104,156

June Globe Offering \$ 517

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 Margaret Larsen at 605-351-8561.

Ways to Give

Online Giving: www.teatrinity.org Click "GIVE"

Text Giving: (605) 777-7223

Envelopes: In-person or Mail to the church

June Globe Offering

THE BANQUET

Prayer Requests

- Linda Stucky
- Deanna Anderson and baby, Henry James
- Sharon Nelson
- Sonia Ensz
- Ken Kahl
- Greg Myrmoe
- Ray Kelly
- Dorothy Fritz
- Melva Hilmoie's brother & Sarah Hilmoie's uncle Fred Tidemann
- Michael Schmidt's uncle Larry Schmidt
- Jami Atkin's dad Kevin Roth

- Gordon & Dorothy Fritz's son Carl & daughter Margaret
- Delmer Otten's mom, Delores Otten
- Delores Wells' brother & brother-in-law, Roy Wells & Jerry Boellaard
- Amy Kuhnert's family member, Jeremy Josephson
- Shirley Oltmann's sister, Linda Goulet
- Larry Panning & Jo Garner's sister-in-law, Pam Panning
- Micki Slykhuis' cousin, Ryan Guthmiller



WELCA Bible Study

****NEW DATE****

Thursday, June 22

1:30 pm

in the Fellowship Hall

Join us as we study "Promised Salvation Now—Jesus Brings Wellness." Everyone serves the good wine first, and then the inferior wine after the guests have become drunk. But you have kept the good wine until now." -John 2:10 All are welcome!

Over 55 Group

Tuesday, June 27

9:30 am—Blood Pressure Screening

10:00 am—Meeting and Potluck Lunch

in the Fellowship Hall

Join us for fellowship a short meeting, a presentation by Dr. Lowery come and giving us a update on what's going on in the Tea Area Schools, a devotion and a potluck lunch! All are welcome.

**OVER
55**

Preschool Rummage Sale

Wednesday, July 26

7:30 am - 6:00 pm

Thursday, July 27

7:30 am - 1:00 pm

**PRESCHOOL
RUMMAGE SALE**

We are now accepting donations of new or gently used items including toys, small housewares, men's, women's, kid's and baby clothing. **No appliances please.**

Donations can be dropped off at the church during business hours Monday - Thursday 8:30 am - 4:30 pm and Friday 8:30 am - noon. Please check in with the office prior to dropping off your donations.

2023—2024 Sunday School Registration and Volunteer Signup

It isn't too soon to signup for next year, 2023-2024 Sunday School!

- Sunday mornings between worship services (9:15 - 10:15 am)
- First day of Sunday School is Celebration Sunday, August 20th
- Sunday School Ages: Pre-K to 4th grade

We are also looking for volunteers of all kinds:
classroom teachers, music leaders, occasional volunteers and junior teachers!

Call the church office to register or learn more at 605-498-2343!

2023—2024 Kids For Christ (KFC) Registration

**Kids for Christ (KFC)
Wednesday evenings
7:15—8:15 pm
following 6:30 pm worship**

2023-2024 KFC Registration is now open! KFC (Kids for Christ) Youth Group meets on Wednesday evenings during the school year - alternating 5th grade one week and 6th grade the next week. These early middle school years can be challenging for kids to navigate. KFC offers an opportunity for them to come together to learn how to grow their relationship with God, learn how to grow their relationships with each other, and we have some fun along the way. We also provide various music, service projects, and volunteer opportunities throughout the year.

Call the church office to register or learn more at 605-498-2343!

Thank you for attending Trinity's CommuniTEA Picnic!

Thank you to everyone that joined us for our CommuniTEA Picnic on Wednesday! It was a beautiful day for great food, fellowship and music. Plus the kids had a blast checking out the school bus, fire truck and police cars! We could not have done this without our amazing volunteers and our council for putting this event together.

A special thank you to those that donated: Hoffman's Farm, Casey's, Frito Lay, Fareway, Valley Exchange Bank and Bimbo Bakeries USA. See you next year!

Thank you to everyone who donated blood!

We had a terrific blood drive on Wednesday with a total of 20 units donated, helping 60 local patients. Thanks so much for all your support of Community Blood Bank. We look forward to seeing you again at Trinity's next blood drive on September 5.

June Food Pantry Donation: Muffin Mix and Cookies (non-bakery)

Due to the raising cost of food the Food Pantry has seen an increase in clients in the past few months. We are featuring a monthly collection item. Feel free to pick up an extra item or two when out shopping to help those in need! In the month of June we will be collecting muffin mix and cookies (non bakery) fruit. Donations can be dropped off in the Gathering Space. If you have questions or would like to make a monetary donation, please contact the church office or call Ruth at 605-321-7325.

**Thank you to all that attended, volunteered and donated
to the CommuniTEA Picnic!**

