



NEWSLETTER



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ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

www.stpaulplankinton.com

605-942-7364

Elders Justin Everson
 Curt Guindon
 Mike Tuschen

President Justin Everson

LWML President ... Marlene Johnson

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

www.trinitywhitelake.com

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Elders David Bogenhagen
 Dan Guericke
 Scott Meier

President Dean Suelflow

LWML Presidents Diana Kieffer
 Hope Circle
 Brianna Bogenhagen
 Ruth Circle



St. Paul's Lutheran Church and Trinity Lutheran Church are members of the South Dakota District of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod.

April 2024

Joint Divine Worship Service Schedule for April

- Sunday, April 7, 2024 — 5 p.m. at St. Paul's
- Sunday, April 14, 2024 — 5 p.m. at Trinity
- Sunday, April 21, 2024 — 5 p.m. at St. Paul's
- Sunday, April 28, 2024 — 5 p.m. at Trinity

Christian Education

- Joint Bible Study** – April 14.
- Joint Confirmation Class** — 3:45 p.m., same location as the Divine Service.
- St. Paul's Sunday School** — 3:45 p.m. April 7 and April 21.
- Trinity Release-Time** — Wednesdays, 2:15–3:15 p.m.

Lutheran Women's Missionary League

- Trinity Hope Circle – April 2, 2024, 2 p.m.
- Trinity Ruth Circle – April 3, 2025, 6:30 p.m.
- St. Paul's Dorcas Circle – April 8, 2024, 2 p.m.

Voters! Mark your calendars! *On the agenda for each congregation will be a decision on Lutheran Witness subscriptions.*

- St. Paul's Voters Meeting — April 7, 2024, 6 p.m., SP
- Trinity Voters Meeting — April 28, 2024, 6 p.m., TR

Serving the Lord's Church in APRIL

TRINITY

- Elder** Dan Guericke
- Ushers** Dan Meier
Ben Bogenhagen
- Acolyte** Brant Bogenhagen
- Altar** Jane Guericke

ST. PAUL'S

- Elder** Justin Everson
- Ushers** Dan Gerlach
Mike Tuschen
- Acolyte** Addisyn Everson
- Altar** Marlene Johnson

Scripture Readings

- Apr. 7 Acts 4:32–35; 1 John 1:1–2:2; John 20:19–31
- Apr. 14 Acts 3:11–21; 1 John 3:1–7; Luke 24:36–49
- Apr. 21 Acts 4:1–12; 1 John 3:16–24; John 10:11–18
- Apr. 28 Acts 8:26–40; 1 John 4:1–11; John 15:1–8

The **May 2024 newsletter** will be available on or after April 28, 2024. Articles are due Tuesday, April 23, 2024.

Please send newsletter/bulletin items to Nancy Bogenhagen at trinitywlsd@gmail.com. **Weekly bulletin deadline is Thursday noon.** Please email me if you prefer your newsletter emailed to you. Thank you!



May LCMS members participate in the services of non-LCMS churches?

This is a question that has come up many times, so I thought it would be beneficial to put it in the newsletter. I do understand that this may be a sensitive topic because many of us have family members in other church bodies, nevertheless, it is a good question and those who ask this question ask because they want to be faithful to God's Word and do the right thing.

By non-LCMS churches I mean churches that are not LCMS or not in fellowship with the LCMS such as the ELCA, Reformed Church in America, The Roman Catholic Church, The United Methodist Church, etc. First of all, we do not worship with these other denominations on Sunday morning. We worship separately. Why? It is **not** because we think we are better than them (that would be sinful) **nor** is it because we do not like them. God commands us to love our neighbor as ourselves. The reason we worship separately on Sunday mornings is because we are not united in God's Word. God's Word requires unity in the congregation and also that Christians flee false teaching. St Paul writes in 1 Corinthians 1, *I appeal to you, brothers, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree, and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same judgment.* Romans 16, *I appeal to you, brothers, to watch out for those who cause divisions and create obstacles contrary to the doctrine that you have been taught; avoid them.*

I am going to use the Roman Catholic Church as an example, but this applies to the other denominations as well. Why don't we worship with the Roman Catholic church? Because we oppose their teachings on justification, purgatory, the authority of the

pope, the sacraments, etc. We do not worship with them because we believe their teachings are at odds with God's Word and to join them in worship would be to give approval to their teachings.

But what about attending a Catholic funeral or wedding? May we participate in these since they are not their regular worship services? The answer is no. It is important to remember that funeral and wedding services are still official services of the church. They are no different than their regular Sunday morning services. A funeral or wedding at the Catholic church is still a Catholic service. If we cannot worship them at their regular services because of doctrine, then we cannot join them in worship at their funeral and wedding services. To do so would imply that we secretly agree with them which we don't.

What about if they sing one of our hymns during the service or pray the Lord's Prayer, then may we join in? The Catholic Church does have some of our Lutheran hymns in their hymnals, but that does not mean that they agree with the doctrine therein. They might sing "A Mighty Fortress," but they still reject and condemn our Lutheran Confessions. We cannot join them even when they pray the Lord's Prayer in the service because even there, we have disagreement. We must not give any indication that we agree with the teaching of their church. We worship separately to preserve the Gospel and avoid false teaching.

Can we attend the services of these non-LCMS denominations without participating? Yes, most certainly. I myself often attend funerals at non-LCMS churches, but I do not participate. I observe and pray

silently for the families in my own prayers. I am there to support the family.

To be clear, none of this means that there are no Christians in the Roman Catholic Church or these other denominations that we are not in fellowship with. God's Word is fruitful wherever it goes. The reason we do not worship together (even at weddings and funerals) is because we are not united in doctrine. The source of false doctrine is the devil and the sinful flesh. In glory, there will be no more division or false doctrine.

Rev. Dr. Francis Pieper in *Christian Dogmatics* writes, "He who loves Christ loves

Christ's Word, and Christ commands us to avoid all who teach anything that is contrary to His Word. And whoever really loves the brethren refuses to participate in their erring and sinning, seeking rather to deliver them from error and sin. Moreover, the Scriptures of both the Old and the New Testament state explicitly that God permits false teachers to arise in order that Christians may show their obedience by avoiding them, not in order that Christians may fraternize with them (Deut 13:3; 8:2; 1 Cor 11:19)."

In Christ,
Pastor Jenson

With Joy Unending

Jesus said to her "Mary". She said to him in Aramaic "Rabboni!", (which means teacher) (John 20:16).

What a wondrous hope we are given in the celebration of the Resurrection of our Lord. It truly is the quintessential holiday in which we rejoice, for He Lives! The Lord Jesus who suffered and died for us, has now risen for us! He who has risen from the dead will now call all of His believers by name on the day of the resurrection of all flesh and we will be brought into His eternal kingdom. The Lord who called Mary by name, knows your name and He will call you from death to His eternal Kingdom! *"I know My own and they know me!"* (John 10:14). Because He lives, you, believer, will be called by name and brought into the eternal kingdom of glory. The resurrection of the flesh is ours for our Lord Jesus Christ has conquered death and the grave — He lives! Hallelujah!

"Christ is risen, Alleluia! He is risen indeed, Alleluia!"

Rev. Mark J. Maas
Junior Pastoral Counselor
Lutheran Women's Missionary League





WORD FROM THE CENTER

Welcome to “Word from The Center” MONDAY, a devotional word from the Center of our faith, Jesus Christ, with reflections on His Word. I’m Gregory Seltz. Today’s passage is Philippians 2:5–11, where the Apostle Paul writes these profound words: ⁵*Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus,* ⁶*who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped,* ⁷*but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men.* ⁸*And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.* ⁹*Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name,* ¹⁰*so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth,* ¹¹*and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.*

WHAT A MINDSET! WHAT A MISSION!

Mindsets matter. I remember back in my playing days how important my “frame of mind” was on the day before a big race or a big game. If I was confident in my training, confident in the game plan, and physically and emotionally focused, my mindset often gave me an edge when the contest began. Search the internet and you’ll find all kinds of “mindset” programs and seminars that will help prepare you for the big game, as well as for the big presentation, investment, or promotion. Mindsets matter.

As wonderful as all of that sounds, today’s Bible reading is not simply about that. It’s about something much more important and way more powerful. It is not merely about getting your mindset right. **It’s about knowing and receiving the “mind of Christ,” both in your life and then also for the lives of those you love.** When I think about it, all I can say is, “Wow!”

This mindset is one that was lived out for all to see in the person and work of Jesus. When you focus your attention on Jesus, you’ll see the very power of God in action in and through His life FOR YOU. You’ll see the love of God in action for you (for example, Jesus emptied Himself, served, was found in human form, and became obedient even to death on a cross). You’ll see the fullness of Jesus’ humble mindset in action for you. You’ll also see the enduring victory of this Servant-

Savior for you and for all as the exalted One who will one day be universally confessed.

Great athletes immerse themselves in their playbooks. Great lawyers know their law books. Great businesspersons know and even love their customers. Christians know, trust, and love their Savior by immersing themselves in His Word where they see His mindset in action. Then they trust in His love for us which changes our hearts. You might even say it changes our minds so that our mission in life seeks to reflect Him to others in all we do.

Here’s another promise to chew on. St. Paul says this in Colossians 3:1–4: *Since you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things. For you died, and your life is now hidden with Christ in God. When Christ, who is your life, appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.*

What a mindset. What a mission. What a way to live. Wow!

PRAYER: Dear Lord Jesus, I’m overwhelmed by the mindset that You had in Your mission to love me. Give me a thankful faith that trusts in all that You are and have done for me. Then give me Your mindset so that I might strive to love others the way You first loved me. AMEN.



MAIN STREET LIVING APRIL 2024

All programs are interpreted and closed-captioned for the hearing impaired. For more information visit:

www.mainstreetliving.com

Broadcast on KDLT (NBC) channels 5.1 / 46.1

April 7, 2024

10 a.m. "Break up" A divorced couple struggles with direction in their lives after meeting again.

10:30 a.m. Vicar Benjamin Wessel, Zion Lutheran Church, Mitchell, presents a message titled "Is Seeing Believing?" This sermon is based on John 20:19-31.

April 14, 2024

10 a.m. "Alibi" A father tries to reconnect with his estranged son after the death of his mother.

10:30 a.m. Rev. Daniel Grimmer, pastor at Zion Lutheran Church in Mitchell, presents a message titled "We Shall Be Like Him." This sermon is based on 1 John 3:1-7.

April 21, 2024

10 a.m. "No Place to Hide" A pastor, who has to face the death of his wife, cannot find comfort.

10:30 a.m. Rev. Steven Weispfennig, pastor at St. John's Lutheran Church in Yankton, presents a message titled "The Good Shepherd's Sheep Hear His Voice." This sermon is based on John 10:14-16.

April 28, 2024

10 a.m. "The Main Event" A boxer who is hit by a car becomes embittered until he meets a cheerful 8-year old girl.

10:30 a.m. Rev. Terry Makelin, pastor at St. Paul Lutheran Church in Freeman, presents a message titled "He Sends The Helper, The Spirit Of Truth." This sermon is based on John 16:5-15.



APRIL 2024

Kitti DeGeest, SP	April 3
Lennis Titze, SP	April 7
Derik Guindon, SP	April 8
Jacey Kemp, SP	April 8
<i>Tom & Janice Thiry, TR</i>	<i>April 9</i>
Hayden Haak, SP	April 12
Caden Baumiller, SP	April 17
Blake Everson, SP	April 18
Ashley Everson, TR	April 19
Daytona Geyer, TR	April 19
Lola Rana, TR	April 19
Taylor Morenz, SP	April 19
Josh Kemp, SP	April 25
Jose Contreras III, TR	April 26
Jaylen Kemp, SP	April 26
Erin Walti, TR	April 27
Melayna Thomas, SP	April 27
Nicole Fink, SP	April 27



"I am the
resurrection
and the
life."

JOHN 11:25



LWML Mitchell Zone SPRING CHRISTIAN LIFE WORKSHOP



**Saturday, April 20, 2024
Immanuel Lutheran Church, Dimock, SD**

“Living by Proverbs 31: Intentional Time Management for Godly Living”

Presented by
Gina Bialas, LWML Mitchell Zone Vice President



9:00–9:30 a.m.	Registration and Coffee
9:30–9:34 a.m.	Opening Devotion
9:45–10:00 am.	Greetings, Announcements, Intro
10:00–11:00 a.m.	Presentation, part 1
11:00–11:15 a.m.	Break
11:15–12:15 p.m.	Presentation, part 2
12:15–1:00 p.m.	Lunch
1:00–1:45 p.m.	Break-out Session (Choose one to attend.)
	1) Sunday Basket Organization
	2) Bible Study, Rev. Ryan Loeslie
1:45–2:00 p.m.	Closing

RSVP — Please RSVP to Gina Bialas by **April 13, 2024**, at 605-770-9998 for materials.

- Attending morning session ONLY.
- Attending afternoon Sunday Organizational Basket session.
- Attending afternoon Bible study session.

Gifts from the Heart Cakes For Kids

Join us in our endeavor to assemble pre-packaged cake kits for kids. Gather the listed items and place one of each into a foil pan as illustrated in the image. During the workshop, instructions and a carefully-selected Bible passage will be incorporated into the kits. Following this, the kits will be distributed to local food pantries, shelters, and schools supporting children facing food insecurity. Your participation will make a difference!

- 9”x13” foil pan with lid
- One can ready-to-spread frosting
- One box cake mix, any flavor
- One, 12 oz. can soda (any flavor)
- One package birthday candles
- One container sprinkles (optional)



APRIL 2024

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
<p>Christ Is Risen! CHRIST IS RISEN INDEED <i>Alleluia</i></p>	1	2 2 p.m. TR Hope Circle 	3 2:15 p.m. TR Release-Time 6:30 p.m. TR Ruth Circle 	4	5	6
<p>7  Second Sunday of Easter Events at St. Paul's 3:45 p.m. Confirmation/SS 5 p.m. Joint Divine Service 6 p.m. SP Voters Meeting</p>	<p>8  2 p.m. SP Dorcas Circle</p>	9	<p>10 2:15 p.m. TR Release-Time</p>	11	12	13
<p>14  Third Sunday of Easter Events at Trinity 3:45 p.m. Confirmation 5 p.m. Joint Divine Service 6 p.m. Bible Class</p>	15	16	<p>17 2:15 p.m. TR Release-Time</p>	18	19	<p>20  9 a.m. LWML Mitchell Zone Spring Christian Life Workshop Immanuel Dimock</p>
<p>21  Fourth Sunday of Easter Events at St. Paul's 3:45 p.m. Confirmation/SS 5 p.m. Joint Divine Service</p>	22	<p>23 <i>May newsletter articles due.</i></p>	<p>24 2:15 p.m. TR Release-Time</p>	25	26	27
<p>28  Fifth Sunday of Easter Events at Trinity 3:45 p.m. Confirmation 5 p.m. Joint Divine Service 6 p.m. TR Voters Meeting</p>	29	30	<p>Website: www.stpaulplankinton.com Website: www.trinitywhitelake.com Email: trinitywlsd@gmail.com Facebook: facebook.com/trinitywhitelake YouTube: Trinity White Lake</p>			