

May 2020 Elder: Jerry Toft, Altar Guild: Mindy & Jon Burt, Stewardship: Jon Burt

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1	2
3 10:30 am Worship* Confirmation	4	5	6	7	8	9
10 10:30 am Worship Mothers' Day	11	12	13	14	15	16
17 10:30 am Worship*	18	19	20	21	22	23
24 10:30 am Worship*	25	26	27	28	29	30
31 10:30 am Worship*						

Class of 2020

We would like to congratulate our Class of 2020 graduate members! Meghan Danielson, Jaden Jacobs, Emma McManaman, Lauryn Ruhland, Cole Sperle, & Trinity Stevens. May God bless your future endeavors!

Thanks Phyllis Heuer

Since 1994, Phyllis has ordered and arranged the purchase of cards and dish cloths for our congregation. Phyllis has decided to retire. We thank the Lord for her time and service!

Thanks Derek and Mandie Allen and Corinne Lowe

Each week during the pandemic Derek, Mandie, and Corinne were here filming, running PowerPoint, and Facebook Live so that the Word of Christ might come to you. Please join me in thanking the Lord for their service. They've been the "staff" I refer to in our videos. What a great blessing they've been!

Thanks Pam Harvey

Pam sews the crosses on the baptismal cloths. We appreciate you using your time and talents to help Trinity with this service!

Thanks to the Congregation

We appreciate the offerings sent in by mail, dropped off at church, and given online on our website during these difficult times to help support the church.

2020 VBS

Tentatively VBS is still scheduled for June 22-25. Stay tuned for more details in the June newsletter!

New Life!

Spring is such an amazing time of the year. It's a time to start over! The world takes on an entirely different look. Everything is new, fresh and exciting as nature wakes up and begins its life cycle again. The frogs are singing in praise to God for they survived the cold of winter. The trees are waking up. The branches now burst with buds and flowers.

Years ago, I took my young grandkids into our back yard. We carefully pulled the old dead leaves from our hosta plants and to their surprise they found new green shoots. With the old dead leaves removed, the shoots were exposed. There was excitement as they uncovered each hosta. The cycle of life in God's creation is so magnificent.

It reminds me of the wonderful job God does with each of us. He takes the old, dead, sinful covering from us when we confess our sins. He renews our lives with His forgiveness. God forgives and cleanses us just as He renews His creation with new life. Nature is doing what it was created to do. Birds are singing. Trees and flowers are forming leaves and blooming just as they were created to do.

Are you, as one of God's special creations, doing what you were created to do? You are a unique creation with your special set of skills, interests and abilities. What has God designed for you to do? Are you growing new life shoots during this Easter season? I invite you to take some time to think and ponder.

Ellie Menz, IOWAY Director

Ellie@iowadistrictwest.org



Congratulations!

Congratulations to our 4th graders receiving study Bibles this year! They are Justin Ortner, Makiya Schurman, and Tessa Schurman. Bible will be given at a later date.

Check out our website: trinityhawarden.com

Back to Worship?!

Governor Reynolds gave the green light for religious institutions to return to worship after May 1. We will cautiously, gradually return to worship beginning May 3. We will still practice social distancing, sitting every other pew. Please read Pastor's article about further comments. There will not be a Saturday night service for the month of May. Hopefully, bible study will resume in June. Services will continue to FacebookLive and broadcast on Channel 10.



Congratulations to our 2020 Confirmands!

Emma Janene Breugem
Parents: Josh & Holly Breugem
Sponsor: Jenifer Olsen
Isaiah 12:2

Tessa Ellen Graves
Parents: Eric & Sara Graves
Sponsors: Nikki Frye & Katlin Mitchell
1 John 3:1

Grace Lynn Allen
Parents: Derek & Mandie Allen
Laura Crum
Sponsor: Justina Allen
Deuteronomy 31:6

Kiera Serena Tepe
Parent: Kelly Tepe
Isaiah 43:1



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Junior Youth Gathering

Junior Youth Gathering IDW 2020 Save the date and start promoting the Iowa District West Junior Youth Gathering that will take place on October 17-18, 2020 at the Sheraton in Des Moines. The theme is centered around the study of the Ten Commandments. The gathering team is busy planning another high quality event that will foster spiritual growth and the strengthening of relationships as we focus on God's Word and His commandments. Registration materials will be sent the beginning of August.



2020 IDW JR YOUTH GATHERING

Senior Youth Gathering

Senior Youth Gathering IDW 2020 The Iowa District West Senior Youth Gathering will take place November 20-22, 2020 at the Holiday Inn at the Airport in Des Moines. Our theme is "20/20 Faith" and our theme verse is Hebrews 12:1b-2. Our eyes are an important part of our body. They enable us to see. Our faith is the same way. Satan and the world try to put blinders on us so that we only see his lies, temptations, and deceit. When that happens, our faith suffers. We begin to doubt, get lonely, and become lost. Jesus breaks the blinders of sin so that we can clearly see His grace. Fixing our eyes on Him allows us to see the joys and strength of faith. Jesus strengthens us to go out into the world as more than conquerors. He walks through this life right beside us, bringing us all the way to heaven! Registration materials will be sent in early August.



May Birthdays

1. Randy Klaus
2. Corinne Lowe
4. Grace Allen, Kay Borchers
5. Dan Tentinger
6. Rodney Matz
7. Luke Huebner, Lydia Lowe
8. Clarissa Hedden
9. Roger Olson
10. Logan Vander Hamm
13. Camden Star
18. Al Mace
19. Meghan Danielson, Dallas Huebner
20. Lydia Anderson, Jett Boyer, Conner Van Ballegooyen
21. Opal Keiser
23. Jill Vander Feen
25. Brielle Aldrich
26. Jayden Burt
27. Sally Hantsbarger
30. Sara Graves, John Van Ballegooyen
31. Lois Meether, Tucker Vander Feen



May Anniversaries

7. Al & Julie Mace 26 years
21. Mike & Casey Finch 26 years
23. Jerry & Wendi Ruhland 39 years
23. Brian & Kara Vander Hamm 11 years
27. Jeff & Jennifer Kooi 3 years
30. Pastor & Corinne 10 years

From Pastor's Desk... Alleluia! Christ IS RISEN! This is the best news you can hear! These words change everything! It's been a strange Easter season. But Easter was always strange- Jesus is raised and the disciples didn't believe; Jesus appears to Mary and the disciples don't believe; Jesus walks with the disciples on the road to their home in Emmaus and has a bible study with them and makes Himself known in the breaking of bread; Jesus appears to the disciples through the locked door- He comes! He speaks! He shows them His hands and side and breathes on them to go and proclaim His forgiveness and life! Easter is always comes to those with struggling faith and fear brining peace and life in Jesus!

It's been a strange Easter, but hope and light are always on the horizon for Christians. Jesus continues His resurrection work of coming, speaking, breathing forgiveness and life. He has done through His Word proclaimed in your homes through your daily reading and the gift of technology. We rejoice with thankful hearts that we soon may be able to be together again in worship in person. We also know the virus is still a real, deadly threat, and caution is needed.

The elders and I eagerly desire a safe return to worship, so the following considerations are put before you:

Social distancing will be maintained- please spread out

No handshaking

Offerings will be taken in the back as you come in or go out.

People may wish to wear protective equipment

Please consider staying home if:

You are high risk because of ongoing health issues

You are over 65

You have recently been in areas where the virus is rampant

You feel that it is not yet the right time to return to worship

As we move forward note the following:

- Worship will only be offered on Sundays at 10:30 through the month of May
- Services will continue to be Live Streamed and posted on Facebook & Channel 10
- Sunday School will not resume until Fall (VBS is planned for June)
- Bible Class will not resume until possibly June
- Pastor is still available for private or small group communion

In these strange days of Easter, please rejoice in the glorious victory of Jesus over sin, sickness, and death! It is my prayer, and I hope our congregation's prayer, that this pandemic and isolation has made a difference, not only for you, but also your neighbor, for the short-term and for the long-term. If ever there was a time to reach people with the resurrection comfort of Jesus, it is now! Daily Jesus comes to us, daily He speaks, daily He forgives and sends us out with His peace from Him. This daily gift makes all the difference! Alleluia! Christ is risen!

Count your Blessings in the Midst of a Virus Pandemic

For many of us the Coronavirus national emergency is perhaps the biggest life-changing event that as a country we will face. Fortunately, our generation has missed the great depression and world wars which caused even greater lifestyle changes than what we are facing today. As we all know, this virus pandemic has caused the closing of schools and colleges, the cancellations of sporting events, and the job loss for many people. Many churches are no longer holding services, concerts cancelled, restaurants closed, vacations postponed, etc. The coronavirus has caused significant declines in the world's financial markets, decreasing the value of people's investments and retirement funds.

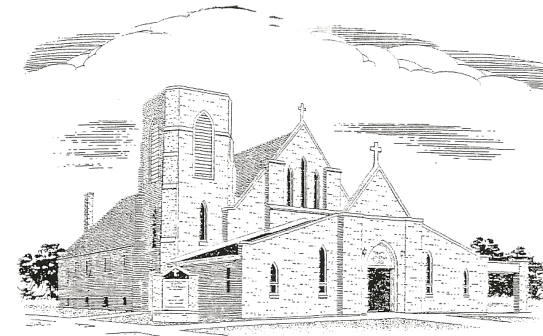
It is easy for people to become bitter and frightened in these circumstances and many will blame God. God's Word tells us of a better way. *"Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you"* (1 Thessalonians 5:16-17). These verses give us actions that will enable us to overcome the worst circumstances. We aren't told just to "feel better" but to *"rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks..."*

There's a lot to give thanks for, too, when we're going through difficult times. God is with us, and He is control. What a joy we have knowing that we have God's presence and protection. We have God's strong and abiding presence through His Word and Sacrament. Each and every day, we have the opportunity to turn to God in His Word to be uplifted and refreshed even when the world around us seems to be closing down. Through the faith that God gives us, we know it is God's will that we rejoice in Him and seek His peace in the midst of this virus pandemic.

In the midst of this crisis, the church still continues its vital mission and ministry. Jesus tells us *"I will build My church, and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it"* (Matthew 16:18). God promises us that nothing will overcome the Church because it rests on Jesus. The church is here to minister to the bitter, frightened, and doubtful. We encourage your prayers and ask you to continue your generous giving. The fear of catching the virus will keep many away from church, but we do ask that you continue your faithful giving as you are able. May God help us all during these challenging times be the light that He wants us to be.

Read the Bible in one year by reading the following passages this month...

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|---------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. 1 Samuel 2:1-10 Titus. | Philemon |
| 2. Psalm 121 | Hebrews 1-4 |
| 3. Psalm 122 | Hebrews 5-7 |
| 4. Psalm 123 | Hebrews 8-10 |
| 5. Psalm 124 | Hebrews 11-13 |
| 6. Psalm 125 | James 1-3 |
| 7. Psalm 126 | James 4-5 |
| 8. Psalm 127 | 1 Peter 1-2 |
| 9. Psalm 128 | 1 Peter 3-5 |
| 10. Psalm 129 | 2 Peter |
| 11. Psalm 130 | 1 John 1-3 |
| 12. Psalm 131 | 1 John 4-5 |
| 13. Psalm 132 | 2 John , 3 John, Jude |
| 14. Psalm 133 | John 1-2 |
| 15. Psalm 134 | John 3-4 |
| 16. Psalm 135 | John 5-6 |
| 17. Psalm 136 | John 7-8 |
| 18. Psalm 137 | John 9-10 |
| 19. Psalm 138 | John 11-12 |
| 20. Psalm 139 | John 13-14 |
| 21. Psalm 140 | John 15-16 |
| 22. Psalm 141 | John 17-18 |
| 23. Psalm 142 | John 19 |
| 24. Psalm 143 | John 20-21 |
| 25. Psalm 144 | Acts 1-2 |
| 26. Psalm 145 | Acts 3-4 |
| 27. Psalm 146 | Acts 5-6 |
| 28. Psalm 147 | Acts 7-8 |
| 29. Psalm 148 | Acts 9-10 |
| 30. Psalm 149 | Acts 11-12 |
| 31. 1 Samuel 2:1-10 | Acts 13-14 |



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