

Trinity Tidings

May 16, 2024

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH, ELCA
709 W BECKERT RD
NEW LONDON, WI 54961
WWW.TRINITYNEWLONDON.COM
TRINITY.NEWLONDON@GMAIL.COM
920-982-5833

REV. DR. CHARLES THOMPSON, PASTOR 920-273-5105;
PASTOR.TRINITYNEWLONDON@GMAIL.COM
SECRETARY: AMY VAN DREEL TRINITY.NEWLONDON@GMAIL.COM
CHILDREN'S FAITH FORMATION COORDINATOR: ANGELA KUECHLER
FAMILYFAITH.TRINITYNEWLONDON@GMAIL.COM



Sunday, May 19 Capital Funds Campaign Celebration Potluck

Community Meals

Our next community meal is Wednesday, May 29. Grilled hotdogs will be served.

Donations needed for the May meal are:

- Healthy snacks (e.g. raisins, craisins, dried fruit, granola/protein bars, jerky, etc.)
- Desserts (packaged or homemade)
- PLEASE NO NUTS and NO ITEMS REQUIRING REFRIGERATION.

Place donations in the bin outside of church.



May 2024

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			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	

Sunday, May 19 Honoring Our Graduates
Wear red for Pentecost!

- Adult Sunday School 8 AM
- Worship 9 AM
- Sunday School 10 AM
- Capital Funds Campaign Celebration 10 AM

Monday, May 20

Tuesday, May 21

- Council 6:30 PM

Wednesday, May 22

- Confirmation Class 6:30 PM

Thursday, May 23

- Bible Study 9 AM
- Comfort Crafts 5:30 PM
- Carport Clutch 6:00 PM

Friday, May 24

Saturday, May 25

Sunday, May 26

- Worship 9 AM

Click [here](#) for the most current calendar.

Click [here](#) for worship.

Wear red for the Day of Pentecost
Sunday, May 19

Office Hours:
8 AM - 12 noon
Monday - Thursday
Other times by appointment



- Wendy Sasman - health concerns
- Jeremy & Julia Martinson - friend of Amy Kuehl, Jeremy is recovering from surgery
- Tony Krajna - friend of Dan Wesenick, cancer
- Jim Schmidt - friend of Dyreson's, recovering from surgery
- Shelley Langkau - cousin of Vigil's, cancer
- Bryan Price - friend of Vigil's, cancer
- Sue Luba - recovering from surgery
- Carla Fulcer - friend of Sue Luba, cancer
- Keith Krueger
- Mary Jo Driessen - friend of Wesenick's, cancer
- Paul Bock - recovering from surgery
- Brian Miller - health issues
- Trista Jo Westphal - health concerns
- Ginny Halverson - friend of Lehl's, recovering from a stroke
- Peter H. - friend of Dyreson's, leukemia
- Julie Smith - daughter of Jean Smith, recovering from transplant surgery
- Leslie Larson - uncle of Marta Wesenick, cancer
- Mike Loppnow - cancer
- Beth Cochran - friend of Dan Wegner, health concerns
- Kaden Wegner - grandson of Michael Wegner, health concerns
- Pastor Dean Desilet - friend of Pastor Chuck, health concerns
- Dixie Hill - health concerns
- Jill Maus - sister-in-law of Denise Knudsen, cancer
- Adam Lehmann - health concerns
- Dawn Haag - cancer

Celebrating Women





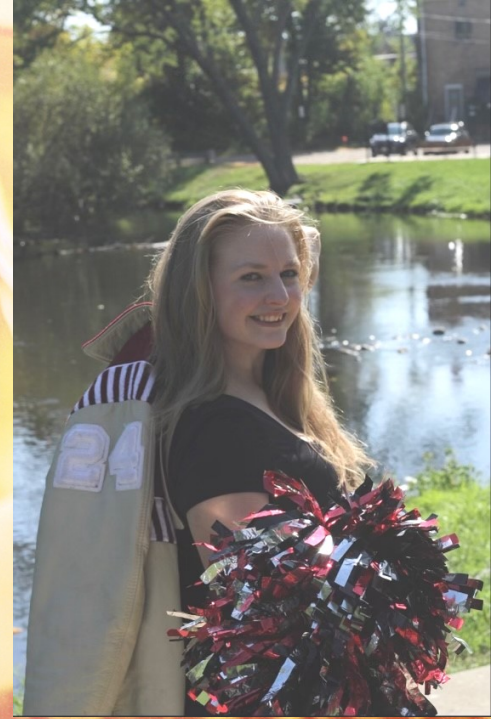
Michael Helsten is a soon to be 2024 graduate of New London High School.

He plans to attend UW-La Crosse in the fall to major in Business administration & management.

Morgan Monty is graduating from New London High School.

She will attend UW Stout for criminal justice.

She also will be dancing on the fall performance team.



Abbey Acker will be graduating from Hortonville High School.

Abbey will be attending UW-Green Bay, majoring in Education with a minor in Organizational Leadership.

Grace Vigil graduated from UW-La Crosse and will be pursuing a graduate degree in physical therapy.





Eric Thompson graduated from Fox Valley Tech in Appleton with an Associate's degree in Accounting.

Andrew Thompson graduated from Wartburg Theological Seminary in Dubuque, IA with a Master of Divinity degree.

He has been called to serve as pastor of Immanuel Lutheran Church in Pepin, WI.



Brianna (Van Dreel) Guyer graduated from UW-Oshkosh in December with a bachelor's degree in nursing.

She is currently working as an RN in labor and delivery.

She will be attending Bethel University this fall pursuing a master's degree in midwifery.



Day of Pentecost

First Reading: Acts 2:1-21

Originally Pentecost was a Jewish thanksgiving-type festival celebrated seven weeks after Passover. On this particular Pentecost, however, the Holy Spirit is poured out upon the entire community of believers just as Jesus had promised and the scriptures had prophesied. Empowered by the Spirit, the entire community bears witness to God's activity in multiple languages.

¹When the day of Pentecost had come, [the apostles] were all together in one place. ²And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. ³Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. ⁴All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.

⁵Now there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem. ⁶And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each. ⁷Amazed and astonished, they asked, "Are not all these who are speaking Galileans?" ⁸And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language? ⁹Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, ¹⁰Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, ¹¹Cretans and Arabs—in our own languages we hear them speaking about God's deeds of power." ¹²All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, "What does this mean?" ¹³But others sneered and said, "They are filled with new wine."

¹⁴But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them, "Men of Judea and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say.

¹⁵Indeed, these are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o'clock in the morning.

¹⁶No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel:

¹⁷In the last days it will be, God declares, that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh, and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy,

and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams.

¹⁸Even upon my slaves, both men and women,

in those days I will pour out my Spirit; and they shall prophesy.

¹⁹And I will show portents in the heaven above

and signs on the earth below, blood, and fire, and smoky mist.

²⁰The sun shall be turned to darkness and the moon to blood, before the coming of the Lord's great and glorious day.

²¹Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.' "

Psalm 104:24-34, 35b

²⁴How manifold are your works, O LORD! In wisdom you have made them all; the earth is full of your creatures.

²⁵Yonder is the sea, great and wide, with its swarms too many to number, living things both small and great.

²⁶There go the ships to and fro, and Leviathan, which you made for the sport of it.

²⁷All of them look to you to give them their food in due season.

²⁸You give it to them; they gather it; you open your hand, and they are filled with good things.

²⁹When you hide your face, they are terrified; when you take away their breath, they die and return to their dust.

³⁰You send forth your Spirit, and they are created; and so you renew the face of the earth.

³¹May the glory of the LORD endure forever;

O LORD, rejoice



in all your works.

³²You look at the earth and it trembles;
you touch the mountains and they smoke.

³³I will sing to the LORD as long as I live;
I will praise my God while I have my being.

³⁴May these words of mine please God.

I will rejoice in the LORD.

^{35b}Bless the LORD, O my soul.

Hallelujah!

Second Reading: Romans 8:22-27

By pouring the Holy Spirit into our hearts, God gives us the promised first fruit of eternal life so that we await God's future in hope. In the meantime, the Spirit also intercedes for us by carrying the prayers of our weak human hearts to God.

²²We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labor pains until now; ²³and

not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. ²⁴For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? ²⁵But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

²⁶Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. ²⁷And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

Gospel: John 15:26-27; 16:4b-15

While speaking to his disciples before his death, Jesus refers to the Holy Spirit as "the Helper" and describes the difference the Spirit will make in their lives and in the world.

[Jesus said,] ²⁶When the Advocate comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who comes from the Father, he will testify on my behalf. ²⁷You also are to testify because you have been with me from the beginning.

^{16:4b} I did not say these things to you from the

beginning, because I was with you. ⁵But now I am going to him who sent me; yet none of you asks me, 'Where are you going?' ⁶But because I have said these things to you, sorrow has filled your hearts. ⁷Nevertheless I tell you the truth: it is to your advantage that I go away, for if I do not go away, the Advocate will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you. ⁸And when he comes, he will prove the world wrong about sin and righteousness and judgment: ⁹about sin, because they do not believe in me; ¹⁰about righteousness, because I am going to the Father and you will see me no longer; ¹¹about judgment, because the ruler of this world has been condemned.

¹²I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. ¹³When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth; for he will not speak on his own, but will speak whatever he hears, and he will declare to you the things that are to come. ¹⁴He will glorify me, because he will take what is mine and declare it to you. ¹⁵All that the Father has is mine. For this reason I said that he will take what is mine and declare it to you."



Serving at worship on Sunday

Ushers
David Newton, Jack Thurk

Lector
David Newton

Communion Assistant
Jayne Murphy

Slides
Laura Thompson

Livestream
Terry Lathrop

Altar Guild
Carol Cleveland, Cindy Wolford

Sermon Notes

Pentecost

Who needs some Holy Ghost this morning?

(pull out leaf blower)

This comes in handy in getting rid of leaves in the garage.

After all, this is Pentecost, when we celebrate the Spirit. The spirit is often described in scripture as a "violent wind from God."

Many have called this day the birthday of the church.

The story starts with Jesus' disciples gathered "together in one place" to celebrate the Jewish festival of Pentecost. The Jews among them likely believed this would be just another normal festival. After all, this was a familiar communal celebration. Greek Jews gave the name "Pentecost" (literally, "fiftieth") to the Jewish "Festival of Weeks" (Shevuot), which occurred 50 days after Passover. Originally a harvest festival, Pentecost eventually celebrated the giving of the Mosaic Law.



PENTECOST

However, a violent wind rushes in (turn blower on) and fills the whole house, and tongues of fire appear among the followers of Jesus.

The disciples then are literally blown into the streets to share the good news of Jesus' death

and resurrection.

Peter is given the power from the Spirit to deliver the inaugural sermon that blows people away and thousands get baptized.

Wow! Would that not be great to see today?

Some Christian churches, our Pentecostal brothers and sisters for instance, emphasize the Spirit and are not afraid to let loose during worship.

I have had some worship experiences in large venues that I could feel the Spirit such as at Rick Warren's Saddleback Church.

Thousands of pastors from all different denominations there.

Everything from Roman Catholic to Pentecostals.

Lutherans are not animated so much. We are reserved Germans and Scandinavians for the most part.

There are times I feel like letting out a few amens when I am inspired by a sermon, such as the one I heard at my son's commencement last Sunday.

Amen!

Dr. Anne Fritschl, a retired Old Testament professor at Wartburg Seminary gave an awesome sermon. I wanted to shout "Amen!" many times but would have looked silly.

Her message to the graduates? Love God, love your people, and preach the gospel!

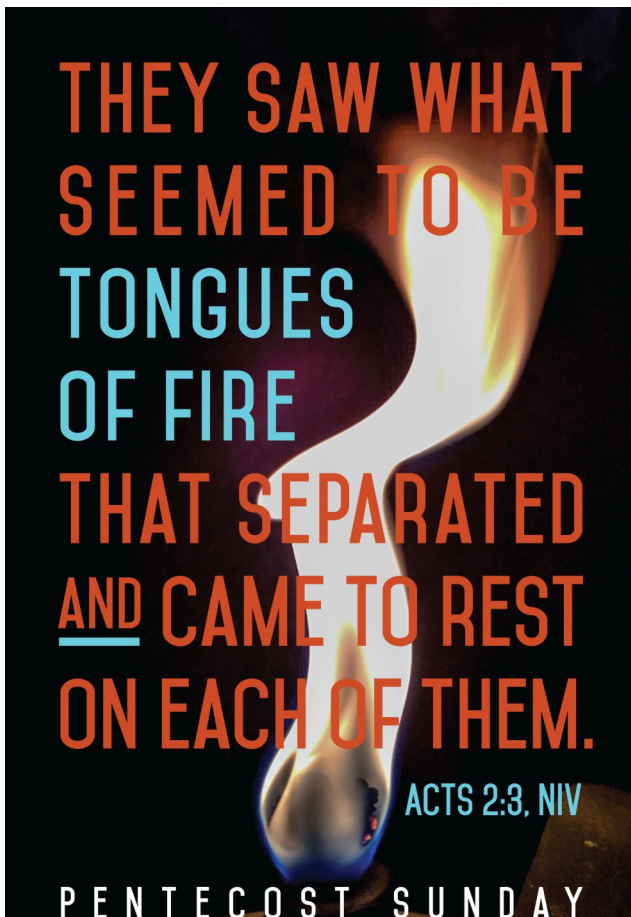
I felt the Spirit there even though the congregation was subdued.

The Spirit is there whether worship is quiet or loud.

Lutherans have traditionally focused upon Jesus and his death and resurrection and not on the Holy Spirit so much.

Martin Luther does state, however, that it is the Spirit that gives us faith and keeps the church going. He writes (Say it with me all of you who had to memorize it):

"I believe that I cannot by my own reason or strength believe in Jesus Christ, my Lord, or come to Him; but the Holy Ghost has called



me by the Gospel, enlightened me with His gifts, sanctified and kept me in the true faith; even as He calls, gathers, enlightens, and sanctifies the whole Christian Church on earth, and keeps it with Jesus Christ in the one true faith.”

While the Spirit is hard to grasp it is clear in Scripture that without the Holy Spirit none of us can believe in the Triune God.

Without the Spirit there would be no church.

The Holy Spirit is the third person of the Trinity; the God we worship.

Wouldn't it be nice if we could turn the Holy Spirit on whenever we needed a spark? Some inspiration?

However, one thing is clear from the Bible: The Holy Spirit is not ours to control.

The Spirit is alive and active even when we do not realize it.

The onlookers on the Day of Pentecost had no idea what was going on. They ask, “What does this mean?”

Others said, “They are drunk!”

The Spirit, however, spoke through the disci-

ples and the church exploded!

It was not the disciples' doing but God's!

The Spirit is God still at work in our lives.

We can depend upon the Spirit to guide us!

The Spirit is not dependent upon us.

We are not in control of the church.

God is always up to something.

How can we join in?

By listening, learning, worshipping, and of course praying.

We do not need to understand the Spirit or be afraid of it.

God's power is there for us.

We may not always see the Spirit working.

The Spirit worked through Covid, for instance, as difficult as that time was. It stretched us beyond our comfort zones.

It brought us together!

The Spirit can be messy, new stuff we try does not always work out the way we expect, but the Spirit motivates us to keep trying.

The Spirit is more powerful than ever.

The Spirit gives us faith in our crucified and risen Lord.

There's no stopping it. We cannot turn it on or off.

It just keeps on blowing! Amen.

