



TRINITY *TRIUNE*

LUTHERAN *NEWSLETTER*

CHURCH OF SPENCERPORT

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

CHURCH DISCIPLINE AND MATTHEW 18:21-22

Matthew 18:21-22, “Then Peter came up and said to him, “Lord, how often will my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? As many as seven times? Jesus said to him, “I do not say to you seven times, but seventy times seven.”

These verses are the reason many believe that the church/individual Christians should always forgive no matter the circumstance. It is also the verses that cause people to suggest that the church has no right to discipline anyone within the congregation no matter the circumstances. It's a struggle to say the least. However, there's something missing when we suggest that forgiveness should always be given no matter the circumstance. Forgiveness is given to those who repent. If you look at the section just before these verses (Matthew 18:15-20) Jesus lays out what church discipline looks like in that the one accused has plenty of opportunity to hear what they've done in order for them to repent. If that doesn't happen, it is clear in vs. 17b, “And if he refuses to listen even to the church let him be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector.”

Let's understand repentance. Simply it is turning away from transgressions or actions that are basically “unchristian.” More important, it is a change in attitude and actions. A couple of weeks ago, I made a mistake in one of my sermons. Once I realized what I had done, I made sure the next week that I communicated it to the congregation, corrected the error, and asked for forgiveness. I make sure each week in my prep time that this doesn't happen again. Will it happen again? It could, but I hope not. Notice, I have made changes so that the chances that it happens again would be rare. That's repentance. It is also the reason Jesus teaches that we are to offer limitless forgiveness is because no one is perfect and relapses can occur. Can we offer forgiveness to someone that is unrepentant?

Instead of going before the congregation to admit that I erred, I keep doing the same thing over and over again. Even after the Elders talked to me, I continue to do the same thing. Is there forgiveness? No. That's what is referred to as “cheap grace and is unbiblical.”

What if the person(s) remain unrepentant? An even more difficult situation is this. What if we are talking about long-term unrepentance where there have been countless times over many years when someone claims to be sorry, asks for forgiveness, but there is no change in attitude or actions? This is where the verses I mentioned a couple of weeks ago apply. One that I will mention in this article is Titus 3:10, “As for a person that stirs up division, after warning him once and then twice, having nothing to do with him, knowing that such a person is warped and sinful; his is self-condemned.” Unrepentance means they are condemning themselves and yes, forgiveness is withheld.

That's where the church is mandated by Scripture to act. It is not out of anger or spite, but is to protect the flock from what may be an antagonist or possibly a false teacher/prophet. Someone who is purposely causing divisions, chaos, and causing people to leave. It is unacceptable behavior and the church must act. Again, it's not easy and yet it is necessary for the sake of the flock.

Hopefully, this helps you see that the church is here for the broken and the lost in order for the Gospel to “fix” them. The church is also here to protect the flock from those who might want to see it divided...a place of chaos instead of a place of peace. Amen!



SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Best Wishes and God's Blessings to the Following:

- 1 – Eileen Bruton
- 2 – Paul Rivers
- 9 – Lori Green
- 10 – Rachel Shrum
- 11 – Bill Craw
- 12 – Bob DeVantier
- 15 – Tara Meskill
- 19 – Nicholas Frey
- 20 – Della Dusett
- 21 – Katlyn Wilk
- 23 – Betsey Reigle
- 25 – Phyllis Rutter
- 28 – Dave Havens
- 28 – Griffin Walls
- 30 – Marilyn McMullen



SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

Congratulations and God's Blessings to:

- 7 – Christian & Tracy Ritzenthaler
- 12 – Dave & Lorie Havens
- 25 – Craig & Joanne Coon
- 26 – Joe & Debra Rayter
- 24 – Kevin & Emily Oswald
- 28 – Chris & Betsy Reigle



LIBRARY NEWS

Our Library received a donation of three books that are sure to delight youth. Stop by, take a look, and see if you or someone you know would like a good read!

‘Hope Was Here’ by Joan Bauer:

This Newberry Honor Book is about a young girl who lives with her Aunt Addie because her mother has abandoned her. They move often, always to find work. Every time they move the girl leaves a message behind – “Hope was Here”.

‘Thick as Thieves’ by Susan K. Marlow:

This historical fiction is set on a ranch in California during the 1880s. Life for a teen was different then (cattle rustling) but some things never change (mean girls). This book is appropriate for 6-16 year old readers.

‘A Treasury of Miracles for Teens’ by Karen Kingsbury:

This author has more than 25 million copies of her book in print –many of them in our library at church. This is a collection of real life stories shared with Ms. Kingsbury-- stories of teens who have faced unbelievable difficulties. They have managed their problems with prayer, showing us all that God loves and cares for us.

SING TO THE LORD!

Choir is starting up again on Thursday, September 7 at 7:30 pm. All people who enjoy singing, or would like to learn how to use and grow their musical talents (even if hidden) are encouraged to join us. We meet every Thursday night to learn and enjoy choir music, and become familiar with the Praise Songs for the Sunday 9 am service. If you don't read music, come, and we can help you grow comfortable with singing some of the great inspirational music of our Christian faith.

We hope to see you there!

NEXT TRIUNE - OCTOBER

Trinity has LOTS of fun announcements and events coming up this fall!

The deadline to get information in for October is September 15th. Any announcements sent later than that may not make the printing of the October Triune.



WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

We will continue our summer Bible Study Program in September. All women at Trinity and their friends are welcome to join us for Bible Study in September. We will be discussing a variety of subjects. We will meet on the following Wednesdays, at 10:00AM, at Trinity:

- September 6th - Pastor leads
- September 13th - Joanne will lead. We will be discussing the Book of Esther
- September 27th - Joanne will lead

THANK YOU TRINITY!

The Cubitt family would like to extend their profound appreciation to our Trinity family for their love, prayers and thoughts. Special thanks to Pastor Steve and his wife, Rachel, for their spiritual and medical support during this difficult time.

God Bless you all!

FREE CAR SEAT AVAILABLE

Pastor Steve was given a car seat and he would like to give it to someone in need. If you know of anyone that can use this, it is brand new in the box in Pastor Steve's office.



COUNTERS NEEDED

The stewardship board is looking for people who would like to help out in counting the tithes that come into the church. Typically, they count after the 2nd service and are a team of 2 people that count every 2nd and 4th/5th Sunday of the month. Also, sometimes our counters count during the week if that fits into their schedule better. If you can help with this, please contact Mary Frey at 293-2689.



SPENCERPORT ECUMENICAL FOOD SHELF

Trying to fill the shelves at the food shelf is an on going challenge. Although we have had many generous donors in our own church and other churches, we are having trouble keeping up with the need. Everything is needed so please give what ever you can, as often as you can. Especially consider giving soup, canned vegetables and fruit, canned pasta and beans, tuna, hash, and stew. Thank you.

If you or someone you know is in need, please call for assistance at 585-397-0290 Monday - Friday between 9am and 5pm.

PRESCHOOL NEWS

The start of the new school year fast approaching! The toys have been cleaned, the room is being set up and lessons are being planned. Our preschool students and their parents will join us for a quick orientation on Saturday, September 9th, classes start on September 11th and 12th. We can't wait to see the kids and hear about all their fun summer adventures.

We are excited to share that our 3-year-old class is full this year. We still have a few openings in our 4-year-old class, feel free to spread the word. We can be reached by:
 email: trinitypreschool1@yahoo.com
 website: www.trinitychristianpreschool.org
 phone: (585) 352-3143

We are grateful to be a part of the Trinity Family. We appreciate all your support, thoughts, and prayers for another successful school year. God Bless!

Jodi Blank, Laurie Butts, Jamie Lafave, and Marilyn McMullen





WHAT IS CONFIRMATION?

Good question! It is the opportunity for people to learn why their parents, as an act of faith, brought them to the church and undergo the Rite of Baptism, and to affirm that act of faith for themselves. It provides the basic knowledge of the Christian faith and what it means to have a Christian worldview. And it provides a starting point for developing a life-long pursuit of learning the Bible, growing their personal faith, and sharing that faith with those around them. Confirmation classes will be starting in September at a time to be determined that will be convenient for participants. The class is designed for people entering 7th grade or older. Classes will typically meet weekly through the school year with breaks where appropriate. If you have a loved one who has not had that opportunity to participate, or if you have questions, please contact the church office or call email Craig Coon (585-943-8597 - craighcoon@gmail.com).

HOME BOUND MEMBERS

Remember our home bound members. Give them a call on the phone or send a card. Above all, remember to keep them in your prayers:

- Marie Feldmann
- Tom Troxell
- Bill Crow
- Glenn Neumann
- Doris Clement
- Dorothy Ayers
- Cathy Crow
- Waltraud Maisel

PRAYER REQUESTS

Communicating through prayer with God is essential for every christian. If you are in need of any prayer we encourage you to contact us with a request. As these prayer request are sent out to our members we also hope you keep us up to date so we may know that the Lord has answered. trinitylutheran191@gmail.com

TRUSTEES' REPORT *AUGUST 14, 2023*

A number of items from the last council meeting are still to be completed. Additional bush removal/trimming along the side windows of the Mary Martha Hall has not been done and my attempts to get consensus on a date/time have not been successful. I am formally turning this over to others to arrange for the organization and follow-through. I have purchased an emergency door locking mechanism to be installed on the double doors from the Mary Martha Hall but this is yet to be installed (cost \$102.37, see below). Also, a simple bolt lock for the single door at the North end of the Mary Martha Hall has been proposed (to be purchased).

Miscellaneous:

Lettering for the placards on the Church sign was purchased online from Lettering.com. The correct times for “Traditional” and “Contemporary” are now displayed. The cost was \$71.21 for the lettering. On 7/31/2023 the New York DEC sent an inspector to check our property for Giant Hogweed. Plants found were treated with an herbicide. All control work for the year has been completed.

The Church lawn will be treated by TruGreen on August 21st (backup dates 22nd/23rd).
Rodney

SERVING SCHEDULE Please check your dates carefully and arrange for a substitute if you cannot serve when scheduled.

TRADITIONAL SERVICE 9:00AM				
	September 3 Communion Worship Service	September 10 Worship Service	September 17 Communion Worship Service	September 24 Praise Worship Service
ACOLYTES	Lily Ingham	Julie Hammond	Victor Castricone	Elizabeth Hammond
USHERS	Ron Lillie Ryan Ingham	Mitch Frey	Mike Mayer Bob DeVantier	John Gentzke
LECTORS	Judy Jennejahn	Chrissy Hammond	Sigrun Miller	Carol Ernsthausen
ELDERS	Bev Lillie Craig Coon		Brian Miller Dave Sylvester	
COUNTERS		Mitch Frey Tim Bruton		Nancy Goehring Cathy DeConinck
COFFEE SET UP (for fellowship time between services)	Madeleine Antonio	Mary Frey	Lori Havens	Sally Steele
ALTAR GUILD	Brian & Sigrun Miller			
CONTEMPORARY SERVICE 10:30AM				
USHER	Brian Miller		Ron Lillie	
ELDER	Eileen Bruton		Joe Lagas	

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

AUGUST 14, 2023

Members present: R. Boatman, K. Rivers, C. DeConinck, and D. Rayter.

Opened with prayer.

Minutes read and discussed. Motion approved.

Treasurer Report: None

Financial Report: None

Secretary Report: None

Pastors Report: None

Elders Report: Dave Sylvester

- Changes/tweaks need to be made with the contemporary service. A meeting needs to be held with concerns addressed.
- Kim Rivers mentioned that when watching online the screens could not be seen.

Education Report: C. DeConinck

- Trinity will again be participating in collecting backpacks for Maggie's Kids
- Sunday School program needs to be reviewed. Just having 'Children's Church' during the 2nd service is not enough.
- Preschool requested the need for more dehumidifiers in the preschool area and also in the hallway downstairs.
- The floors were cleaned in early August and are ready for preschool & Sunday School to start in the fall

Outreach Report: Kim Rivers

- Movie Night at Trinity was scheduled for Saturday, August 12th, but was rescheduled for Saturday, August 19th

Trustee Report: Rodney Boatman

- Jodi Blank-Preschool teacher, gave her approval for both locking options proposed below.
- An emergency door locking system was purchased and will be installed on the double doors in the Mary Martha Hall.
- A simple bolt lock for the single door at the North end of the Mary Martha Hall will be purchased.
- Lettering on the Church sign has all been updated.
- New York DEC sent an inspector to check our property for Giant Hogweed and were treated with an herbicide.

Old Business: None

New Business: None

Next meeting, September 11, 2023, 7:00 PM

Meeting closed with prayer. The meeting adjourned at 8:34 PM

Respectfully Submitted by:

Debra Rayter

SEPTEMBER 2023

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1	2
3 9:00am (Communion) Traditional Service 10:30am (Communion) Contemporary Service	4	5 1:00pm Quilting	6 10:00am Women's Bible Study 6:30pm Adult Bible Study	7 6:30pm Elders Meeting	8	9 8:15am Men's Bible Study & Breakfast 9:30 Preschool Open House
10 9:00am Traditional Service 10:30am Contemporary Service	11 9:00 am Preschool 4s begin 7:00pm Council Meeting	12 9:00 am Preschool 3s begin	13 10:00am Women's Bible Study 6:30pm Adult Bible Study	14	15 Triune Article Deadline	16
17 9:00am (Communion) Traditional Service 10:30am (Communion) Contemporary Service	18	19 1:00pm Quilting	20 6:30pm Adult Bible Study	21 7:30 pm Choir Rehearsal	22	23
24 9:00am Traditional Service 10:30am Contemporary Service	25	26	27 10:00am Women's Bible Study 6:30pm Adult Bible Study	28 7:30 pm Choir Rehearsal	29	30



191 Nichols St. Spencerport, NY 14559

Schedule of Sunday Services: *Traditional Service at 9:00AM; Contemporary Service at 10:30AM (both live streamed on youtube)*

Pastor: *Steve Shrum*

Cell Phone: *(216) 551-1334*

Email: *pastorsteve4464@gmail.com*

Administrative Assistant: *Susan M. Oswald*

Church Office Phone: *(585) 352-3143*

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