

TRINITY LUTHERAN

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Hymn of the Month “Touch That Soothes and Heals” ACS #939

Touch that soothes and heals the hurting, hands that break a loaf of bread; steps that walk beside the weary, bearing burdens in their stead: “See my hands and feet,” said Jesus, love arisen from the grave. “Be my hands and feet,” said Jesus, “live as ones I died to save.”

We Pray For

We pray for Barb Kunkel; Carla Boggs; Barb Allner; Diane Riediger; Bill Nagel; Ed Kunkel; those in addictions/recovery; all who are grieving; victims of extreme weather and natural disasters, violence and domestic abuse.

For those battling cancer: Jayme Webb –breast cancer.

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From the Pastor

“SLOW DOWN. TAKE A DEEP BREATH. WHAT’S THE HURRY?
WHY WEAR YOURSELF OUT? JUST WHAT ARE YOU AFTER ANYWAY?”
JEREMIAH 2:25 (THE MESSAGE BIBLE)

Greeting, dear Siblings in Christ,

I am writing this while sitting in a hotel room in Des Moines. Tomorrow, (Monday, September 29th, 2025) the Tri-Synod Theological Conference begins. All the ELCA pastors in Iowa should be here.

The three hour drive here this afternoon gave me time to think. The majority of the drive was on two-lane country roads, 55 mph, frequent small towns, slower speeds, and random stop signs.

I saw very few other drivers, but when I did, I discovered the quickest way to anger them. Follow the posted speed limit. Cars came up fast behind me, passed in less than a heartbeat, still several managed to flip me off. I did the math, had I gone 5 miles over the speed limit, I still only would have saved 15 minutes. That isn't all that much when the drive is 3 hours. Some of these cars racing past me were only going a few miles, by rushing around, they saved seconds, maybe a minute.

I know some of you rush around. A previous bishop of Western Iowa, Roger Prois, was known for his speeding, and also the massive number of warnings and tickets he received. My last speeding ticket was in 2006 (it is actually my only speeding ticket). Before that I sped a lot. And not just a few miles over the speed limit. That one ticket, I was lucky, I was pulled over doing 70 in a 45. The officer was kind and wrote the ticket for 1 mile over the limit.

The point of this is, because I wasn't rushing, I was able to relax and enjoy the drive. 3 hours of hills and valleys, corn and bean fields, small towns, farmsteads, wildlife, and farmers in the fields. I was able to enjoy the gifts that God has given us.

Our culture encourages rushing around, taking the quicker or easier way. When we rush around, what are we chasing after? If we do more do we think we have earned more? Are we more deserving? By running faster, will we add a moment more onto our lives? Take time, rest, enjoy the world, be fully present in the moment, with people you love.

Blessings and Peace,

Rev. Ed

Birthdays

- 1 - Ashley Martin
Steve McElrath
Abby Orlando
- 2 - Marcia Kuehl
Mike Orlando
Everett Ruhler
- 5 - Randi Weaver
- 6 - Randy Beaver
- 7 - Mishelle Powell
Natalie Stamm
- 9 - Kaylie Coulter
- 13 - Bret Hayworth
- 14 - Nolan Corbin
Gail Ploen
- 15 - Matt Rogers
- 17 - Roger Christiansen
Steve Ploen
- 18 - Patrick Coulter
Cody Molland
- 20 - Michael Allner
- 22 - Leah Ringkob
- 23 - Andy Beaver
Kim Mitchell
- 25 - Stefani Lindgren
- 28 - Sydney Gilles

Anniversaries

- 28 - Shane & Kim Mitchell
(1993)
- 12 - Denny & Dawn Bain (1991)
- 13 - Jacob & Mary Hagan (2018)
- 14 - Carter & Katie Swanger
(2023)
- 29 - Nick & Liz Wahlberg (2011)

Thank you!

- September Worship Assistants
- Ruth Chartier for playing beautiful music for us during worship
- Everyone who participated in God's Work, Our Hands Sunday
- All the KidZone Volunteers!!

October Worship Assistants

- Organist: Ruth Chartier
- Altar Guild: Janna Brandt & Jan Stroman
- Scripture Reader: Ann Hopp
- Offertory Accountants: Steve & Lisa Rippke
- Tech Assistant: Rebecca Brockhaus

What's going on at TLC?

God's Work, Our Hands Sunday

Thank you to all who participated in God's Work, Our Hands Sunday on September 7th. Quilts were worked on, blankets were tied, and kits were assembled, all with a side of lively conversation. Special thanks to Gloria Healy for heading up the LWR kits and ensuring that our church continues to make a meaningful impact on the world.

Bishop Installation of Rev. Scott Dalen

The Installation of the Western Iowa Synod Bishop Scott Dalen took place on Saturday, September 27 at Saint John Lutheran Church in Council Bluffs, Iowa. Pastor Ed and Kymberly were in attendance along with Blake & Sadie Stratton and Ruth Chartier. Presiding Bishop Eaton delivered a wonderful sermon. It was a great time of celebration.



Companion Synod Sunday

Companion Synod Sunday is October 5. This is a wonderful time to remember and honor our companion synod in Tanzania. Pastor Ed will have more information to share with us in church at 9:00 on Sunday. A special offering will also take place. This offering will be sent to our Companion Synod so that they can continue God's mission for them.



What's going on at TLC?

Soup and Pie Luncheon

On Sunday, November 2, Trinity Lutheran will be hosting their third annual Soup and Pie Luncheon. There will be a sign-up sheet to bring soup or pies and a sign-up sheet to volunteer at the event. Confirmation students are encouraged to volunteer and participate. All are welcome!!

Confirmation Volunteers

The council has voted to have a church member present at every confirmation course. This is a fantastic way for us to connect with the youth and to share your knowledge. Confirmation class runs from 6:00-7:00 PM every Wednesday. If you would like to sign up, please contact Pastor Ed or the church office.

Intergenerational Worship

Trinity Lutheran will be having an intergenerational worship on Sunday, October 12. This is a great time to build connections and relationships. If you would like to participate, we need all ages, please let Sadie Stratton, Pastor Ed, or the church office know.

TLC COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

August 2025

Trinity Lutheran Church

Date: Sunday, August 10, 2025

Present: Roger Christiansen, John Ringkob, Cindy Ploen, Lynn Morgan, Corey Steffen, Deb Wilcke, Denny Bain, Blake Stratton, Sonia Locke, Pastor Ed

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by President Blake Stratton at 10:17AM.

Opening: Prayer

Pastor's Report

- Open camp to other kids than only those in confirmation

Announce:

- Synod / ELCA updates

- CWA Recap - Blake gave a recap of his experience at churchwide assembly. Good experience, elected new bishop, Curry, from Chicago. Elected new secretary of the ELCA, Lucille Mills, from North Carolina. Approved constitutional changes, hoping they are passed down by fall so we can vote on them.

- Scott Dalen will be installed as Bishop on Sept. 27th at St. John's in Council Bluffs. Please RSVP if you plan to attend. Pastor Ed, Kymberly, Ruth, Blake, Sadie plan to attend.

- Yehiel Curry will be installed as Presiding Bishop on Oct. 4th at Central Lutheran in Minneapolis.

- Additional announcements

- Backpack blessing during worship the 24th

- Kidzone children need to register. Spread the word!

- August 31st is the last day to register kids for Kids Zone
- Parent meeting will be August 23rd at 4:00

- Confirmation parent meeting August 20th at 6:00

Discuss/Follow-Up:

● Church building / Parsonage

- Shed on Parsonage property will be delivered Thursday
- Lawn care - sprayed again
- Plumbing at parsonage - ok
- Parsonage has some siding / soffit that is missing - needs replaced
- Downstairs bathrooms, vertical bars? Vanities need to be painted - we have paint

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Trinity Lutheran Church

Church Directory Update

- Erica Christiansen available to take pictures on Sept. 27th & Oct. 5 from 4-7
- Instant Church Directory- code from email, can decide what you want to share, options, etc
- Packages start at about \$50
- Online version can be updated

● God's Work, Our Hands - Sept 7th - Will pack LWR Kits again. Potluck to follow

○ Designate funds for supplies for LWR kits (see motion in decide)

● Confirmation 2025-2026 - Review and approve updated requirements as necessary (see motion in decide)

● Kidzone and Confirmation start Sept 3.

● Kidzone bank account - vote to add/remove people and get a debit card (see motion in decide)

● Old ACH papers - save for 7 years

Decide:

• Motion made by Cindy Ploen, seconded by Deb Wilcke, for council to designate \$250 to God's Work Our Hands. The motion passed unanimously.

• Motion made by Sonia Locke, seconded by Denny Bain, to approve the TLC Confirmation Expectations & Requirements. The motion passed unanimously.

• Motion made by Roger Christiansen, seconded by Corey Steffen, to approve Sadie Stratton, Sherry Beaver, and Lynn Morgan be added to the Kids Zone bank account; also that Kids Zone get a debit card, receipts required when used. The motion passed unanimously.

● Motion made by John Ringkob, seconded by Cindy Ploen, to approve July Council Meeting Minutes. The motion passed unanimously.

● Motion made by Denny Bain, seconded by Roger Christiansen, to approve July Treasurer's Report. The motion passed unanimously.

● Sept. Council Meeting is set for Sept. 14 following worship.

Adjourn : Motion made by Pastor Ed, seconded by Denny Bain, to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 11:20AM.

Closed with the Lord's Prayer

Respectfully Submitted,

Deb Wilcke - notes taken

Jill Stratton, Council Secretary

OCTOBER

2025

| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|--|--------|---------|---|----------|--------|----------|
| 28 | 29 | 30 | 1 1:00 PM SEWING GROUP 3:30 PM KIDZONE 6:00 PM CONFIRMATION | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 5 COMPANION SYNOD SUNDAY 9:00 COUNCIL MEETING 10:15 | 6 | 7 | 8 1:00 PM SEWING GROUP 3:30 PM KIDZONE 6:00 PM CONFIRMATION | 9 | 10 | 11 |
| 12 INTERGENERATIONAL WORSHIP 9:00 | 13 | 14 | 15 1:00 PM SEWING GROUP 3:30 PM KIDZONE 6:00 PM CONFIRMATION | 16 | 17 | 18 |
| 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 1:00 PM SEWING GROUP 3:30 PM KIDZONE 6:00 PM CONFIRMATION | 23 | 24 | 25 |
| 26 REFORMATION SUNDAY/CONFIRMATION 9:00 | 27 | 28 | 29 1:00 PM SEWING GROUP 3:30 PM KIDZONE 6:00 PM CONFIRMATION | 30 | 31 | 1 |