

THIS JUST IN



TrinityLutheranChurch

May 14, 2014

TIME OF EASTER

**LET ME THINK
ABOUT IT...**

Small group discussion meeting

This meeting will be open to share ideas about our future needs as we move forward in finding our way on God's path for Trinity.

Your last chance to attend one of the meetings is:

5/18 – Sunday following church open meeting

Please join us to share your ideas and help prepare the way for our next steps.

WCLV Jubilation Church Choir Festival



The Trinity choir came in second place in the WCLV Jubilation Church Choir Festival. Thank you to all who came out to hear them perform and vote them as the People's Choice. The choir received \$500 for participating in the festival and an additional \$200 as People's Choice.

Congratulations, Judy and her choir!!!

MAY BIRTHDAYS

Sam Fesko	5/02	David Sierk	5/22
Lisa Hart	5/02	Robin LaGorin	5/24
Cooper Robar	5/03	Greer Connor	5/26
Luis Benitez	5/07	David Connor	5/26
Richard Husarick	5/10	Karen Erchul	5/26
Brianna Lehman	5/15	Maggie Reading	5/26
Dave Stadler	5/21		

MAY ANNIVERSARIES

Jackie & Don O'Toole	5/05
Haylee Schwenk & Brian Howells	5/27

Daily Discipleship

Fourth Sunday of Easter (A) – John 10:1-10

Discipleship: *An Instrument of Acceptance*

Focus Question: *This week how might you be an instrument of acceptance?*

word of life

“The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly.”

John 10:10 (NRSV)

Read John 10:1-10

The Fourth Sunday of Easter is celebrated in many churches as “Good Shepherd Sunday”. The tenth chapter of the Gospel of John elaborates on the image of Jesus as a good shepherd. Jesus makes the claim, “I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep.” (John 10:11 NRSV)

1. *What does it mean for Jesus to be a shepherd?*
2. *What is the difference between a good and bad shepherd?*

John 10 begins with a description of a thief or bandit who might approach the sheep through a back way. Jesus offers words of caution about false shepherds, ones who do not have the best interest of the sheep in mind.

The good shepherd enters through the main gate for all to see. But what is more important, the sheep know his voice. Healthy sheep are not fooled and led by an impostor. The sheep know the voice of the shepherd because they have heard his voice and received his loving care. The shepherd has responded to their needs and is worthy of their trust. Jesus describes the shepherd as one who knows each of the sheep by name. The shepherd and sheep are not strangers to each other, but are connected in a special way. This is a powerful and assuring image.

3. *How does one learn the voice of a shepherd?*
4. *How is one not fooled by others?*
5. *What does it mean to be known by name by Jesus Christ?*

Those listening to Jesus do not understand his words and the metaphor. The audience might be the disciples of Jesus described in the previous section of John 9 when Jesus encounters the blind man whom he heals. (See John 9:2) Yet, John 9 is primarily about the Pharisees who try to grasp the healing of the blind man by Jesus. By the end of the chapter, it is the Pharisees who ask themselves if they are spiritually blind. In many ways the Pharisees have opportunities to shepherd God’s people of faith, but do they?

6. *Do you think Jesus was speaking directly to the Pharisees? How so?*
7. *How might Jesus have been addressing his disciples?*

At this point, Jesus departs from the image of being a shepherd and claims to be the gate. Jesus says, “Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. . . I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved and will come in and go out and find pasture.” (John 10:7, 9 NRSV) In Jesus’ day, this would have been a powerful imagery. The shepherd would literally lie down in the opening of the enclosure to protect the sheep.

This section ends with the explanation from Jesus as to his purpose, “I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly.” (John 10:10 NRSV)

8. *Can Jesus give abundant life to those who do not hear him or believe in him? How so?*
9. *What does it mean for you to have abundant life from Jesus?*

word among us

Jake loved Frank Sinatra. He loved watching his movies and listening to Sinatra's music. For as long as he could remember, Jake's personal theme song was Sinatra's "My Way" with the repeated line, "I did it my way."

Jake lived defiantly with loud music and parties. He was not concerned about the opinions of others. He often ran into trouble with relationships, but he would rationalize people didn't try to understand and accept *his way*. It was always *their* problem. Jake would complain, "Why don't people just let me do it *my way*?" His mother would lecture him, "Jake, you are not two years old anymore. You don't get to set your own rules and only do it *your way*. You have got to grow up and start thinking about other people." Jake could not accept his mother's words to him.

1. *What do you expect Jake's future will be like?*
2. *What would it be like to be in a relationship with Jake?*
3. *What do you think of his mother's words?*
4. *What else might you want to say to Jake?*
5. *How might Jake become more accepting?*

Living life *our way* and only on *our terms* is a description of sin. It simply does not work. We are limited in our understandings of this world and other people. We cannot become all-knowing or all-loving. We cannot change our finite abilities. We are not God. Let us accept that reality as something we cannot change.

Instead, we are in need of God. We are in need of a savior who comes to our rescue and shows us a new path. Jesus says clearly, "I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly." (John 10:10 NRSV) Why choose to live life without a wise guide? Why choose to turn away from One who desires to give us abundant life?

6. *What is hard for you to accept?*
7. *What are some things you cannot change?*
8. *What does it feel like to realize you cannot change something?*
9. *How might we turn over those things we cannot change to God?*
10. *What might that feel like?*

Jesus is a caring shepherd who tends to our needs. He is One who knows us personally. Jesus does not desire to be a stranger, but One who is known by name and who knows us on a first name basis. He is one to nurture us when we cannot change the circumstances of our lives, but guides us to a path of abundant life.

11. *What do you hope to remember from this passage?*
12. *Take a moment to read or recite Psalm 23. Pause for prayer.*

Prayer

Good Shepherd, help me accept the things I cannot change in my life. Amen

Dig Deeper

Psalm 23

last word

Pray each day the Serenity Prayer:

God grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change,
courage to change the things I can, and
wisdom to know the difference.



Daily Discipleship

Written by John and Robin McCullough-Bade

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www.elca.org/evangelizingchurch/dailydiscipleship

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THIS WEEK AT TRINITY

Wed.	7	Choir Rehearsal (St. John's Cathedral)	6:00 – 8:00 pm
Thur.	8	WCLV Jubilation Church Choir Festival (St. John's)	8:00 pm
Fri.	9	Walking Bible Study (meet at Lkwd. Park Band Stand)	8:30 am
Sat.	10	Pantry	9:30 am-12:30 pm
Sun.	11	Fourth Sunday of Easter – Mother's Day	
		Catechism & Choir rehearsal	9:15 am
		Worship	10:30 am
		Sunday School	10:40 am
		Second Sunday Community Meal	4:00 pm
Tues.	13	Seniors Lunch and Bible Study	12:00 pm
		Girl Scouts using the Community room	6:00 – 8:00 pm
Wed.	14	Staff Meeting	8:00 am
		Trinity Council Meeting	7:00 pm
15 – 17		Synod Assembly (Akron)	
Fri.	16	Walking Bible Study (meet at Lkwd. Park Band Stand)	8:30 am
Sat.	17.	Third Saturday Community Meal	12:00 pm
		The "Other Side of the StrEat" festival (TLC parking lot)	1pm–5pm
Sun.	18	Fifth Sunday of Easter	
		Catechism & Choir rehearsal	9:15 am
		Worship	10:30 am
		Sunday School	10:40 am
		Bible Study	following worship

MARK YOU CALENDARS

June 8	Summer worship hours begin, 9:30 am
June 29	Worship @ Faith Lutheran
July	Pastor Paula will be on sabbatical for the month
July 20	Bobbie Hendrick & Terrell Williams marriage blessing during worship & reception following, for their Trinity family
Aug. 24	Ice cream social following worship
Aug. 31	Worship with Faith Lutheran at Trinity
Sept. 7	Steak Fry & Worship at Elmwood Park, 10:30 am
Sept. 27	Trinity Clambake to benefit TLCO's Hunger Program
Oct. 26	Confirmation
Oct. 31	Trinity Women's Retreat

IN OUR PRAYERS THIS WEEK

- Members of Trinity for whom we pray:** Donna Handy.
- Members, families and friends that are ill or recovering:** Donna Handy, Don & Jackie O'Toole.
- Members who are homebound:** Mauri Hallstrom, Dee English, Evelyn Cortez, and Karen Morris.
- Those in assisted living or nursing care:** Arline McNerney, Jane Sierk, Hazel Heller, and Valerie Metzner.
- Presiding Bishop** Elizabeth Eaton.
- Peace Corps Volunteer** Sophia Weinmann in Guinea, West Africa.
- Pvt. Scott Korman, Marine Corps**, in Japan **and Jim Eckert, Navy Chaplain**, who has been reassigned until August to a post in Germany for decompression of troops. Pr. Jim is pastor of Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd in Brooklyn.
- Friends of Trinity for whom we pray:** Christ Lutheran Church in Avon Lake and Pastor Jeff Steeber, Lakewood Presbyterian Church, and our Cleveland Near West Cluster of ELCA congregations: Bethany English, Faith, Good Shepherd, and Trinity.

GROWING OUR FAITH COMMUNITY

Christian Ed News

The Nursery is available for children up to age 5 during the service between the children's blessing and communion. Children are welcome to use the nursery or stay in the sanctuary as they (or their parents!) wish. Coloring sheets are available at each entrance of the sanctuary, along with activity bags containing crayons and child-sized books.

Sunday School Children will be taken downstairs to the Sunday School Room following the children's blessing. This week's lesson: Acts 10 – Peter and Cornelius. There will be NO Sunday School next Sunday, Memorial Day weekend.

The Senior Lunch Bunch continues to meet twice a month, 2nd & 4th Tuesdays, 12 noon at the Barton Center. They are discussing articles from the Lutheran magazine.

The Walking Bible Study Group meets Fridays at 8:30 am in Lakewood Park, by the bandstand. ALL are welcome. See Ruthanne to be added to the email list for updates on the Bible study and occasional change of venue if you are interested.

Bible Studies: The Teen Bible Study will meet again on Sunday, May 18 following worship. The adult study will be replaced by a Small Group Discussion to share your ideas about Trinity's future.

Prayer Care Ministry

- 1) If you would like to be a Prayer Care Ministry team member in either a telephone prayer chain or a separate prayer group, or both, please contact Louise Manke via email at elmanke@ec.rr.com.
- 2) The **Prayer Care Group will meet as necessary**. Confidences will be strictly respected. "Membership" at Trinity is not required.
- 3) The **Prayer Chain** would pertain to matters such as emergency health concerns and operations, deaths, fires etc. Prayers of thankfulness and particular joys may also be communicated. Prayer Partners may choose to pray with each other on the telephone, but it is not 'required'.
- 4) All are encouraged to come to the **Community Prayer Group** after our Community Meal the first Monday of the month.

NEWS FROM THE PEWS

- **Paige Robar** has received word from Lakewood Mayor Mike Summers that she will be interning in his office this summer.
- **Claudia Stadler** has returned home after nine months as a Rotary exchange student in Germany. Ask her about her adventures.
- **Chuck Mosberger has three Continental 4X4 Contact 19" extra load, radial tires**, M+S 255/50 R 19 107H, to give away. Evenly worn, no damage, they have only 11,000 miles on them and will give excellent traction in all seasons for many years to come. They sell new for \$305.00 each. There is a fourth tire that has a plug in it that he will include.
- **Graduates:** Greer Connor graduates today, (Case, MBA) she will be moving to Akron where she will be working at Goodyear. Aidan Howells and Mark Pearlman graduate on June 8 from Lakewood High School. Aidan will be attending Ohio State University in the fall.
- **Weddings this year:** Bobbie Hendrick & Terrell Williams (Cleveland, June 28); Jillian Driscoll & Adam Svala (Erie, PA, Labor Day weekend), Tricia Long & Andy Melat (Columbus, September 20); Kay Kulma & Andy Tabor (Cleveland, Oct. 11). Mark your calendars for July 20 following worship for a shebang hosted by Bobbie & Terrell here at Trinity!
- **Baptisms soon:** Jonathan & Jaxon Bramley, May 25; Philip Stella, June 8; Karen Erchul's great niece & nephew this summer.



- **Don Webb** and his neighbor are looking for a maid to clean their homes on a regular basis. If you are interested or know someone who may, please call Don at 216-226-9558.

PASTORS PEN

Here we are. One year since our area experienced the freedom of three women from ten years of bondage right here in Cleveland! Here we are. One week from 260 girls kidnapped and probably put into bondage. Even though this year's horror has taken place in Nigeria, somehow the feeling of it is just as close as it can get.

What do we do with the atrocities that surround us? I am imagining all our prayers are chuck full of little ones in terror. I am imagining more people than I are waking up in the middle of the night with nightmares, queries, soul wanderings, and maybe fear.

So much. So much. Stories of rape, murder and carrying people off to distant lands are found in scripture. Somehow we have put a kind of spiritual anesthesia to them. Of course, it is because those horrors were so long ago. And, of course, even if they were done by our own ancient faith ancestors, they were the ones 'loved by God and their enemies were 'not God's chosen.'

That old theology "do good, get good/do bad, get bad" still surrounds us in this current century. It is not what Jesus brought or taught. His is a 'gentle rule of justice, reconciliation, and peace.' (That's in our weekly Eucharistic prayer.)

What could those school girls have done that made them targets of kidnappers? Do not put this action on God! What kind of God would do that? I feel the same when someone dies and others respond, "Well, God took her." No, no. Do not see God as some tyrant going around killing people.

Our God is one who receives us when weakness, human frailty and brokenness happen. We believe we live with God whether we live or die. Comfort, comfort! That is the God we worship...the One who brings comfort, peace, care, and love in the midst of our sadness, wranglings with things out of our control, physical illness, mental illness, death of loved ones, and disappointments in life.

It all puts me in mind of Sam and Dave's "Hold On, I'm Coming!"

<http://www.metrolyrics.com/hold-on-im-coming-lyrics-sam-dave.html#/startvideo>.

(I'm writing this on throwback Thursday, btw.)

Let's make that a hymn some Sunday! It is Gospel.

Paula Maeder Connor

Serving in Ministry May 18

Altar Guild – Dori Heger

Assisting Minister – Tom Lehman

Greeters – Bobbie Handrick & Terrell Williams

Minister of Music – Judy Fesko

Nursery Staff – Ella Howells & Sarah Matthiesen

Reader – Terrell Williams

Sunday School Teacher – Haylee Schwenk

Ushers – Steve Fesko, Dave Harbarger,
Dave Robar & Dave Stadler

SYNOD & ELCA NEWS

The Synod Assembly is this week. Ursula Hamrick & Brenna Connor have volunteered to represent Trinity. Thank you! Pastor Paula is among those who have been nominated for Bishop. Please keep her in prayer. Continue to ask the Holy Spirit for guidance of the Assembly.

To keep in touch with the happenings of the **Northeastern Ohio Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America** visit their website at www.neos-elca.org and sign up for their E-Newsletter.

Check out the “Arab and Middle Eastern Lutheran Community Newsletter at www.elca.org

To keep in touch with what is happening in the **ELCA** visit their website at: <http://www.elca.org/News-and-Events/7656>

Check out the retreats and summer camps that Lutheran Outdoor Ministries is offering this year.

Go to: lomocamps.org

Several Trinity families will be attending Week 7 at Camp Luther. Maybe you could join them.

LUTHERAN DISASTER RESPONSE VOLUNTEER TRAINING
Saturday, June, 14, 2014 (8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.)
First Lutheran Church
33 Broadway, Shelby, OH
Registration deadline June 7, 2014

The Northeastern Ohio Synod Lutheran Disaster Response Task Force will be offering disaster volunteer training at First Lutheran Church, Shelby on June 14, 2014. The training will assist volunteers from congregations, faith-based organizations, and civic organizations to be skilled responders to disaster events in their area or beyond. Participants will receive a FEMA recognized ID badge, certificate, T-shirt, lunch and be registered in the Ohio Lutheran Disaster Response database. Participants do not have to be Lutheran. **The cost is \$35 per person payable to LDR OH, and registration deadline is June 4.** There will be two levels of training with the basic training in the morning and specialized training in the afternoon. Registration forms and additional information are available by contacting Pat Carlisle, [419-342-2218](tel:419-342-2218), richpatcarlisl@embarqmail.com or Mary Woodward, [740-732-6700](tel:740-732-6700), [740-509-1132](tel:740-509-1132), mwoodward_1@msn.com.

You are invited to ***Two Bishops and a Pope*** on Friday, June 6, 2014 from 7:00-9:00 p.m. at Ursuline Motherhouse Auditorium, 4250 Shields Rd, Canfield, OH. Interim Bishop Marcus Miller, Northeastern Ohio Synod, ELCA, and Bishop George V. Murry SJ, Roman Catholic Diocese of Youngstown, offer a Lutheran and a Catholic perspective on *The Joy of the Gospel*. Refreshments follow the presentations and conversations. No registration or fee is required.

COMMUNITY NEWS

The Rite Aid 2014 Cleveland Marathon will take place this Sunday, May 18th. The route will go through Lakewood along Clifton Blvd. The route and some adjoining streets will be closed to all traffic from 7am-2pm. If you live in this area and would like to make it to worship that morning, please plan ahead.

Pierstorf Memorial Fund-provides interest-free loans to Lutheran students who are or will be enrolled full time in a four-year undergraduate program at any accredited college or university. This year, the maximum interest-free loan is \$3000 for the school year. For video and information, go to www.pierstorf.org Download the 2014-2015 application from the website. The deadline for all applications is Monday, June 30, 2014.



The "Other Side of the Street" **Festival, May 17, 1-5 pm**

There's another side to Lakewood and we like to have fun too! StrEat Burger Bistro and the Good Day Moon Gallery are hosting a festival in their parking lot. Spring is coming and it's time to shed that winter funk. We'll have food, beer, music, lots of local art for sale and much more. Music will be provided by the HAX and Green Escalators. We will also be doing a 50/50 raffle and have a painting up for a silent auction.



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