

Trinity Highlights

August 2023 Newsletter

309-346-1391 ~ www.trinitypekin.com

Rev. Simeon Raddatz, Pastor ~ 773-634-0082

Stewardship Report:

General Fund Report:	June	Year to Date	Year to Date
	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>
Income	\$ 20,093	\$139,181	\$126,847
Expenses	<u>22,454</u>	<u>141,345</u>	139,989
(Deficit)/Surplus	(2,361)	(2,164)	

Giving in June was close to that which was projected while expenses were a bit under budget. Halfway through the year, Giving is strong while Expenses are a bit above budget. The General Fund balance at the end of June was \$181,299.

Memorial Fund

The balance due for installation of the chair lift at the parking lot entrance was paid from the Memorial Fund. Many, many memorial balances were applied to pay for the lift.

Stewardship

In July, a generous donation of \$4,800 was received from a member to pay for the purchase of the new refrigerator in the kitchen.

Let us give thanks to the Lord for his continued blessings and pray that we may continue to be faithful stewards until the day of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

Rob Fornoff
Chairman - Board of Finance

Dollars for Missions

Central Illinois District encourages its congregations to invite their members to contribute one dollar per member per week for missions, in addition to their ordinary offerings. This kind of over-and-above giving is called "A Dollar for Missions" (DFM). A Dollar for Missions gathers many small gifts - one dollar at a time! - to add up to a big impact for the spread of the saving Gospel of Christ. DFM presents us all with a wonderful prospect. Each member contributing one extra dollar every week can result in significant sums for new missions and mission augmentation.

The current "Dollar for Missions" project is \$35,000 for a 12 passenger van for the University Lutheran Church in Champaign. This van will have two major uses: as a shuttle for students on Sunday mornings, and for transportation to various activities, retreats, and service projects throughout the year. Elizabeth Deverman is a student at the University so this particular DFM project will be of benefit to her.

As of June 30, DFM has received \$14,607.20. In other words, almost halfway through 2023, DFM has received considerably less than half of the money necessary to fund this particular project. There is a container under the screen in Room 10 to put your dollars in.

Trinity's Service Volunteers - August 2023

ACOLYTES

08/06 8:15 a.m. Ella Spaeth
08/13 8:15 a.m. Lexi Brown
08/20 8:15 a.m. Emily Anton
08/27 8:15 a.m. Will Brown

BIBLE BREAKFAST HELPERS

Pick-Up Donuts:

08/06 *Open*
08/13 Owen & Jane Miller
08/20 *Open*
08/27 *Open*

Prep Donuts, Make Coffee, Pour Juice:

08/06 *Open*
08/13 *Open*
08/20 *Open*
08/27 *Open*

June Sunday School Perfect Attendance

Emily Anton

USHERS

08/06 8:15 a.m. O. Miller, D. Harms
10:45 a.m. M. Seidell, A. Juergens
08/13 8:15 a.m. C. Whitley
10:45 a.m. M. Seidell
08/20 8:15 a.m. O. Miller, D. Harms
10:45 a.m. M. Seidell, A. Juergens
08/27 8:15 a.m. C. Whitley, D. Harms
10:45 a.m. M. Seidell, B. Juergens

ALTAR FLOWERS

08/06 Bob & Carolyn Cordts, *for their 62nd wedding anniversary on August 19.*
08/13 Craig & Katilyn Stout, *for their 10th wedding anniversary on August 10.*
08/20 BonnyLou Schmidt, *in memory of Paul's August 21st birthday.*
08/27 Jeri Dobbelaire, Gina Kuhn, & Bryan Newlun, *in memory of our parents, Jerry & Jeanne Newlun.*



Rally Day

Sunday, August 27

During the Sunday School hour

Join us for Rally Day. Breakfast will be served. The menu for the Rally Day breakfast is: pancakes, sausage, fruit, muffins, and fancy creamer (!)

There will be a crafts re-cap from summer, VBS pictures, Nativity Set piece given out, Milestone Ministry gifts also given out; Operation Christmas Child (lists and presentation).

New Drinking Fountain

Last month Trinity had a new drinking fountain installed. This drinking fountain is also a bottle filling station which will reduce the amount of bottled water we use and has a built in water filter.

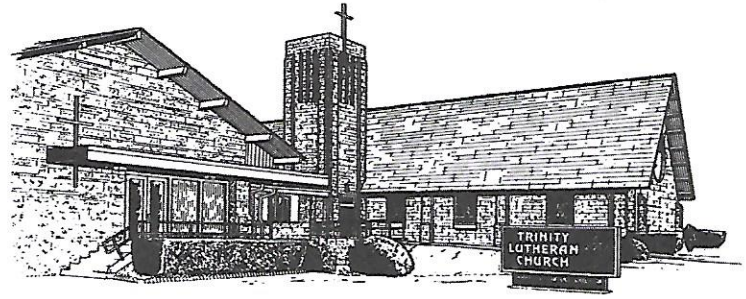




TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

700 S. Fourth St.
Pekin, Illinois 61554
(309) 346-1391

Rev. Simeon D. Raddatz, Pastor



July 24, 2023
Monday—Trinity 7

Witness to “De-Churched” Neighbors through the Lens of Idolatry

Beloved in the Lord,

“I don’t need to go to church to be Christian. I believe in God but worship Him in my own way.”

Many of us have heard similar phrases from our “de-churched” family, friends, or neighbors. It’s often hard for us to respond. This isn’t only because we might be too timid or nervous to confront the error. It might also be because we’re not sure how to respond even if we had the courage to do so.

In one way, these sorts of phrases might make sense to us. “Huh, maybe he’s right. After all, we aren’t saved by our works, which include attending church on Sunday morning. We *are* saved by grace through faith. So, maybe I’m wrong to be concerned about my neighbor’s lack of church attendance...”

But you are not wrong to be concerned, Christian. Yes, we are saved through faith in Christ, but that faith is both received and exercised in a *particular, God-ordained* way. So, continue to be concerned for your de-churched, inactive neighbor. Continue to pray for him. Continue to listen and try to have conversations about this with her. Continue to encourage your friend back to church!

Perhaps one way in which to expose gently the error of “I don’t need Church” is to use the lens of idolatry. Let me explain using a well-known story from the Bible: the incident of the golden calf. In Exodus 32 we find Israel at the foot of Mount Sinai. Moses has been up on the mountain for quite some time, and the children of Israel grow impatient. They demand of Aaron, Moses’ brother, “Come, make us gods that shall go before us.” Aaron obliges and makes a golden calf out of the people’s golden earrings. However, after he has produced this idol, Aaron *doesn’t* say, “Forget about the LORD, who brought you up out of Egypt.” He says, “This is your god, O Israel, that brought you out of the land of Egypt! ... Tomorrow is a feast to the LORD.”

Did you notice what Aaron did? He invites the people to worship the LORD, the true God, *but by means of a false idol*. In other words, Aaron and the people are still claiming to worship the true God, but they are attempting to do so through their own self-devised means. We only need read the aftermath of this incident to see how the Lord regards such attempts.

The Lord has a particular way in which He desires His people to receive from Him and worship Him. In the Old Testament, this was through the Tabernacle (later the Temple) and His sacrificial system (not through a golden calf!). In the New Testament it is through the Lord Jesus Christ as we hear His Word and receive His Sacraments together. Anything outside of this is idolatry—false worship.

I’m not suggesting that helping your de-churched neighbor to recognize this “the silver bullet” for getting him or her back to church. What it will do, if you’re demonstrate this patiently from God’s Word, is leave your neighbor to wrestle with God’s Law. Through this the Holy Spirit will do His work in the person’s heart and mind. It will confront your neighbor’s error and open the way for repentance!

The peace of Christ be with you all.

Pastor Raddatz

August Birthdays

August 1

Lynn Brown
Shawna Thompson

August 2

Chris Seidell
Sara Staker

August 3

Walter Brown
Jeri Dobbelaire
Clara Mattheessen
David Steele

August 4

Jim Deverman

August 5

Grace Cooney
Joshua McDonald

August 6

Jedidiah Hastings

August 8

Andrew Seidell

August 14

Morgan Lynn
Jessica McTernen

August 16

Cody Timian

August 17

Claudie Huey

August 20

Chris Utke

August 21

Justin Abatie

August 22

Kylie Cutting

August 23

Rachel Adkins

August 24

Dave Harms
Gina Kuhn
Michael Townzen

August 25

Pam Beccue

August 26

Angela Lanhardt

August 28

Megan Weisert

August 29

Kara Cutting
Elizabeth Deverman
Robert Thompson

August 30

Daniel Seidell

August 31

Randi Deverman

August Anniversaries

August 1

Ron & Hermene Upchurch

August 2

Gary & Becky Gillis

August 4

Justin & Christina Abatie

August 5

Jeff & Christie Gillis

August 6

Mario & Kara Palmieri

August 8

Bob & Joyce Thompson

August 10

Craig & Katilyn Stout

August 11

Les & Julie Schultz

August 19

Bob & Carolyn Cordts

August 20

Weldon & Arlene Moldenhauer
Chris & Miranda Seidell

August 22

Chris & Beth Utke

August 24

Tyler & Heather Durham

August 31

Rickey & Jennifer Reese

Camp Cilca News

Save the Date!

September 3

Chicken Fry and Auction

- Fresh fried chicken and all the sides.
- Auction items up for bid.
- Preview all auction items at cilca.org/auction-items
- Make a weekend of it and camp out with friends from across the state.

Find out more at www.cilca.org

**Save the Date for
Trinity Lutheran's**

20's and 30's*

Fellowship

***Or post high school to early 40's...
We'll see what works best!**

Sunday, August 13

6:00 - 7:30 p.m.

Relationship Building.
Catechesis & Discussion.
Prayer.

Childcare is available upon request. Just let Pastor Raddatz know at least 2 weeks beforehand.



August 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 6 PM BOARDS OF CHRISTIAN SERVICE - EVANGELISM	2	3 6 PM CHURCH COUNCIL	4	5
6 8:15 AM WORSHIP/ COMMUNION 9:30 AM S.S. & BIBLE CLASS 10:45 AM WORSHIP	7	8	9	10 1:30 PM CONCORDIA	11	12
13 8:15 AM WORSHIP 9:30 AM S.S. & BIBLE CLASS 10:45 AM WORSHIP/ COMMUNION 6 PM 20'S AND 30'S FELLOWSHIP	14	15 6:30 PM GSLS BOARD	16	17 6 PM BOARD OF TRUSTEES	18	19
20 8:15 AM WORSHIP/ COMMUNION 9:30 AM S.S. & BIBLE CLASS 10:45 AM WORSHIP	21	22	23	24	25	26
27 8:15 AM WORSHIP/ COMMUNION 9:30 AM RALLY DAY 10:45 AM WORSHIP	28	29	30	31 7 PM BOARD OF ELDERS		



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