



Lost and Found



"For the Son of Man came to seek and to save what was lost."

May
2020

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

Psalm 39:7 "And now, O Lord, for what do I wait? My hope is in you."

What are you Waiting for?

With all the free time that you may have had over the past few weeks, you may be antsy. So, what are you waiting for? Are we waiting for the weather to become warmer, so that we can go outside for a long period of time? Are we waiting for the soil to dry up and be just right so that we can go quickly plant the fields? Are we waiting for school to end, so that we can move to the next grade or even to graduate? Are we waiting for the stay in place orders to be lifted, so that we can freely move around the county, state, and country without fear or guilt? For many, we have expectations, and we are waiting for them to be fulfilled.

What happens when your expectations have been met or surpassed? Do you still find yourself waiting? "Waiting for what?" You might say that. Even after the quarantine passes, after you graduate, after the fields or garden is planted and you have harvested it, you may still find yourself waiting for something. The expectation that you have, even if it is met and surpassed, can leaving you wanting more.

When we find ourselves waiting for more, we have fallen prey to fading hope. That hope is tricky today. Constant cycles of news channels remind us of the ever changing landscape around the globe, and the changes that are close to home and make us weary of the future and what comes next. We hope for something only to be left wondering what's the end game. That hope fades. That hope does not last. That hope only makes us wanting more.

Instead of waiting for hope that fades, and does not last, put your hope in the God that gives real, lasting hope. David had such hope in this Psalm. He knew that the Lord had removed the sting of death – the power of sin. He had taken on all his sins by promising to send that perfect substitute. He has removed the sting of death from us. He has paid for all the times that we have placed our hope on the shifting sands of our whims, desires, and the promises of our leaders. Instead, he placed them on the solid rock of God's mercy for us. Even when all our hopes and dreams seem to go unfulfilled, God still reminds us of the hope we have in Christ.

No, this hope is not just the hope that we have for the bright courts of heaven. This is our hope right now. The waiting is over. The prophecies of God are complete. Now we may not see all the blessings that God brings about through the trials we may face, but see how God blesses us. He slows us down to ponder what are we really doing with our lives. He makes us look at the real hope he has given. Now he spreads that hope throughout the world more so than we possibly could have imagined.

So our hope is like a flower. It shoots up and it blossoms. It may not always look pretty and it may not always smell pretty as it is growing. When that bud blossoms and flourishes, it will have a radiance that will awe us. The hope we have is often like that. It is in the ground. It buds, but we don't always see its splendor and majesty right away. Unlike that flower, the hope that we have will never fade or diminish, but will shine brighter, even on cloudy days.

In Christ,
Pastor Nowak

Inside this issue:

What's Going On Here?	2
Family Room	3

Something to think about...

"Self-pity is our worst enemy and if we yield to it, we can never do anything wise in this world"
(Helen Keller)



Please visit our webpage at tlcienera.org

Congregation of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS)

Please visit our synod's webpage at www.wels.net

Or better yet visit us in person.

We would love to have you worship with us.

What More Could We Want?

This year in our monthly articles we are considering favorite verses from the Bible.

This month's favorite Bible verse is: **Psalm 23:1**

"The LORD is my shepherd, I shall not be in want."

John D. Rockefeller was one of the richest men in the world. An interviewer once asked him, "How much money is enough?" Rockefeller replied, "Just a little bit more."

How many times have we told ourselves that if we had "just a little bit more" we would be happy? A higher-paying job. A larger home. An earlier retirement. Better health. Successful children.

But what happens when those wants are met? Are people truly happy? And what happens when those wants aren't met? When you find yourself unemployed. When in rough times your savings are depleted. When plans for better housing or earlier retirement have to be put on hold. When your health takes a turn for the worse or your children struggle in school. Where do you turn? Turn to Jesus and remember, "The LORD is my shepherd, I shall not be in want."

We might not have everything we want in life, but Jesus, our Good Shepherd, has truly given us everything we need. He's given us his word. He's given us his promises. He assures us that our sins are forgiven and eternal life in heaven is ours through his death and resurrection.

He promises to provide for all of our physical and spiritual needs richly and abundantly here on earth until he takes us to the glorious home that he has prepared for us in heaven. There we will experience the fulfillment of his promise, "You will fill me with joy in your presence, with eternal pleasures at your right hand" (Psalm 16:11).

Not long after his death, someone came up to the accountant of John D. Rockefeller and said, "We know Rockefeller was a very wealthy man. How much did he leave?" Without a moment's hesitation, the accountant answered, "Everything!" A man who seemed to have it all was forced to leave it all behind in the end. The only things that will go with us from this life to the next are the spiritual treasures that belong to us through faith in Jesus.

What do we want out of life? What we need the most has already been fully and freely supplied by Jesus, our Good Shepherd. So, what more could we want? What more could we need?

WHAT'S GOING ON HERE?

8TH GRADE GRADUATION is scheduled for May 24th.

KAREN MANTHE, who faithfully taught at Trinity school in the late 60's and early 70's, will be celebrating her 80th birthday on May 17th. ~~As she may not be able to go out to celebrate, we would like to send the celebration to her by showering her with birthday cards.~~ You may send her birthday wishes to:

Karen Manthe
218 Third Street, Apartment 317
Hartford, WI 53027

EVENTS FOR MAY

May 3	Elders Meeting at 1:00p.m.
May 4	Circuit Pastors Meeting 9:00a.m.
May 16	Martin Luther College graduation and Call Service
May 18	Church Council Meeting 7:00
May 21	Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary Call Service
May 22	Wisconsin Lutheran Seminary Graduation
May 23	Michigan Lutheran Seminary Graduation
May 25	Newsletter Articles Due

JOIN US! Sermons and devotionals may be found on line at YouTube.com (search for Trinity Lutheran Jenera). A link can also be found on the church website, www.tlcienera.org. Click on "Worship Services." You may also access the sermons through the school Facebook page. Current up-dates are posted on the website.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE A DVD of the sermons, please email the school at tlsoffice@tlcienera.org. Or you may call the office during the hours of 9:00AM to noon, Monday through Friday. You may pick up DVD's of the sermons, newsletters, printed sermons and printed bulletins during these hours. If these hours are not convenient for you, please call the school at 419.326.4685 to make other arrangements.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE to be added to the email list for sermons, newsletters, bulletins and other correspondence, please email the school at tlsoffice@tlcienera.org.

COMMUNION: Pastor Schmitzer and Pastor Nowak are offering private communion to anyone who is interested. You can meet one of them at church or they can come to your home. Please contact them by phone or email to make arrangements.

Pastor Alois Schmitzer III
Office: 419-326-4402
Home: 419-365-1350
Email: bschmitzer@juno.com

Pastor Matt Nowak
Cell: 419-302-5271
Email: pastormattn@gmail.com

FAMILY ROOM**One Father, One Family**

“There is...One God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all.” (Ephesians 4:4,6)

While the coronavirus pandemic and quarantine bring many inconveniences, they do bring about some hidden blessings. My hands have never been washed so clean in my lifetime. I'm much more regular in taking walks with my wife. I'm more faithful in my daily morning Bible reading. I'm getting more of my "To Do List" items checked off around home.

One hidden benefit that people are finding too is spending more time with family. Parents have become substitute school teachers. Families are finding things to do together besides just stare at their smartphones. But there is a downside to all this family togetherness too. Some police departments are reporting more domestic violence. So much time spent with each other can get on people's nerves.

That's why it's important for us Christians to remember that we are also part of God's family, as Paul reminded the Ephesian Christians in the verse above. God is our Father by faith. Jesus Christ is our Brother. As God's family members by faith, we enjoy the family blessings and inheritance of forgiveness, life eternal, patience and peace.

When we remember and relish those blessings of membership in God's family, they will also be practiced and reflected in our earthly family. We all may get on each other's nerves from time to time, but God-given forgiveness, patience, and love will overcome any uprising friction.

What a blessing to be members of God's family. What a blessing to live in a Christian home and family!

Pastor Alois Schmitzer III

GREETERS FOR MAY (TENTATIVE)

	<u>Early Service</u>	<u>Late Service</u>
17	Mike & Jill Woodward	Bob & Julie Inniger
24	James & Deb Reichley	Mark & Jane Boehm
31	John & Janet Wehrauch	Jerry & Joyce Beagle

NEXT MONTH

7	Confirmation
---	--------------

SCHOOL CALENDAR

24	8 TH Grade Graduation
----	----------------------------------

MAY BIRTHDAYS

5	Heather Smith
7	Preston Schmitzer
9	Veronica Sherman
10	David Reddick
11	Joyce Rossman
13	Trent Hummer
15	Judy Sands
19	Gary Beach
20	Joel Ritter
21	Jerry Beagle
22	Logan Below
25	Joyce Alge
28	Dawn Curth

*If we missed your Birthday or Anniversary and would like it added, call the office at 419-326-4685.

EMAIL ADDRESSES

Pastor Schmitzer: bschmitzer@juno.com
 Pastor Nowak: pastormattn@gmail.com
 Church: tlc.jenera@gmail.com
 School: tisoffice@tlcjenera.org
 Webpage: tlcjenera.org

Trinity Ev. Lutheran Church

301 N. Main St.
Jenera, OH 45841

Pastor Schmitzer: 419-326-4402

Pastor Nowak: 419-302-5271

School: 419-326-4685

Church: tlc.jenera@gmail.com

School: tlsoffice@tlcjenera.org

Sunday Worship 8:00 & 10:30 AM
Sunday School & Bible Class 9:20 AM



We're on the Web!
tlcjenera.org

May
2020

Return address requested.

Memory Gem from God's Treasure

(for parents, children—everyone young and old!)

"So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen. For what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal."
(2 Corinthians 4:18)

PROVERBS OF SOLOMON

Have you read the book of Proverbs lately?

You will find God-breathed wisdom from the wisest man who ever lived.

"The prudent see danger and take refuge, but the simple keep going and suffer for it." (27:12)