



Trinity Tidings

July 2021 Newsletter

Faith...Family...Friendship



Worship Begins 9:30am

We now offer three options for worship on Sundays:

1. Worship at church in the sanctuary.
2. Worship at church using the drive-in option(100.1)
3. Worship at home.

Per NC COVID Guidelines, fully vaccinated people may now choose to not wear their mask indoors. Non-vaccinated should continue to wear their mask for their own safety.

Who Should Attend?

Healthy persons with no COVID-19 related symptoms. Please know that in any gathering with other people during the pandemic, you are at risk for being infected with COVID-19. You must determine what level of risk you are comfortable with.

Who Should NOT Attend:

Those with COVID-19 related symptoms or those who have recently tested positive for the virus.

Those who have had close contact with another person diagnosed with COVID-19.

Those who are immune compromised or have other underlying conditions that would make them especially vulnerable to the virus.

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From the Pastor’s Study...July 2021

I’ve worn eyeglasses all my life. I even wore them back in elementary school. Kids that age like to experiment with things, even their eyeglasses. So we would play a game that probably every school child for the past 100 years has played. It’s called “*Let Me Try On Your Glasses.*” When they put on someone else’s glasses: every kid in the world has the same reaction – they say, “Whoa! Everything looks different!”

We discover early on that the lenses we look through affect how we see things. And we learn to use the right lenses for the job at hand. Want to look at the stars? Use a telescope. Want to examine bacteria? Use a microscope. If you use a microscope to look at the stars, you’ll get a distorted understanding of the cosmos.

That’s how it is in our faith journeys, too. As we try to walk with the Lord, we must be careful not to view things through the wrong lenses.

The Apostle Paul tells us we should use the lens of faith. “*We walk by faith and not by [our human] sight...*” (2 Corinthians 5:7) he says. If we see the world and those around us from God’s viewpoint, then our perspective and the Lord’s perspective will be the same. That is a good thing. But if we eschew God’s perspective and see everything some other way: then our understanding of the world won’t be in concert with His ways.

Lately it seems people are encouraging others to see the world through distorted lenses.

Some suggest that we should view life through the perspective of their own conscience. This is a pretty attractive way to see things, frankly. How could it not be appealing for us to choose for ourselves what is good or bad... right or wrong? “Live for yourself. Do what you want. After all, the purpose of life is just to be happy, right?”

Seeing life through the lens of one’s own conscience promises peace and happiness. But living life by our own design doesn’t seem to actually deliver on that promise.

This year over 63 million people in the US will see mental health professionals. It is good to seek professional help when we need it. But studies indicate that up to 80 percent of the anxiety or depression that people suffer results from life choices that they’ve made. The lens of conscience doesn’t bring peace or happiness. As it always has, relying on our own intuition pleases us for a while... but so very often disappoints us.

Then there’s the lens of human reason. This viewpoint says we should displace God’s authority in our lives with our own ethical thinking. “We don’t need God to tell us what is right or wrong to do. We can figure that out for ourselves! We don’t need God at all!” But crime, poverty, family disintegration, and personal dissatisfaction with life all seem to increase while church attendance decreases. “Seek ye first the kingdom of God” Christ adjures us (Matthew 6:33). When we follow our fallible human reasoning first and seek the righteousness of God’s kingdom second... well, that doesn’t work out for us so well.

Our Lord calls us to turn aside from any lens in life but our faith in Him.

The faith that God gives us guides us, you see. It allows us to understand God's will for our lives and for the world. And it enables us to trust Him in all things big and small as we go forth in faith.

Max Lucado tells of standing several feet away from his daughter's bed one afternoon. His arms extended; his hands open... on the bed little 4-year-old Sara called to him. "Back more, Daddy!" He took a step back, but she wasn't satisfied. "No, more! Back more Daddy!" Another step, then two, until suddenly with a giggle she launched herself through the air: a skydiver without a parachute; Superman without a cape... flying on faith and nothing else ... And he caught her and hugged her to his chest, the two of them laughing together at the union of her trust and his faithfulness.

When we make faith the lens of our life: our Father in Heaven always catches us.

When we adopt any lens other than Him: we stumble and fall.

God calls us to see things His way and no other. For only the lens of faith opens our hearts to His help in times of trouble; only the lens of faith reveals His mercy and grace and love.

And we can see His love for us clearly... when we choose the right lens.

"Through faith we understand..." – Hebrews 11:3

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Mike Greenauer



Tithes & Offerings

We have a convenient option for online giving on our church's website. It is an easy way to make financial contributions to Trinity Lutheran Church. If you would like to use this new option to donate to church, please go to the church website at <https://www.trinitylutherannc.org/donate>. There is no cost to you or the church for using this service. Donations can also be mailed to the church at P.O. Box 497, East Flat Rock, NC 28726. Tithes & Offerings.

July Birthday's: Joanne Kresge, Joan Kline, Michael McPeters, Bonnie Duffner

July Anniversaries: None

The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases; his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness. Lamentations 3:22

Church Happenings

SPECIAL PREACHING EVENTS SCHEDULED IN JULY & AUGUST

JULY 18th: PASTOR MIKE'S ORDINATION ANNIVERSARY

On this Sunday, Pastor Greenauer will continue his personal tradition of responding to theological or church-related questions submitted by members of the congregation during our sermon time. Please submit a question or two to him via e-mail or text by July 11th.

SPECIAL SERMON SERIES: "THE PARABLE OF THE PRODIGAL SON"

JULY 25th – "The Prodigal Son"

AUGUST 1st – "The Older Brother"

AUGUST 15th – "The Loving Father"

PASTOR MIKE SCHEDULES VACATION TIME

Pastor Mike will be out of the area on vacation from July 2nd thru July 11th. He will resume his regular church office hours (Wednesday and Thursday) on July 13th.

Prayer request update: Sherry, a family friend of the Kresges, expresses her sincere thanks for the many faithful prayers offered by Trinity Lutheran Church on her behalf. She had a serious fall which resulted in several extremely painful fractures in her lower back and limited mobility. "Thank you for supporting me. Your prayers have really helped me! In the past five days, I have made significant progress, and the doctor believes my fractures are healing by themselves, without any surgery required. This was an unexpected blessing and we are very thankful."

Blessing Box Changes: Beginning in July, we will no longer include bar soap or feminine products, since these items are rarely used by our clients who visit the blessing box. The most needed products are always laundry detergent, paper towels, and toilet paper. Other items frequently used are: dish detergent, men's and ladies deodorant, shampoo and conditioner, body wash, body lotion, toothpaste and toothbrushes, disposable razors, shaving cream and Kleenex. No food items are being stocked at this time. Thank you for your generosity and for your monetary donations to this important ministry.

Reminder: if everyone would please consider signing up for one Wednesday every quarter, we can re-stock the box twice a week. Otherwise, the box will only be refilled on Sundays. Thank you.

July 14 is the luncheon for the Trinity Women In God's Service, T.W.I.G.S. The Women will meet at the Black Mountain Children's Thirteen Pennies Cafe at 1:00 PM.

July 30 M.U.G.S. will meet at 9:00 AM at the Mills River Diner.

Mission Offering for July: The Storehouse in Hendersonville. Taken from the website: The Storehouse began in 2000 and has continued to grow larger while serving individuals and families in Henderson County. This mission has been valuable in feeding the elderly, children and their parents for 20+ years. We also deliver food boxes and essential hygiene items to 50 senior clients in Henderson County. Each Christmas since 2000, "Blessings in Boxes" has delivered Christmas gifts for children referred from schools and other agencies. More than 1500 children were blessed during Christmas 2020.

Storehouse items needed for July:

PB & J, Canned soup, canned fruit (not applesauce), canned pasta meals (spaghetti o's, ravioli, etc), shampoo, conditioner toothpaste. They also need more volunteers since clients are now coming indoors to select items and each one needs a personal shopper.

Please be as generous as you can, either by placing your mission offering in the green cans or by listing your contribution as a line item on your offering envelope. God bless you for caring for our neighbors in Jesus's name.

Tore's Home

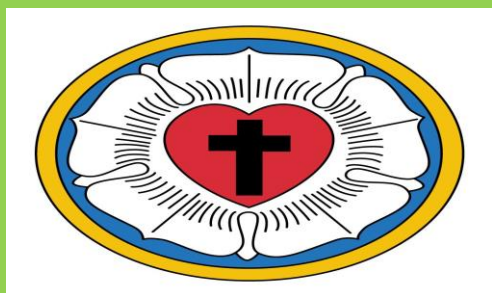
Please remember the residents of Tore's Home during this quarantine time with a card or note. We are making a difference in their lives!

Tore's Home
Attn: Maria
43 Tore's Drive
East Flat Rock, NC 28726

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TrinityLutheranChurchNC



North American Lutheran Church
(NALC)

Church Council Members:
President: Kelly Behm
Vice President: Michele Snyder
Joanne Kresge - Secretary
Janis Henderson

Jim Kresge-Treasurer

Next Council Meeting: Thursday,
July 15, 2021 @3:00PM

I said a prayer for you today....



Prayer List

Shawn, Kathy, Bailey, Ana, Brianna, Ellie, Crystal, Dave, Ronald, Evelyn, Steve, Tom, Katheryn, Gale, George, Connie, Robert, Emma, Susie, Joe, John, Bob, Sharon, Sarah, David, Madelyn, Julie, Sonia, Mikayla, Pat, Ryan, Caden, Alex, Shari, Arlene, the residents of Tore's home, the staff at Tore's home, all caregivers; for all who suffer from the SARS-Coronavirus-2;

Our Call Committee
Police Officers
First Responders

Health Care Professionals
Military Personnel
Fire & Rescue Workers

Lord of Grace, we pray for all those who are sick in body, mind, or spirit. We pray especially for those on the prayer list of our Congregation, and for all those we name before you now. In your loving kindness meet their needs, we pray. HEAR US, O LORD...

Prayer Warrior Team



Who Can You Call On For HELP?

Trinity has a team of Prayer Warriors that will intercede on your behalf to lift physical or spiritual needs to God. When things seem the darkest or most urgent, we are here to help. "We can do all things through Christ who strengthens us." (Philippians 4:13)

Please notify Pastor Mike if you or someone you know is in need of prayer. It can be added to our prayer list, kept private, or we can start the prayer chain for immediate needs.

Pastor Mike's email:
PastorattrinityLC@gmail.com
Phone: (828) 595-9922

To sign up for worship assistant please use the sign up sheet at the back of the church.

