

Trinity Lutheran Church

PO Box 65, Arkdale, WI 54613

Office: 608-564-7920, M-Th 9:00—2:30 pm

Website: arkdaletlc.org Pastor: pastor@arkdaletlc.org

Secretary: churchoffice@arkdaletlc.org



September 2021.....From the Pastor's pen

Dear friends,

Sometimes we take things for granted, even Holy Communion. Many of us have been receiving Communion for 30+ years. But we must never forget just how singularly important it is. Those who have been unable to attend worship have been sharply reminded of what they have been missing and of how special Communion truly is.

On twitter there was a post that said something like “re-enchanted your life by making the mundane exciting.” As examples it said, “You are not going to the CVS; you are visiting the apothecary to buy potions. You are not running errands; you are taking a side quest.” After pondering this post one of my colleagues, Chas, gave us a challenge.

During the month of July much of the Gospel texts have been ‘bread’ themed. Jesus said, “I am the bread of life”. The Miracle feeding of the thousands with 2 fish and 5 loaves... So, he asked us to finish this sentence, “We are not just receiving Communion; we are ____.” *How would you fill in the blank?*

Here were some of the answers:

Carolyn: ‘We aren’t receiving a bit of bread or a sip of wine/juice, we are being filled with the force that called galaxies into being and summoned into a community of star-forgiving love’.

Pamela: “we are stepping beyond the bounds of time and space to share a meal with saints of every time and place, and take into ourselves the substance of Christ, the creative power of the universe’.

Tim: we are not just receiving Communion, we are ‘collapsing space, time and eternity into one edible chunk.’ *Lisa added* “Where grace & love dance in cup & plate’.

Scott: ‘We are dining with the Creator of the Universe!’

Chon: ‘Eating a meal with our great-great-grandparents and our great-great-grandchildren’.

Kent: ‘Dining with the likes of Moses, Judas, Elijah, Matthew, Mark, Luke and John’.

Lori: ‘We’re not taking Communion – it’s taking us into the heart of God.’

And one last one. ☺

Lisa H: ‘We are returning to our truest selves. We are breathing in Divine stardust – where a grain and a grape are a complete meal.’



No matter how you might answer this, we know that Communion is not mundane, no way, no how. We never take it lightly, but in celebration. In this meal God is with us, forgives us, strengthens us, supports us, and sends us out into the world anchoring us to Him and His promise of salvation. Thanks be to God!

Joy,

Pastor Terri

My Thanks to Ruth, Jeff, Garret and Roxie for leading us in worship last month during my absences! It was very appreciated!!

Acolyte/Lector

05th: 8am – Nancy Hanson/George Goltz
 10:15 am – Matthew Pavelec/Kari Banovec

12th: 8am – Eli Olson/Mike Willis
 10:15 am – Davion Hoernke/Garret Gould

19th: 8am – Myles Nawrot/Meagan Grabarski
 10:15am–Brayden Hendricksen/Rick Searing

26th: 8am – Nancy Hanson/Kurt Mikolite
 10:15 am – Ashtin Quinnell/Jeff Chase

Lawn mowing—for the week of:

05th: John Stormoen & Travis Hanson
 12th: Steve & Kris Peterson
 19th: Tim & Mary Jo Meyer
 26th: Mike & Sandy Willis

Garbage: Brian & Donna Olson

Food Pantry: Monica Wallendal

Altar Guild: Karen Groskinsky & Darlene H.

Flower care—for the week of:

06th: Donna Olson

Holy Humor

(from Accidental Talmudist)

"Teacher, there's just one thing in the Bible I don't understand." "Only one, Ben?"

"It says here that the Children of Israel crossed the Red Sea." "Yes, they did."

"And the Children of Israel beat up the Philistines, right?" "Right."

"And the Children of Israel built the Holy Temple?" "Of course."

"And the Children of Israel fought the Egyptians, and the Children of Israel fought the Romans, and the Children of Israel were always doing something important." "Yes. So, what is it you don't understand?"

"Well, during all that time, what were the grown-ups doing?"

Receipts wanted

The **TLCW receives 3.2%** for each dollar spent at A-F County Market this year! This helps with funding for items such as:

- * Scholarships
- * Bibles for our youth
- * Kitchen supplies
- * LWR Kit supplies
- * Devotion booklets
- * Camperships

Please place receipts in the box in the narthex or in the outside info box to the right of the lower doors.

Cans

Don't forget to turn in your aluminum cans to the trailer located next to the church garage!

Stewardship Moment

Be a **Tree-Free Home:** [except for **renewable** resources like Bamboo.]

*Replace paper napkins w/ cloth napkins & paper towels w/ old t-shirts or cloth bar-mop towels.
 *Use post-consumer recycled toilet paper.

*Consider installing a bidet (bə'dā) to reduce TP usage.

*Maybe grandma had it right - reusing envelopes, wrapping paper and gift bags. ☺

*Don't purchase; use the library: books, magazines, and newspapers or go digital. Share/swap a subscription with a friend or neighbor.

*For construction projects, consider eco-friendly flooring, bamboo, carpet of recycled materials and vintage timber options.

Optional service update

Taping of worship service will take place on Sunday at the 8am service.

Wednesday service is being offered beginning September 15 at 5:15pm.

Masks are required, no reservation is needed.

Visit our website at: arkdaletlc.org and view service from home. This will be available to view late afternoon/Sunday evening.

Amy can mail you a copy of the sermon. Give her a call 608-564-7920 to be added to the mailing list.

At this time, masks are optional at 8 & 10:15 am service on Sunday.

September happenings....

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
To help with US wildfires or Haiti, mail check to: Lutheran Disaster Response PO Box 1809 Merrifield, VA 22116-8009 Write "U.S. wildfires or Haiti" on memo			1 1-3pm Fellowship hall res.	2	3	4
5 8:00 & 10:15 am Worship	6 Office Closed Labor Day	7 8:30 am Quilting 6:00 pm Bible Study	8 5:30 pm Council 6:00 pm Choir	9	10	11
12 8:00 & 10:15 am Worship & Backpack Blessing 9:15 am Education	13	14 8:30 am Quilting 6:00 pm Bible Study	15 9:00 am Newsletter Articles Due 5:15 pm Worship 6:00 pm Confirmation & Choir	16	17	18
19 8&10:15am Worship 9:15 am Education & Endowment mtg.	20	21 8:30 am Quilting 10:00 am Worship mtg 6:00 pm Bible Study	22 5:15 pm Worship 6:00 pm Confirmation & Choir	23	24	25
26 8:00 & 10:15 am Worship 9:15 am Education	27 6:00 pm Property meeting	28 8:30 am Quilting 6:00 pm Bible Study	29 5:15 pm Worship 6:00 pm Confirmation & Choir	30		

2021 School Kit Challenge For Lutheran Word Relief Ends September 30th

Help educate children around the world by donating supplies for LWR school kits! Continue placing items in the narthex. Monetary donations can be left in the LWR contribution box located in the narthex or mail to: Terri Soley, TLCW Treasurer, 1771 State HWY 21, Arkdale, WI 54613. Make check payable to Trinity Lutheran Church Women (TLCW), and write LWR school kits in the memo line. Thank you for your support! Items needed for one school kit:

Four 70-sheet notebooks, wide or college ruled paper, about 8" x 10-1/2", no loose leaf
One 30-centimeter ruler, or one with both centimeters and inches

One 2-1/2" eraser

One pencil sharpener

One pair BLUNT scissors (no pointed tips)

One box of 16 or 24 crayons

Five unsharpened #2 pencils with erasers

Five black or blue ballpoint pens (no gel ink)

Notebooks are especially needed since it takes four to make one kit! At the time of print, 100 are needed yet!

CHOIR NOTES...

A few weeks ago, I felt considerably more confident moving forward than I do right now. But after surveying choir members, the vast majority of whom expressed an interest in returning to the loft, I would like to attempt to get singing again, if we can do so safely. I am looking at **Wednesday, Sept. 8th at 6-6:45pm** for our first Choir Practice and Gathering. We'll get our voices going and get to it! **New Singers, HS age and up, are Welcome!**

Singing is considered a High Risk activity during these Covid Times and following the current recommendations of the CDC and the ACDA (American Choral Directors Association) is considered "Best Practice" for singers. These are the protocols that we will be following:

I am requesting that **ALL Choir Participants be vaccinated**. If you come to practice, I will take it on Faith that you have followed through with this.

The use of **masks** for all participants is **strongly encouraged**. I understand that some have health issues that make mask use difficult or impossible. I'm just encouraging mask use as an additional line of defense for those who can.

Please, please, please **do not come to rehearsals or performances if you feel ill** or have any symptoms of Covid or anything else. Let's try to stay well!

We need to **be flexible**. Things seem to change for the better or for the worse very quickly.

We need to communicate effectively and be open to change as needed.

We need to **be respectful**. Period. We have different comfort levels, different opinions, different ways of doing things, etc. That's fine. Let's just **be kind** toward each other.

Additional Resources:

1. Check out the American Choral Directors Association guidelines at <acda.org> Resources for Choral Professionals During the Pandemic - Guidance - Summary of Current Covid 19 Guidance.

2. Singers Masks are available, let Amy know in the office if you'd like one.

3. Patterns available for making Singers Masks are available online.

4. It is possible to wear a regular mask for singing, but one designed for singers offer more room for air, easier breathing, and more facial flexibility.

Thank you, Sandy Pheiffer—Choir Director

Unapproved Council Meeting Minutes—August 11, 2021—5:30—7:15 p.m.

Present: Derek Pavelec, Ken Bork, Monica Wallendal, Garret Gould, Danna Peterson, Pastor Terri, Marge Edwards, and Anne Gibault. **Excused:** Meagan Grabarski & Mike Willis.

Meeting Called to Order by Ken Bork at 5:30 p.m.

Pastor's Report:

Shut-In Visits: 13 visits and more scheduled for the upcoming days; At Rest: 3 funerals

At the Font: 3 baptisms and 1 coming up; At the Altar: none

Still sending birthday cards. Sent "Thank You" cards to everyone who helps outside

Treasurer's Report: Went through report. Payroll protection loan—still looking into how to fill out the loan forgiveness application. Will continue to work with BMO. Monica will be stepping aside as being the treasurer. Looking for someone for that role with the new budget coming up. Motion to Approve: Danna/Garret

Secretary's Report: Reviewed report. Motion to Approve: Derek/Marge.

Set the Next Meeting Date: Next meeting is Wednesday, September 8, 2021 at 5:30 p.m.

New Business:

Local Benevolence—\$2,050 remains. Faith in Action is requesting funds. Motion to donate \$500: Garret/Marge.

Still looking for another council member.

Service taping will move to Sunday morning at first service. Garret/Marge.

Derek brought up the idea of a fully masked service on a weekday.

Starting September 15, 2021, Pastor will offer a mask mandatory service Wednesday 5:15-5:45 p.m. Motion Danna/Derek.

Choir: Motion that the choir is free to start practice and perform with the restrictions of members in choir having their COVID shots and mandatory masks unless there is an underlying medical condition. Motion: Pastor Terri/Danna.

Stewardship Campaign/Commitment Sunday

Continue to have people to fill out the Time and Talent forms.

Adams County Aging and Disability would like to use the fellowship hall Tuesday afternoons to hold a class for September & October 2021. Motion to Approve: Marge/Anne

Phone Update:

Kurt Miller figured out how to reset the system. Things are back to normal. There are 2 lines working. We still have some clicking on the lines. Continue to look at options for the phone line and internet.

South-Central Synod of Wisconsin Council Questionnaire: Requested to be completed.

1. What do you view as the strengths of the congregation? What can you offer when teaming up with other ministries and what do you perceive as your weaknesses?

Strength: Pastor's preaching—real world sermons

Weakness: Average age of members, outreach to our youth

2. What does your Council see as your role in the congregation?

Leadership—we have lots of leadership opportunities,

We do a great job of supporting each other

3. What do you see ministry looking like in a post-pandemic world?

Things will never quite go back to "normal." We continue to adjust to things.

4. How do you understand your church congregation's mission/purpose?

We try to lead in a flexible manner,

Always centered on our mission and vision

** continued on next page **

5. Any other helpful insight you have?

We could use help on how to help members who are not fully behind the ELCA beliefs

Reward Dollars—on Raise Right/Kwik Trip—could church members designate those funds to a specific fund?

Motion to approve Raise Right or Kwik Trip rewards may be designated to ramp hill fundraiser if so designated by the rewards user beginning September 1, 2021 and going forward. Request to be given to Church Secretary. Motion: Danna/Garret.

Other Reports:

Education Ministry—Wacky Wednesday this Wednesday. Looking at changing materials for Sunday School. Still looking for Sunday School teachers and assistants

Outreach—nothing to report

Property Committee—With our understaffed Council, we would like the Property Committee to begin looking at forming a fundraising committee for the ramp hill.

Worship Committee—talked about taping of services, choir.

TLCW—Will meet August 22, 2021.

Endowment Committee—Will meet between services on Sept. 19, 2021.

Landscape Committee—Designation of funds for the ramp hill will be included in the budget making process.

Adjourned at 7:15 Ken/Garret

Closed with the Lord's Prayer

Respectfully Submitted, Anne Gibault—Council Secretary

Openings available here at the church

Seeking one **member to join the council committee.**

Seeking one **member to join the property committee.**

Seeking a **treasurer.**

If you are interested in any of these opportunities, please contact Amy at 608-564-7920.

Backpack Blessing Sunday is September 12th

Have your child bring their backpack in at either service on the 12th to receive a special blessing from Pastor Terri.

From Faith in Action

Thank you to all the TLCW Bakers that donated their baked goods, to support Faith in Action's participation in A-F Sidewalk Days in August. Your church is one of the first Coalitions church members founded back in 2005. It is a great showing of your support in helping the Elderly of Adams County stay in their home longer.

Our gratitude to Trinity Lutheran Church Arkdale.

Respectively, Sherry Kosabucki—Director of Faith in Action

Correction to July Council Minutes

Under new business, should read:

Masks: Masks optional at both services: Garret/Mike

We discussed singing at services. We will not sing now but we will re-evaluate at the next meeting to see what the CDC guidelines are and as they change.

KFC: Kids for Christ

★**Sunday School & Confirmation** resumes **September 12th at 9:15am**. Let Pastor know if you would like material to teach from home; the next order will be placed September 15th.

★**Thank you** to all the Wacky Wednesday volunteers!!

★**ELCA Youth Gathering** registration forms with deposit are due by October 1st. Forms will be e-mailed to you upon request & are also located in the narthex kiosk.

★**Bible Verse:** *“But Jesus bent down and started to write on the ground with his finger.”* John 8:6.

★ **Activity:** Make a marker/pencil holder: Need shoe box, toilet paper/paper towel rolls, scissors, paint, or duct tape. Paint shoe box or cover in duct tape. Insert paper rolls, cut to desired heights. And voila! (we have extra boxes).

★**Table Talk:** Preference: pencil, marker, crayon, or colored pencil?

★**Bedtime Prayer:** Dear Jesus, thank you for our hands and teachers who teach us how to write with them. What we write can tell others about things and create stories. Lord, you are so awesome! Amen.

Bible Moment

Mark 4:35-41. Jesus and the disciples were in a boat. A bad storm came up. The waves were coming up over the boat's sides. And it looked like the water was going to swamp the boat.

Everyone was frightened, thinking they were going to drown – except Jesus who was asleep. They wake him up. Jesus got up and stopped the wind and commanded the waves to be still. And the sea was calm again. Jesus turns to his disciples and asks them “Why are you so afraid? Do you still have no faith?” And they looked at each other shocked at what Jesus had done.

Sometimes we get caught up in all the details, and the worries, and we forget or miss the guy right dab in the middle, Jesus. He doesn't change. What are you afraid of? Have faith in the one whom the wind and even the waves obey.

Attention Script card and Kwik Trip shoppers

Effective September 1, 2021 if you would like to designate your reward dollars to a specific church project please let Amy in the office know (608-564-7920). At this time, the only project on the list is the ramp hill. This applies only to script cards and Kwik Trip rewards.

Villa Pines seeking help

Villa Pines is in need of volunteers to help assist with morning coffee club, gardening, spiritual activities and bingo games with the residents. Contact Mike at 339-3361 if you'd like to help.

S. Central WI Synodical Women's Organization 15th Biennial Convention/Fall retreat

September 24-25, 2021, registration due September 9th: <https://scsw-elca.org/welca/>
Location: Lutherdale Bible Camp—Elkhorn, WI. Speaker: Vicar Lily Zeich Brellenthin (served in South Africa from 2015-2016 with Young Adults in Global Mission)

Thank you members...

Dellwood Plumbing & Heating for cleaning the furnaces at no cost!

Kurt Miller for getting our phones working again!

Quinnell's Septic & Well for getting our water working again at no cost!

Kay Olson-Martz for the use of the bounce house for the Wacky Wednesday Youth Event!