

Trinity Lutheran Church

PO Box 65, Arkdale, WI 54613

Office hours: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday 8:30am-2:30pm

(608) 564-7920 Website: arkdaletlc.org

Pastor Terri's info: arkdalepastor@outlook.com, #608-475-0748



From the Pastor's Pen September 2025

Dear Friends,

Have you ever met someone who no longer goes to church or used to be a Christian? Too often people have an experience that injures their relationship with the church, and by association - with God. Sometimes their reason seems small, but some have had deep and very painful things happen to them in connection with the church, and now they will never go back.

It hurts my soul to think that one person or a committee can do enough damage to someone that they reject Jesus. This is a cautionary word for us to be careful about what we say, how we say it, and how we do things.

And if you need to respond to someone's 'church' pain, think about what Pastor Kelly Kopp said to those who have been hurt, "Jesus would never hurt you. People did... Church didn't die on the cross for you. And a Pastor didn't walk out of a tomb. A small group never carried your shame. And a... committee never brought you boldness and power. JESUS DID."

The pain and the hurt are real. But why do we blame Jesus for what others have done? Remember Judas, who betrayed Jesus? Note how they sat at the same table together. Jesus loved him, but Judas still did him dirty. Peter who walked on water with Jesus, but later denied knowing Jesus, not just once, but 3 times. People are the ones who mess up and cause pain, people fail. Not Jesus. Jesus doesn't mess up and is always faithful. And we worship Jesus – inside the imperfections of his church – which, if we look all through the years, has always been messy. And FYI that is why we need Jesus in the first place.

Pastor Kelly also said, "If someone hurting you in God's name made you abandon God himself, that means they had more influence on your soul than HE (God) did". And that is not God's fault. Don't let the actions of mere mortals, get between you and your Savior, Jesus Christ.

Jesus was insulted, lied about and mocked by the religious folks around him, abandoned by the people he loved, and he still said as he was dying on the cross "Father, forgive them." Sadly, Church hurt is real - but so is God's healing, grace, and mercy.

Pastor Terri

Personal Note: JoHanna and I took a 2-day trip over to Pleasant Prairie last month, and we walked in a sunflower field. It was a nice little get away, and interesting too. And this month I will be attending the Synod Fall Conference in Madison.



Worship Committee Report:

Holy Communion at the altar railing will start in September. Members will be invited forward to the rail; the first ones up will go to the center of the rail to kneel or stand as they are able, then others will file in turn to either side. After receiving the bread and wine the Pastor will give a blessing, then parishioners may return to their seats and rejoin the singing.

In October:

October is Clergy Appreciation Month!

Oct. 7: Property Meeting

Oct. 12: Tailgate Brunch & Raffle

Oct. 19: TLCW Meeting in the sanctuary

Thank You to all of the Worship and Churchwide Assistants!

Gardening-Water & Weed		Lawn Mowers		<u>Altar Guild</u> Karen Groskinsky, Meagan Grabarski, Dana Henriksen, & Kris Peterson <u>Garbage</u> Dave Janssen <u>Food Pantry</u> Aletta Grabarski
Sept. 7-13	Terri Soley	Sept. 4	Pat Murphy & Bob Goodhue	
Sept. 14-20	Kathy Murphy	Sept. 11	Tim & Mary Jo Meyer	
Sept. 21-27	Karen & Gary Meunier	Sept. 18	Rick & Sari Ostby	
Sept. 28-Oct. 4	Rich & Deb Wachholz	Sept. 25	Mike & Sandy Willis	
Counters		Worship Greeter/s		
Sept. 2	Tom Guzman & Nancy Dix	Sept. 7	Hank & Nancy Sauer	
Sept. 8	Nancy Dix & Debby McClyman	Sept. 14	Barb Bennett	
Sept. 15	Sharon Guzman & John Stormoen	Sept. 21	Becky Oleson	
Sept. 22	John Stormoen & Susan McIntosh	Sept. 28	Roxie Irey	
Sept. 29	Debby McClyman & Susan McIntosh			
	Lector	Camera	Bulletin Sponsorship	Acolytes
Sept. 7	Sandy Pheiffer	Ashtin Quinnell	Dave & Karen Janssen	Connley & Elaynna Meyer
Sept. 14	Jeff Chase	Jameson Nawrot	Sandra Pheiffer	Gavin Baggs & Archer Ostby
Sept. 21	Tara Farrell	Davion Hoernke	Steve & Danna Peterson	Ellie & Avery Christensen
Sept. 28	George Goltz	Merrik Moore		Jaxson & Ava Nawrot
	Fellowship	Flowers	Liturgist	Ushers
Sept. 7	Quilters	Dave & Karen Janssen	Tom Guzman	Lloyd & Darlene Hovorka
Sept. 14	Quilters		Sandy Willis	Marge Edwards & Nancy Dix
Sept. 21	Quilters		Roxanne Irey	Ed Heideman & Garret Gould
Sept. 28	Quilters		Mike Willis	John Stormoen & Tom Guzman

Look for the sign-up sheet for altar flowers on the narthex table. Donations are welcomed.

September Food Pantry Donation Idea

What type of pasta does the Pope eat? *HOLY MACARONI!*

For the month of September, let's try and fill the TLCW food pantry shopping cart with pasta of all kinds...macaroni, spaghetti, tortellini, shells, manicotti, angel hair, egg noodles, bow tie, penne, Ramen noodles...you name it! Just toss it in the cart and we'll get it delivered for local families to enjoy.

The ladies of Trinity Lutheran Church THANK YOU!

Abbreviated Unapproved Council Meeting Minutes for August 4, 2025

Present: Sandy Willis, Mike Willis, Liz Hendricksen, Dana Henriksen, Pastor Terri Skildum, Gretchen Wetzell, Garret Gould, Cathy Westover, Carrie Easterly. **Absent:** Leif Pedersen, excused.

The meeting was called to order by President Garret Gould at 5:30 p.m.

Approve Agenda: Motion to approve the agenda by Mike/Gretchen. Carried.

Opening devotion and prayer: Pastor read from Phillipians 1- discussion on who and what are we thankful for within the group; followed with prayer.

Approve July Council Meeting Minutes: Motion to approve the minutes Dana/Carrie. Carried.

Approve June & July Treasurer's Reports: Reviewed and discussed. Motion to approve by Mike/Liz. Carried.

Pastor's Report: Visits in last 6 weeks: 7; At Rest: 1; At the Font: 1 upcoming on Aug. 16, 2025, in the home; Other: Synod Pastor's Fall Conference is Sept. 14-16 in Madison. Youth Calendar: Aug. 6: Mini Golf & Pizza in Dells, Aug. 12: VBS at Trinity, Aug. 13: Rocky Road Ice Cream outing, Aug. 22-25: Fair Grounds cleanup.

Next Council Meeting will be September 8, 2025, at 6:30 p.m. Note Time change!!

Old Business:

- Wi-Fi/Phones update: Spectrum vs. Frontier – Spectrum quote highlights: a) State taxes are not included- currently 17/mo. b) representative said that 500M should be plenty and is 41% faster than Frontier. C) If we select 500M there will be an installation fee of \$99. Note: Frontier monthly payment is \$288.94 with slower speed. (Spectrum quote is attached). Garret will get more information about Mbps, phone charges, etc.
- Doorbell/Ring Service: A system is installed and working. It reports to Pastor's phone and the office.
- Servant Keeper- purchased and updated
- Pastor's new computer – purchased and will be installed on Wednesday, August 6.
- Church Long Range Plan: there was discussion on how to start creating a format. Key people need to be involved
- Chip Sealing: contract was signed for sealing in front of the new retaining wall area.
- Solar Project: A loan at Royal Bank has been secured for \$4449.71 for 5 yrs @ 7% interest. Payments will be \$404.71/mo. Arch Solar will help get Federal 30% rebate. The down payment to Arch has been made so they can schedule the project.

Committee Reports:

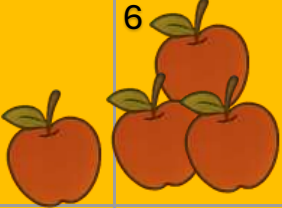

- Outreach: Still need to find someone to take over. A stipend is available for the position.
- Property Committee: will be meeting on August 12. Garret will refer a problem with the door to the Fellowship Hall sticking and not closing.
- Worship Ministry: Worship settings have been changed. Passing Of the Peace has been added to the service. There is still discussion about returning to the rail for communion – committee will have to meet to discuss.
- TLCW: Meeting on August 17 following worship.

Open Discussion: The Tailgate Party (breakfast & raffles) was to be held last year and was not, so it will be held this year on Oct. 12 following worship. We need basket and raffle donations. More information coming soon!

The meeting was adjourned at 6:30 p.m. closing with the Lord's Prayer.
Submitted in His service, Sandy Willis, Sec.



September 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Office open from 8:30 am-2:30 pm	1 Labor Day Office Closed No Bible Study	2 8:30 Quilting	3 9:30-Strong Bodies Exercise 5:55-Crafting 6:00-Choir	4*	5 	6
7 Rally Day 9:00-Worship (Name Tags) 10:00-Education & Fellowship	8* 9:30-Strong Bodies Exercise 3:30-Bible Study 6:30-Council	9* 8:30 Quilting 9-11:30 Dealing with Chronic Pain Class	10 9:30-Strong Bodies Exercise 6:00-Choir & Confirmation	11*	12 	13
14 9:00-Worship 10:00-Education & Fellowship 10:00-Altar Guild Meeting	15* Newsletter Items Due 9:30-Strong Bodies Exercise No Bible Study	16* 8:30 Quilting 9-11:30 Dealing with Chronic Pain Class	17 9:30-Strong Bodies Exercise 6:00-Choir & Confirmation	18*	19	20 10:00 am @ Mt. ReposeHeadstone Cleaning Clinic (RSVP)
21 9:00-Worship 10:00-Education & Fellowship	22* 9:30-Strong Bodies Exercise 3:30-Bible Study	23* 8:30 Quilting 9-11:30 Dealing with Chronic Pain Class	24 9:30-Strong Bodies Exercise 6:00-Choir & Confirmation	25*	26	27
28 9:00-Worship 10:00-Education & Fellowship	29* 9:30-Strong Bodies Exercise 3:30-Bible Study	30* 8:30 Quilting 9-11:30 Dealing with Chronic Pain Class		<div>HELLO My Name Is</div> <div>Name-Tag-Sunday will be on Rally Day Sunday, September 7th.</div>		

Interested in membership? Contact Pastor Terri or Danna in the church office. Forms are available on the table in the Narthex. We would love to have you join us at ATLC!

God sees you. God hears you. God loves you!

Stewardship Idea: **Take a Bike Ride.** If it's an accessible area, biking is an eco-friendly way to travel, promoting exercise and building up muscle strength. It is good for your heart, lungs, and overall circulation. Using a bike also conserves non-renewable resources and reduces air pollution. Take your eyes off the screens of iPads, phones, and TVs and go see the colors of the season, explore a new road, or visit a neighbor.



Bible Moment: (Answer on next page)

Can you guess the object this poem refers to in this poem by Meta Herrick Carlson?

There is a candle near the altar that glows without rest.
Its flame dances in the hurricane – safe and silent while we sleep.
Or is it? This light is bold enough,
With or without us to start a fire – where there was only dust and fear...
Perhaps this fire is waiting – on a wind so we can see like our ancestors
A burning bush, a pillar of fire, a burnt offering ablaze with life that speaks...

KFC – Kids For Christ:

★ **Sunday school starts** 10 am on **September 7th**. We are going to make a video together and then have ice cream. *Substitute teachers are needed.*

★ **Confirmation starts** for 7 & 8 graders, Wednesday, September 10th at 6pm.

★ **Older Youth: Alive Event:** Sunday, Oct. 12, 3:30 at St Peters in Loganville. Let Pastor know if you are interested in going.

★ **Confirmation Day** is set for Sunday October 26 at 9am.

★ **Bible Verse:** Dandelions teach us about trying hard and getting through tough things, and learning how to change, like bending low when the lawn is mowed, to keep going no matter if it's raining or snowing, hot or cold. 2 Timothy 1:7 says, "For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power, love, and self-control."

★ **Activity:** Fingerprint dandelions. Need: paint or ink pad, paper and a blacker marker. First draw the outline of a dandelion. Then at the end of each line using a variety of colors dab your fingerprint.

★ **Table Talk:** Have you ever blown the puff of a dandelion? What did it make you think of? Dandelions start out with green leaves, then yellow flowers and then the puff part which is the seeds for next year's new dandelion. It's God's circle of life for this plant. Isn't God awesome!?

★ **Prayer:** God I thank you for _____ and all my stuff. And today I thank you for fun dandelion puffs. Amen.



Turtle Cakes (Shared by Rita Zietlow in *Recipes & Memories* –ATLC Cookbook, 1996)

1 German chocolate cake mix, prepared
3/4 c. butter or margarine
1 c. chocolate chips



1 (14 oz) bag of caramels
1/2 c. evaporated milk
1 c. pecans

Mix the cake according to the directions. Grease and flour a 9"x13" pan and pour half of the cake batter into the pan. Put this half of the cake into the oven and bake at 350° for 15 minutes. In a saucepan over low heat, melt caramels with butter and milk. Remove the cake from the oven and pour the mixture from the sauce pan over the half baked cake. Top with chocolate chips and pecans. Pour the second half of the cake batter over the top and return to the oven to bake for another 20 minutes at 350°.

Christian Song Trivia

Can you guess the song & singer from its first two lines?

1. "I searched the world, but it couldn't fill me
Man's empty praise and treasures that fade
are never enough"
2. "From the highest of heights to the depths of
the sea Creation's revealing Your majesty"
3. "When peace like a river attendeth my way
When sorrows like sea billows roll"
4. "The splendor of a King, clothed in majesty
Let all the earth rejoice, all the earth rejoice"
5. "I was buried beneath my shame Who could
carry that kind of weight?"

Crafting Night will be held on

Wednesday, Sept. 3 @ 5:55pm in the Fellowship Hall. Enjoy a fun evening of crafting, snacking, and socializing. No experience needed. To date, we have created ornaments, yarn gnomes, diamond art coasters, wall hangings, a crate box, a patriotic flower and pot, stitched cards, hand-stitched card holders, and window clings. A \$10 donation is suggested to cover the cost of craft materials. Contact Danna if you will be attending, so we can ensure there are enough supplies and snacks.

Bible Moment answer: The Eternal (flame) Candle, often inside a red glass globe (hurricane).

Calling All Singers! Come & make a joyful noise with Senior Choir!

Wednesday practices at 6:00 pm

If you are High School age and up, please come and join us! We are NOT a closed group. We are NOT a clique. NO auditions! NO music reading skills required. If you love to sing, you are most welcome!

Can't come to every practice or make it every Sunday? That's ok. If you're able to join us 50% of the time, it will still work!



Headstone Cleaning Clinic

Honor & preserve, discover the art of headstone cleaning and care, gain expert tips, hands-on practice, and help support local cemeteries to preserve the beauty of markers!

Saturday, September 20th, 10:00 am

Mt. Repose Cemetery – Friendship WI

Cleaning Kits Available for Purchase - \$75 Cash or Check

Register at headstonesandblossoms@gmail.com, 608-415-1168, or contact Darlene Hovorka at 608-547-1956 or heyrez75@gmail.com

Rain cancels the event

Uncover the secrets to exceptional headstone care!

- Expert tips and tricks for cleaning headstones
- Hands-on practice to perfect your technique
- Insights on preserving the beauty of monuments
- Take the tools home to care for your loved ones' memorials

Song Trivia Answer Key

1. Graves Into Gardens – Elevation Worship
2. Indescribable – Chris Tomlin
3. It Is Well With My Soul – Mercy Me
4. How Great Is Our God – Chris Tomlin
5. Glorious Day (Living He Loved Me) – Passion/Kristian Stanfill



"Living with pain – constant, nagging pain – is so debilitating. Healthy Living with Chronic Pain taught me strategies to manage my pain. Having a little control feels great."

How does it work?

Simply follow the registration instructions below and we'll provide you with access to the sessions, contact you to make sure you are able to join, and help during the workshop if you have any problems.

Register Now!

Where: Trinity Lutheran Church
1650 Church Street, Arkdale

When: Every Tuesday
Sept 9 – Oct 14, 2025
From 9-11:30am

To register: Call the Aging & Disability Resource Center at (920) 787-6666

Donation: Suggested donation of \$20



An In-person Workshop

Living with pain? What if you could feel better?

If living with ongoing pain is keeping you from doing the things you want to do, **Healthy Living with Chronic Pain** can help you manage your pain.

Developed at Stanford University, **Healthy Living with Chronic Pain** meets for 2½ hours once a week for six consecutive weeks and is facilitated by two trained leaders. Topics include:

- Relaxation and breathing
- Medication usage & evaluating treatments
- Quality sleep and fatigue management
- Stress and depression management
- Healthy eating and nutrition
- Decision-making and problem-solving
- Fitness for exercise and fun
- Short term goal setting and planning
- Communicating effectively with friends, family, and your medical team

This program does not replace existing treatments, but serves to complement a participant's current medical treatment plan. This program is not meant for those with pain medication addiction issues.



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Arkdale, WI 54613

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Donated Flowers for the Sanctuary

Each Sunday, the beauty of fresh flowers in the ATLC sanctuary reminds us of God's goodness and grace. You are invited to share in this ministry by providing flowers for worship.

Flowers may be given **in honor of a loved one, in memory of someone special, in celebration of an event or occasion, or simply to add beauty to our worship space.**

If you would like to share flowers (purchased or from your own blooms) for an upcoming Sunday, please sign up on the Flower Sponsorship Form in the narthex (or contact the church office). Delivery can be made on Thursdays (8:30am-2:30pm) or by arrangement. (We do have vases!)

Together, let's continue to fill our sanctuary with nature's amazing colors, fragrance, and joy! THANK YOU!



TAILGATE BRUNCH & RAFFLE EVENT

-October 12-

Join us after worship for our Tailgate Event! Enjoy the always-popular egg bake along with other delicious brunch favorites, hosted by the ATLC council members.



Raffle basket drawings will add to the fun—tickets will be available for purchase both ahead of time and at **the event. If you'd like to contribute,** donations of raffle baskets are greatly appreciated and may be dropped off prior to Sept. 25.

Come hungry, bring a friend, and enjoy a morning of food, fellowship, and fun! More updates coming soon.