

# Blue Ridge Trinity Lutheran Church

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(816) 353-5446 Fax (816) 356-1213

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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!

You may have heard that BRT has been sued for a personal injury claim. It is possible that this news will, if not already, make you upset or even angry. If so, then, I ask you to consider Jesus' teaching on loving the enemy.

You would think that Jesus should have vented his anger at sinners, but He did not. He dined with sinners and His opponents said, "Look, a glutton and a drunk-

ard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!" (Matthew 11:19)

It is easy to point the finger, but when you do three others point back at you. As Christians, we do not rush to judgment. "There is one lawgiver and judge who is able to save and to destroy. So who, then, are you to judge your neighbor?" (James 4:12) We leave judgment to God.

Every day is a struggle for some more than others. Life can be difficult and seem unfair. Although nothing is perfect, we still strive for the best if not per-

fection. Each of us has an idea of what that looks like. For Christians, the high bar is love.

Jesus said that it is most important to love. "Hear, O Israel: the Lord our God, the Lord is one; you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength. You shall love your neighbor as yourself. There is no other commandment greater than these" (Mark 12:29-31).

*cont'd. p. 2*

Aug/Sep 2019

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

## Pastor's Article Cont'd

### August/Sept. Birthdays

#### August

1 Morrie Carlson

#### September

12 Samuel Cummings

13 Cecil Gannan

26 Beverly LaVitt

29 Jackie Harvey



#### 2019 Council Officers

Susan Marple  
*President*

Morrie Carlson  
*Vice President*

Kris Riddell  
*Treasurer*

Jackie Harvey  
*Secretary*

Carolyn Tyler  
*Financial Secretary*

Jesus practiced what He preached. He loved sinners. So, we should too for we were hopeless sinners at one time. One way is to "turn the other cheek" (Matthew 5:38-40). Now this is easier said than done. Yet this is the ideal Christians strive for. Is this the way to become perfect? NO!

We are made perfect in Christ as a gift. "For by a single offering [Christ] has perfected for all time those who are sanctified" (Hebrews 10:14).

Loving God, neighbor

IF PEOPLE ARE TRYING TO BRING YOU DOWN, IT ONLY MEANS THAT YOU ARE ABOVE THEM.

and enemy is what it means to be bearers of the kingdom. It is not enough to resist evil for the Kingdom of God

world. God's reign is at work wherever love rules. Therefore, we seek to make the enemy a friend.

It is my prayer that the love of God through Christ Jesus our Lord will rule in your hearts displacing anger, fear and vengeance.



In Christ's service,  
Pastor C

does not operate like the kingdoms of this

## Back to School Prayer

Lord God,  
bless us in our outreach in support of education,  
and to provide for, protect, and encourage  
the children beginning and returning to school and college.  
May all of us be teachers and learners  
in Christ's name we pray. Amen.

## TLCW

TLCW monthly meetings will be on hold until further notice. We will be starting candy making on September 9, 2019 and all are invited if they would like to participate.

Pat Welch

## Legal Announcement

BRT has been sued for a personal injury claim and will work toward resolution through representation by its insurance carrier GuideOne.

## School Supplies

We are still collecting school supplies for REAP. backpacks, pencil boxes, glue sticks, school glue, children's scissors, pink erasers, wooden #2 pencils, 24-count, Crayola crayons, pocket folders . Extras: colored pencil sets, Blue, red, and black pens, 3-ring binders, loose leaf paper, spiral notebooks, washable markers, index cards.

## President's Article

### Getting to the Kingdom of God

*One of the scribes came near and heard them disputing with one another, and seeing that he answered them well, he asked him, "Which commandment is the first of all?"* <sup>29</sup> *Jesus answered, "The first is, 'Hear, O Israel: the Lord our God, the Lord is one;'* <sup>30</sup> *you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength.'* <sup>31</sup> *The second is this, 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.'* *There is no other commandment greater than these."* <sup>32</sup> *Then the scribe said to him, "You are right, Teacher; you have truly said that 'he is one, and besides him there is no other';* <sup>33</sup> *and 'to love him with all the heart, and with all the understanding, and with all the strength,' and 'to love one's neighbor as oneself,'—this is much more important than all whole burnt offerings and sacrifices."* <sup>34</sup> *When Jesus saw that he answered wisely, he said to him, "You are not far from the kingdom of God."* — Mark 12: 28-34

I would venture to say that we are all working toward the same end, via different means, to spend eternity in God's Kingdom, right? But what if our means didn't have to be different? What if we all followed the teachings of Christ and the Ten Commandments and just Loved God with our whole heart and our neighbors as ourselves? That seems pretty simple and, at the same time, like a pretty tall order.

A few weeks ago, Pastor delivered a sermon on the acts of the Good Samaritan and what it means to be a good neighbor. I always find the topic of being a good neighbor compelling because it seems like it should be easy, but Kris and I have feuds going on right now with both of our neighbors. One is due to the issue of a beloved family pet using our lawn as a potty and the other because of a litigious demand to remove our boys' childhood basketball goal. It's hard to believe that I let petty grievances like these impede the neighborly reaction I have to people whom I share land with, but it has happened.

I've clearly lost that loving feeling! The challenge for me is reckoning with their "perceived" unfriendly behavior and realizing that underneath that is an individual who may not have intended to harm me, or in this case, my yard. It is such hard work... discerning that it is my ego that keeps me from letting go of those feelings of anger, disgust, distrust and keeps me rooted in negative reactions to both of our neighbors. It's my work to do, just like it is your work to do, to live the Godly lives we are instructed to by God through the scriptures. Following Christ is not supposed to be easy, let's remember Luke 14:25-27, where Jesus says we have to be willing to give up our own families to become true believers. Being a Christian means working toward a better version of ourselves and that's always hard work because we are all flawed.

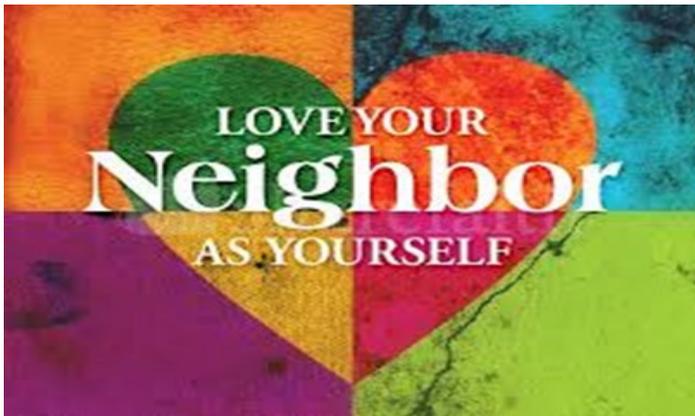
cont'd. p. 4

# President's Article Cont'd

I promise to my brothers and sisters in Christ here at BRT that I am flawed, but I'm a work in progress and that Jesus is The Best News we can subscribe to these days because He gives us hope for a better future, filled with neighborly love! Now, I need to get back to forgiving and forgetting and getting back on the path to love.

May God's Love Be With You,

*Susan Marple*



## August Worship Assistants

### Assisting Ministers

- Aug. 4 Susan Marple
- Aug. 11 Jackie Harvey
- Aug. 18 Kathy Nevans
- Aug. 25 Chris Gannan

### Readers

- Aug. 4 Chris Gannan
- Aug. 11 Kathy Nevans
- Aug. 18 Bob Jones
- Aug. 25 Morrie Carlson

## Kitchen Users

A new icemaker has been installed in the refrigerator in the kitchen. This was the result of the old icemaker being turned off and water freezing in the line. **Please do not turn off the ice maker.** If ice overflows, please collect it in a bag and save it in the freezer for future use, or place unwanted ice in the sink and let it melt. Thank you, **Ken Riddell**, for helping get this problem fixed! If you have questions about this, please see Susan Marple or Jerry Nevans. Thank you.

## Choir Practice



Fall is around the corner and with that said, it's time to warm up those voices. Choir Practice begins Tuesday, **August 27 at 7:00 p.m.** and will continue each Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. We will sing our first song on **Sunday, September 8.** Hope to see many of you there!

*Jackie Harvey*

### Ushers

- Aug. 4 Kris Riddell
- Aug. 11 Diane Babbitt & Joyce McFadden
- Aug. 18 Jerry Nevans
- Aug. 25 Eleanor Kramer & Diane Babbitt

### Acolytes

- Aug. 4 Nathanael C.
- Aug. 11 Samuel C.
- Aug. 18 Nathanael C.
- Aug. 25 Samuel C.

# Advance Directives

What kind of medical care would you want if you were too ill or hurt to express your wishes? Advance directives are legal documents that allow you to spell out your decisions about end of life care ahead of time. They give you a way to tell your wishes to family, friends, and health care professionals and to avoid confusion later on.

A living will tells which treatments you want if you are dying or permanently unconscious. You can accept or refuse medical care. You might want to include instructions on:

- The use of dialysis and breathing machines
- If you want to be resuscitated if your breathing or heartbeat stop
- Tube feeding
- Organ or tissue donation

A durable power of attorney for health care is a document that names your health care proxy. Your proxy is someone you trust to make health decisions for you if you are unable to do so.

See link below for more information or talk with your Doctor.

<https://medlineplus.gov/advancedirectives.html>

# Prayer Chain

Linda Hokenson, Kathy Musson, Trudy Moffitt, Mary Burge, Fred Hellman, Michael Woodcock {grandson of Bob and Chris Jones}, Kenny Jones {Raymond Jones' son}, Chris Jones, Evan Burnham {grandson of Louis Metcalf and nephew of Kathy Nevans}, Carol Lutz {Diane Babbitt's sister}, Darlene Metcalf {Kathy Nevans' mother}, Aspen Deke {friend of Mary Burge}, Raymond Jones, Wanda Clemons, Nancy Engel, Megan Walsh, Charles Owens {son-in-law of Mamie Robinson}, Frank Martin {Wanda Clemons' brother}, 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}, Larry and Deb Gonnello, Cera Hawkins {Inge Howard's granddaughter}, Doris Merrick, Vivian Moffitt, LeRoy Felzien, Norma Phillips, Vitula Zimmerschied {Joyce McFadden's mother}, Frances Smith, Hollis Mundhenke, Eunice Lynn, Bev Lavitt, Louise Latta {Linda Gippner's aunt}, Angela Beaman {Gonnello's daughter} and Roy Javner {friend of Jerry Nevans}.



# September Worship Assistants

## Assisting Ministers

- Sep. 1 Ken Riddell
- Sep. 8 Bob Harvey
- Sep. 15 Susan Marple
- Sep. 22 Chris Gannan
- Sep. 30 United Service

## Readers

- Sep. 1 Fred Barth
- Sep. 8 Eleanor Kramer
- Sep. 15 Larry Gonnello
- Sep. 22 Susan Marple
- Sep. 30 United Service

## Ushers

- Sep. 1 Kris Riddell
- Sep. 8 Joyce McFadden & Diane Babbitt
- Sep. 15 Jerry Nevans
- Sep. 22 Eleanor Kramer & Diane Babbitt
- Sep. 30

## Acolytes

- Sep. 1 Nathanael C
- Sep. 8 Samuel C.
- Sep. 15 Nathanael C.
- Sep. 22 Samuel C.
- Sep. 30 United Service

Summer is flying by; however, there is much to enjoy before school starts again. Pools are still open, Royals are still playing, and breakfasts and lunches are still being served. I have helped pack lunches for the summer lunch program here in Raytown. Many of us also just helped with the breakfast on Saturday, July 27. There will be another opportunity in November. Thank you for your support at Summer Breakout and for the donation of school supplies for MLM and REAP. School days are just around the corner. Our church members are very talented. They are winning races, playing in concerts, receiving merit badges at Scout Camp.. it just doesn't stop. The scouts brought a smile to LeRoy Felzien prior to their departure to camp. We will be having an Eagle Court of Honor for two of our scouts in August. Most all of our folks unable to travel to church are doing ok. Gertrude Rehwoldt has had a change of health status, however. Trudy Moffitt continues to improve, along with Kathy Musson, and Fred Hellman was back in church, fresh from his knee surgery. Love and prayers to all. Health observances for August include Nat'l Eye Health, Immunization Awareness, & Psoriasis Awareness. September is Food Safety Awareness, and Healthy Aging Month (I'm gonna look into this, although I may have passed my window). Many things are listed on the Raytown Chamber of Commerce website. Phone number is 358-4100.

Upcoming:

Back to school packing for MLM

Aug 16th Free Movie at Kenagy Park

Aug 24th Arts and Music festival Kenagy park 11am-7pm

Raytown schools Hall of Fame game Sept 13th

Events at Rice-Tremonti Home

Lord Jesus, Son of Man, inspire and teach me how to serve. Amen (July 25th, Christ in Our Home)

*Linda Hokenson*

## VBS

Thanks to  
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## God's Work, Our Hands

**SAVE THE DATE: Saturday, September 14, 2019.** Since 2013, the Evangelical Church in America has designated a work day in September as an effort for the worldwide church to enter into its individual communities to cultivate interaction with the world outside our brick and mortar churches. We will continue this tradition by partnering with MLM to hand out food at its monthly food bank. Please sign up with Susan if you would like to help or want a T-shirt; orders for T-shirts must be finalized by August 13.

*Susan Marple*

**RALLY SUNDAY** is **September 8, 2019** and a time when the church gets together to re-commit in worship and service, and grow disciples for Jesus. Here are opportunities for you:

1. Sign up for **Choir** practice on Wednesdays at 7:00 to 8:00 p.m. and present the gospel in song at worship on Sundays.

## 2. **Altar Guild**

(a) Prepare sanctuary for worship

- put up and take down seasonal decorations
- fill altar candles including Advent wreath, and monitor eternal candle
- maintain supply of offering envelopes in pews
- maintain supply of sharpened pencils in pews
- arrange hymnals and Bibles in pews
- remove old bulletins from pews

(b) Change altar linen

(c) Put up and take down banners

(d) Set up for and clean up after Holy Communion

(e) Set up for Baptisms

(f) Arrange for floral arrangements

(g) Order altar supplies

3. **CARE Team** (second Tuesday at 10:00 a.m.)

## 4. **Learning Committee**

- ◆ Sign up your children for Sunday School (8:45 to 9:25 a.m. every Sunday)
- ◆ Sign up to teach Sunday School and VBS
- ◆ Sign up to assist with Confirmation Class (10:00 to 11:30 a.m. with Pastor every other Saturday)
- ◆ Lead/participate in Bible Study with Pastor (6:00 to 6:55 p.m. every Wednesday in Spring and Fall)

8. **Men's Breakfast** (Wednesdays 8:30 a.m.)
9. **Office Volunteer**
  - ◇ Sign up to prepare and print worship bulletins and Tiding's Newsletter
  - ◇ Sign up to enter attendance record
  - ◇ Sign up to help prepare and send notices to members
10. **Property Committee** (upkeep facilities as need arise)
  - Sign up to help with garden work
  - Sign up to mow lawns
  - Sign up to shovel snow
11. **Ruth Circle** (fourth Tuesday at 10:30 a.m.)
12. **Service and Hospitality** (planning for social events and fellowship)
13. **Stewardship Committee** (provide opportunities for ministry utilizing our time, talents and treasures)
14. **TLCW** currently on a break
15. **World Hunger** (coming up with ideas and action to help alleviate suffering)
16. **Worship and Music Committee** (once a quarter meeting)
  - ⇒ Sign up to be an Assisting Minister
  - ⇒ Sign up to be Lectors (read Scripture)
  - ⇒ Sign up to be an Usher
  - ⇒ Sign up to play an instrument or provide special music
  - ⇒ Prepare worship schedule and notify participants



# August

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SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
<b>Sunday Morning Schedule</b> 9:30 p.m. Worship 10:30 a.m. Fellowship						
				1	2	3
					OFFICE CLOSED	
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
<b>8<sup>th</sup> Sun after PENTECOST</b> 9:30 a.m. Contemporary Service	7:00 p.m. Boy's & Cub's Scouts	6:00 p.m. Church Council Meeting	10:00 a.m. Al Anon		OFFICE CLOSED	
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
<b>9<sup>th</sup> Sun after PENTECOST</b> 9:30 a.m. Traditional Service	7:00 p.m. Boy's & Cub's Scouts	9:30 a.m. Care Team 	10:00 a.m. Al Anon		OFFICE CLOSED	<b>Flying Solo – St Matthew's</b> 3:00 p.m. Cory Wilkinson's Eagle Ceremony
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
<b>10<sup>th</sup> Sun after PENTECOST</b> 9:30 a.m. Blended Service	7:00 p.m. Boy's & Cub's Scouts	11:00 a.m. Ruth Circle Luncheon 	10:00 a.m. Al Anon		OFFICE CLOSED	
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
<b>11<sup>th</sup> Sun after PENTECOST</b> 9:30 a.m. Brief Liturgical Service	7:00 p.m. Boy's & Cub's Scouts	7:00 p.m. Choir Practice Begins 	10:00 a.m. Al Anon		OFFICE CLOSED	

# September

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SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
<b>Sunday Morning Schedule</b> 9:30 p.m. Worship 8:45 a.m. Sunday School 10:30 a.m. Fellowship						
<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>
12 <sup>th</sup> Sun after PENTECOST 9:30 a.m. Contemporary Service			10:00 a.m. Al Anon 7:00 p.m. Choir		OFFICE CLOSED	
<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>
13 <sup>th</sup> Sun after PENTECOST 9:30 a.m. Traditional Service <b>RALLY SUNDAY</b>	7:00 p.m. Scouts & Cubs	9:30 a.m. Care Team 	10:00 a.m. Al Anon 7:00 p.m. Choir		OFFICE CLOSED	God's Work, Our Hands – MLM Food Pantry
<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>
14 <sup>th</sup> Sun after PENTECOST 9:30 a.m. Blended Service	7:00 p.m. Scouts & Cubs		10:00 a.m. Al Anon 7:00 p.m. Choir		OFFICE CLOSED	Flying Solo – St Matthew's
<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>
15 <sup>th</sup> Sun after PENTECOST 9:30 a.m. Brief Liturgical Service	7:00 p.m. Scouts & Cubs	11:00 a.m. Ruth Circle Luncheon 	10:00 a.m. Al Anon 7:00 p.m. Choir		OFFICE CLOSED	
<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>					
16 <sup>th</sup> Sun after PENTECOST 10:00 a.m. United Service at St. Matts	7:00 p.m. Scouts & Cubs					

## 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 20<sup>th</sup>** 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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