

# Trinity Highlights

May 2023 Newsletter

309-346-1391 ~ www.trinitypekin.com

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

## Stewardship Report:

General Fund Report:	March	Year to Date	Year to Date
	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>
Income	\$ 20,264	\$64,348	\$62,573
Expenses	<u>18,699</u>	<u>70,185</u>	69,995
(Deficit)/Surplus	1,565	(5,837)	

Giving in March was in line with what was projected while expenses were a bit more than budgeted. The General Fund balance at the end of March was \$171,573.

**Thrivent Challenge Grant:** In March, the Church Council approved sending \$250.00 each to Edison Junior High, Broadmoor Junior High, and Wilson Intermediate schools to assist them with their “Moms Who Care” programs.

**Memorial Fund:** In February, the Church Council approved to purchase a new water fountain with funds to come from the Memorial Fund. The water fountain has been purchased at a cost of \$1,199.00 and will be installed in the near future.

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

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**Ascension Service**

**Thursday, May 18**

**6:00 p.m.**

**Pentecost / Confirmation**

**Sunday, May 28**

**One Service**

**9:00 a.m.**

***Sunday School following***

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## Trinity's Service Volunteers - May 2023

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### ACOLYTES

05/07 8:15 a.m. Emily Anton  
05/14 8:15 a.m. Will Brown  
*Ascension Service*  
**05/18 6:00 p.m. Lexi Brown**  
05/21 8:15 a.m. Ella Spaeth  
**05/28 9:00 a.m. Leah Brown**

### BIBLE BREAKFAST HELPERS

#### **Pick-Up Donuts:**

05/07 Bob Cordts  
05/14 Beth Abbott  
05/21 Pam Buerkett  
05/28 Rob Fornoff

#### **Prep Donuts, Make Coffee, Pour Juice:**

05/07 Julie O'Conner  
05/14 Julie O'Conner  
05/21 Betty Ingrassia  
05/28 *Open*

### USHERS

05/07 8:15 a.m. O. Miller, D. Harms  
10:45 a.m. M. Seidell, A. Juergens  
05/14 8:15 a.m. O. Miller, D. Harms  
10:45 a.m. M. Seidell, A. Juergens  
*Ascension Service*  
**05/18 6:00 p.m. B. Juergens, O. Miller**  
05/21 8:15 a.m. C. Whitley, D. Harms  
10:45 a.m. M. Seidell, B. Juergens  
**05/28 9:00 a.m. C. Whitley, D. Harms**  
**M. Seidell, B. Juergens**

### ALTAR FLOWERS

05/07 The Bernard Harms family, *in loving memory of our son and brother, Jeff Harms.*  
05/14 *Open*  
05/21 Ron & Hermene Upchurch  
05/28 Confirmation Sunday

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# MOMS WHO CARE

The "Moms Who Care" program is available at Edison Junior High, Broadmoor Junior High, and Wilson Intermediate schools. Moms Who Care is now a total of 13 junior high and high schools in Central Illinois. They are funded by donations, in-kind and monetary. On average, 800 students per month are helped. Students "shop" for the things they need, like basic hygiene products, snacks, and school supplies. Monetary donations are used to purchase specific items such as work clothing, tennis shoes, and essential items that are not in the shopping room. In March, Trinity provided a donation of \$250.00 each to Edison, Broadmoor, and Wilson schools for Moms Who Care to help further their assistance to kids in need.



### **March Sunday School Perfect Attendance**

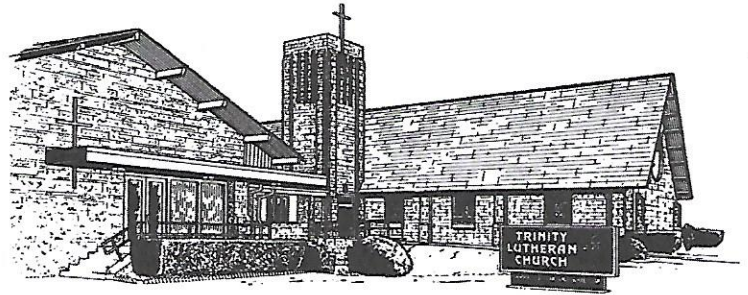
Emily Anton	Mabel Spaeth
Edith Spaeth	Oliver Spaeth
Ella Spaeth	Henry Stout



## TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

Rev. Simeon D. Raddatz, Pastor



April 25, 2023

Tuesday—The 3<sup>rd</sup> Week of Easter

Beloved in the Lord,

I often receive questions regarding Trinity's communion practice—who may or may not commune at Trinity's altar. So, I would like to answer some of these questions and concerns as clearly and faithfully as I can with the Holy Scriptures. To that end I will use this newsletter and the next few to address some **Frequently Asked Questions about "Closed Communion"** (a term which I will define as we go along).

First, let's review: What is the Lord's Supper? "It is the true body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ under the bread and wine instituted by Christ Himself for us Christians to eat and to drink" (*Luther's Small Catechism*). This is an article of faith. We believe it simply because Christ promises it with His own words. Therefore, *anyone* who comes to the Lord's Table will receive the very body and blood of Christ, given and shed at the cross.

Second, Jesus teaches us what this eating and drinking is for: the forgiveness of sins. When you receive the body and blood of Christ with a repentant heart, trusting in Jesus' words, you have exactly what He says: forgiveness of your sins (and thus certainty of your standing before God)! If this is so, *then wouldn't we want everyone who visits our church to receive the Lord's Supper?*

Well, although the Lord *intends* the Lord's Supper for our good, that does not mean that it can *never* be received in a way that is harmful. St. Paul writes, "*For anyone who eats and drinks without discerning the body eats and drinks judgment on himself*" (1 Cor. 11:29).

What is Paul saying? Anyone who does not "discern," or "judge" that *the body [and blood] of Christ are truly present in the bread [and wine] of the Lord's Supper*, "eats and drinks judgment on himself." That is, if someone does *not* recognize or believe that he receives more than mere bread and wine in the Lord's Supper, he does not receive Christ in the right manner there. In fact, according to this passage (and as the context shows), he even invites God's judgment and discipline upon himself! An analogy might be helpful here: The Lord's Supper might be compared to prescription medicine. Such medicine is *intended* for a good purpose, but not everyone who takes it will benefit from it. For example, some may take it without a prescription, in which case it may be harmful! It is similar with the Lord's Supper.

Our communion practice, then, is an exercise of our responsibility to love our neighbor who comes to the Divine Service. We want to ensure to the best of our ability that he partakes of the body and blood of Christ, not to his harm, but to his spiritual well-being! In other words, our communion practice of admitting some but not others—however uncomfortable it may be—is truly an act of love and spiritual care.

I recognize that this only scratches the surface of our practice. In the next article I will aim to address further questions, such as: *What if someone believes in the real presence of Christ in the Sacrament but isn't Lutheran? Shouldn't that person be welcomed to partake at our altar?*

Until then, the peace of Christ be with you all.

Pastor Raddatz



## May Food Drive

During the month of May Trinity will have a “monetary” Food Drive to benefit Christian Civic Outreach so they can purchase the food items they are most in need of.

If you wish to donate, please mark your offering envelope or pew envelope “Food Drive.”

## May Diaper Drive

During the month of May please bring disposable diapers of any size to the church (infant, child, and adult sizes). Please join *Lutherans for Life* as they collect diapers again this year for area charitable organizations who serve women and their children, as well as seniors. Your generosity will benefit worthy life-affirming organizations including: Women’s Pregnancy Center, Esther House, Lutheran Hillside Village, Washington Christian Village, and Living Alternatives Pregnancy Resource Center. There will be a box in Room 10 to put your donations in.



**Central Illinois District** Annual Scholarship Sunday is May 7. The cost of education at one of our synodical colleges is about \$50,000 per year, and about \$53,000 at one of our seminaries. Annual unmet needs after grants, loans, scholarships, parents’ contributions, etc., average about \$16,000 for undergraduates and about \$29,000 for seminarians.

Please include these needs in your prayers and consider making a gift directly to:

Central Illinois District - LCMS  
1850 N. Grand Avenue West  
Springfield, IL 62702-1626.



**GSLs's 17th  
Annual Benefit Auction**  
*"Run for the Roses with Ewe!"*  
**Saturday, May 6, 2023**  
**Par-A-Dice Hotel Ballroom!**

Ticket prices are \$50 per person, and reservation forms are now available at GSLs and on the table in Room 10. Reservations are due Friday, April 28.

In order to shorten the evening and allow everyone to return home earlier, we have moved up the times for many events during the evening by at least 30 minutes.

**Please Note These New Times:**

- Doors Open at 4:00 p.m.
- Silent Auction #1 closes at 5:30 p.m.
- Silent Auction #2 closes at 5:45 p.m.
- Silent Auction #3 closes at 6:00 p.m.
- Special Dinner bidding will begin at 6:15 p.m.
- Dinner will be served at 6:30 p.m., and the Live Auction will begin once dinner is underway!

This year's Fund-An-Item will be a Principal Reduction Payment on our building loan. We still owe \$1,302,881.00 and have 11.2 years left on the loan. The school cannot consider any building projects, including a gym, until the current building debt is retired. We hope to significantly reduce this debt and the time left through this year's Auction Fund-An-Item!

**Here are some numbers to consider:**

- |                                |   |
|--------------------------------|---|
| <b>If we raise \$10,000 -</b>  | we shorten the loan by 1 month and save \$6,539 in interest     |
| <b>If we raise \$20,000 -</b>  | we shorten the loan by 3 months and save \$12,999 in interest   |
| <b>If we raise \$30,000 -</b>  | we shorten the loan by 4 months and save \$19,367 in interest   |
| <b>If we raise \$40,000 -</b>  | we shorten the loan by 5 months and save \$25,659 in interest   |
| <b>If we raise \$60,000 -</b>  | we shorten the loan by 7 months and save \$38,005 in interest   |
| <b>If we raise \$70,000 -</b>  | we shorten the loan by 9 months and save \$44,057 in interest   |
| <b>If we raise \$80,000 -</b>  | we shorten the loan by 10 months and save \$50,033 in interest  |
| <b>If we raise \$90,000 -</b>  | we shorten the loan by 12 months and save \$55,929 in interest  |
| <b>If we raise \$100,000 -</b> | we shorten the loan by 13 months and save \$61,743 in interest  |
| <b>If we raise \$250,000 -</b> | we shorten the loan by 31 months and save \$140,253 in interest |
| <b>If we raise \$500,000 -</b> | we shorten the loan by 59 months and save \$238,748 in interest |

***Or we could raise the full \$1,302,881.00 and have the debt retired!!!***

## May Birthdays

### May 1

Derek Egli  
Bill Link  
Brett Wolters

### May 2

Dylan Speck

### May 3

Ken Garber  
Jim Risinger

### May 4

Anthony Erickson

### May 5

Emily Anton  
Sofia Link

### May 7

Vikki Steele

### May 10

Linda Weyhrich

### May 11

James Drake

### May 12

Coltan May

### May 15

Becky Gillis

### May 17

Lauren Raddatz

### May 18

Cassie Dunn  
Kris Vaupel

### May 19

Weldon Moldenhauer  
Edith Spaeth  
Graham Watson

### May 20

David Knolenberg  
Lane Staker

### May 21

Julie Schultz

### May 22

Ocean Oquenda  
Scott Thompson

### May 23

Diana Johnson

### May 24

Kent Garber  
Billie May

### May 27

Pam Hemp

### May 28

Darlene Ringwald

## May Anniversaries

### May 1

Kent & Jennifer Garber

### May 5

Blake & Tammy Olt

### May 12

Coltan & Jaylene May

### May 13

Dave & Mary Ann Vaupel

### May 22

Jeff & Rae Ann Weisert

### May 27

Eric & Cori Spaeth  
Dave & Vikki Steele

### May 31

Steve & Claudie Huey

**If your birthday or anniversary was omitted or a date is incorrect, please contact the church office so we can update our records.**



*Camp Cilca exists to strengthen and foster faith in Jesus Christ and relationships with others in a unique outdoor setting.*

## Save the Dates!

### **May 27 - 29 - Great CID Campout!**

- Outdoor recreation: Hiking, fishing, boating, swimming, disc golf, campfire devotions, Sunday worship for campers (10:30 a.m.), and Christian fellowship
- Beach: Open daily from 1 - 4 p.m.
- Campsites, cabins and hotel-style rooms in the Christian Growth Center are available. Contact the camp office at 217-487-7497 or [camp@cilca.org](mailto:camp@cilca.org) for reservations.

### **May 28 - Hog Roast**

- Adults \$10.00, Children \$8.00
- 11:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.
- Pulled pork, sides, drinks & desserts!

### **Anytime!**

### **Register for Summer Camp!**

- Check the brochures available for summer camp information.

*Find out more at [www.cilca.org](http://www.cilca.org)*

# May 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4 6 PM CHURCH COUNCIL	5	6 GSLs 17TH ANNUAL BENEFIT AUCTION
7 8:15 AM WORSHIP/ COMMUNION 9:30 AM S.S. & BIBLE CLASS 10:45 AM WORSHIP	8	9 6 PM BOARD OF CHRISTIAN EDUCATION	10 4:30 PM YOUTH CATECHISM	11 1:30 PM CONCORDIA	12	13
14 8:15 AM WORSHIP 9:30 AM S.S. & BIBLE CLASS 10:45 AM WORSHIP/ COMMUNION	15	16 6:30 PM GSLs BOARD	17	18 6 PM ASCENSION SERVICE	19	20
21 8:15 AM WORSHIP/ COMMUNION 9:30 AM S.S. & BIBLE CLASS 10:45 AM WORSHIP	22	23	24 4:30 PM YOUTH CATECHISM	25 7 PM BOARD OF ELDERS	26	27
28 <i>Pentecost / Confirmation Sunday</i> 9 AM WORSHIP 10:30 AM S. S. & BIBLE CLASS	29	30	31			



TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

700 S. Fourth St.  
Pekin, IL 61554

Non-Profit Organization

**U.S. Postage Paid**

Pekin, IL

Permit No. 100

*(Return Service Requested)*



**Ascension**

**Service**

**Thursday, May 18**

**6:00 p.m.**

