



# TRINITY TRANSMITTER November 2017

*The following is a devotion shared by Vacancy Pastor Andrew Wehling at the October Church Leadership Council:*

BY RALEIGH SADLER

“Whatever you do, don’t share the Gospel with me.” Those were my exact words to my slightly mystified seminary professor. As he set his coffee down, I could tell that he was holding back in an effort to allow me to process what I was thinking. “To be honest,” I said, “I don’t think God loves me. I feel like He is angry at me. I feel like I have prayed the “prayer” over a thousand times and He won’t hear it.” As I continued to share, I figured that this couldn’t be the “norm” for incoming students, like myself. I mean, you don’t have to be perfect to be enrolled to be at The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, but you should at least, at bare minimum, be a believer...right? Here I was baring my soul to my “Formations of Christian Ministry” professor over dry bacon and watery eggs. In my head, I figured that the only recourse would be for the administration to send me home. This would make sense to me because ultimately I can’t tell people about the love of Christ if I am not sure that I have received it.

Surprisingly, my professor didn’t condemn me. As a matter of fact, he didn’t do much at all. He just sat there silently listening to me as I poured out my heart. He didn’t respond with Christian clichés or platitudes nor did he give me any advice to “fix” my problem. He just sat with me as I struggled to finish my breakfast. After waiting for me to gather myself, he calmly asked to pray for me. He encouraged me to stay the course and to seek him out as I processed my current crisis of faith.

Truth be told, this “current” crisis was not a new problem for me. This issue had hounded me for as long as I could remember. Growing up in church, I had been conditioned to consistently examine my faith. If I failed to pray or read the Bible regularly, I would immediately doubt that my faith was genuine. If I struggled with a particular sin too long, I would find myself thinking that I hadn’t truly been saved. So I would spend hours searching the scriptures, and praying constantly that God would love me, all to no avail.

But you wouldn’t have noticed because I was in church every time that the doors were open. I was a leader in my local congregation and my campus

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**TLC Mission Statement:**

KNOW CHRIST  
†  
SHARE CHRIST  
†  
SERVE CHRIST

ministry; I even worked in the music section of a local Christian bookstore. Outwardly, it looked as if I had it all together. But inwardly, I was falling apart. For example, during my shifts at the bookstore, I would steal evangelistic tracts, take them into the back room and would study them word for word to make sure, that I had done everything right (Yes, I understand how that sounds). With that said, I'm proud to say that I have memorized Billy Graham's "Steps to Peace with God." I just needed to know that I had prayed the prayer right; that I had done everything that was in my power to be saved.

So there I was at seminary deciding to stay the course. During this semester in 2003, I would be introduced to Martin Luther. Not only was I enamored by his theology, but I was captivated by his doubt and his fear. The Father of the Protestant Reformation didn't have it all together either. For that reason, his struggle to find peace with God was oddly reassuring. With that said, I jumped at the chance to write a paper comparing Luther's understanding of "justification by faith" to the Council of Trent's formulation. The problem with this assignment, though, was that it was given to the entire class, so by the time that I made it to the library, almost every book was gone. Only a couple of books were left. One of them was an old, dusty copy of Gerhard Forde's "Justification: A Matter of Death and life."

As I began to read, Forde's words captivated me. "We are justified freely, for Christ's sake, by faith, without the exertion of our own strength, gaining of merit, or doing of works," Forde explained. "To the age-old question, 'what shall I do to be saved?' The confessional answer is shocking: 'Nothing! Just be still; shut up and listen for once in your life to what God Almighty, creator and redeemer is saying to his world and to you in the death and resurrection of his Son! Listen and believe!'"

I was shocked: "Do nothing? The strength of my faith doesn't matter?" I couldn't put the book down. Forde continued his argument by posing the question "but..., but we have to do something, don't we? Aren't there, after all, some conditions? Don't you at least have to 'decide?'"

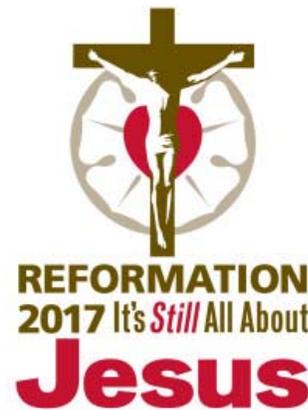
## TLC Family Care Connections

We pray for...

✠ **Shut-Ins:** Bill Bridges, Irene Gestenslager, Evelyn Kowalke, Eugene & Vada Hurd, Esther McMichael, George Powell, Bernice Robinson, Hellen Strickland, Opal Sroufe, Lillian VonLintel  
✠ **Health Concerns:** Jim Baker, Pat Bridges, Kelly Chopp, Johanna Hall, Jay Holste, Loretta Schultz, Shannon McCormick, Jana Horsfall, Valerie Stewart, Aaron Schiffelbein, Liz Meyer

*If you have a prayer concern, please call the office*

**\*\* always obtain permission before sharing another's concerns**



*The difficulty is exactly with the unconditional nature of the decree: you are justified for Jesus' sake!... The Gospel of justification by faith is such a shocker, such an explosion, because it is an absolutely unconditional promise. It is not an 'if—then' statement, but a 'because—therefore' pronouncement: Because Jesus died and rose, your sins are forgiven and you are righteous in the sight of God!"*

At that point, I realized that I was justified by my faith, not because of it. My own feeble attempts to "get saved" were not enough. My salvation could only rest on the object of my faith, namely the perfect life, death, and resurrection of Jesus in my place. Finally, I could embrace my inner accusations. Of course, I am not good enough to be saved. Yes, my faith may be weak, but Christ is my strength. Now as I meet with other Christians, I am quick to share the Gospel. Not because I think that they are not saved; **I share the Gospel to remind them that they are loved.**

# Christian Education

## Sunday Morning Bible Studies 10:15 a.m.

### *A Little Book of Joy*

The Secret of Life a Good news Life  
in a Bad News World!

Written by Rev. Matthew Harrison  
Led by Cynthia in the Meeting Room

### *"The Journey from Unbelief to Faith"*

A 4-week study from Lutheran Hour Ministries  
Led by Jay Meyer in the East Wing

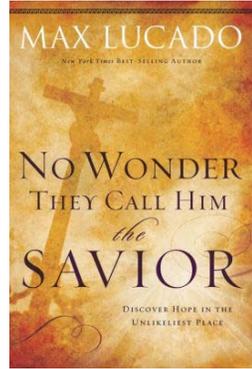
## Wednesday Evening Bible Studies 6:30 p.m.

### *No Wonder They Call Him The Savior*

Meets in the Meeting Room.

### *God's Word for Today—Romans*

Meets in the Library  
Led by Ron Thiele



## Next Meeting for Stephen Ministry

November 28  
at 6:30  
in the East Wing.

New Class  
Mondays at 6:30  
in the East Wing.

## Weekday Fellowship Opportunities

### *Get-together-Girls*

meet on Tuesdays at 10:00 a.m.  
Join the ladies for fellowship, devotions,  
and card ministry. Drop-ins are welcome!

### *Brown Bag Bible Buddies*

Tuesdays at Noon  
Balanced "Christ Filled Living"  
By Kay Meyer



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- Knowing Jesus gives my life balance
- Prayer gives my life balance
- Balance when life seems overwhelming
- My life has balance because God keeps His promises
- Encouragement and contentment give my life balance
- Serving and sharing Christ gives my life balance



## Circuit Reformation Celebration

Sunday, November 12  
Holy Cross Lutheran Church  
2200 3rd Ave. Dodge City

### 3:00 p.m. Worship service with Communion

### 4:30 p.m. "The World of Luther"

### 5:30 p.m. Workshops (your choice)

Rev. Peter Lange: "Luther's Tower Experience"

Paul Soulek: "Something Old, Something New, Something Borrowed,"

Something Burgundy: Why We Sing What We Sing"

Dr. Erik Herrmann: "Luther as a Pastoral Theologian"

Concordia Publishing House Bookstore Display

### 6:30 p.m. Supper

Roast beef, pulled chicken, New Orleans potatoes,  
vegetables, dinner roll and dessert.

Suggested donation of \$10 per person.

Study <sup>the</sup> Bible  
with us



## Stewardship----The End of Another Church Year.

And the saints shall go marching on...

<sup>31</sup> ... Jesus said, "If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples. <sup>32</sup> Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free."

Grace, mercy and peace to you from our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. November is the end of the church year. While a lot has been written about November regarding earthly traditions of Thanksgiving and Veterans Day not much attention is given to the church calendar and the subject of this article, All Saints Day which is November 1, 2017. This is a day of celebration of the saints who have gone before us, a remembrance of their dedication to God's message. They were the hallowed. Early church celebrations moved to Hallowed's Eve now known as Halloween. It was not about candy or gifts or retail sales, it was about an earthly celebration of God's saints who knew God's word, put their faith in action, sought excellence and lived to give Glory to God.

One of the foundations of the Lutheran Church is the doctrine that we are both saints and sinners. Confined to this earth, born into sin, we were worthy to be righteous before God. We were bought for a price. And the proclamation of Jesus as found in John 8 could not be more important for us to read, mark,

learn and inwardly digest this Holy Word of Jesus. The truth of our sinfulness, the truth of our nature, the truth of our transgressions, the truth that we are truly not worthy of God's redemption, makes the verses of John 8:31 be the Word that sets us free. Free to proclaim God's plan, free to glorify the Lamb of God, free to hold to the Word of God, free to become His disciples and free to abide in faith as both sinner and saint. We cannot do this alone. God sent us help.

Are we listening to the noise of the earth, noise of peek-a-boo, gremlin, goblins and hoaxes OR are we returning to the foundation of faith, the cornerstone, the Rock, the Son of God? Holding on to Jesus's teachings is part of Knowing Christ, Sharing Christ and Serving Christ. It requires dedication, commitment and stewardship. Yes, we have much for which to be thankful on the fourth Thursday in November. We should be grateful to our Veterans on November 11 and we should acknowledge the saints who have gone before us providing the example of learning, knowing and acting upon the truth found in the Words of our Lord. Happy All Saints Day November 1 of every year.

Stewardship Committee  
Cynthia Lavrenz, Chair



# TLC PRESCHOOL



The Lord is my rock, my fortress and my deliverer: Psalm 18:2, the preschoolers found out we cannot change a rock, (and we tried) and since God is our rock then He also does not change. God is with us always even in stormy clouds, He is our friend. Trinity-4 has been working on our colors, finding out what new color they make when we mix them! We mixed red and white to make pink pigs, black and white gave us gray elephants and painting with brown chocolate pudding just tasted YUMMY! Trinity-3 has also been learning that God created the world, I hope you have been down our hallway and seen their creation. They finger painted water and sky; toothbrush painted a sun, sponge painted their tree; each item is painted a different way. Both classes found out how long Noah and his family had to take care of the animals on the Ark. Thank you for your support at our bake sale!

Serving Christ together,

*Jammy Lampe & Brittany Barnhardt*



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## Come Build Hope!

March 10-16,  
2018

Puerto Penasco,  
Mexico



Build 2-3, 11x22 foot home in Puerto Penasco, Mexico, working with Amor Ministries based out of San Diego, CA. [www.comebuildhope.com](http://www.comebuildhope.com)

**Cost of \$300.00** covers registration, camping, building materials, meals, transportation, tools, vehicle insurance, housing.

***Make Checks payable to TLC Youth: A non refundable deposit of \$100.00 is due 12/1/17.***

***Final Payment due February 1, 2018***

Questions? Contact Katy Pauley, 620-276-3110, [katy@tlcgck.kscoxmail.com](mailto:katy@tlcgck.kscoxmail.com) or  
Kyler Millershaski, 620-290-2786, [kyler.Mkfarms@gmail.com](mailto:kyler.Mkfarms@gmail.com)

**Worship Assistants** John Polson & Ron Thiele  
**Altar Committee** Dana Polson

# FAITHFUL

## servants

November 2017

 **Acolytes**

November	5	Michael Nelson
	11 (6:00)	Brady Cessna
	12	Bryce Foreman
	19	Colby Cessna
	21 (6:30)	Jenna Nelson
	26	Calista Davis
December	3	Holley Douglas
	6 (6:30)	Bryce Foreman
	9 (5:30)	Kaleb Reagle
	10	Michael Nelson
	13 (6:30)	Brady Cessna

 **PowerPoint**

November	5	Chloe Powell
	11 (6:00)	Colby Cessna
	12	Alex Foreman
	19	Bryce Foreman
	21 (6:30)	Bailey Pauley
	26	Grace Reagle
December	3	Chloe Powell
	6 (6:30)	Alex Foreman
	9 (5:30)	Colby Cessna
	10	Bryce Foreman
	13 (6:30)	Bailey Pauley

 **Lectors**

November	5	Jerry Bitter
	11 (6:00)	Martin Nusser
	12	Darett Burr
	19	Ron Hall
	21 (6:30)	Jay Meyer
	26	Alice Banning

 **Nursery**

November	5	Grace Reagle
	11 (6:00)	Jody Kerr
	12	Bailey Pauley
	19	Tonya Chmielewski
	21 (6:30)	Grace Reagle
	26	Brianna Pauley

**Notice to ALL servants:**

This is a very important service to the church. If this time does not work for you, it is your responsibility to find a replacement or trade with someone else. You may call Katy at the church office, 276-3110 for suggestions or phone numbers.

**Sunday Mornings** we will delve to answer those questions you have always had! "I have always wondered..." about church, Lutheranism, Christianity, God.  
Parents and older youth are offering leadership, Next we will be studying *Lutheranism 101: Baptism*

**Wednesday Evenings**, Tonya Chmielewski is leading Bible Study and Fellowship.

### Recent Activities:

High School Youth had fun paintballing at Saints of Fun Paint Ball park.

Junior High had a pumpkin painting event.



**Trinity's Youth Mission Statement:**  
Trinity has Waffles for their youth ministry!

**W**arm  
**A**ccepting  
**F**un  
**F**riendly  
**L**oving  
**E**ncouraging  
**S**afe



### Future Calendar:



**Circuit Youth Event**  
Sunday November 5, 5:00 pm-7:00 pm at Grace Lutheran, Liberal Dinner, devotions & a game For grades  
Let Katy know if you wish to attend, we can take a vanload and fellowship with our neighbors!



**Kansas District Youth Gathering (KDYG)**  
November 17-19, 2017 | Topeka



**Junior High Youth Quake**  
February 2-4, 2018, Wichita



Ronald Appel	11/1
Emily Baker	11/1
Rachel Foreman	11/1
Aaron Kucharik	11/1
Denise Weber	11/1
Robert Garman	11/2
Esther Krug	11/2
Lena McMillan	11/2
Noel Simpson	11/4
Karla Garman	11/6
Judy Kleeman	11/7
Beverly Miller	11/8
Milea Rosales	11/8
Angie Ackerman	11/9
Sandra Wiederstein	11/10
Mary Heinrich	11/11
Hayley Walck	11/11
Preston McMillan	11/12
Connie Mai	11/14
Joe Morgan	11/14

George Powell	11/16
Brianna Pauley	11/17
Debra Weber-Unruh	11/17
Lucie Barr	11/18
Ann Douglas	11/22
Brooke McMillan	11/22
Jamie Schweer	11/22
Jonathan Bailey	11/23
Kimberly Foreman	11/23
Carol Frazee	11/23
Lowell Mueller	11/24
Dawnnel Francis	11/25
Earl Kleeman	11/26
Billy Bridges	11/27
Carol Hamann	11/27
Brian Kinney	11/28
Clara Faye Schweer	11/28



## HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

Robert & Karla Garman	11/1
James & Tina Davis	11/2
Ed & Corrine Adams	11/21
David & Janet Colson	11/24
Lonnie & Christy Creacy	11/26
Ronald & Brooksie Appel	11/27



**Thanksgiving Eve**  
**Tuesday, November 21**  
**Dinner 5:00 p.m. -6:15 p.m.**  
**Worship at 6:30 p.m.**

Traditional Thanksgiving dinner:  
Turkey, ham, potatoes, dressing, rolls,  
Vegetables and pies...!!!

Suggested donation of \$5/person,  
\$20/family, more is accepted!

Any proceeds over expenses will go toward  
the 2019 National Youth Gathering.



Return Service Requested

Trinity Lutheran Church  
1010 Fleming St  
Garden City, KS 67846

Non-Profit Org  
Prsrt Std  
U.S. Postage Paid  
Garden City, KS  
Permit # 143

**Trinity Lutheran Church : Vision Statement**

To create a 21st century mission post in southwest Kansas where people of all ages are touched by the love of Jesus in dynamic worship, Bible study and fellowship;

A mission post where persistent efforts will be made to equip disciples, using every resource the Spirit makes available, to share Christ with everyone.

**Mission Minded**

Inspired to use spiritual gifts

Serving in love

Seeking the lost

Integrating all members

Ongoing education for all

Nurturing family environment

Praying priesthood

Opportunities for giving/receiving God's grace

Scripturally focused

Touched by Christ's love