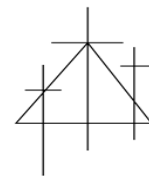
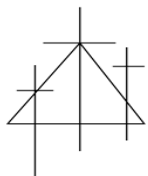


Trinity Lutheran Church

Congregation School Childcare

Sheboygan, Wisconsin

Making Known the Love of Christ



Volume 14, Issue 10

“Connected to Christ” John 15:1-5

November 2023

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From our Pastors

Wise or Foolish?

“Then the kingdom of heaven will be like ten virgins who took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. For when the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them, but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps” (Matthew 25:1-4).

Dear Brothers and Sisters of our Lord Jesus Christ,

In the end, no one wants to look foolish or do something foolish. We want to be wise, not foolish. The word of God has a lot to say about wisdom and foolishness, but it all boils down to this: to be wise is to have faith in Christ, and foolishness is to put your faith in someone or something else. The five foolish virgins Jesus spoke of in His parable did not want to be excluded - and yet they were. Foolishness happens. It happens when our ears tune in to the siren voices of a fallen world while tuning out the word of the Lord. It happens when we put our trust in anyone and anything other than God in Christ for our salvation. It happens when we run after the trivial things of this life so much so that we snuff out the flame of our faith in Christ. In the end, we then find ourselves not only without the trivial things we were running after, but in the dark. That’s what happened to the five foolish virgins - they weren’t counting on the bridegroom to delay, and that delay caused the flame in their lamps to be extinguished.

In the beginning, the five wise virgins must have looked foolish to the others focused as the wise were on maintaining enough oil in their lamps instead of merely chasing after the finer things of this life. Foolish for being concerned about the future instead of simply living in the moment. That’s how Christians look to a world that thinks: we don’t need God because we’re already dressed “to the nines” and already have it all. How foolish we look to others carrying around with us like baggage the flask filled with the oil of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. How foolish we look going back and forth to church every Sunday for a refill. There are so many other things you could be doing, you should be doing, they say. There are so many other important and fun things to do. Why waste your time? You’re already a confirmed Christian, they say, not realizing that the flame of our faith in Christ is dependent on the oil of God’s Word. So it’s their lamps, once filled with oil and bright with the light of faith, that grow empty and cold and dark. And when the bridegroom comes, who’s foolish now? That day will be for them as the prophet Amos proclaimed: a day of darkness and not light; a day of dread and not joy.

But it need not be. For while the unbelieving world thinks Christians are foolishly waiting for a missing Lord to come again in glory, that is not what Christians are about at all. In fact, we are not standing around, looking into the heavens, waiting for an absent bridegroom to finally come - we are waiting for the appearing of our hidden bridegroom who has been with us all along. The bridegroom who has already fulfilled His promise to us, “I am with you always” (Matthew 28:20). The bridegroom who is here for us by His Spirit at work through His Word filling our lamps of faith with oil of His goodness, mercy, life, and peace. The bridegroom who, in the end, will appear and welcome us into His wedding feast saying, “Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world” (Matthew 25:34).

In Christ,

Timothy J. Mech
Senior Pastor

John M. Berg
Associate Pastor



Trinity Ev. Lutheran
Church and School
824 Wisconsin Avenue
Sheboygan, WI 53081

Church Phone:
920-458-8246

School Phone:
920-458-8248

Web site:
trinitysheboygan.org

Divine Services:
Sunday at 8:00 & 10:45 am
Monday at 6:30 pm
Family Education Hour
9:30 am

Bible Classes
(throughout the week)

Trinity Lutheran School
3-K thru 8th grade
2 Year Old Childcare



November Calendar



Sundays: Weekly

- * Divine Services 8: & 10:45 am

Mondays: Weekly

- * Divine Service 6:30 pm

Tuesdays: 1st & 3rd

- * Mom's Bible Study 8:45 am

Wednesdays: Weekly

- * Trinity Chapel 8:30 am
- * Adult Bible Study 9:30 am (FH)
- * Midweek Confirmation 3:30 pm
- * Men's Choir 5:45 pm (MR)
- * Mixed Choir 7:00 pm (MR)

Thursday: Weekly

- * Women's Bible Study 9:00 am (FH)

Fridays: Weekly

- * Men's Bible Study 7 am (FH)

NOVEMBER 2023

Wednesday, November 1

- * Elder's Meeting 7:00 pm (FH)

Friday, November 3 - Parent/Teacher Conferences

- * No Trinity School

Monday, November 6

- * 7:30 pm School Board Meeting

Wednesday, November 8

- * Council Meeting 7:00 pm (FH)

Monday, November 13

- * 1:00 pm LWML (Lounge)
- * Stephen Ministry 5:00 pm (FH)

Wednesday, November 22

- * Thanksgiving Service 6:30 pm

Thursday, November 23 - Thanksgiving Day

- * Thanksgiving Service 9:00 am

Wednesday - Friday, November 22 - 24

- * No Trinity School - Thanksgiving Break
- * School Office Closed November 22-24
- * Church Office Closed November 23 - 24

Monday, November 27

- * Stephen Ministry 5:00 pm (FH)



Advent begins Sunday, December 3.

Join us December 6, 13, and 20th for midweek Service at 8:30 am or 6:30 pm. Choral Candlelight is December 20th at 6:30 pm.

LWML News

THANK YOU to all the ladies that came to the Brush and Brunch and to Kim Shadick for being our 'in house' art teacher. What a fun time! Trinity LWML used the proceeds of \$165 to purchase a Car Seat and a Portable Baby Swing for the Anchor of Hope Boutique.



Trinity LWML Fellowship

November 13, 2023, 1:00 pm
in the church lounge



Bible Study led by Pastor Berg
"Luther's Seal"
What Does It Represent?



Our Guest Speaker is
Emily Rendall-Araujo
Director of Senior Services

Please bring a friend!

170 years - a time for ju-Bell-ation!



Saturday, November 4th - Open House with Pastor Larry Schmidt and his family in Trinity Church Lounge, 2-4 pm. Pastor Schmidt served at Trinity from 1977 to 1989. Light refreshments served.

Sunday, November 5th - All Saints Day & 170th Anniversary Ju-Bell-ee - Our services will honor our fellow members who joined the Communion of Saints over the past year and praise God for his blessings on our church and school over the past 170 years. Special prayers, music and the ringing of all three restored bells will enhance our worship.

Sunday, November 5th - 170th Anniversary Ju-Bell-ee - We will gather in the gym between services to enjoy a special program focusing on our 170 years and welcoming some special guests, including Pastor Larry Schmidt. Special breakfast treats & coffee will be served.

Special "170th Anniversary" Offering Envelope - please find the envelopes in the pews, lounge or church office and prayerfully consider a special contribution as we praise God for His blessings to our church, school and to each of us. A portion of the offering will be gifted as a thank offering to Hispanic outreach ministry in Sheboygan County.

From our Principal

“Connected to Christ” John 15:1-5

Thankful for Generations of Support!

In October, we welcomed over 100 grandparents into our classrooms to share a morning with our students. During this visit, I shared with grandparents that our church and school have been serving downtown Sheboygan for 170 years. Since its inception, Trinity's school ministry has grown to include childcare starting at age two, and our school has blossomed to nearly 200 students! Our faithful teachers, pastors, and support staff work together with a common goal of sharing Christ with our community. This is an incredible tradition that has lasted for generations.

Many of our grandparents who attended that morning are familiar with our tradition of excellent Lutheran education. Some of them attended Trinity themselves; others sent their children to Trinity and now get to watch their grandchildren attend as well. For other grandparents, this was their first opportunity to see Trinity in action. They were exposed to Lutheran education for the first time. They watched their grandchildren sing songs in praise to the Lord and met teachers who shine the light of Christ in all they do and say. Whether it is their first time attending Grandparents' Day or their tenth time, however, every year, grandparents approach me and tell me how special the morning is and how impressed they are by what we do here at Trinity. New grandparents often share that they had no idea that their grandchildren were so immersed in God's Word and that they now understood why their grandchildren were enrolled here instead of the public school. It only takes them one morning to see how the incredible tradition of Lutheran education helps shape the lives of our children.

Of course, the lasting tradition of Lutheran education is not something that we take credit for as humans. It is the Lord's faithfulness to His Church that ensures it endures on earth. Psalm 89:1-4 reads, "I will sing of the steadfast love of the Lord forever; with my mouth, I will make known your faithfulness to all generations. For I said, 'Steadfast love will be built up forever; in the heavens, you will establish your faithfulness.' You have said, 'I have made a covenant with my chosen one; I have sworn to David, my servant: 'I will establish your offspring forever, and build your throne for all generations.'" The Psalmist reminds us of God's promise to be faithful and love us eternally. Our job as Lutheran educators is to share that incredible, enduring love. That is what makes Trinity so unique, and this is why our school will continue to exist for generations to come. If you attended Grandparents' Day, thank you! We can't wait to see you again next year.

Dr. Jenna Roeske, Principal



Trinity Lutheran Church
824 Wisconsin Ave.
Sheboygan, WI 53081
October 2023

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Thanksgiving Services

Wednesday, November 22, 6:30 pm
Thursday, November 23, 9:00 am



170th Anniversary Celebration



All Saints Celebration

Sunday, November 5, 2023



NEWSLETTER SPONSORS

PATRONS:

Mr. & Mrs. Randall Hake
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Senkbeil
Mr. Wally Hennell

SPONSORS:

Mrs. Thomas Mockert
Mr. & Mrs. Russell Rindt
Barb Feld
Kathy Livermore

SUSTAINING SPONSORS:

Mr. John Ballhorn
Marianne Voss/Quality Metal Polishing Co.
Robert Holler
Lutheran Cemetery
Robin Barrow/The Mane Production Studio of Hair Design
Jerry & Sue Toerpe

CONTRIBUTING SPONSORS:

Anonymous (2)

Thank you for your support!

If you would like to become a *Messenger* sponsor you are invited to join at the following annual levels:

Patron (\$500)
Sponsor (\$300)
Sustaining Sponsor (\$100)
Contributing Sponsor (\$50)

Other donations of any amounts always welcome. Please call the church office at 458-8246 for details.

For more happenings at Trinity and updated calendar information, go to www.trinitysheboygan.org