

Trinity



Volume 38, No 46

September, 2017

Contemporary Worship Vs. The Historic Liturgy

In the worship wars, one of the alleged reasons for abandoning the historic liturgy is to make worship relevant. We want application of the Gospel in ways that connect with people.

Dear friends, the historic liturgy is like a many-layered cake, and one of the layers is the story of your life. The story of your life is relevant to you, and the liturgy tells your story.

Caution: in this article we will look at only one layer of the cake. This is by no means a complete view of the liturgy. Not even close. Nor is this layer necessarily the most important one. But it is one of the layers, and it has importance. The nature of this layer completely explodes the claim that the liturgy is not relevant.

What is the story of your life? You were conceived as a sinner. You inherited a sin nature from Adam. Original sin is real sin.

Original sin is condemning sin. Original sin all by itself would, if not forgiven, condemn you to hell.

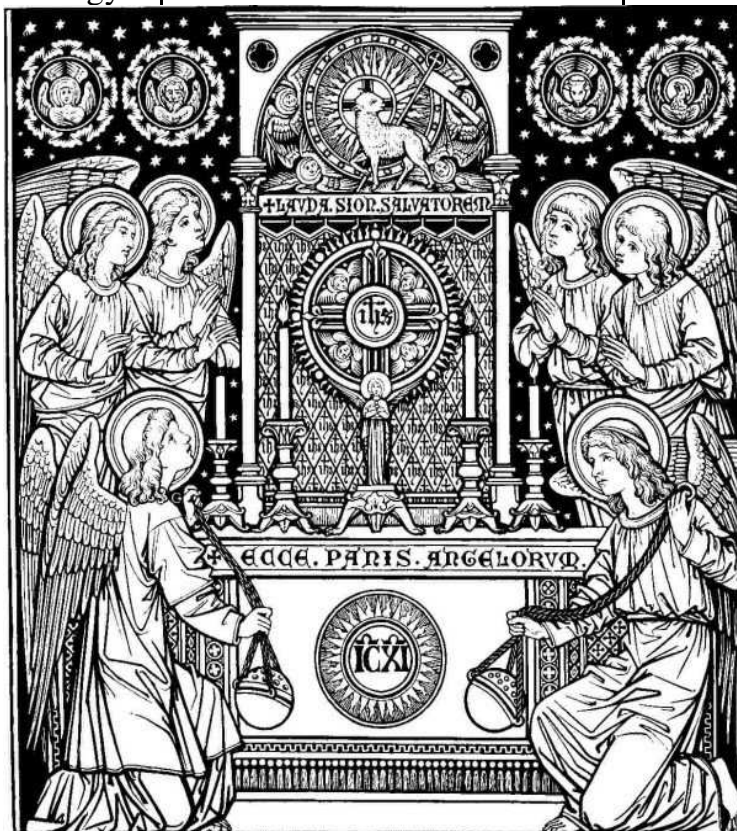
You were born and ever since you have been sinning in actual

But then you were baptized. In Holy Baptism, you were buried with Christ and raised with him. Your sin was forgiven. This washing of regeneration cleansed you from all original and actual sin. You were born again to new

life and adopted as a beloved child of the Father.

You came under the ministry of the Word of God, His Law and Gospel. You heard the Word in readings, preaching, teaching, and in the Catechism. You heard it in musical sermons we call hymns. You learned that in Baptism, the Holy Spirit, by means of the Word and water, granted you the gift of repentance, which is contrition and faith. You learned that your life – your whole life – is a baptismal life of

repentance. You learned that life consists in this, returning every day to your Baptism with contrition for sin and faith in the Gospel for forgiveness, life, and salvation.



thought, word, and deed, and by what you leave undone. These actual sins also are real sin. They are condemning sin. All by themselves they would, if not forgiven, condemn you to hell.

When you had been instructed sufficiently in the Word that you were able to “discern the Lord’s body” (I Corinthians 11:29) and “proclaim the Lord’s death” (I Corinthians 11:26) by eating the bread and drinking the cup, you were admitted to the Sacrament of the Altar. Since then you have been communing with Christ, the congregation, and the whole Christian church.

While you could not, by your own reason or strength, believe in Jesus Christ, your Lord, or come to Him, the Holy Spirit called you by the Gospel, enlightened you with His gifts, sanctified and kept you in the true faith. In the Christian church He daily and richly

forgives all your sins and the sins of all believers. On the Last Day He will raise you and all the dead, and give eternal life to you and all believers in Christ.

Recapping, and hitting only the mountain peaks, the story of your life is: Baptism, Word, and the Sacrament of the Altar

That story, the story of your life, is re-enacted in the Divine Service. Just as the story of your life has three mountain peaks, the Divine Service has three mountain peaks: Confession and Absolution, Service of the Word, and the Service of the

Sacrament. What are these?

These are the same three mountain peaks of your life, in the same order as the story of your life. They are Baptism, the Word, and the Sacrament, in that order, the way you lived it.

How is this so? Look at the service. The first part is Confession and Absolution.

What is going on here?

The first words of the service are, “In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.” What words are these? These

are the words of

Baptism. Jesus said, “Baptizing them into the Name of the Father

and the Son and the Holy Spirit.” (Matthew 28:19)

One of the most outstanding revelations of the Trinity – the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit named in this invocation – is the Baptism of Christ. When He had been baptized, Jesus came up immediately from the water; and behold, the heavens were opened to Him, and He saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting upon Him. And suddenly a voice came from heaven, saying, “This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.” (Matthew 3:16-

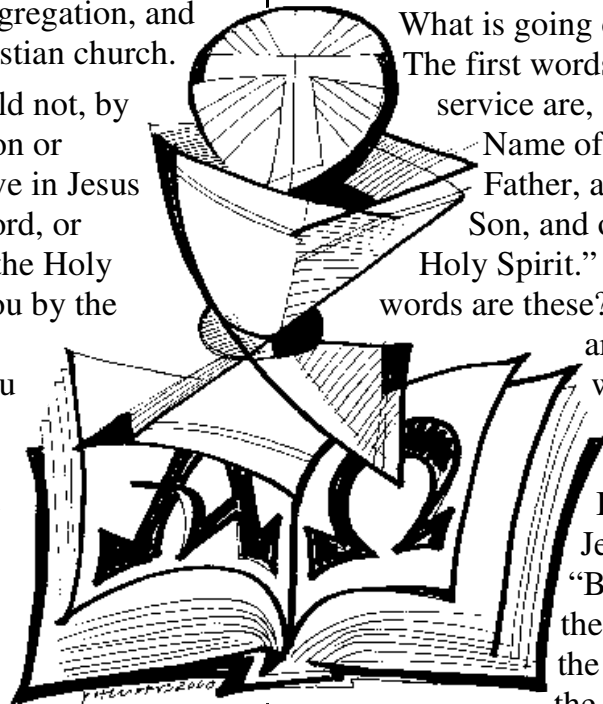
17)

The first words of the service call to mind the Baptism of Jesus and your Baptism.

Immediately, you and Jesus are connected in the service, by sharing the same Baptism, the Baptism for the remission of sin. The service starts where your new regenerated life started.

The rest of the Confession and Absolution enacts the baptismal life of repentance. It expresses contrition and faith. It confesses sin, the iniquity of sin, sorrow for sin, and pleads for help to the Maker of heaven and earth. Who else? Who else could help? Someone less than the Maker of heaven and earth would be no use. Our help is in the Name of the Lord. What Name is that? Your baptismal Name, the Name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. This is personal. This saving Name is the Name into which you were baptized, which is personal to you. Regain again your assurance that God takes you personally, in that He gave you his Name, and with his Name forgiveness, life, and salvation, through the blood of Jesus.

What – was there something more relevant than your sin? Was there a need felt more keenly than the need for the abiding power of forgiveness that God in his gift of Baptism gave you? Perhaps you did feel some other need more keenly, because what we feel as needs often are not our true needs, and should not become the story of



our lives. The service calls us to our senses, to remember our Baptism, where our true need was met and still is being met. The words of the Absolution simply continue the story of your baptized life. Dear friend, dear sinner, be assured, God for Jesus' sake still forgives you today, and this is the story of your life. He instituted the Office of the Keys and the Office of Public Ministry to give you by these external means – means outside your own deceptive heart and imagination, means upon which you can safely and confidently rely – the renewed assurance that you are justified in his sight.

The devil may say what he will. Your conscience may say what it will. The Law may say what it will. The Pastor says, "I forgive you all your sins in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit." These are the words of your Baptism and of your Absolution. This is the re-enactment of the beginning of your new life.

The next major part of the service is the Service of the Word. What is happening here? The same thing that happened in your life following your Baptism. You came under the instruction of the Word. First, you were forgiven in Baptism, and after that, you were taught. You had forgiveness before you knew anything about it, but then it was explained to you. The Service of the Word re-enacts this and continues it.

In the Service of the Word, you sing the songs of the baptized. You sing to the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit in the Gloria Patri. You can sing to the Trinity because you are baptized in the Name of the Trinity, so you can give glory to his Name. You have fresh reason to give glory to his Name because you have just re-enacted your Baptism in the Confession and Absolution. You are freshly reassured of the forgiveness of sins.

You never stop living the baptized life, so the service never stops enacting the life of the baptized. After singing the Gloria Patri, you don't shelve and forget Baptism and repentance. The service continues with the Kyrie, "Lord have mercy upon us."

This song continues to sing contrition, and it also sings faith. You are both asking for mercy and believing you have mercy. To make this plain, Gloria in Excelsis expressly confesses faith.

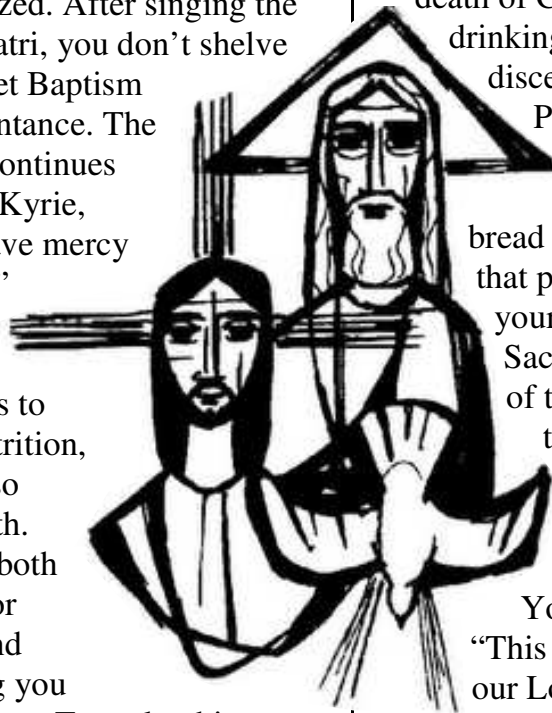
You hear the readings of the Word. You confess the catholic faith in the words of the Nicene Creed, the Apostles Creed, or the Athanasian Creed. In faith, you are able to pray, confident

that you are heard. You pray the Lord's Prayer. You hear the preached Word of God in the sermon through the Office of Public Ministry. You receive this ministry as a gift of Christ. "He himself gave some to be ... pastor-teachers." (Ephesians 4:11).

Having received the ministry of the Word in the service as you did in your life, in your preparation to be admitted to the Sacrament of the Altar, you again are united with the congregation, the communion of saints, in its confession of the faith, its proclamation of the death of Christ by eating and drinking, and its

discernment of the Real Presence of the body and blood of Christ with the bread and wine. So, as that preparation led to your participation in the Sacrament, the Service of the Word leads to the Service of the Sacrament, as the narrative of your life.

You hear the words, "This is the true body of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ given into death for your sins." You hear the words, "This is the true blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ shed for the forgiveness of your sins." That's you. Those are your sins. That is the body of Christ given for you. That is the blood of Christ shed for you. Should there have been



something more relevant to you than this? Let's wake up!

20. But what should you do if you are not aware of this need and have no hunger and thirst for the Sacrament?

To such a person no better advice can be given than this: first, he should touch his body to see if he still has flesh and blood. Then he should believe what the Scriptures say of it in Galatians 5 and Romans 7. Second, he should look around to see whether he is still in the world, and remember that there will be no lack of sin and trouble, as the Scriptures say in John 15-16 and in 1 John 2 and 5. (Martin Luther, Christian Questions with Their Answers, Small Catechism.)

In other words, pinch yourself and come to your senses. You are in the world. You have flesh and blood. Hello! You need the Sacrament. This is relevant. It's your true need. Let it be the story of your life.

This is worship, to receive from Christ his chosen gifts to you. You sing the Nunc Dimittis, the Song of Simeon, because, like him, your eyes have seen your salvation. Simeon saw the body of the promised Savior, and your eyes are "discerning the body" of Christ with the bread of the Sacrament. As you see that bread coming your way in the service, your eyes see salvation coming to you as truly as Simeon's eyes did. The story of your life is like the story of Simeon's life, who was then

ready to depart, because he could depart in peace, his eyes having seen salvation. Dear friend, this is not simply a dismissal from the service, but an enactment of the story of your life, that you can be ready to depart this life, in full assurance of faith, because you have Baptism (Confession and Absolution), the Word, and the Sacrament.

Liturgical worship is relevant worship. It is the story of your life.

Written by T.R. Halvorson (Layman from Trinity Lutheran Church, Sidney, Montana)

Birthdays

Sarah Schroeder	9/1
Drew Newman	9/2
Alex Abend	9/2
Ben Starkebaum	9/2
Curt Henke	9/5
Yvonne O'Grady	9/7
Jackie Augur	9/10



Shelby Starkebaum	9/10
Alan Bozarth	9/11
Craig Schley	9/11
Bill Wersinger	9/12
Tara Altis	9/14
Sarah Pederson	9/16
Zackery Schmidt	9/16
Ian Larson	9/17
Curtis Mayes	9/20

Allen Harris	9/20
Bill Moore	9/21
Brooke Schmidt	9/21
Andrew Swain	9/23
Mark Young	9/24
Nanette Stout	9/24
Joseph Goodroad	9/25
Shari Schley	9/27
Mike Jackson	9/30
Jeff Lehning	10/1
Jane Alshouse	10/3
Bonnie Harris	10/6
Cindy Williams	10/7
Scott Mayes	10/8
Evangeline Barth	10/10

Baptisms

Blythe Larson	9/1
Kimberly Murphy	9/2
Sammy Harms	9/5
Ryan Schmidt	9/7
Tanner Slawson	9/7
Wyatt Mayes	9/9
Jeremy Harms	9/10
Gabriel Sowell	9/10
Drew Newman	9/12
Amy Martinez	9/13
Debbie Abend	9/15
Grace Schroeder	9/15
Jackie Augur	9/16
Mike Owens	9/16
Gary Schmidt	9/17
Caroline Mayes	9/21
Emily Goodroad	9/22
Grace Slawson	9/26
Shelby Starkebaum	9/27
Ben Starkebaum	9/29
Curt Henke	9/30
Rob Stone	9/30
Mike Jackson	9/30
Sarah Schroeder	10/2
Nanette Stout	10/6
Yvonne O'Grady	10/8
Sarah Pederson	10/9
Derek Chapman	10/9
Vic Edwards	10/10

Anniversaries

Gary & Diane Schmidt
9/6/1968
Drew & Linda Newman
9/13/1969
Jack & Nancy Oldag
9/16/1972
Curt & Char Henke
9/19/1980
Mark & Jackie Augur
9/21/1981
Matthew & Tiffany Propst
9/24/2016
Melvin & Erma Altis
9/25/1971
Nathan & Sarah Pederson
9/26/2015

Elders

Vic Edwards
Larry Goodroad
Ken Meier
Dallas Hoffman
Bill Moore, Jr.

Acolytes

Sept. 3 Andrew Swain
Sept. 10 Joe Goodroad
Sept. 17 Colton Harris
Sept. 24 Conner Jackson
Oct. 1 Simon Korondi
Oct. 8 Ben Starkebaum
Oct. 15 Andrew Swain
Oct. 22 Joe Goodroad
Oct. 29 Colton Harris

Ushers

September 3
Bill Moore, Keith Wornson
September 10 & 17
Tony Propst, Craig Schley
September 24 & October 1
Gary Schmidt, Norm Sowell
October 8 & 15
A. Starkebaum, Mike Jackson
October 22 & 29

Dallas Hoffman, T. Goodroad

Greeters

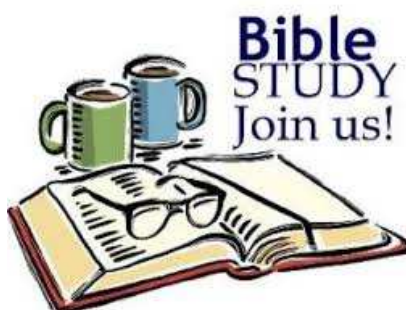
September 3
Bob & Marlo Howard
September 10
Mike & Colleen Jackson
September 17
Yvonne O'Grady, Julie O'Neal
September 24
Martha Jenkins, June Lueckert
October 1
Tim & Connie Brammeier
October 8
Jeff & Joyce Lehning
October 15
John & Jamie Luppess
October 22
Doris Mann, Janet Miller
October 29
Bob & Dawn Marchert

Altar Guild

September 3 & October 1
Pat Owens, Mary Ellett
September 10 & October 8
D. Korondi, K. Goodroad
September 17 & October 15
Dee Hoffman, Leslie Young
Sept 24 & October 29
S. McCubbin, P. Clemens
October 22
June Ramer, Dawn Riley

Sunday Bible Studies

During the Sundays leading up to Reformation our Sunday morning Bible Study will be looking at the "Faces of the



Reformation" – that is, examining the lives and influence of some of the people who were involved in the Reformation. The people we'll be looking at over the next few weeks will be: Johannes Bugenhagen, Martin Chemnitz, Thomas Muntzer, Charles V, Andreas Karlstadt, and John Calvin. What, you don't know who some of these people are? Join us over the next few weeks leading up to the 500th Anniversary of the Lutheran Reformation and find out.

ACELC Update

The Association of Confessing Evangelical Lutheran Congregations (of which our congregation is a member) met for its 7th Annual Free Conference on August 29th through the 31st at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in Lincoln, Nebraska.



The topic of this year's Conference was "Christ for Us: The Order of Creation." The papers were informative and enlightening and discussed many areas of our society and Church where a low regard for God's ordering of our world is having a nega-

tive impact on both. All the sermons, presentations and the Banquet Speech are now online as high quality videos that you can watch at home on your computer, tablet or smartphone. Just go to www.ancelc.net and the link to the videos will be right at the beginning of the Welcome Message. You can also go directly to YouTube and search for "ACELC Free Conference – Order of Creation" – the entire collection of videos from the Conference should be the first thing to show up on the list. This would be a great opportunity for you see first hand the attitude and spirit of the ACELC, which has sometimes been misunderstood.

If you have any questions about the Conference you can talk with Larry Goodroad (our Congregational Representative for this year's Conference) or to Pastor.

Fix It Crew

The Fix It Crew, better known as the doughnut hole gang, has

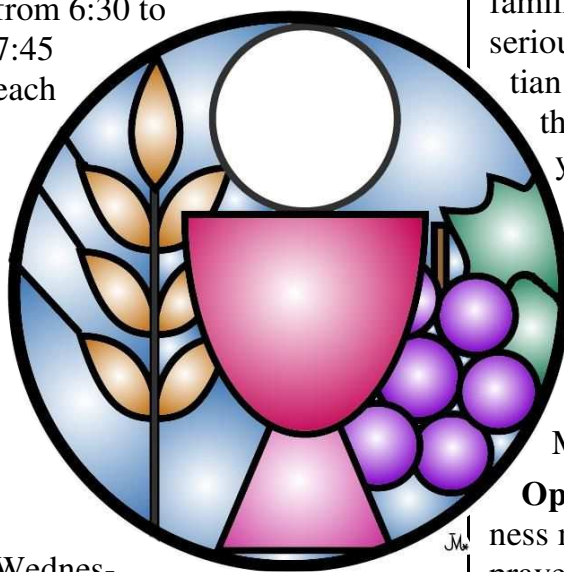


now returned from summer vacation. We do our work based

on I Corinthians 15:58, "Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain." If you would like to help us out from time to time, we meet most Tuesday mornings at 9:00. You might give Norm Sowell a call if you would like to help out on a particular Tuesday, or if there is a job you'd like to see done around the Church that you might be qualified to do. Many hands make for light work. Norm's cell number is (816) 392-6596.

Confirmation Class

Confirmation/Pre-Confirmation classes will begin this year on September 20th and will run from 6:30 to 7:45 each



Wednesday evening except for days when there is a big holiday such as Thanksgiving. We will not be having classes for younger children this year, but we encourage parents to start going over the Catechism and Bible stories with their children at home. We will have a number of resources for you to use and will be con-

tacting you shortly about where you can find them and how you can put them to use.

It is expected that children should memorize by heart and be able to recite all six Chief Parts of the Catechism and the explanation by the time they enter into their Confirmation studies. We also resources that can be used with the family to implement this practice at home.

While the Church is here to assist parents in their responsibility of teaching the faith to their children, we can't do it all alone or without your help. Since teaching the faith to children is one of the prime duties of parenting we pray that all our families will take this charge seriously. After all, the Christian faith is the most important thing your children (and you) can learn in this life. It really is a matter of life or death.

LWML News

August 14, 2017

Call to Order: Janet Miller, President

Opening Prayer: The business meeting was opened with prayer led by Janet Miller and the LWML pledge was recited.

Attendance: Janis Bozarth, Dee Hoffman, Janet Miller, Kay Sowell, Marlo Howard, Diane Schmidt, June Lueckert, Mary Wornson

Minutes: June meeting minutes were read and approved with one correction. A thank

you was received and should have read Caroline Mayes for serving Confirmation reception.

Correspondence: A thank you was received from the Preus family.

Treasurer's Report: Balance as of August 14 was \$467.89 (including 97.90 in mites).

Mission Grant Story: No Mission Grant Story.

Quilting Report: No report.

Unfinished Business: The Fall Rally will be November 4 at 9:30 at Trinity with Board Meeting at 8:30.

Marlo Howard and Mary Wornson will check on

availability of a speaker. Regarding In Gathering, Janet Miller will check with Pam Duncan on theme and will research different organizations to contribute to and will coordinate with speaker. The menu will be various soups, crackers, rolls, relish tray, board breads, fruit tray, juice, coffee and cake. A final list of food will be forthcoming.

New Business: Sunday, October 15, will be LWML Sunday pursuant to confirmation with

Pastor. Marlo will check on bulletin covers, postage, book-marks, etc. Kay Sowell, Penny and Diane Schmidt will punch. Dee Hoffman will make mints. Janet will make 2 sheet cakes with logo. Mary and Marlo will work on a display and ask for pictures of Sr. quilts. Since Oct 15 is the third Sunday, this will cover Third Sunday Treats by LWML.

Our next business meeting will be Monday, September 11, with Janis Bozarth as hostess.

Third Sunday Treats: 8/20, Mary, Kay, Janis; 9/17, Dee, Janet; 10/15, LWML Sunday

The business meeting was adjourned with the Lord's Prayer and prayer requests led by Janet Miller.

Refreshments were served by June Lueckert.

Respectfully submitted,
Janis Bozarth, Secretary

It Is To Laugh

Today's Stock Report:

- Helium was up.
- Feathers were down.
- Paper was stationary.
- Fluorescent tubing was dimmed in light trading.
- Knives were up sharply.
- Cows steered into a bull

market.

- Pencils lost a few points.
- Hiking equipment was trailing.
- Elevators rose, while escalators continued their slow decline.



- Light switches were off.
- Mining equipment hit rock bottom.
- Diapers remain unchanged.
- Shipping lines stayed at an even keel.
- The market for raisins dried up.
- Coca Cola fizzled.
- Caterpillar stock inched up a bit.
- Balloon prices were inflated.
- And batteries exploded in an attempt to recharge the market.

Trinity Rod & Gun Club

The Trinity Rod and Gun Club is pleased to announce that on Saturday, September 30th, we will be hosting a Concealed Carry class here in the Fellowship Hall from 9:00 to approximately 4:00. The cost will be \$75 for the class. If you have any questions about this class, please contact Melvin Altis at

(816) 560-9256.

On October 14th we will be sponsoring a "Fish Fry" at the Church from 5:00 to 8:00. Watch for details about this event, but put it on your calendar now so you don't miss out.

Trinity Care Group

Do you need assistance because of illness, birth of a baby, death, hospitalization, etc.? Trinity Care Group can help. We would be happy to arrange for providing meals, doing errands, visiting with the family, etc. Please contact Dee Hoffman at 320-2490.

Board of Directors Meeting

August 14, 2017

Members present: Connie Brammeier, Tim Brammeier, Michelle Fairhurst, Dan Goodroad, Larry Goodroad, Nelson Hayes, Dee Hoffman, Bob Marchert, and Norm Sowell.

Tim called the meeting to order and opened with prayer.

Larry moved we accept the minutes from last month, Nelson seconded, passed by vote.

Brenda Vogliardo transferred in from Mt Calvary in Excelsior Springs, MO. Dan moved we accept, Norm seconded, passed by vote.

VP: Nothing new to report

Treasurer: Nelson moved we receive the report, Norm seconded, passed by vote.

Elders: Talked about visits at their last meeting. Larry will be going to the ACELC conference with Pastor in two weeks as our Congregational Representative.

Properties: Norm is going to purchase cameras soon as they are currently on sale at Home Depot. He will be getting a new window for Barb's office and a filing cabinet for the dehumidifier. The Fix It Crew is back in session.

Evangelism: N/A

Education: There were 13 children in VBS and 2 student helpers. They collected about 100 canned goods and \$100 and are going to donate them to the Kearney Food Pantry. This school year there will be a new curriculum for Pre-K on Bible Stories.

Stewardship: Nothing new to report.

Youth: They are working on planning the Thank You breakfast and the events for the upcoming school year.

Public Relations: Nothing new to report.

Planning: N/A

Services: They served 65 people at the funeral. They still have a wedding basket to deliver for Kayla.

Unfinished Business: Norm is going to do an audit on our insurance coverage. The coverage automatically goes up each year based on what we would have to spend to replace.

New Business: The elevator

phone causes an issue each time the power goes out and continually calls 911. Norm is going to look into it. Michelle Fairhurst requested to use the church on 9/9. Norm moved we accept, Dan seconded, passed by vote.

Nelson moved we adjourn, Michelle seconded. Closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Emily Goodroad,
Secretary

Thank You

Thank you very much for your generous gift received on July 17. God Bless You.

Sincerely,
Paul Ragna,
Seminary Student,
Concordia Seminary, St. Louis

† † †

On behalf of Concordia Theological Seminary, I thank you for your recent donation of \$810 to the Fort Wayne Operational Fund

Gifts such as yours allow us to provide the finest theological education to the future pastors, deaconesses, and missionaries who will serve The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod and our partner churches worldwide. I thank God for you and ask for your continued support. Together we partner in an essential mission of forming servants in Jesus Christ who teach the faithful reach the lost and care for all.

Rev. Dr. Lawrence R. Rast, Jr.
President, CTSFW