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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.

Can God take my guilt away?

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

This month's favorite Bible verse is: **2 Corinthians 5:21**

"God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God."

"I wish I could take it all away," Mom whispered to her suffering five-year-old son. He had the flu for a couple of days now, and Mom's heart was broken. As he lay in his bed suffering from the chills and a fever, there wasn't much Mom could do except give him some children's flu medicine and just be there for him. Mom felt helpless and wished she could take it all away from him. She even wished she could have the flu instead of her son.

When children are sick, the love of Mom and Dad really starts to shine through. In a heartbeat, parents go to extra lengths to make sure their kids are feeling as comfortable as possible. If you're a parent, you've been there. You make sure their pillow is extra fluffy. You bring their favorite juice box. You provide their favorite movie to watch. And any time you hear them call, you quickly respond with, "What can I do for you?" The love of Mom and Dad goes so far that if they could take the sickness away, even become sick instead of their child, they would. But they can't, and it hurts.

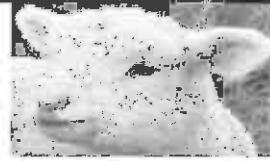
Has there ever been a time when you wished you could take it all away? Not just a sickness of a child, but something you did that you really regret? Maybe it was something you did to end a close relationship with a friend. Maybe you said something to a family member that you wish you could take back. Maybe it was something that only you know about, but it haunts you each day.

It's at moments like these that God's love really starts to shine through. He knows your sin, your guilt, your regrets. But he doesn't just wish he could take them away. He did take them away. He forgave them all! He took your sin and guilt away when he put them on his only Son, Jesus. He loves you so much that he had Jesus die for your sin so that you wouldn't have to. God forgave your guilt and now considers you right with him because of what Jesus did for you.

Wish your guilt and regrets could be taken away? They were. In their place, he gives you forgiveness and eternal life. Now that's a love that shines through!



Lost and Found



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

August
2020

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

RETIREMENT!?

Retirement is a subject on the mind of many people my age. Health, financial stability, job stability and satisfaction, economy, family and living conditions are some of the many factors that play into a decision to retire.

Another big question connected with retirement is: What will you do when you retire? Some have dreams of travel to faraway places. Others plan to rest and relax. Many will help with children and grandchildren. Some will help with their aging parents. Some will have to continue to work, at least part-time, because of financial insecurity or because of the need to stay involved and active. All these are good options.

What will I do when I retire? I do hope to do more fishing, but I also plan to do what I hope that all of you will do: Serve God. Actually, serving God is something that we are to do as Christians our whole lives through, not just when we retire. Every day when we Christians wake up the question should be: How can I serve God today? When we think of His sacrificial service for us, we are compelled by His powerful love and generosity to give back by serving.

And, hopefully, with less job responsibilities and scheduling, retirees can find more time to donate their services to work in God's kingdom and to volunteer more at their local congregation. That's what I plan to do. How about you? Trinity Ev. Lutheran Church and School is always in need of servants and volunteers who will serve God and their congregation. How are you serving the mission and ministry at Trinity? You never retire from serving God!

"Serve the Lord with gladness." (Psalm 100:2)

Pastor Alois Schmitzer III

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Something to think about...

"Only a life lived for others is a life worthwhile"
(Albert Einstein)

WHAT'S GOING ON HERE?

The July meeting of the Trinity Church Council received the Outreach Committee's report that both Trinity and Immanuel decided not to have a booth at the fair this year. The Outreach Committee helped fund the VBS boxes for those not attending VBS in person. The limit of 45 children had signed up for in-person VBS attendance, and 37 had signed up for the boxes.

Pastor Bob Krueger of Immanuel in Findlay has been appointed as our area's new circuit pastor. It was reported that 184 people signed up to attend Pastor Schmitzer's retirement service dinner. Arlene Bibler was transferred to Resurrection Lutheran Church in Centreville. Deacons reported that the new Communion "kits" were being well received. The Board of Education reported that Teacher Sam Koepsell's installation would be on August 2 and Teacher Jessica Krueger's installation on August 30.

The council accepted the Elders' recommendation to bring to the voters meeting the recommendation to call a second pastor, noting the ministry workload and programs. It was also recommended and accepted to have masks worn by all at the Tuesday night services to accommodate those concerned and more susceptible to the coronavirus. Arlene Bibler was transferred to Resurrection Lutheran Church in Centreville, OH. The Deacons noted that the new Communion "kits" were being well received.

At the July 22 Semi-Annual Voters meeting Pastor Nowak reported about the usage and blessing of offering on-line recordings of worship services during the pandemic. The Tuesday night service has been well-attended and may be considered for continued use after Labor Day, if coronavirus precautions continue. VBS was conducted on July 20-24. Thanks were expressed to Jenny Boehm for planning and presenting the VBS program.

Pastor Engdahl of Grace in Kenton is willing and able to exchange pulpits once a month while we have just one pastor at Trinity. This would help Pastor Nowak's heavier workload at Trinity, since he is also Acting Principal. Pastor Schmitzer urged Trinity congregation to provide travel and motel expenses for Pastor and Mrs. Nowak to attend the special 10-year in the ministry seminar that is given for WELS pastors in San Antonio, TX. Pastor Nowak will celebrate his 10th year in the ministry in 2021. Pastor Schmitzer expressed his thanks for the fellowship, support, and love received from Trinity congregation during his 32 years of service here.

The much-improved financial position of the congregation was noted in the financial reports. Trinity has received a \$70,000 Payment Protection Plan "loan" from the government, a loan which is planned to be "forgiven." A \$100,000 anonymous donation by a Trinity member was also received. God has been gracious to us!

It was noted that more volunteers are needed to video record services, prepare digital slides, and run the projectors for Sunday worship services. Some services may have to go without these functions, due to the lack of volunteers. Contact Joe Spaeth about video recording or Wayne Weihrauch about helping with digital projector presentations.

The School Board reported much work going on to carry out the preschool expansion. There were 18 signed up for preschool, with 12 going half-day on Tuesday and Thursday, and 6 going full days on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday. A total of 42 students are expected to attend grades K-8. TLS received a \$25,000 donation from the estate of Bob Schroeder.

The Trustees reported carrying out many repairs, including on the boiler, bus #5, teacherage, school library, and carpet. The transfer of a piece of Trinity property at the west end of the track/soccer field has been carried out. The council recommendation to call a second pastor passed by a wide majority.

Pastor Schmitzer and family thank God and Trinity congregation for the 32 years of blessings in service here at Trinity. The Christian love, support, and teamwork from Trinity members will never be forgotten. Schmitzers will be moving on August 4. They will stay with Ruth's sister at 12340 Hart Rd. NE, Greenville, MI 48838 until September 14 when they take possession of their new home at 9663 River Rd., Greenville, MI 48838.

WHAT'S GOING ON HERE? (continued)

A PANTRY SHOWER is being held for our new 7th & 8th grade teacher, Sam Koepsell and his family, as well as for our new preschool teacher, Jessica Krueger, and her family. A box for donations is by the south entrance. Gift cards are encouraged as well as household goods. Donated items will be divided between both teachers by the Welcome Committee.

BUS AIDE NEEDED! The Board of Education is seeking a bus aide to help on the morning bus route. The time would be approximately 7:00am to around 8:30am, Monday through Friday. Please contact the school office at tlsoffice@tlcjenera.org or 419.326.4685 for more details.

BUS DRIVER NEEDED: The Board of Education is in need of a full time bus driver to drive morning and afternoon routes each school day throughout the school year. We are also in need of substitute bus drivers. If you are interested in either position, please contact the school office. Drivers do not need to be a Trinity member, so if you know of someone who may be interested, please share with them.

LADIES AID SEWING COMMITTEE: There is material on a table in the basement to give away, take what you want, use how you please. There is also material in the closet if you want to make charity quilts, or face or head coverings to give away. If you need help getting it out just give a call, 419-326-5464, be glad to help.

FAMILY ROOM

With everyone worrying about getting sick, maybe you have found that your perspective on people has changed. Without realizing it, we may begin to view family, friends and neighbors as potential threats, rather than people. This is not inherently a bad thing, God gave us instincts to protect ourselves and our loved ones.

In parents, specifically – that feeling is amplified. “I can handle it coming after me, but I will not let it harm my child.” Today, we are strongly encouraged to do many things to protect our kids from physical danger. However, in so doing, sometimes we might not be totally aware of the precarious position we have put them in.

Children, like adults, need to interact with other people, especially in their age group. God did not make humans to be totally self-sufficient. We cannot have a conversation with ourselves and be content to continue that way forever. Moreover, If we isolate from each other, we are where Satan wants us – alone and vulnerable.

That’s why we don’t just read the Bible on our own, we hear it together as a congregation, whether we are in church or watching a sermon in our homes. We don’t just wave to our fellow worshippers, we get to know them. We may call them using Skype, Facetime, Google hangouts or Facebook Messenger. In staying in touch with each other, we see the beautiful extended family that we have in Christ. We continue to encourage each other to remain strong in our faith and hopeful in God and his promises.

So while it might seem like the right thing to do, don’t think of your brothers and sisters in Christ as a potential threat. They are God’s people, just as you are. Yes, we are careful to keep our family safe, as we should be, but that does not mean we forget the fellowship that we share. Keep talking, praying, worshiping, and doing activities together safely. God has brought us together, and we remain united under our Savior Jesus Christ.

In Christ, Pastor Nowak

Trinity Lutheran Church & School

August 2020

July '20

S	M	T	W	Th	F	Sa
		1	2	3	4	
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

September '20

S	M	T	W	Th	F	Sa
			1	2	3	4
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

Sunday		Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26		27	28	29	30	31	1
2	Communion Teacher Sam Koepsell Installation 2nd Service	3 MWM in the Park 9:30 a.m. Pastor's Institute Cincinnati	4 Pastor's Institute Cincinnati Midweek Worship 7:30	5 Principal's Conference Columbus 10:00	6	7	8
9	Children's Lesson	10 Elders 7:00	11 Faculty Meeting 11:00 Midweek Worship 7:30	12 Board of Education 7:00	13	14	15
16	Communion	17 MWM in the Park 9:30 a.m. Church Council 7:00	18 Midweek Worship 7:30	19 Midweek Worship 7:30	20 Pre-Call Meeting for Calling a 2nd Pastor 7:30PM	21	22
23		24 Newsletter Articles Due	25 Midweek Worship 7:30	26 Midweek Worship 7:30	27	28	29
30	Teacher Jessica Krueger Installation WELS Connection	31 Newsletter Articles Due	<u>Sunday Worship</u> 8:00 & 10:30 AM Sunday School & Bible Class 9:20 AM	<u>Money Counters</u> Jerry Burkholder 07.18 - 08.01 Dan Webb 08.02 - 08.15 Richard Johnson 08.16 - 08.29 James Heldman 08.30 - 09.12		<u>Monthly Flower</u> Chairperson Mark Burkholder	<u>Lutheran Chapel</u> on the air Sundays 11:00 AM 1230 AM Dial (WCWA)

GREETERS FOR AUGUST

	<u>Early Service</u>	<u>Late Service</u>
2	Mark & Kathi Curth	Bob & Julie Inniger
9	James & Deb Reichley	Mark & Jane Boehm
16	John & Janet Weihrauch	Jerry & Joyce Beagle
23	Barb Roidt & Ruth Marquart	Charlotte Brown & Janice Rausch
30	Joe & Jean Spaeth	Joyce Beach & Loretta Jansen

NEXT MONTH

8	First day of School!
14	Ladies Aid meeting 7:30p.m.
20	Shipwreck Sunday

BIRTHDAYS

7	Amiee Ritter
8	Annette Crawford
9	Gary Mitchell
9	Jill Woodward
10	Nicki von Stein
24	Morgan Karhoff
28	Abbey Miles
28	Annika von Stein
31	Jerry Burkholder
31	Wesley Below

ANNIVERSARIES

6	Andrew & Jenny Boehm
7	Howard & Cheryl von Stein

EMAIL ADDRESSES

Pastor Schmitzer: bschmitzer@juno.com
 Pastor Nowak: pastormattn@gmail.com
 Church: tlc.jenera@gmail.com
 School: tisooffice@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

August
2020

Return address requested.

Memory Gem from God's Treasure

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

"I have no greater joy than to
hear that my children are walking
in the truth."
(3 John 4)

**PROVERBS OF
SOLOMON**

Have you read the
book
of Proverbs lately?
You will find
God-breathed wisdom
from the wisest man

"To do what is right
and just is more
acceptable to the
Lord than sacrifice."
(21:3)