

REV. DR. CHARLES THOMPSON, PASTOR 920-273-5105; PASTOR.TRINITYNEWLONDON@GMAIL.COM SECRETARY: AMY VAN DREEL TRINITY.NEWLONDON@GMAIL.COM TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH, ELCA 709 W BECKERT RD NEW LONDON, WI 54961 WWW.TRINITYNEWLONDON.COM TRINITY.NEWLONDON@GMAIL.COM 920-982-5833



Due to an early morning appointment, office hours on Monday, September 29 will be closer to 9 AM - 1 PM.

Trinity Times after worship is a great time to catch up with each other!

We need people to make this fellowship opportunity happen! Please see the sign up in the host and clean up, and bring snacks.



Trinity Times area to make coffee,

Community Meals served 247 meals! Thank you to those who packed, prepared, distributed, delivered and donated!

October 2025

TWT 3 8 9 10 11 7 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31

Sunday, September 28

- Adult Sunday School 8 AM
- Worship 9 AM
- Sunday School 10 AM
- Support & Service/TW-ELCA Women 10 AM
- Trinity Times 10 AM

Monday, September 29

Office Hours 9 AM - 1 PM

Tuesday, September 30

Wednesday, October 1

- WIC 9 AM
- Confirmation 6:30 PM

Thursday, October 2

- Adult Bible Study 9 AM
- Quilting 10 AM
- Comfort Crafts & Friends 6 PM

Friday, October 3

Saturday, October 4

Sunday, October 5

- Adult Sunday School 8 AM
- Worship 9 AM
- Sunday School 10 AM
- Trinity Times 10 AM

Office Hours:

Monday - Thursday 8 AM - 12 noon Other times by appointment





- Family & friends of Dawn Haag as they mourn her passing
- Holly Bodway upcoming surgery
- Leonard Blank father of Trista Jo Westphal
- Jodie Laatsch cancer
- Jill Willner cancer
- Bonnie Robertson aunt of Dixie Hill, hospice
- Patricia Erb sister of Kelly Lehl, stroke and cancer
- Pastor Dean Desilet friend of Pastor Chuck, cancer
- Klaudine Steinberg daughter-in-law of June Steinberg, health concerns
- Jerry Carls friend of Tom Luba, cancer
- Joy Flohr cancer
- Paul Dobrydnia friend of Tom Luba, recovering from a stroke
- Jaxson Empey nephew of Woody Haag
- Juliette Ort granddaughter of Lisa & Donn Howard; leukemia
- Susan Millard
- Sarah Hughes relative of Terry & Lois Wegner, cancer
- Gene Guth partner of Susan Millard and friend of Nancy Millard cancer
- Sheryl Dunday mother of Neal Dunday
- Carleen Bull co-worker of Dan Wesenick, recovering from cancer treatment
- Tony Krajna friend of Dan Wesenick, cancer
- Trista Jo Westphal health concerns
- **Ginny Halverson** friend of Lehl's, recovering from a stroke
- Leslie Larson uncle of Marta Wesenick, cancer
- Kaden Wegner grandson of Michael Wegner, health concerns
- Dixie Hill health concerns
- Adam Lehmann health concerns

STARE

Amy is our Church Secretary. She has been in this role since the fall of 2009. Some of the tasks she does is prepare and put out the weekly news, prepare announcement and worship slides, schedule worship volunteers, manage the church office, and is also our bookkeeper.





We are looking for volunteers to serve as Slide Presenters, Live Stream Operators, and Altar Guild. Training will be provided.

Even if you aren't sure, please consider training and/or shadowing before making your final decision. It might not be as complicated as you are imagining! Contact Dan Wegner for slides or live streaming. Contact Sue K. for altar guild. Or contact the church office.



The ECSW Women of the ELCA Biennial Convention, titled Love Without Limits, will take place on Saturday, November 8, 2025, at St. Mark's Lutheran Church in Neenah, Wisconsin. The event is inspired by Jacqueline A. Bussie's book Love Without Limits: Jesus' Radical Vision for Love with No Exceptions, which explores themes of inclusive and boundless love. This gathering aims to bring together women of faith for reflection, discussion, and spiritual growth. Click here to register.







September Sunday School

- Every Sunday in September: Story time will be held in the library for children ages birth to 3K.
- **September 7:** First day of Sunday School. Parents/guardians and students meet in the Lower Level at 10 a.m. for a 15-minute meeting, followed by a short lesson
- **September 14:** Sunday School at 10 a.m.
- **September 21:** Students will help pack snacks for those in need to be distributed with Trinity's Community Meals later in the week
- **September 28:** Sunday School at 10 a.m.

*Unless otherwise listed, please drop off Sunday School students at main sanctuary door in the upper level parking lot. Pick up students at the lower level parking lot.



Sunday School students packed snacks for Community Meals.

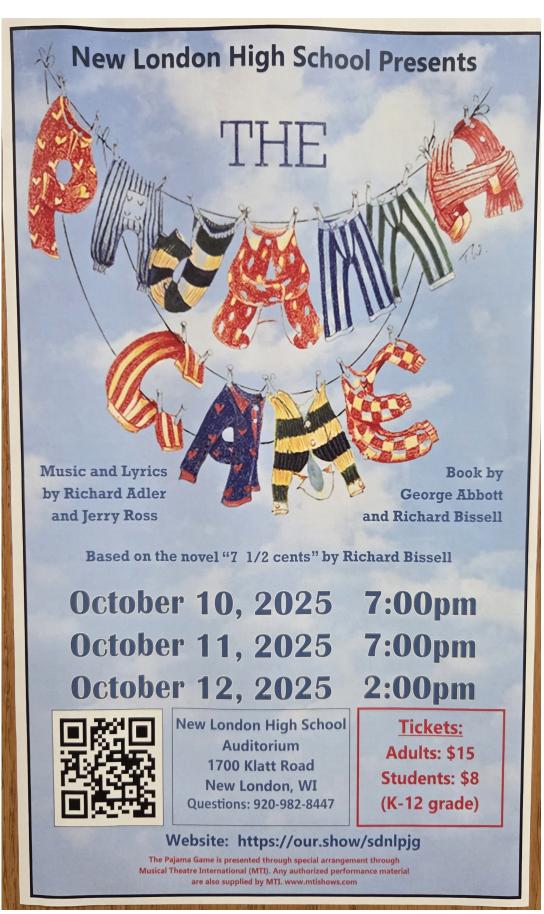


October Sunday School

- Every Sunday in October: Story time will be held in the library for children ages birth to 3K.
- October 5: Sunday School at 10 a.m.
- October 12: Sunday School at 10 a.m.
- October 19: Sunday School at 10 a.m.
- October 26: It's a Pumpkin Party! Parents/guardians and students can join in the fun of carving pumpkins while we listen to a fun Pumpkin Parable. We'll show off our pumpkin carvings at Trunk-or-Treat!
- October 31: Trunk-or-Treat from 4:30-5:30 p.m.

*Unless otherwise listed, please drop off Sunday School students at main sanctuary door in the upper level parking lot. Pick up students at the lower level parking lot.





Let's go to the High School Musical!

Look for the sign up sheet at the Info Center.

We will attend the show on <u>Sunday</u>, <u>October 12</u>, 2:00 PM.

Our tickets and seats will be together. If you have a Trinity Faith t-shirt you can wear that as well.



Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

First Reading: Amos 6:1a, 4-7

The prophet Amos announces that Israel's great wealth is a cause not for rejoicing but rather sorrow, because God's people have forgotten how to share their wealth with the poor. The wealthy will be the first to go into exile when judgment comes.

- ^{1a}Woe to those who are at ease in Zion and for those who feel secure on Mount Samaria.
- ⁴Woe to those who lie on beds of ivory and lounge on their couches and eat lambs from the flock and calves from the stall,

⁵ who sing idle songs to the sound of the harp and like David improvise on instruments of music,

- ⁶ who drink wine from bowls and anoint themselves with the finest oils but are not grieved over the ruin of Joseph!
- ⁷ Therefore they shall now be the first to go into exile, and the revelry of the loungers shall pass away.

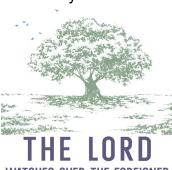
Psalm 146

Hallelujah!

Praise the LORD, O my soul!

²I will praise the LORD as long as I live; I will sing praises to my God while I have my being.

³ Put not your trust in rulers,



AND SUSTAINS THE FATHERLESS AND THE WIDOW.

in mortals in whom there is no help. When they breathe their last, they return to earth, and in that day their thoughts perish. ⁵ Happy are they who have the God of Jacob for their help,

whose hope is in the LORD their God; ⁶who made heaven and earth, the seas, and all that is in them;

who keeps promises forever;

⁷ who gives justice to those who are oppressed, and food to those who hunger.

The LORD sets the captive free.

⁸ The LORD opens the eyes of the blind; the LORD lifts up those who are bowed down;

the LORD loves the righteous.

⁹ The LORD cares for the stranger;

the LORD sustains the orphan and widow, but frustrates the way of the wicked.

¹⁰The LORD shall reign forever,

your God, O Zion, throughout all generations. Hallelujah!

Second Reading: 1 Timothy 6:6-19

Timothy is reminded of the confession he made at his baptism and of its implications for daily life. His priorities will be different from those of people who merely want to be rich.

⁶ Of course, there is great gain in godliness combined with contentment, ⁷ for we brought nothing into the world, so that we can take nothing out of it, ⁸ but if we have food and clothing, we will be content with these. 9 But those who want to be rich fall into temptation and are trapped by many senseless and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruc-

tion. ¹⁰ For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil, and in their eagerness to be rich some have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many pains.

¹¹ But as for you, man of God, shun all this; pursue righteousness, godliness,

FOR THE LOVE OF MONEY IS THE **ROOT OF ALL KINDS OF EVIL. BY CRAVING IT, SOME HAVE** WANDERED AWAY FROM THE FAITH AND PIERCED THEMSELVES WITH MANY SORROWS. - 1 TIMOTHY 6:10

faith, love, endurance, gentleness. 12 Fight the good fight of the faith; take hold of the eternal life to which you were called and for which you made the good confession in the presence of many witnesses. ¹³ In the presence of God, who gives life to all things, and of Christ Jesus, who in his testimony before Pontius Pilate made the good confession, I charge you ¹⁴ to keep the commandment without spot or blame until the manifestation of our Lord Jesus Christ, ¹⁵ which he will bring about at the right time—he who is the blessed and only Sovereign, the King of kings and Lord of lords. ¹⁶ It is he alone who has immortality and dwells in unapproachable light, whom no one has ever seen or can see: to him be honor and eternal dominion. Amen.

¹⁷ As for those who in the present age are rich, command them not to be haughty or to set their hopes on the uncertainty of riches but rather on God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment. ¹⁸ They are to do good, to be rich in good works, generous, and ready to share, ¹⁹ thus storing up for themselves the treasure of a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of the life that really is life.

Gospel: Luke 16:19-31

Jesus tells a parable in which the poor one is "lifted up" and the rich one is "sent away empty." Jesus makes it clear that this ethic of merciful reversal is not new but is as old as Moses and the prophets.



[Jesus said:] ¹⁹
"There was a rich man who was dressed in purple and fine linen and who feasted sumptuously every day. ²⁰
And at his gate lay a poor man named Lazarus, covered with sores, ²¹ who longed to satisfy his hunger with what fell from the rich man's table; even the dogs

Lazarus & The Rich Man table; even the dogs would come and lick crowded.

his sores. ²² The poor man died and was carried away by the angels to be with Abraham. The rich man also died and was buried. ²³ In Hades, where he was being tormented, he lifted up his eyes and saw Abraham far away with Lazarus by his side. 24 He called out, 'Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue, for I am in agony in these flames.' 25 But Abraham said, 'Child, remember that during your lifetime you received your good things and Lazarus in like manner evil things, but now he is comforted here, and you are in agony. ²⁶ Besides all this, between you and us a great chasm has been fixed, so that those who might want to pass from here to you cannot do so, and no one can cross from there to us.' 27 He said, 'Then I beg you, father, to send him to my father's house ²⁸ for I have five brothers—that he may warn them, so that they will not also come into this place of torment.' ²⁹ Abraham replied, 'They have Moses and the prophets; they should listen to them.' ³⁰ He said, 'No, father Abraham, but if someone from the dead goes to them, they will repent.' 31 He said to him, 'If they do not listen to Moses and the prophets, neither will they be convinced even if someone rises from the dead.'



What a Ride!

I love roller coasters.

It was quite convenient that Six Flags Great America was only about 40 minutes from our home in Racine growing up.

I remember when it first opened in 1976.

I was eight years old.

Nearly every year I went with my sister.

What was nice was that since my brother worked there during his college years we would get in for free!

We would get there right when it opened at 10:00 and dash off to the roller coasters.

We usually went on Mondays when it was not so crowded.

Sometimes we got to ride our favorite coaster 6 or 7 times!

First it was the Demon.

Then Raging Bull became our favorite.

Throughout the ride I would Cling to the restraint through all of the ups



and downs and twists and turns.

Clinging to the restraint eased my mind and allowed me to enjoy the moment.

We would often stay there until closing time at 10:00.

Later on I would take our kids there.

Even though I was getting older the kid in me enjoyed almost every moment.

It has been said that life can be compared to a roller coaster ride. There are ups, downs, curves, and all

sorts of twists and turns we cannot control. However, the roller coaster is still headed to its designed end. We like believing that we have a sense of control over our own lives. But, we discover that control is really an illusion. All it takes is one bad doctor report, a strained relationship, a car wreck, a pandemic, a natural disaster, or a downturn in the job market to reveal how little control we have over our lives.

What do we cling to through it all?

The answer we get from Scripture is obviously we cling to God.

This is easier said than done.

As we look at I Timothy again this week we see more words of counsel to a struggling church.

The church is on a roller coaster ride trying to grow in the midst of an oppressive Roman Empire.

The church also struggled with false teachers who were leading

people astray.

They were struggling with staying on course, what to cling to.

Life was not easy.

The author says

"pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance, gentleness. Fight the good fight of the faith; take hold of the eternal life to which you were called"

Notice it says "take hold of the eternal life to which you are called."

This is referring to taking hold of the relationship with God.

As with today, people were struggling with what to cling to.

The world was all about money and power and social status.

Many clung to money as their god.

Is this much different than today?

I Timothy says "the love of money is the root of all evil."



The church is reminded to turn to Christ, not worldly values such as greed, status seeking, selfishness.

These get us to focus on



ourselves and our own abilities.

These get us off track.

Instead the writer encourages the church to be content with their worldly goods and place their hope, trust, and confidence in Jesus.

Nothing else can satisfy.

Contentment is surrendering to Christ. Clinging to him.

One of my favorite theologians Carl Braaten described faith as "the self-surrendering commitment to the transcendent reality of God."

It is trusting in God through our roller coaster lives.

God is with us through all of the twists and turns and hills and valleys.

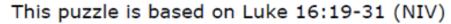
We can take one day at a time clinging to Jesus and allowing him to keep us on track.

His death and resurrection assure us that he is reliable, trustworthy, and faithful.

He's not just along for the ride, he gets us through it! Amen

The Rich Man and Lazarus

"But Abraham replied, 'Son, remember that in your lifetime you received your good things, while Lazarus received bad things, but now he is comforted here and you are in agony.'"Luke 16:25 (NIV)





| 1 | 2 | | 3 | 4 | | | |
|----|---|---|---|---|---|--|---|
| | | 5 | | | | | |
| | | | | | 6 | | |
| | | 7 | | | | | 8 |
| | | | | | | | |
| | | | | 9 | | | |
| 10 | | | | | | | |

ACROSS

- Having a lot of money or valuable possessions
- To tell someone of possible danger or harm
- An opening in a wall or fence for entrance or exit
- The fleshy part in the mouth that is used in tasting
- A clear, colorless, odorless, and tasteless liquid essential for most plant and animal life

DOWN

- To soothe someone in a time of pain or suffering
- To change your behavior because you are sorry for what you have done
- A poor person who lives by asking others for money or food
- Extreme physical or mental pain or suffering
- 8. Stopped living

| warn | died | comfort | water | gate |
|-------|------|---------|--------|--------|
| agony | rich | tongue | beggar | repent |