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Trinity Messenger

September 2022 Issue 3

Live your life in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ; strive side by side for the faith of the gospel. Phil. 1:27

Pastor's Letter

After this Jesus went to the other side of the Sea of Galilee, also called the Sea of Tiberias. ²A large crowd kept following him, because they saw the signs that he was doing for the sick. ³Jesus went up the mountain and sat down there with his disciples. ⁴Now the Passover, the festival of the Jews, was near. ⁵When he looked up and saw a large crowd coming toward him, Jesus said to Philip, "Where are we to buy bread for these people to eat?" ⁶He said this to test him, for he himself knew what he was going to do. ⁷Philip answered him, "Six months' wages would not buy enough bread for each of them to get a little." ⁸One of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, said to him, ⁹There is a boy here who has five barley loaves and two fish. But what are they among so many people? ¹⁰Jesus said, "Make the people sit down." Now there was a great deal of grass in the place; so they sat down, about five thousand in all. ¹¹Then Jesus took the loaves, and when he had given thanks, he distributed them to those who were seated; so also the fish, as much as they wanted. ¹²When they were satisfied, he told his disciples, "Gather up the fragments left over, so that nothing may be lost." ¹³So they gathered them up, and from the fragments of the five barley loaves, left by those who had eaten, they filled twelve baskets.

(John 6:1-13)

The miracle stories of Jesus are ones that most of us know well. We are amazed by what Jesus does and the power he possesses to accomplish these unnatural feats and are in awe of the events the gospel writers share.

John's telling of the Feeding of the 5,000 by Jesus is one of those miraculous events with which we are all familiar, and by which are amazed. After all, who but Jesus could increase five loaves of bread and two fish enough to feed what would have been over 5,000 faithful followers of Jesus who had gathered to listen Jesus. But like an audience watching a magic trick, we become distracted by our own astonishment at Jesus power to do the impossible and miss what is the true miracle—a boy's simple and seemingly inadequate

offering not just enough to get everyone fed, but rather unexpected abundance in twelve full baskets of leftovers that could feed many more. That is the miracle.

We, like Jesus' disciples, often look at a situation and see scarcity when in fact we worship a God who offers us abundance. God, who accomplished resurrection and fulfilled a promise with an empty tomb is surely able to provide us with what we need to fulfill whatever mission is placed before us when we faithfully ask for what we need and faithfully believe in and invest ourselves in that mission. Does this require us to take a risk? Yes. However, when we are willing to invest in the future and take a risk, believing the resources will be provided to accomplish God's vision for us, there is no doubt God will give to us in abundance and multiply the blessings and the impact of what we are striving to do in his name.

Let us be a church that is prayerful in seeking God's mission for us, so that we would be relevant and impactful in our community and in the greater world. Let us be a church that knows when we take a risk and invest ourselves in God's plan for us and our gifts, God will provide an abundance of resources to fulfill that work and much, much more. Let us squelch the fears that feelings of scarcity give birth to and open our eyes and minds to the unlimited possibilities that God has in store for us when we refuse to limit ourselves to what we see as not enough, and begin to recognize that we are the children of a God of abundance, who has a plan for us, a plan for which God has more than enough of what we need. We, my faithful friends, must simply believe enough to ask and know it is so.

Faithfully,
Pastor Mark

This Week At Holy Trinity: Sept. 18-24

Sunday, September 18	
Pentecost 15	
9:00am	Sunday Worship
10:00am	Adult Forum
10:00am	Coffee Hour After Worship
Monday, September 19	
10:00am	Women's Prayer Group
6:30pm	Yoga
Tuesday, September 20	
Ephrata Fair	
6:00pm	Mazon: Pre-School & Elementary
7:00pm	Bell Choir
Wednesday, September 21	
Ephrata Fair	
Parade Night - Hotdogs on the Lawn	
12:00pm	Luther Lunch Ladies
6:00pm	Bell Ensemble
6:30pm	Mazon: Middle & High School
Thursday, September 22	
Ephrata Fair	
7:00pm	Yoga
7:00pm	Thursday Worship
Friday, September 23	
Ephrata Fair	
Saturday, September 24	
Ephrata Fair	
7:30am	Walking Group

[View This Month's Calendar Here](#)

Office Hours: Sept. 19-23

We recommend you call the office prior to stopping in to ensure hours have not changed.

Day	Sue	Pastor
Monday	8:00AM- 4:00M	9:00AM- 12:30PM
Tuesday	8:00AM- 4:00PM	9:00AM- 12:30PM
Wednesday	8:00AM- 4:00PM	9AM - 12:30PM
Thursday	8:00AM- 4:00PM	9:30AM- 12:30PM
Friday	8:00AM- Noon	OFF

Stewardship Special Giving January - August 2022

January	Clare House	\$632
February	EASS	\$710
March	Lancaster Co. Food Hub	\$402
April	United Lutheran Seminary	\$1021
May	ELCA World Hunger	\$1544
June	LOVE Inc.	\$487
July	Homes of Hope	\$1308
August	Konde Diocese	\$982



Lutheran World Relief Ingathering Appeal
Lutheran World Relief Ingathering appeal is Sunday October 2nd. This year the Social Ministry Committee is looking for donations of complete fabric kits and complete personal care kits. See the poster in the Gathering Area follow these links ([fabric kit](#) and [personal care kit](#)) for directions on what is included in the kits and how to prepare them. Place assembled kits in the Gathering Area by **October 2nd** If you have any questions, please contact Rob Gilbert at 721-3822.

Redner's Tapes
 Collect Redner Save a Tape receipts (you must sign up for this at the Redner's office and receive a special card.) The proceeds from these benefit the community meals program. Please deposit the tapes in the container in the gathering area. Do not cut the tapes; the entire tape must be submitted for credit.

Amazon Smile
 We receive automated donations into our account when members use Amazon Smile for their



Parade Night
 September 21
 Join us on the front lawn for hotdogs and fellowship while watching the Parade!
Donations of individually packed baked goods and hotdog rolls are being collected thru Sunday, September 18th. You can place them on the table in the back of church.

We are also looking for anyone interested in providing live music for the event. Please contact Heather Zimmerman!

Fair Parking
 We are looking for volunteers to help with fair parking September 20 - 24th. A sign up sheet will be at the back of the church.

Luther Lunch Ladies
 Join the Luther Lunch Ladies for a fun filled luncheon on September 21 at noon. We are all women from Trinity who enjoy dining around the county on the third Wednesday every month. Think about joining us and participating in a nice afternoon of fellowship and friendship. Contact Marti Nissley by September 17 to be added to the reservation.



Community Meals
 Are back at Holy Trinity for the month of September. Meals will be served every Thursday except for the Thursday of parade week.

MEMBERS NEEDED
 It is that time of year again where we start to recruit for new council members. We have several individuals with terms ending leaving vacant seats. Council duties include

- Monthly meetings (2nd Thursday of the month)
- Serving during worship (typical once a month)
- Participating in one other committee as the council liaison.

If you are interested or would like to get more information please reach out to Natale Benigno. Please

purchases on Amazon. You can use this link [Amazon Smile](#) when making your purchase. You should see you are supporting Holy Trinity when you are on the site.

consider serving our congregation!

Looking for more information not included in this week's newsletter?

Be sure to checkout our website!

Thanks for reading! Have a great week ahead!

