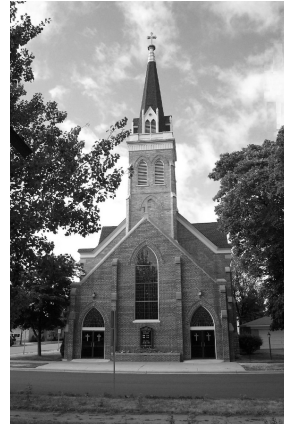




# Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church & School



## Trinity Tidings

Volume 17, Issue 2  
June 2020

### Time to Get Out of the House

While we watch cities burn and mobs march, we are made painfully aware of the sin that resides in the human heart. We have to be very careful not to fall to either extreme.

We cannot excuse injustice or racism or pretend that they don't exist. They are very real. Real people are suffering and real lives are damaged and lost. If we cannot imagine racism in our lives, that does not mean that it doesn't exist. We know that sinful, selfish hearts reject people who are different or make them uncomfortable. Racism and injustice are very real.

If we have never experienced racism or injustice, it doesn't mean that no one does. People really are judged by how they look. People really are treated differently because they are not the same. People really do suffer because of the color of their skin.

If you have not suffered injustice, thank God for his blessings and for his protection. But don't stop there. Pray that God would use you to help people who are suffering. Pray for our nation and for our people. Pray that our leaders will step up and change what needs to be changed and fix what needs to be fixed. Reach out with God's love in every



**Trinity Ev. Lutheran**  
Church & School

1501 Thomas Street  
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Mission Statement:

**"Lighting the Way"**

John 8:12: "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."

Matthew 5:16: let your light shine before men, that they may see your good deeds and praise your Father in heaven.

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avenue that you can. Contact one of your neighbors to see how they're doing. Offer help where you can. Support people who are trying to address the problems.

We cannot pretend that racism and injustice do not exist. However, we also cannot excuse violence and sin. It doesn't matter who is committing the sin: Sin is still sin and sin is always wrong.

It is never justifiable or profitable to ignore God's commandments. Sin is never the answer. Pursuing sin will simply accomplish replacing one set of problems with another. Proverbs 16:25 warns us, "There is a way that seems right to a man, but it ends up being the road to death."

God commands us to submit to the governing authorities (Romans 13:1). That doesn't mean that the government is always right. It is most definitely *not* always right. It means that we have to fix what's wrong instead of creating new wrongs.

Neither of those extremes will eliminate injustice. The one extreme that will is the extreme grace of God. Jesus tells us, "Love one another. Just as I have loved you, so also you are to love one another." (John 13:34).

Jesus sacrificed himself for people who were unjust and unworthy. He tells us to sacrifice too. Jesus forgave people who abused him and were killing him. He tells us to forgive too. Jesus showed love and acceptance to people who were outcast, marginalized, and mistreated. He went out of his way to meet with them, respect them, and show them love. He tells us to love too.

People who are suffering need the love of God. We need to go out and share it. People who are confused need the wisdom of God. We need to go out and teach it. People who are oppressed need the freedom of God. We need to go out and bring it. People who are rejected need the family of God. We need to go out and be it.

We cannot do this from within the walls of our church. We have to talk with our neighbors. We have to support missions. We have to be active in our communities. We have to reach out with the love of Christ.

Jesus went out of his way to help people who were suffering. He sacrificed and he left his home to make it happen. Now he commands us to do the same.

God bless you as we walk together through this dark valley. We are not alone. Psalm 23:4.



## A Note from the Principal's Desk

June 2020

Well... this school year didn't quite end as was expected. In this edition of the church newsletter I *expected* that I'd get the opportunity to fill all of you in on all the fun end-of-the-year school activities and projects that our students did with their teachers... But things didn't go as *expected* beginning mid-March.

Expect, expect, expect. Plan, plan, plan. We can do all we want to plan ahead so that we know what to *expect* in the future (and we won't stop planning). But God had different plans; he continues to guide us through all aspects of life. In mid-March, in just two to three days, our teachers scrambled to get their lessons/classes/content into a non- face-to-face teaching format due to the school closures. All teachers needed to restructure their teaching to fit the distance/virtual learning approach. Over the course of the following weeks, our teachers developed a mix of both hard copy lessons and materials as well as other lessons that were online. For online lessons and assignments teachers used websites such as Google Classroom, Khan Academy, and Newsela. Teachers also made use of YouTube video lessons, self-recorded videos, and even live lessons through Google Meet! Many families were able to borrow Chromebooks from school to make the online lessons and videos possible.

Now that we've reached the end of the school year, I would like to thank all of our faculty and staff for making the adjustments needed in order to move forward. Thanks also to our students for adjusting to the distance/virtual learning structure. I especially want to give a **HUGE THANK YOU** to all of our school parents who helped their child(ren) continue to learn and grow during this time of distance/virtual learning.

Lastly, congratulations to our three 8th grade graduates: Tim Mathey, Jenna Maxwell, and Dakota Yother.

# Board of Education

June 2020

**Members of the Board:** Tim Baneck (chairman), Kris Charapata (treasurer), Paul Kamin (secretary), Todd Thayer. 2 vacancies

**PreK Enrollment Total:**

**22 (2020-21 Projected)**

24 (2019-20)

22 (2018-19)

24 (2017-18)

**K-8 Student Enrollment:**

**56 (2020-21 Projected)**

46 (2019-20)

40 (2018-19)

40 (2017-18)

46 (2016-17)

39 (2015-16)

**School Choice Enrollment:**

**(FTE = Full-Time Equivalent)**

**24 2020-21 Projected (22.5 FTE)**

17 2010-20 (16 FTE)

16 2018-19 (13.5 FTE)

School Staff:

**Teachers/Principal = 5 faculty (4.0 FTE)**

**Classroom Aides = 2 part-time (PK and K-1 classroom)**

**Afternoon Daycare for PK = (21.25 hrs/week)**

**School Secretary = 1 part-time (21.25 hrs/week)**

**School Janitor = 1 part-time (15 hrs/week)**

**Tuition:**

We have a number of tuition families who have not paid their tuition in full (as of May 31). Closing the school building due to the COVID-19 pandemic may have an impact on final tuition collection and future enrollments. Our policy will prohibit them from attending next fall unless there is a mutual agreement for a payment plan. The Board is planning to implement a third-party tuition payment service for the

2020-21 school year. Contact Treasurer Kris Charapata (715-923-5827) for details.

**Assessment of 2019-20 Goals**

1. WELSSA School Accreditation: On track to complete a total of 175 standards by June 30, 2020
2. Identifying math curriculum and assessment resources to align with TLS learning standards for implementation in fall of 2020
3. Developed a separate Policy Manual in addition to the Family Handbook

**Highlights since the January Congregational Voters' Meeting:**

1. Our teachers have been providing distance learning to students via virtual instruction and homework pick-up/drop-off each Sunday for most of March through May
2. Provided a non-traditional 8th grade graduation ceremony for: Jenna Maxwell, Tim Mathey and Dakota Yother
3. Received resignation from Mrs. Kelly Danell (K-1 teacher); she and husband Josh, are expecting their first child this fall
4. Received resignation from Mrs. Jessica Desotell (part-time upper grades teacher; she plans to spend more time with family)
5. Congregation voted to extend a Divine Call to Mrs. Jennifer Schmiede (K-1 teacher)
6. We are currently trying to find a 1/2 teacher for grades 5-8
7. Completed the 2020-21 school choice application period (28 applicants, with 27 completing the verification documentation)
8. Completed the 2020-21 goal setting and budget preparation process
9. Ordered more Chromebook computing devices in early June so that all grade 2-8 students will have access to the Internet
10. Given what we know about the pandemic, we are hopeful to resume student attendance at the school
11. First day of school for K-8 students is August 24

**Report submitted by BOE Chairman, Tim Baneck (715-330-5250)**

## **Old Fashion Trinity Church/School Picnic**

Just an Old Fashion Trinity Church/School Picnic is being planned for the Sunday after Labor Day. Details will be announced as decisions for the school year are finalized along with the determination by the state for gatherings.

Beat the Devil Egg Contest, Adult and Children's Musical chairs, games, card playing and food will again be available.