



Joyful Noise

JUNE 2017

A Message from Your Pastor...

Dear Friends of Trinity,

As you “pack your bags” for summer, I have a helpful Bible verse for you to include: **“So, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God.”** (I Corinthians 10:31)

Many people look forward to the change that the summer brings. Children and youth have a break from school; family vacations and reunions are scheduled; weddings are planned; and for many, there is a sense of “slowing down.” When we think of summer, we think of good things like food off the BBQ; ice cold lemonade and “other” beverages; corn on the cob (my favorite); gardening; games in the park; the smell of fresh mown grass; and the list goes on... And so, as children of God, how can we best enjoy the wonderful things of summer in faith and honor of the Lord who has given all these things to us? I repeat the verse of guidance: **“So, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God.”**

As we enjoy summer, let's ask the question before we eat or drink or whatever we do: “Can I do this to the glory of God, or not?” If the answer is “yes,” then do it with all your heart! If the answer is “no,” then don't do it at all! This is what it means to live in faith. We have faith that the Lord is real; in faith, we know that He loves us; by faith we have the confidence that He provides for all of our needs of body and soul. In faith, we believe that He has a plan for us, and so we want to live in gratitude and honor of His name.

Of course, faith comes by hearing the Word of God. So we must continue in God's Word throughout the summer time. We attend Divine Service and Bible Study here at Trinity, or when we are on vacation. (We love to see bulletins from other churches!) We turn to God's Word

daily for guidance and to deepen our faith. We respond to opportunities for service during the summer months as well. All of these things are done to the glory of God!

Yes, many are looking forward to the change that summer brings. As you do unique things this summer, I pray that God would bring many blessings to you and that He would always lead you to carry them out to God's Glory. During this time of the year, the ministry of Trinity Lutheran Church and School changes. We do unique things, too, as we carry out ministries like Vacation Bible School (June 12th – 16th) at the School. Please consider helping with this important ministry of teaching and outreach to our community. Our congregation is unique among congregations in that we have a ministry of the Manitoba Mission trip (July 27th - August 6th). This year we have 37 volunteers set to go, 10 of whom are first-time participants!! Consider this ministry opportunity. Pray for God's blessings, and that He would be glorified through this ministry. We also have the Youth servant event in Angola, New York, June 25th to July 2nd. Pray for them!

While we have unique summer ministries, the regular ministry of our congregation continues. We continue to have obligations and responsibilities. As your pastor, I would like to put a challenge before you. Throughout the summer months, continue your financial offerings to the Lord through Trinity, even when you are away! This will have a very positive impact on our work together. By your regular giving each week, we can continue to carry out the ministries that the Lord has put before us. May we do all things to God's glory! Amen.

In His service and yours,
Pastor Dan Rinderknecht



Knowing Christ and Making Him Known

School and YOUTH NEWS



Rick Thomas

THE NEED IS THERE!

Greetings to the end of another school year! Trinity has blessed the Billings community for over 60 years with a Christ-centered education. The 2017-2018 school year will be here before you know it. One thing I can say is that it is very important that our children be in His Word. Our society today seems to be going away from His Word, and we cannot allow our children to be brought up in a Godless society. His Word has not changed. He has plans for us to prosper and to follow in His footsteps. His truth is our truth. We are to remain strong and boldly declare His love to our community. When we remain true to His Word and share His love our community will be blessed, and so will we!

– Rick Thomas,
Principal of Trinity Lutheran School

TYM SQUARE LOGO CONTEST!

Attention, youth! We need your help! We want people to know who we are (Trinity Youth Ministry) and where we meet (TYM Square). In order to do that, we would like to have a logo that we can use for postcards, mailings, t-shirts, and (most importantly) banners and signs for TYM Square. Over the summer, we will be having a logo contest with the goal of having a banner ready to hang on TYM Square by the beginning of next school year. Contest is open to all eligible youth 2017-18 (current 4th grade and up).

First draft logos are due to Cameron by Friday, June 23 so that we can digitize the top choices and make them available for voting. (Pick up contest forms at the church office!) Logos should include the following:

1. Emphasize the letters T, Y, M
2. But, also explain what those letters stand for – Trinity Youth Ministry
3. Share the name of our youth building, TYM Square.



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Vacation Bible School is June 12-16 from 9-11:30am at Trinity Lutheran School.

FAMILIES! JOIN US FOR SUMMER SUNDAY SCHOOL AT TYM SQUARE!

Summer Sunday School will run June 10th through September 3rd, and this year it's for the whole family! We'll start all together with a short opening - then split into four groups (Prek-2nd, 3rd-6th, 7th and up, and adults). (For adults who don't have children attending Sunday School, there will still be the regular Adult Bible Study in the Fellowship Hall.) All four groups will study the same story, which will open up opportunities for discussion around the dinner table throughout the week! Volunteers are needed to help facilitate the children and youth discussions as well as to help with the opening. Can't wait to see you at TYM Square this summer!

Meet the Member

PAUL & SYLVIA HAFNER

Paul was born in Garrison, ND, September 9, 1926. He was raised on a farm next to the Missouri River about 15 miles north of Beulah, ND. Paul is the only remaining sibling of 3 sisters and 3 brothers. They attended grade school in Kronthal, which was 2½ miles from home – and they walked every day! The Kronthal area included a church. It was a totally German community – all farmers who spoke German. Paul had to learn English at grade school, where sessions were held 8 months of the year. Paul attended Beulah High School, which was 15 miles by auto each day.

Sylvia was born in Park City, MT, and moved, at age 2, to Billings, where her father bought a farm at 1827 Grand Avenue for the family, which included grandparents. The grandparents were rescued from Russia when the Revolution there made life dreadful for the German farmers who had moved to Russia from Germany when land became scarce. With the grandparents there, too, the five children (3 girls – herself, Lorraine and Sally; and 2 boys – John and Ted) had four parents thereby and were very well supervised! Sylvia has one remaining sibling, Sally, who lives in Missouri with her family. Her father died at age 58, and her mother lived to 99 years.

Paul's father served in World War I. He wasn't wounded but had a bullet hit his backpack and also suffered from being gassed to a small degree. Paul served in Germany after World War II, helping the army clean up damages and building airline strips to launch planes to provide food and necessities to people trapped in Berlin after ownership was assigned in a fashion that walled our part of Berlin from roadways to deliver assistance. Paul's mother was a city girl. Her father had a country store in Garrison which traded with the local Indians – things were different then. Paul had 2 brothers, Lee and Glenn; and 3 sisters, Verona, Inez and Naomi. Paul's father died at age 85. His mother died at age 105.

While Paul was serving in Germany, his parents opted to leave North Dakota to move to Billings where their eldest daughter lived. Paul returned there after his service to the army and



succeeded in going to work for Exxon Refinery, where he worked for 36 years. When he arrived in Billings in 1948, he attended Trinity Lutheran Church which was under the care of Pastor-Doctor Freiburger. He appreciated the friendly people and that the pure word of God was preached there. Paul married Phyllis Fitzpatrick, and they had 5 children; sons, Gregg and David; and daughters, Janet, Julie and Joan. When Paul's wife, Phyllis, died on February 8, 1965, their children were ages 3 to 11, and life went on with the help of family and hired help to care for the children.

Paul met Sylvia at church. Her only child was killed in an auto accident in October of 1964. They were married on April 30, 1966. "The rest is history, and it has been a good life." The children loved their new mom, and she loved them also. Accepting a challenge given by God gave them a good chance to find joy in life for which they are thankful. This April 30th, they celebrated their 51st wedding anniversary.

After retirement from Exxon, Paul bought an 80-acre farm in the Silesia area. He built a large garage and a lovely home and did a lot of improvement to the yard. They lived there until the fall of 2001. They then moved to Billings to a new home where they have lived since.

Paul and Sylvia closed with saying, "We still enjoy the membership we have had at Trinity for the past 51 years!"

THANK YOU!

The Cradle Roll Guild and Mothers of Young Ones would like to extend a heartfelt 'Thank You' for your support of our Toddler Playroom downstairs and our Nursery upstairs. You have donated work, time, energy, items and toys - that altogether provide places that are well-located, cozy, safe, and comfortable for our toddlers and infants.

You have been a blessing to parents of toddlers and infants! Downstairs, they now have a space for their young to move around in - while they attend Bible Study and keep an eye out for their little ones at the same time! Meetings may also be an option for parents if their little ones have a space that is near, visible and safe. In the Nursery upstairs, blinds have



been repaired, and new items have been donated that provide a private quiet space for parents and infants. It is also a place for our little ones and their parent to retreat to when a Worship Service is a bit long for their young age!

Thank you,
Cradle Roll Guild & Mothers of Young Ones

No June meeting of Trinity's LWML will be held as 5 of Trinity's LWML members (Pam Kercher, Amy King, Betty Klimper, Sherrie Murray and Myrt White) travel to Albuquerque, New Mexico for the LWML International Convention!! Prayers for their safe travel and a faith-filled convention!

**Lutheran Women's
Missionary League
37th Biennial Convention
June 22-25, 2017
Albuquerque, New Mexico**

ADDRESS CHANGES

Diana Hafner

3840 Rimrock Road, #3106

Billings, MT 59102

New Phone #: 325-8052

BAPTISMS

Leo David Heiliger 5/28/17

FUNERALS / MEMORIALS

Dorothy Ostermiller 4/29/17

Irene Hendrickson Koehn 4/29/17
(Interment)

Financial REPORT

April Financials		
Income		142,144
Expenses		143,433
Net Margin		(1,289)
2016-2017 Financials		
	<i>Actual</i>	<i>Target</i>
Offerings	717,141	725,250
Total Income	1,442,330	1,456,816
Total Expenses	1,414,120	1,456,183
Net Margin	28,210	633
Expansion Project Contributions		
April 2017 Gifts		6,486
July 2016 - Jan. 2017 Gifts		68,091

Special Events

SUNDAY, JUNE 11, 9:30 AM

Summer Sunday School Begins
Family Sunday School at TYM Square
New Adult Bible Study Begins

JUNE 12-16, 9:00-11:30 AM

Vacation Bible School at Trinity School

SATURDAY, JUNE 17, 8:00 AM

Outdoor Ministry Mountain Hike
Meet at TLC Parking Lot

JUNE 22-24

LWML Convention in Albuquerque, NM

FRIDAY, JUNE 23, 6:30 PM

Hawaiian Open Glowball Golf at Par 3

SUNDAY, JUNE 25

New Member Recognition @ 10:30am Service
Voters' Meeting @ Noon

JUNE 25-JULY 2

FIRE Servant Event in Angola, NY



News

YOUR INPUT MATTERS!

Trinity is a large church with a lot going on. Because of this, people sometimes feel like their input isn't needed, or maybe isn't even wanted. Not true! Ideas, suggestions and concerns from members shapes the direction of ministry at Trinity. Right now we have a number of areas where we need your input. We are currently considering making changes to our constitution and bylaws, which impacts how we are structured. If you missed the May 23rd presentation by the Constitution Revision Task Force, you can watch it at www.trinitybillings.org/upcoming-events.html. We will be determining our next steps in this process at our June 25th Voters' Meeting. At this meeting, the 2017-2018 budget will also be presented. Please get involved in these discussions – your input matters!



Knowing Christ and Making Him Known