

Hope in Something

Friends in Christ, there has been a lot of talk about hope lately. It can come in both optimistic forms and pessimistic forms. On the optimistic side, there is hope that with a little work, with the right leaders, and with a type of awakening in people that everything can go back to being great again. On the pessimistic side, there is a lack of hope that things are only going to get worse, that things are as bad as they've ever been, and that nothing can fix our economy, our homes, our families, and more. Both sides of the coin are talking about hope or the lack of hope. But the interesting thing about hope that few people talk about is that hope has to be in something.

Some people hope in politicians. My guy or gal is going to fix it. They usually try to fix our current issues with more and more of your tax dollars. As if we can simply spend our way to better health, wealth, and happiness. Some people hope in finances. My job or the next job is going to fix my life. If we just had more stuff, then marriages would be better, our lives would be easier, and our problems would go away. Others place their hope in the past. If we could just return to 19__ , things would be great again. As if we could simply will our minds and ideas to go back to a time that also had bad ideas and sins that led to our current problems we would somehow fix our society.

The problem with hope or the lack of hope today is that it is almost invariably put in people or things. Placing hope in people or things is always a 50/50 gamble. It may work, it may get a lot worse. So, we roll the dice as often as we can hoping to come out on top. Some people win, some people lose, and it would seem that your attitude toward hope is related to which side you tend to come out on. This is the way of the world.

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The way of God is very different from the way of the world. The Bible tells us not to put our trust in princes (rulers), in the son of man (people/family), in the strength of the horse (the military), or in human strength and ability. (Psalms 146:3-5; 147:10). Instead, the truly blessed person is the one who puts his hope in the LORD. Why is such a person blessed? Because it is only in God that our troubles can actually end. Not that the troubles we have here on earth end, but it is only in God's unending mercy and grace that we have a way out of it all in the end. Outside of God, there is only toil, death, grave, and hell. But in Christ, our toil is not the end. Nor is our toil in this world forgotten. Some of it produces great things for God's Kingdom (1 Cor. 1:11-14), and, above all, He brings us home away from all the toil in the end.

So, where is your hope found? The economy? The grain markets? The presidential race? The country? All of these things will pass away. Hope in the one who never does.

Pastor Jacobsen



JULY BIRTHDAYS

Carrie Ihnen
 Jackson Voehl
 Jazmin Voehl
 Konnie Beck
 Connie Stahly
 Tate Gilmore
 Rachel Barnes
 Hunter Grussing
 Grace Iverson
 Arlys Schuett
 Brittany Lende
 Lee Untiedt
 Alan Detlefsen

July 3rd
 July 3rd
 July 5th
 July 6th
 July 7th
 July 8th
 July 9th
 July 9th
 July 11th
 July 13th
 July 14th
 July 16th
 July 18th

Neviah Wax
 LeAnn Pohlman
 Maggie Detlefsen
 Samuel Syverson
 Anna Jacobsen
 Susan Voehl
 Logan Hiveley
 Shirley Wiese
 Carolyn Jungjohan
 Autumn Ross
 Kim Puck

July 20th
 July 22nd
 July 23rd
 July 23rd
 July 27th
 July 27th
 July 28th
 July 29th
 July 30th
 July 30th
 July 31st

Dan & Connie Stahly
 Ali & Amy Muftah
 Gene & Angela Meyer
 Brent & Lezlie Pohlman
 Bernell & Cheryl Voss
 John & Kaitlyn O'Neal
 Jon & Kate Gillespie

July 1st
 July 3rd
 July 9th
 July 12th
 July 14th
 July 17th
 July 25th

JULY anniversaries

Trinity Officers/Boards

Chairman: Doug Pohlman
Vice Chairman: Adam Wolff
Secretary: Janet Majerus
Treasurer: Wanda Untiedt
Trustee: Bruce Ihnen
Elders: Don Majerus
Finance: Dennis Voehl
Dan Reimers

Ushers: Dale Knips
Chad Ihnen
Adam Wolff
Rod Voss
Wade Wacker

Stewardship: Don Majerus
Doug Pohlman

LWML President: Vicki Place
Vice President: Karlyne Ackerman
Secretary: Jeanne Ponto
Treasurer: Wanda Untiedt
Delegates: Jeanne Ponto

Nominating Comm.: Lisa Dean
Shirley Finnern

Education Super: Vicki Place
Youth Group: Brian Gilmore &
Pastor

Cradle Roll: Janet Majerus
Organist: Shirley Finnern
Custodian: Deanne Stowe

Concordia Officers/Boards

President: Robert Brons
Vice President: Dave Stahly
Secretary: Denny Stahly
Treasurer: Russell & Dolly Meier
Trustee: Joel Gaudian
Todd Thoms
Carol Rowe

Elders: Robert Brons
Russell Meier
Dennis Stahly

Finance Secretary: Carol Rowe
Dennis Stahly

Head Ushers: Gerald Weerts
Stewardship: Russell Meier
Dolly Meier
Carol Rowe

LWML President: Dolly Meier
Vice President: *(help wanted)*
Secretary: Jean Gillespie
Treasurer: Sherry Thoms

SS Staff: Brian Gilmore
(help wanted)
Connie Brons, Music

Cradle Roll: Dolly Meier

Youth Group: Brian Gilmore &
Pastor

Church Secretary: Amanda Money
Organist: Shirley Finnern
Custodians: Kelly Morgan



Upcoming Events and Announcements

Joint Service Potluck: Sunday July 14th is our joint service at Concordia followed by a potluck dinner at the Lake Park Community Center. Concordia members are to bring hot foods/desserts and Trinity members are to bring salads/desserts. Someone will be at the Community Center with doors open so anyone wishing to drop off food prior to service may do so.

Evening at the Theater: The ladies of both Trinity and Concordia are invited to the outing to the Okoboji Summer Theater on Saturday, July 20 at 4:30 PM. The showing will be "The Mousetrap," a mystery. Tickets are priced at \$12.00 per person, Vicki Place will be collecting for tickets until July 14, sign up sheets in the narthex at both churches. A carpool will take place from Trinity for anyone wanting to drive together. We also plan to go out to eat following, everyone is welcome to join, details to come. Please join us for a fun evening at the theater!

Annual August Brunch: Concordia and Trinity Ladies! It's time for our Annual August Brunch. It's scheduled for Aug. 8th at 9AM at the Silver Lake Country Club. There will be a \$10 fee for the meal of Eggbake, fresh fruit, muffin and decaf coffee. Please call Carol Rowe (712-330-1408) by Sunday, July 21st to let her know if you plan to attend.

They need a count to know how much food to order. Let's have a big showing. Thanks, Carol

General Announcements

Calendar deadline: The deadline for the August calendar will be Tuesday, July 23rd. Thank you!

Items for sale: Trinity LWML has cards for sale including birthday, get-well, and sympathy. Cards can be purchased individually for \$0.60 apiece or by the box. The amount is written on the box.

LWML Mites: We will now have the LWML Mite box sitting in the back in the narthex and we welcome all members including Sunday school students to bring your loose change on any Sunday and place in the can. We thank you for all your help.

ConnectPlus: LCEF is now offering an investment option called ConnectPlus. Please www.lcef.org or call (800)843-5233.

Electronic Newsletters: If you are interested in receiving the monthly newsletter

electronically please send me an e-mail making the request.

Birthdays and Anniversaries: If you would like your birthday or anniversary printed in *The Lutheran Witness* to commemorate a birthday of 90 years or more or an anniversary of 50 years or more please contact the church office two months in advance, so that notification can be sent to the district office.

Concordia & Trinity group messages: to receive messages via text, **text @c83311 to 81010**. Or to receive messages via email: send an emails to **c83311@mail.remind.com**. The Remind tool is a free, safe, and simple messaging tool that helps us share important updates, reminders, and information with everyone at one time. All personal information is kept private. No one else can see your phone number nor will you see theirs. Contact Amanda in the office if you have any questions or need assistance.

LifeDate: Each quarter a new edition will be placed in your bulletin boxes. This is coming to our congregation with only the shipping costs. So if you would no longer like to receive this publication please contact the church office.

Lutheran Public Radio: *Sacred Music For The World* you can listen to the best of the Church's music 24/7 at lutheranpublicradio.org. You'll hear hymns like "Thy Strong Word," "The Church's One Foundation," "Lord, Thee I Love with All My Heart," "God's Own Child I Gladly Say It," "My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less" and more. You can also listen on mobile devices like an iPhone, iPad and an Android phone. *Issues, Etc.* is a ten-hour weekly syndicated radio talk show and podcast. The program features expert guests, expansive topics, while extolling Christ. The program is hosted by Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod Pastor Todd Wilken and produced by Jeff Schwarz.

Thrivent Choice: Remember to enroll as Thrivent members your Choice Dollars. Trinity & Concordia Lutheran Church is eligible to receive Choice Dollars. Please consider us a your choice. To learn more about Thrivent Choice, visit Thrivent.com/hriventchoice or call 1-800-847-4836 and say "Thrivent choice" when prompted.

Newsletters and Bulletins: Both can be found on our web pages: www.trinitysv.com or www.concordialp.com. If you would like to receive your newsletter by e-mail only OR if you would like to view the body of the newsletter on-line but would like a printed calendar please contact the church office. Thank you!

What is this in the pew? They are folders that help to explain the Divine Service and how to apply it in your daily life. This will serve to guide any guests that might attend, but also the growth of God's people in how we greet Him as He comes to us. Feel free to take them for personal use or to share and others will be ordered as needed.

Lutheran Ladies: Have you scrolled through your podcasts, searching for one that catches your ear – a place you can escape to with inviting conversations, laughter, and fellowship with your Lutheran sisters? Look no further! Join Sarah, Erin, Rachel, and Bri on the sofa in the Lutheran Ladies Lounge, a podcast oasis for you, dear sisters, to sit, rest your feet, and stay a while. And on the way out, we'll check your lipstick. The Lutheran Ladies Lounge is produced by KFUE Radio and available wherever you get your podcasts. Sign up for the Lutheran Ladies' Lounge monthly e-newsletter on Mailchimp at eepurl.com/gjya5P, and email the Ladies at lutheranladies@kfuo.org.

In-Person Bible Study: Our evening class is at Trinity Lutheran Church at 6:30 PM on Tuesdays and our morning class is at Concordia Lutheran Church at 9:00 AM on Wednesdays. The class is the same at both locations. Online morning devotions is still held Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday at 9AM. We'll continue the pattern of evening and morning studies on Tuesday evenings and Wednesday mornings, interest permitting. Hope to see you there!

Portal of Prayer: Audio Listen to recordings of each day's Bible readings, devotion, and prayer. Devotions + Prayers Applicable, easy-to-read meditations and prayers. Over 2500 Devotions Read seven years of *Portals of Prayer* devotions. Search, Save, and Share Search past devotions by keyword, save your favorites, and share prayers. Download on the app store or get it on google play.

Families Needed: Lutheran Family Service is looking for additional families to be a part of our adoption program as we are serving a higher number of birth mothers looking to place for adoption. Newborn Infant Adoption Program Details: • Lutheran Family Service will travel anywhere in the state of Iowa, North and Central Illinois (2.5 hr radius of East Moline), and Eastern Nebraska (3 hr radius of Omaha) to provide adoption services. • Couples must be male/female married for at least 3 years • Couples must be active in a Christian congregation • Program is fee-based Lutheran Family Service: • Creating family through adoption for nearly 120 years • Fully licensed child-placing agency • Recognized Service Organization (RSO) of the LCMS Church following all LCMS biblical principles • Free pregnancy counseling program. For more information, contact Lutheran Family Service at 515-251-4900 or info@lutheranfamilyservices.org.

Updates Needed: We would like to have an up-to-date listing for all our members. If you have moved, gotten married, had a child, changed your phone number, cell phone, and/or e-mail address we would like to know so that our records can be accurate. Please let the church office know. Thank you!

One Year Bible Study: Are you interested in reading the Bible through from Genesis to Revelation? Join us online for study of the Bible in a Year. You read a little from the Old Testament, New Testament, Psalms, and Proverbs for each day of the year while receiving daily reflections from Pastor Jacobsen designed to get you to think through your readings. Simply send Pastor an email if you wish to sign up.

Electronic Ipad Organ Program: Please let the church office or Denny Stahly know if you are interested in learning how to run the ipad for when we do not have an organist.

Christian TV Show: Main Street Living is now being broadcast on KCAU Sioux City, KDLT Sioux Falls, WFTC Channel 29 aka “Fox 9 Plus” and MyTV. Air time on both channels is Sunday at 10 am. The first 30 minutes are premastered episodes of the popular “This is the Life” series that was very popular in the 70’s and 80’s. The second half of the program is a modified Lutheran worship service that features a different Pastor each week, from the station’s broadcast area. It features many aspects of church worship; with an Invocation, confession and absolution, The Apostles Creed, the week’s Scripture readings, and a sermon. Hymns are sung by area church choirs. It’s a wonderful evangelistic ministry that shares the saving grace of our Lord Jesus Christ with the unchurched and shut-in. It is also great to utilize on Sundays you are unable to attend worship online at www.mainstreetliving.com. Watch your bulletins for weekly program info.

Lutheran Hour Ministry Upcoming Events:

July 7 airing This is the Life – “No Laughing Matter” – A woman must learn to deal with her past in order to help someone in her present. Worship Service – Rev. Nathan Henschen of St. Paul’s Lutheran Church in Bancroft, NE, delivers the message “Crossing the Line” based on Mark 6:1-13. Additional information is available on the web site: www.mainstreetliving.com.

July 14 airing This is the Life – “My Husband, My Sorrow” – A man and woman must deal with whether they should consummate an adulterous affair. Worship Service – Rev. Timothy Geitz of Grace Lutheran Church in Le Mars, IA, delivers the message “Go Away” based on Amos 7:7-15. Additional information is available on the web

site: www.mainstreetliving.com.

July 21 airing This is the Life – “The Cup” – The dilemma a trucker must face when a good friend dies trying to protect him. Worship Service – Rev. Richard Merrill of St. John Lutheran Church in Charter Oak, IA, delivers the message “Will There Be Any Left For Me?” based on Mark 6:30-44. Additional information is available on the web site: www.mainstreetliving.com.

July 28 airing This is the Life – “Stranger At the Door” – Having given up a baby for adoption 22 years before, a man shows up on her steps saying he is looking for his mother. Worship Service – Rev. Jeremy Richert of Holy Cross Lutheran Church in Dakota Dunes, SD, delivers the message, “Take Heart, It Is I!” based on Mark 6:45-56. Additional information is available on the web site: www.mainstreetliving.com.

Lutheran Hour Ministry can now be found on these applications. A podcast subscription; subscribe at lhm.org/podcasts; A mobile app for Android devices and iPhones;

visit lhm.org/apps for more information;

Amazon Alexa, a voice-activated assistant to play media programming; Spotify, an on-demand media streaming service;

iHeartRadio, a free broadcast & internet radio platform; and SiriusXM Satellite Radio’s

Family Talk Channel 131 at 10 a.m.

EST every Sunday.



On-line Devotions: You may join on-line daily devotions on Facebook – we now have a home-base page on YouTube as well. Now all videos of Worship Services, Devotional studies and other events are now accessible from a common playlist. For fast access, click on “YouTube Home Page” in the “*Links*” Section <https://tinyurl.com/TLCACLC>

Announcements For Concordia

July at Concordia:

Ushers: Russell Meier, Joel Gaudian, and Robert Brons

Greeters: Carol Rowe

Counters: Todd & Sherry Thoms

Altar & Flowers: Connie Hauenstein

Project Committee: Jean Gillespie and Stella Stahly

July LWML Meeting: Thursday July 11th at 2pm.

Concordia Voters Meeting: Date to be rescheduled.



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Announcements For Trinity

Offering: Trinity's monthly projected budget is \$15301.17. Your monthly offerings are our cornerstone for our monthly budget. There are several more ways you can contribute. You can direct your Thrivent Choice Dollars to Trinity. You can also direct some of yearly RMD's, or donate grain. If you wish to do those, please contact Wanda Untiedt for information on the recommended guidelines to do so.

Trinity LWML Mission for July: 2023–2025 Mission Grant No. 13, WATER AND THE WORD, Evangelical Lutheran Church in Kenya | \$80,000, LWML Mission Grant #13, Water and the Word, for \$80,000, will assist the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Kenya to provide clean water and pastoral care to students in 12 rural elementary and middle schools. About 10,000 lives will be impacted by this grant. The grant will also help cover the travel expense for pastors to travel to the schools every three to four months to check on the water systems and provide pastoral care. To learn more, visit www.lwml.org/2023-2025-mission-grant-13

First Sunday Fellowship: Trinity LWML will be hosting coffee, snack, and fellowship following service the first Sunday of each month. Please join us in the Welcome room Sunday July 7th following service.

Bridal Shower: for Coretta Hedstrom. This will be a card/money shower, as Coretta will be returning from Minnesota to India to be married in the Fall. Daughter of Pastor Dale Hedstorm. St. Peter Lutheran Church, 87977 Hwy 86, Lakefield, MN, July 31st, 6:30pm.



Elderbridge Agency on Aging: We are an Area Agency on Aging in North Central, Northwest, and Central Iowa, currently serving a 29-county region. We provide information, guidance, and assistance in finding services for you, your spouse, parent, relative, or friend. We strive to enable older Iowans to live with dignity, well-being, and independence. For more information visit: elderbridge.org/



MN Relay: If you or a family member living in MN needs help hearing when answering the phone there is help available at no cost to you. Please contact the consumer relations office (800)657-3775, e-mail: mn.relay@state.mn.us or visit mn.gov for more information. There is also a brochure in the narthex.

Dickinson County Hunger Coalition: Has information on all food pantries available to residents in Dickinson County - individuals enter the office and choose their own groceries with assistance from UDMO Staff and volunteers. This includes choices of canned and boxed goods, assorted frozen meats, fresh vegetables, breads, baked goods and more. For more information visit: dickinsoncountyhunger.com/where-s-the-food

Atlas of Lakes Area: Companions and Advocates on the Road of Life. Atlas strives to be an advocate for those in need as they deal with life's relational, physical, emotional, financial, and/or spiritual struggles. We strive to love unconditionally in each mentoring relationship. Offering encouragement, hope, and support for anything you may be facing in life. In addition to support, we offer qualified referrals for addictions, relational, employment challenges, housing challenges, transportation hurdles, health issues, financial difficulties, emotional afflictions, and spiritual barriers. For more information visit: lakesatlas.com

Mental Health Info:

Trinity: Jackson County Mental Health Crisis, Phone: 1-800-642-1525
<http://www.co.jackson.mn.us>

Concordia: Plains Area Mental Health Phone: 1-800-325-1192
<https://plainsareamentalhealth.org>

Long Distance Counseling: Lutheran Family Service, Phone: 515-573-3138
Confidential, Convenient, Secure, HIPAA compliant, Christ-centered
<https://lutheranfamilyservice.org>