

Blue Ridge Trinity Lutheran Church

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Trinity Tidings

From the Pastor's Desk

Dear Saints,

Greetings in the name of our crucified, risen and ascended Lord and coming Savior Jesus Christ!

When Jesus said that we do not belong to this world He was speaking truth. But this world is all we know and physically live in. It is seemingly impossible not to fall in love with it. But then, to whom do we belong?

Evidently, there is more to our life than we know and physical experience because we belong to God. Our home is with God. Therefore, this world is a means to an end.

But too many of us are living as though this world is our home. Like the Prodigal Son, driven by a desire to be fully independent, we make bad choices. We settle in places that are loud and noisy where voices demand that we prove our worth, that we can be successful, and deserving of love.

Admittedly, we are lost but the loud noises of this world make it difficult to hear the Savior's voice. These voices make us question our own goodness and self-worth. They are so convincing that we fall for the deception that love must be earned. And

so, we search for love in wrong places. Also, these voices tell us that we must do something to gain acceptance.

The fact of the matter is, the distant country is not what it appears to be. But how are we to make our way home after rejecting God? It takes convincing – a willingness to listen to God, confess one's sins, and rely on God's mercy. Believe!

Jesus said, "God so loved the world that he **gave** his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life" (John 3:16). **cont'd. p. 2**

April/May 2018

Inside this issue:

Pastor's Article	1-2
Birthdays	2
Apr. Worship Schedule	3
Parish Nurse	3
Ruth Circle	4
Synod Assembly	4
May Worship Schedule	5

Our Mission:
"Seeing God's
Plan,
Answering God's
Call,
Doing God's
Work"

Pastor's Article Cont'd

April Birthdays

- 3 Patrick Jones
- 4 Linda Hokenson
- 17 Gregory Chaney
- 24 Carolyn Tyler
- 28 LeRoy Felzien
- 29 Eleanor Kramer
- 30 Raymond Jones



2018 Council Officers

Kathy Nevans
President

Lu Eshelman
Vice President

Kris Riddell
Treasurer

Diane Babbitt
Secretary

Carolyn Tyler
Financial Secretary

We think of ourselves as being reckless to believe such a promise, but God is the most reckless lover. Yes, we



are reckless in our love for the distant country, but God is reckless in loving to save us.

God's love is—Jesus Offers You forgiveness, healing and new life. Emmanuel (God with us) is most reckless in opening His arms to lovingly welcome home prodigals. It is hard to believe

that where our failings are great, grace is always greater. But prodigals discover that this is God's way because God's love for sinners never fades.

For us who live in the tension, it is the **joy** of belonging that gives us hope in a broken world. Our hope in the risen Lord, Jesus Christ, not only sustains us, but gives us courage to love our neighbors, serve others in His name, work for justice and peace in the world.

In so doing, Jesus Christ lives in you and me and thereby is made present to others.

In Christ's service,
Pastor C



May Birthdays

- Nancy Ferguson 2
- Nathanagl C. 5
- Debbie Gonnello 9
- Orin Cummings 13
- Bob Harvey 14



April Worship Assistants

Assisting Ministers

- Apr. 1 Ken Riddell
Apr. 8 Bob Harvey
Apr. 15 Susan Marple
Apr. 22 Chris Gannan
Apr. 29 Kathy Nevans

Readers

- Apr. 1 Chris Gannan
Apr. 8 Kathy Nevans
Apr. 15 Samantha Cummings
Apr. 22 Larry Gonnello
Apr. 29 Morrie Carlson

Ushers

- Apr. 1 Kris Riddell &
Jerry Nevans
Apr. 8 Eleanor Kramer &
Kathy Musson
Apr. 15 Diane Babbitt &
Joyce McFadden
Apr. 22 Eleanor Kramer
& Kris Riddell
Apr. 29 Diane Babbitt &
Jerry Nevans

Acolytes

- Apr. 1 Nathanael C.
Apr. 8 Samuel C.
Apr. 15 Nathanael C.
Apr. 22 Samuel C.
Apr. 29

Parish Nurse

April first brings many jokes; however, one great thing happened on this first day of April which was no joke!! We celebrated the Resurrection of our Lord, Jesus Christ!

Since the last news I have attended many affairs, all, of course, involving food. There was Shrove Tuesday at St. Matthews, fish fries, corned beef and cabbage at the Knights of Columbus Hall, Soup and Craft days at The Rice-Tremonti House, and a luncheon for Church Women United. The crafts at some of these events were spectacular. (All would have been great, but some only had food, not crafts) I was privileged to hear from a woman who goes to Haiti every year and brings back the items the Haitian women make. Their workmanship is superb. This is not affiliated with the buying you can do at Ten Thousand Villages in Overland Park, KS, but the women get the money the same way.

Haven't heard how many goats, or farms we bought but I know it will be a bunch.

A BIG congratulations to all the upcoming Graduates. Also, a Happy Nurses day to all which comes up in May.

April is Alcohol Awareness Month & Bike Safety Month. May brings National Physical Fitness Month & Melanoma/Skin Cancer Detection and Prevention month. We have some parishioners prepping for a 5K race. They have me walking with them, however, I am not available the day of the race. Oh well..

Health insurance is very complicated. However, I read in my Stroke Connection magazine that should you need the clot-buster, it should be more readily available to you now. Also, they have taken away the cap on the therapies needed post stroke. I hope none of us need this, however please check with your Medicare insurance provider before quoting me. I have a copy of the Senior Bluebook which also has a multitude of information and resources. I am going to look into one which is called Memory Cafe. It is a worldwide movement with the purpose of providing a safe place to learn and socialize for people living with dementia as well as their caregivers. More later. You can get a copy of the Senior Bluebook at the Chamber of Commerce Office.

Upcoming events: MLM breakfast in KC, KS
MLM food distribution
Scout food pick-up for REAP
Church ladies and friends start candy making April 2
for Summer Breakout in June.

Love prospers when a fault is forgiven, but dwelling on it separates close friends. Proverbs 17:9

Ruth Circle

Ruth Circle has decided to meet for lunch during the rest of Spring and Summer months. **On April 24 at 11:00 a.m.** we plan to go to Corner Café. For more information and for reservations, please call Carolyn Tyler 816-358-6074.



Carolyn Tyler

Lenten Offering



Thanks to members for their generosity toward ending hunger during the Lenten Season. We raised \$3,157.00 and will be able to purchase at least 63 GOATS!!!

Synod Assembly



Synod Assembly 2018 will be held June 7–9 at Bethany College in Lindsborg, KS. The theme is Sharing in Hope: God's Story, Our Voices and the emphasis will be on evangelism.

TLCW

Apr. 17 and May 15 at 1:30 p.m. Regular Workday. Needed as always Best Choice UPC codes, plastic and/or GROCERY SIZE bags, personal items (not covered by Food Stamps– tooth paste & brushes, deodorants, Kleenex, paper towels). We receive \$\$ for the codes and other items go to the MLM Food Pantry.



Bible Brain Twister—John Kezer

I once made a remark about the hidden books of the Bible. It was a lulu, kept people looking so hard for facts, and for others it was a revelation. Some were in a jam, especially since the names of the books are not capitalized, but the truth finally struck home to numbers of readers. To others, it was a real job. We want it to be a most fascinating few moments for you. Yes, there will be some really easy ones to spot. Others may require judges to help them. I will quickly admit it usually takes a minister to find one of the 17, and there will be loud lamentations when it is found. A little lady says she brews a cup of tea so she can concentrate better. See how well you can compete. Relax now, for there really are the names of 17 books of the Bible in these sentences. One preacher found 16 books in 20 minutes, but it took him three weeks to find the seventeenth one.



How many books of the Bible you can find in the text above?

*Submitted by Linda Giippner
TLCW*

Prayer Chain

Richard Miller, Randy York {Friend of Theresa Tuttle}, Mary Kee, Frank Martin {Wanda Clemons' brother}, Jaxon Liam Carroll {Felzien's great grandson}, Will Babbitt {Diane Babbitt's husband}, Mary Gonnello, Pastor Eisenbraun, Don Eversmeyer {friend of Linda Hokenson}, Karl Anderson {Tawanda's husband}, Martha Mitchel {Raymond Jones' sister}, Les Tebbenkamp {Mary Burge's brother}, Mike Singh {Samantha's uncle}, Lisa Coan {Kathy Musson's friend}, Scott Maxon {friend of Anne McCoy}, Deb and Larry Gonnello, Rick Miller {Larry Moffitt's friend}, Bonnie Besch {Linda Gippner's sister-in-law}, Cera Hawkins {Inge Howard's granddaughter}, Maureen Barnett Moore, Norma Phillips, Vitula Zimmerschied {Joyce McFadden's mother}, Peggy Shoemaker, Elden Grittman, Roy Javner {friend of Jerry Nevans}, Frances Smith, Hollis Mundhenke, Bev Lavitt, Louise Latta {Linda Gippner's aunt}, Angela Beaman {Gonnello's daughter}, Jean Henderson, and Pat Jones.



May Worship Assistants

Assisting Ministers

- May 6 Bob Jones
- May 13 Jackie Harvey
- May 20 Susan Marple
- May 27 Chris Gannan

Readers

- May 6 Richard Miller
- May 13 Bob Jones
- May 20 Morrie Carlson
- May 27 Samantha Cummings

Ushers

- May 6 Eleanor Kramer & Kathy Musson
- May 13 Diane Babbitt & Joyce McFadden
- May 20 Eleanor Kramer & Jerry Nevans
- May 27 Kris Riddell & Diane Babbitt

Acolytes

- May 6 Nathanael C.
- May 13 Samuel C.
- May 20 Nathanael C.
- May 27 Samuel C.

Trinity Tidings

This is a monthly publication of Blue Ridge Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church. Articles or information pertinent to the life and mission of the congregation may be submitted to the Church Office **by the 20th** of each month. Space limitations may require editing of material.

Church Schedule

Sundays:

Worship - 9:30 a.m.

URGENT NEED OF PASTORAL CARE CALL:

Office:

816-353-5446

Pastor:

816-785-4006

Church Staff

Orin W. Cummings
Pastor

Jackie Harvey
Choir Director

Mary Burge
Organist

Bob Harvey
Contemporary Worship

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