

## Monthly Monitor

September 2025

#### The Bible: A Sign for Life

My wife, Kate, and I live in a divided household. That's right, every day we wake up and go our separate ways. She jumps into the car and heads into Alma and St. Louis, where she works for the Gratiot Isabella RESD and I roll out of bed, grab our four kids, and come up to Monitor for work at Trinity while our kids attend school.

As I have made my way north from our home in Shields, I have been astounded by the number of roads being worked on in the Tri City area. I am truly blown away by the number of signs I saw along the road. Not just the normal signs like "Yield, One Way, No Passing Zone, Slippery When Wet, and Stop", but also all the construction signs like "Construction Zone, Merge, Slow, Men at Work, Detour, Stay in Lane and Fines Double." It was almost unbelievable! With all the sign reading and lane merging, it actually makes it hard to do the one thing I was supposed to do: drive.

But as we all know, signs on the road aren't meant to be a distraction, but they are supposed to help guide you to your destination. And we must admit, without the aid of signs it would be difficult if not impossible to find your way to where you are going and arrive safely to your destination while driving. We truly need signs to tell us where we are going.

While Jesus was here on earth, He performed many signs and wonders that helped point us in the right





direction. He turned water in to wine, He healed the sick, He gave sight to the blind, He raised the dead to life, He fed the five thousand, and of course, he was raised back to life after His crucifixion. Jesus did these miraculous signs and wonders for our benefit. He wanted to make it abundantly clear to us that He was Who He claimed to be, that is, the Son of the Most High. Jesus was and is God Himself. All signs point to Him and His sacrifice.

The signs are not limited to the ones that Jesus performed, however. God still gives us signs and wonders today that may go unnoticed or written off as coincidence. The problem is that we aren't always looking for them. We may be distracted. When we do see amazing things occur, we need to keep in mind the words of Romans 8:28. "And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love Him, who have been called according to His purpose." You see, God is at work in all of the events that surround our lives, and He works for the good of those who love him.

So what about it, has God been working in your life? Has God be doing some road construction in your soul? I want to encourage you to open your eyes to the Lord's work in your life. God fills our lives with signs; signs that point to His existence, signs that point to His love; signs that point to His Son. Signs found throughout His written word, the Bible, which point us to Jesus. The only question is, are we paying attention?

CAUTION CAUTION - Pastor Kaiser



## Stewardship Corner

### Time • Talent • Treasure

September 2025

#### Giving Cheerfully

In the Old Testament, the people knew what God expected them to give because He commanded the people to tithe, which required the people to give onetenth of their harvest or produce (income) to the Lord. As New Covenant Christians, we have the freedom to decide what to give, but we are expected to give cheerfully. "Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver" (2 Corinthians 9:7). Giving is not to be based strictly by the percentage we give to the Lord but by the largeness of our hearts toward God. God appreciates bighearted people who give their money to Him cheerfully. It's not always easy to give cheerfully, because we need to spend money on rent or mortgages, food, and clothing, and we would like to take some nice family vacations or drive newer calls, etc. It is tempting to scrimp on generosity or to give with a frown.

Our human spirit has been profoundly twisted by Adam's sin, and this present world is a hard place to live. There is only one way that we can rise above those circumstances to live a new life where generous and cheerful giving is the norm and not the exception. In order for us to do this, we must have a personal faith relationship with Jesus Christ and day after day tap into God's rich supply of life-changing grace. The only power that can consistently overcome the sin nature that still clings to each of us is the cross of Jesus Christ.

The Apostle Paul declared this Gospel truth in Galatians 2:20. He emphasized, "I have been crucified with Christ and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me." If we believe in Jesus as our Savior and Lord, then our sinful flesh has been nailed to the cross with Christ, and the self-absorbed and fearful human ego no longer has any right or power to direct how we as Christians live. We can take this truth and apply it to the way we give. Through faith, we are empowered to withstand our flesh and the world who wants us to spend more of our money on things of this world and to give less to God. When we place our trust in God, we can honor Him by giving cheerfully.

As new covenant Christians, we give under grace so we are free to decide in our hearts and minds how much to give. Cheerful givers experience giving as a privilege. Giving changes from a "got to" give to a "want to" give.



Cheerful giving comes from new hearts that God through His Holy Spirit has changed. Giving is to be inspired and voluntary, not an obligation or only out of necessity or possible recognition. Giving is an outward expression based on an inner conviction. Through faith, we understand that we are God's instruments through whom He works to help people in need, to support His Church, and to extend His kingdom. May God find us willing and cheerful to use our time and money to do His work.

#### Rejoice in the Lord

In Philippians 4:4, we read Paul's words, "Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, "Rejoice." This is a very emphatic directive because "rejoice" is followed by "always" and it is repeated "again I say rejoice." If our lives are not expressing our joy, or if we've given up on happiness, we're missing out on what God intends for us. In the words of Charles Spurgeon, "God made human beings as He made His other creatures, to be happy...They are in their right element when they are happy." In his book Happiness, Rev. Randy Alcorn writes the following: "C. S. Lewis said, 'It is a Christian duty... for everyone to be as happy as he can.' Happiness is a privilege. However, since God repeatedly calls upon to rejoice, delight and be glad in Him, we have both a privilege and an obligation to do so."





## Trinity Lutheran School

## The Classroom Chronicles

September 2025



Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth; break forth into joyous song and sing praises!

#### -PSALM 98:4

It is wonderful to have our students back in the building! The quiet halls of summer have been replaced with the joyful sounds of children's laughter, friendships being renewed, and new lessons being learned. We are so excited for all the wonderful things this school year holds for our students, teachers, and staff.

This year, our theme is "Make a Joyful Noise" based on Psalm 98:4. This verse reminds us to celebrate and worship God with all the joy in our hearts. We believe that this isn't just about singing loudly in church. It's about bringing a spirit of joy to everything we do—from our classroom lessons and sports practices to our service projects and time spent with friends. We want our students to understand that their unique voices and talents can be used to praise God and bless those around them.

#### **Faculty & Staff**

Pastor Kaiser — 7th & 8th Grade Confirmation

Mrs. Lisa Mrozinski — Church Office

Mrs. Amy Samborn — School Office

Mrs. Judy Jean ———— 8th Grade homeroom, 7th & 8th Grade Math, 5th - 8th

Grade Science and Life Skills

Mr. Brendan Harrison — 6th & 7th homeroom, 5th & 6th Grade Math,

5th-8th Grade Social Studies and Current Events

Mrs. Suzanne Tomashewsky - 5th Grade homeroom, 5th - 8th Grade ELA, Handbells

Mrs. Sarah Earle — 4th Grade

Mrs. Kelli Dent — 2nd & 3rd Grade (combined classroom)

Mrs. Susan Thiel — 1st Grade

Mrs. Karrie Estes — Kindergarten

Mrs. Rebecca Setula — Early Childhood Program Director, GSRP lead teacher

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Mrs. Melissa Messing — GSRP Classroom Aide / Maternity Sub for Mrs. Setula
Mrs. Andrea Lewicki — Traditional Preschool Teacher
Wiss Lainey Armstrong — VLHS Co-op in our Traditional Preschool Classroom
Mr. Dale Fish — Morning Caregiver
Mrs. Ann Wegener — Morning Caregiver
Miss Sophia Steelmon — After School Care Director
Miss Jayden Jezowski — After School Caregiver
Mrs, Yvonne Tennant — Hot Lunch
Mrs. Nicole Marter — Athletic Director

Mr. John Mrozinski — School custodian and Wehmaster

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Mrs. Karen Friebe — Assistant Athletic Director, Teachers Aide, Principal

**Enrollment** 

8th Grade = 10 4th Grade = 9 Kindergarten = 13 3rd Grade = 8 Traditional Preschool = 6 7th Grade = 6 2nd Grade = 9 GSRP Preschool = 11 6th Grade = 7 1st Grade = 6 Total: 97 students 5th Grade = 12

As we kick off this new year, we ask for your prayers for our students, teachers, and staff. Pray for a year filled with safety, growth in faith, and a contagious sense of joy that spills out into our community. We are incredibly blessed to partner with you in nurturing these young hearts and minds, and we can't wait to share with you all the wonderful things happening at our school throughout the year.

Lutheran **Schools** 

With joyful anticipation, Mrs. Karen Friebe



**ECONOMY CENTER NEEDS VOLUNTEERS**: The Economy Center (408 Columbus Ave, Bay City) has operated with the help of volunteers for 65 years, but now illness and aging out are causing us to have to consider closing the store. Supporting the children and families of Wellspring Lutheran Services would end. This is not our first choice, but sometimes clerks don't work their shifts, so we have no choice but to close the store, and this upsets customers. We need people to price, restock, clerks or any way you can help. Both men and women can help! Call Larry Pretzer at 989-280-8343 for more specific information.

BOOSTER CLUB CORNER: Thank you, thank you to ALL for the success of our 42nd Annual Booster Club Weekend! Whether you volunteered on the serving lines or in concessions, baked desserts, washed potatoes, filled cole slaw and sour cream cups, helped cleanup, etc. or supported the event by attending, WE APPRECIATE YOU! Keep watching for the details of how many dinners were served this year!

Trinity's Athletic Booster Club not only supports the school's Panther Teams, but also maintains the pavilion and grounds (including the three ballfields) for our Trinity families and our community. Speaking of which, Save The Date for our Fall Cleanup on Saturday, November 1st at 9:00am.

**SAVE THE DATE!** Trinity Monitor's Wild Game Dinner Auction Committee has begun making plans for Event #9 to be held on **Saturday, March 7, 2026** at the Great Hall in Midland! Scan the QR code and that will get you to our OneCause Platform - keep watching as we build the site with additional information and details!

THE HOLY LAND CHRISTIANS: On Sep. 14 2025 and during both services, we will be hearing about the Christians of the Holy Land, and after each service we will be hosting at the church a nice display of handmade olive wood religious articles from Bethlehem available for purchase. These carvings include olivewood Nativity sets, crosses, angels and many other religious crafts. The carvings are handmade by Christian families from Bethlehem who rely on it for their daily bread. Please help support our Christian brothers and sisters in the town of Bethlehem where Christ was born by purchasing their carvings. A Christians family from Bethlehem will be telling us the story of the Christians of the Holy Land and they will be presenting these carvings after the services. All proceeds go to support Christian families from Bethlehem. Visit <a href="www.hlcsc.org">www.hlcsc.org</a> for more information.

GRIEFSHARE FALL SESSION AT GRACE, AUBURN: Have you suffered loss? Are you grieving the death of a loved one? There's help for you. Grace Lutheran Church (303 Ruth St, Auburn) will be starting a new round of GriefShare on Thursday, Sept. 4 at 6:30 p.m. GriefShare is a 13-week program designed to provide comfort to those who mourn. It's a safe space to open up about your sorrow and be heard. We're not alone; Jesus comes alongside us to comfort and lead us through our grief! GriefShare is open to everyone. It's a free resource, and all materials are provided. Each session lasts around 90 minutes, beginning with a video and followed by discussion. Every session is a standalone session, so you can attend as you're able, and the videos are also available online to registrants. To register, please visit <a href="mailto:GraceAuburn.org/GriefShare">GraceAuburn.org/GriefShare</a>.

**HYMN FESTIVAL**: "I Am Baptized Into Christ: The Devil's Might Unraveled." - On Sunday, October 12, 2025 at 3:00 Grace Lutheran Church in Auburn, Michigan will be hosting "I Am Baptized Into Christ: The Devil's Might Unraveled." The Commentators for the hymn festival will be Rev. Stephen Starke and Rev. Aaron Schian. Kantors for the service will be Nathan Beethe, Jon Eifert, and Brian Heinlein. There will be a Mass Choir members composed of from area congregations, instrumentalists, and pipe organ. Anyone who wishes to participate in the mass choir should contact Kantor Nathan Beethe at kantor.graceauburn@gmail.com or they can call or text him at (989) 878-2103. Please mark your calendars for this exciting event!





## TRINITY LUTHERAN SCHOOL FIRST QUARTER MISSION

Concordia Theological Seminary in Fort Wayne, Indiana exists to form servants in Jesus Christ who teach the faithful, reach the lost, and care for all.

Identity: CTSFW is an institution of theological higher education of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod whose central purpose is to prepare men for the pastoral ministry, as well as men and women for other service in the church, through programs offering an understanding of the Christian faith that is Christ centered, Biblically based, confessionally Lutheran, and evangel- ically active.

Recognizing that most students live on a limited income, the seminary has established a co-op system to help provide for the needs of the seminarian and his family.

**Food Co-Op:** The Food Co-op provides roughly 75% of the grocery needs of student families. In addition to food, commonly needed household items are also available. Students volunteer time each month in order to utilize the Food Co-op.

Dry and canned food items, toilet paper, paper towels, tissues, personal hygiene items, health care products, cleaning supplies, and disposable diapers are always welcome donations. Additionally, monetary donations are used to purchase food at low cost through local food banks.

**Clothing Co-Op:** The Clothing Co-op provides a wide variety of new and gently-used clothing for men, women, and children. Kitchen supplies, bedding, and home decorating items are also available. Students may utilize the Clothing Co-op for free. There is always a need for new or used clothing in good repair for all members of the family.

Please keep the Food Co-op and Clothing Co-op in mind when you are cleaning and purging. As you come across useful items that you no longer need, bag or box them up and bring them to school. All year long, Mrs. Dent collects items to take for her next trip to the seminary. Her beige Buick LeSabre is unlocked and parked by fire door #3. If your donation will fit in the back seat, please put it there. Otherwise, to pop open the trunk, open the driver side door and push the button on the lower door panel.

If you have questions about what is needed, here are 2 good questions to ask yourself: Is this useful to a person? If so, good! The students who attend the seminary are people! Is this something I would want to see my Pastor or his family members wear or use in their house? If so, good! Box it up and donate it! If not, it may be outdated, worn out, or stained beyond use.

If you have further questions, please feel free to ask Mrs. Dent, (email: <a href="kdent@trinitymonitor.org">kdent@trinitymonitor.org</a>). She would be happy to share her experience with you as a seminary wife while Pastor Dent attended CTSFW.



#### MISSED CHURCH ON SUNDAY?

No worries! We've got you covered! Join us for WOW! (Worship On Wednesdays) at 6:00 PM, for an uplifting evening of praise, following our Creative Worship format, featuring the same scripture readings and sermon from Sunday's service.

#### WANT TO BE PART OF THE EXPERIENCE?

WOW is looking for volunteers! If you would like to contribute, we'd love to have you join in. Whether it's reading Scripture, leading songs, or playing an instrument, there's a place for you. Scan the QR code to sign up!



#### MUSIC BINDERS AVAILABLE!

If you know ahead of time that you will be attending WOW and would like a binder of music to follow along with the score, let Deadra know by Monday of that week and she'll have one prepared for you.

#### **Announcements**

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## **NATIONAL YOUTH GATHERING REPORT**



### **JULY 19-23** 2025

### WHAT WE LEARNED:

"For non-believers, this life is the closest they will ever get to heaven. For believers in Jesus, this is the closest we will ever be to hell." - Eston

"College tips for staying in my faith." - Adalyn

"Enduring is hard, but knowing God is with you make it easier."

- Laura

"God is always there and walking with you even when it doesn't feel like it." - Addisyn

"Roleplay and games can be a great way to not only bring people in church together but also to reach out to people who haven't heard the Good Word vet."

- Landon



### At the Dome

Everyone enjoyed the music and speakers at the mass events each night. Worship and communion on Wednesday was also really meaningful and memorable.



## Exploring New Orleans

We visited the French Quarter. the French Market, the World War II Museum, and the Riverfront Mall.



### Extra Fun

After the gathering ended, we took an extra day to go on a swamp boat tour where we saw some alligators. Then we drove to Mississippi to visit the beach and swim in the ocean!

#### THANK YOU!!!

This amazing experience was only possible because of generous support from YOU, our congregation. We are so thankful for your donations and support of our fundraising efforts, but especially for your prayers.



#### THE NEXT NATIONAL YOUTH GATHERING:

San Antonio, Texas July 3-7, 2028

Want to learn more about The GATE or interested in attending the next NYG?

CONTACT KATE KAISER



712-242-8072 kaiserk413@gmail.com

# 42nd Annual Pig Roast & Chicken BBQ

































Greeters	1st Service	2nd Service
7th	Rich & Sandy Herzberger	Virgil & Lugene McGuire
14th	Mary Ann Korman & Bernieda Kernstock	Kurt & Laurie Arnold
21st	Logan Davis	Karrie Wood
28th	Brian Berkobien	Jessica Jeske

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Prayer Chain: Nancy Klaus 280-4913	1 No School Labor Day	5:00pm Elders 6:00pm Church Council	3 8:15am Chapel 6:00pm Worship w/Communion	4	5	6
7 8:30 & 10:30 Communion 9:40am Bible Study & Sunday School 7:00pm Harvest Dinner Meeting	7:00pm Voter's Meeting	7:00pm Athletic Club	8:15am Chapel 6:00pm Worship w/Communion	11	12	13 10:00am Friendship Guild
8:30am & 10:30am Worship 9:40am Bible Study & Sunday School 2:00pm Public School Confirmation	6:00pm  Board of Christian Education	9:00am Piecemakers	8:15am Chapel 6:00pm Worship	18	19 \\\\1/2 Day School	20
8:30am & 10:30am Communion 9:40am Bible Study & Sunday School 2:00pm Public School Confirmation Dedication of Staff 8:30am Christian Education Sunday	22	23	8:15am Chapel 6:00pm Worship w/Communion	25	26	27
8:30am & 10:30am Worship 9:40am Bible Study & Sunday School 12:00pm/YSC 12:15pm/The GATE 2:00pm Public School Confirmation	29	30	Elders: Steve Rivet Dave Arnold	<u>Ushers</u> : 3&1	Altar Guild: Shirley Mosher Barb Friebe	



Sep	tember	September 17	Chloe Brabaw Jaxson Garvey Tim Schnell Rachel Vogel
September 1	Curtis Fiebke	September 19	Laurie Arnold
~ <b>.</b> .	Harrison Rytlewski	September 20	Jeffery Derocher
	Daniel Wilhelm	September 21	Austin Morris Cameron Feinauer
September 2	Logan Kipfmiller	Septemeer 21	Wayne Walter
	Logan Kowalski	September 22	Charlotte Gibbs
	Veronica Smith	0 4 1 24	George LaBerge
September 3	Mitchell Kernstock	September 24	Jazmyne Behnke Mary Beth Kloha
	Chase Jezowski		Danielle VanBlarcom
	Meredith Heinz	September 25	Troy Hupfer
September 4	Zachary Hupfer	-	Pamela Pfundt
	Terry Weiss	G	Neva Spires
September 6	David Friebe	September 27	David Arnold Bodhi Avery-Gangadharan
	Harry Gaiser Jr.		Jordan Bannerman
	Barbara Jezowski		Daniel Hurley
September 8	Greg Schmidt		Wayne Smith
	Betty Walter Delaney Srebinski	September 28	Robert Kernstock
		September 29	Holly Kotewa <i>Raya Szeszulski</i>
September 9	Cynthia Atwood	September 30	Abby Kuch
	Rosalie Collazo	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	Amy Kundinger
	Justin Armstrong		

Barb Hart

Kyle Peil

Joshua Srebinski

Matthew Shaffer

Kailey Gaiser Nicole Rivard *Ella Sinke* 

Neil Kaminski

Madilyn Zerby

Leah Mindykowski

Paul Reinsch

September 10

September 11

September 12

September 13

September 14

September 15

September 16

