CHRIST THE SERVANT LUTHERAN CHURCH JULY 2026

FROM THE VICAR

I was reflecting on my daily prayers. Many times it seems like it can be days, weeks, months or even ages since I have prayed in the midst of this chaotic world. I often hear the sounds of songs with Christian words on the radio. They can be quite soothing to my mind. But soothing only in the sense that things have gotten mixed up in my mind, sweeping stuff under the rug.

When we are told that prayer is a central part of our lives. Paul tells the Thessalonians to “pray without ceasing”. I can say with certainty that Paul did not mean to literally have hands clasped eyes closed in constant appearance of uttering words to God in such a way as some cults might teach. When we pray our prayers are always heard by our God who even knows what we will ask for before we say it. Jesus says, “Do not be like them, for your Father knows what you need before you ask him. Pray then like this:” Next is the Lord’s prayer, which instructs us how to “pray without ceasing”. The introduction says most of what we need. “Our Father who art in Heaven”. or “Our Father in Heaven”. Luther says, “He is our true Father” and “we ask as dear children”.

When we need to talk to our Father who is there is to pray without being in a stare of disbelief that He is always listening and always with us. Just as an earthly father will not leave us alone.

Young children are almost always bold to ask for anything they need or want. Let us be more like His children and be in continuous peace because we know that God is our Father.

Amen

Vicar Jared

May income: $8,700.47	YTD income: $49,579.46
Expenses: $8,224.56	Expenses: $51,204.73
Net income: $475.91	Net: -1,625.27

FROM THE COUNCIL PRESIDENT

Lu Carter

I don't have to wait until I'm grown up
To be loving and true.
There are many little deeds of kindness
That each day I can do.
I can read my Bible and pray.
Be a loving helper all ways.
I don't have to wait until I'm grown up
To be what Jesus wants me to be.

That's the words to the song I sang at my first public singing performance. I was about 5 years old and my grandmother, my first music mentor, was insistent I would sing it for the church's Men's Brotherhood meeting. My father, always the skeptic, told her I'd chicken out; I heard their conversation. And as I did much of my life, I set out to prove him wrong. Yes, I stood up and sang that song loudly and proudly. Yes, I (maybe, reports stated) was a little nervous and lifted my ruffled dress-skirt high enough that those in the front row saw my panties. But the reception was warm and my father grinned like the cat who got the canary.

These memories came back to me as I was preparing my message for Pentecost Sunday. I am grateful every day for the foundation of faith that was instilled in me from birth. Doreen and I apparently shared a bedroom when there were 5 of us Carter kids at home; she will tell you she had to fall asleep every night to me singing "Twinkle, Twinkle," or "Jesus Loves Me" from my crib.

CTS hosts Rejoicing Spirits services the 2nd Wednesday of every month for the handicapped and intellectually disabled. I got pulled into this ministry because I was asked to come play the piano. My involvement since then has grown but willingly so because these are great services. The participants come in the door smiling and eager to participate. They have a firm faith that their needs are being met and they come to praise the One providing. Even during the fellowship time following, they call out "Jesus loves me" so sometimes we sing it again. That's the kind of faith I came from.

This is your invitation to come see what you've been missing. Rejoicing Spirits, the 2nd Wednesday of every month, 11 am.

Come sit in your usual pews; you might find them already filled. Adjust. And sing loudly.

JULY BIRTHDAYS

6 Jesse Meyer
11 Brooks Seagren, 13
23 Lu Carter
24 Bill Thoendel
25 Donna Leicy
30 Connie Atkinson

ANNIVERSARIES

20 Louise and Charlie Skoglund, 52 years

JULY EVENTS

1st Bible study 3pm
3rd Girl Scouts 6:30
7-11th Vacation Bible School 10am to 1pm
8th Rejoicing Spirits 11am
Bible study 3pm
12th Second Sunday potluck
13th Fellowship hall reserved 9am to 4pm
15th Bible study 3pm
16th Council meeting 6:30
17th Girl Scouts 6:30
20th Country Piecemakers 6pm
22nd Bible study 3pm
26th Food Pantry Sunday
29th Bible study 3pm

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Connie Atkinson, Colonial Manor Assisted Living
811 South Main St. room 5, Randolph, NE 68771

IN OUR PRAYERS

Trinity Lutheran in Columbus and Pastors
Billy Czapla, Oliver Fullmer and Anna Roe

Did you know? Ceiling fans should rotate counter-clockwise during hot weather and clockwise during cold weather.

Never use vinegar or any coffee maker cleaner in the Bunn. The cleaning tool is in the drawer below the machine and instructions are on the counter.

Want to reserve the fellowship hall for your event? Contact the church office for availability.

Attention Parents: Let us help with back-to-school shopping. Send us your K-12 students' school supply lists.

VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE

Please trade with someone if you are unable to serve when scheduled

JULY 5
Greeter: Al & Sharon
Usher: Warren
Lector: Lu
Offerings: Charlie & Louise

JULY 12
Greeter: Charlie & Louise
Usher: Al
Lector: Greg
Communion: Megan and Sau Man
Offerings: Doug & Pat

JULY 19
Greeter: Doug & Pat
Usher: Greg
Lector: Charlie
Offerings: Charlie & Louise

JULY 26
Greeter: Donna
Usher: Doug
Lector: Tara
Communion: Al and Mary
Offerings: Doug & Pat

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