

## Trinity Lutheran Church and School

300 Broad Street  
Menasha, WI 54952

**Church Phone:** (920) 722-2662 / **School Phone:** (920) 725-1715

**Church Office Hours:** Monday-Friday, 8:00 am to 3:00 pm

### Worship Services:

Saturday – 5:00 pm; Sunday – 9:00 am; Wednesday – 6:30 pm

**Education Hour:** Sunday - 10:30 am

**In Person & Online Worship Service and Education Hour**

**Trinity's website:** [www.trinitymenasha.com](http://www.trinitymenasha.com)

Services will continue to be available for live-streaming on Trinity's Facebook page, and for later viewing on YouTube. Check the church website for more details.

### Important Dates:

August 3: Board Mtgs  
August 8: Church Picnic  
August 10: Bd of Directors  
August 17: Ladies Aid  
August 20-22: Trinity  
Camping Weekend

### Holy Communion

We are once again offering the choice of Common Cup or Individual Cup.



## TRINITY FAMILY CHURCH PICNIC WITH A TWIST

You do not need to bring a dish to pass. Just sign up on the spinner in the Narthex, or call the church office and come August 8, 11:45 am, Large Fellowship Hall at Trinity.

### MENU

- HAMBURGERS
- BRATS
- HOT DOGS
- FRUIT SALAD
- BEVERAGES

- POTATO SALAD
- CHIPS
- VEGETABLE SALAD
- COOKIES & BARS



Trinity's Board of Outreach and Social Ministry will prepare and serve the meal to comply with all guidelines and regulations of safe food handling and serving.

### Our Mission Statement:

*Trinity Lutheran Church and School, Menasha, is a fellowship of Lutheran Christians being empowered by the Holy Spirit through the Word of God and His Sacraments to encourage, refresh, and strengthen both adults and children in the redemptive work of Jesus Christ, while sharing His love with those who do not yet know their Lord and Savior.*



### Senior Pastor:

✠ Rev. Steven S. Billings

### Assoc. Pastor/Principal:

✠ Rev. Keith E. GeRue

### Director of Music:

Mr. Tim Reuning

### Organist:

Mrs. Nancy Lephart

# August



# 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>1</b> 9AM Worship 10:30 AM Ed Hour	<b>2</b> Pastor's Sabbath Sewing  6pm Prayer Time 6:30 pm Women's Bible	<b>3</b> 6:30 am Ladies Bible  6:30 pm Board Mtgs	<b>4</b>  6:30 pm Worship	<b>5</b> 6:30 am Men's Bible	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>  5 pm Worship
<b>8</b> 9AM Worship 10:30 AM Ed Hour 11:45 AM Church Picnic	<b>9</b> Pastor's Sabbath Sewing  6pm Prayer Time 6:30 pm Women's Bible	<b>10</b> 6:30 am Ladies Bible  6:30 pm Board of Directors Mtg	<b>11</b>  6:30 pm Worship	<b>12</b> 6:30 am Men's Bible	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> 9 am Food Pantry  5 pm Worship
<b>15</b> 9AM Worship 10:30 AM Ed Hour	<b>16</b> Pastor's Sabbath Sewing  6pm Prayer Time 6:30 pm Women's Bible	<b>17</b> 6:30 am Ladies Bible  6:30 pm Ladies Aid Small Fellowship Hall	<b>18</b>  6:30 pm Worship	<b>19</b> 6:30 am Men's Bible	<b>20</b> Trinity Camping Weekend	<b>21</b> Trinity Camping Weekend  5 pm Worship
<b>22</b> Trinity Camping Weekend 9AM Worship 10:30 AM Ed Hour	<b>23</b> Pastor's Sabbath Sewing  6pm Prayer Time 6:30 pm Women's Bible	<b>24</b> 6:30 am Ladies Bible	<b>25</b>  6:30 pm Worship	<b>26</b> 6:30 am Men's Bible	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> 9 am Food Pantry  5 pm Worship
<b>29</b> 9AM Worship 10:30 AM Ed Hour	<b>30</b> Pastor's Sabbath Sewing  6pm Prayer Time 6:30 pm Women's Bible	<b>31</b> 6:30 am Ladies Bible				



**Serving Our Lord with Gladness - August 2021**  
**Senior Pastor: Rev. Steven S. Billings**  
**Associate Pastor/Principal: Rev. Keith E. GeRue**



<b>Worship Date/Time</b>	<b>Acolyte Serving</b>	<b>Elder on Duty</b>	<b>Usher Captain</b>	<b>Greeter</b>	<b>Altar Guild</b>
August 1 9 am August 4 6:30 pm	N/A	Thomas, Craig Harrmann, Tom	Collingwood, Dave Reinke, Steve		Zeinert, Jean Zeinert, Jean
August 7 5 pm August 8 9 am August 11 6:30 pm	N/A	Allen, Robert Thomas, Craig Harrmann, Tom	Voigt, Roger Wittmann, Jim Reinke, Steve	Schultz, JoAnn Sexmith, Barb	Conradt, Phil & Mary Zeinert, Jean Zeinert, Jean
August 14 5 pm August 15 9 am August 18 6:30 pm	N/A	Allen, Robert Thomas, Craig Harrmann, Tom	Harrmann, Tom Weinig, Lee Reinke, Steve	Kamprath, Liz	Conradt, Phil & Mary Zeinert, Jean Zeinert, Jean
August 21 5 pm August 22 9 am August 25 6:30 pm	N/A	Allen, Robert Thomas, Craig Harrmann, Tom	Maynard, Jerry Sexmith, Steve Reinke, Steve	Kester, Barb Nielsen, Jane	Conradt, Phil & Mary Zeinert, Jean Zeinert, Jean
August 28 5 pm August 29 9 am	N/A	Harrmann, Tom Thomas, Craig	Colby, Lee Collingwood, Dave	Zeinert, Jean	Conradt, Phil & Mary Zeinert, Jean

**Summer Church Office Hours:**

**(August) Monday-Friday - 8am-3pm**

Jean Zeinert & Mary Conradt, Church Administrative Assistants

Phone: (920) 722-2662 ext. 201

email: [ChurchAdmin@trinitymenasha.com](mailto:ChurchAdmin@trinitymenasha.com)

**Trinity Camping Weekend**

**August 20-22 • Wild West Campground & Corral**

Trinity Camping weekend is August 20-22 & will again be held at Wild West Campground & Corral. They are located 8 miles west of Waupaca on Hwy 54. Check them out at <http://www.wildwestcampground.com>.

Wild West Campground offers horseback riding and trail rides. All trail rides are led by a friendly and experienced trail guide. We have a great group of sure-footed horses perfectly suited to anyone's ability. [www.wildwestcampground.com](http://www.wildwestcampground.com).

New this year: Reservations are now taken online. Go to their website and place your reservation today.

Not able to camp with us? Then join us for the day on Saturday with a potluck meal around 3:00 pm. The campground does not charge a fee for guests to visit. Question? Contact Roger or Merry Voigt, at (920) 725-9908 or [rwvoigt@sbcglobal.net](mailto:rwvoigt@sbcglobal.net).

## WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES- AUGUST

08/04 GAST, Kevin  
 08/04 MAHONEY, Brian & Michelle  
 08/06 DIESCH, William & Cindy  
 08/07 WRAY, Terry & Sheryl  
 08/10 KROES, Nick & Lilli  
 08/10 SCHMITTING, Wynogene  
 08/11 ALLEN, Robert & Betty  
 08/11 TISCHER, Patty  
 08/13 WITTMANN, Jim & Debra

08/17 WALDBURGER, Mark & Jolene  
 08/22 BORGES, Brad & Gina  
 08/22 KISLEWSKI, Howard & Jacqueline  
 08/22 MANTEUFEL, Caleb & Emma  
 08/23 EMERY, Daniel & Heather  
 08/23 TUYLS, Caleb & Lauryn  
 08/25 WENDLER, Brian & Cheryl



## BIRTHDAYS - AUGUST

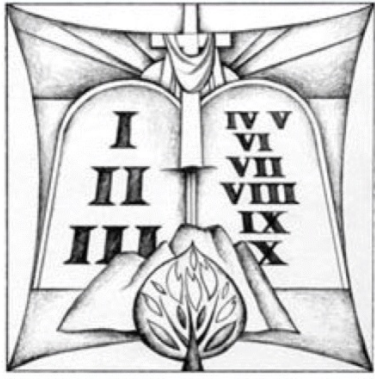
08/02 BATES, Kendall 08/03 VOIGT, Merry 08/04 LINDNER, Danielle 08/04 WIRTH, Laurel 08/04 WUSSOW, Samuel 08/05 BARTELME, Daniel 08/06 SCHMIDT, Aaron 08/06 SEXMITH, Barbara 08/06 WATSON, Bill 08/08 KROES, Simon 08/10 BURROWS, Gail 08/11 FONDER, Brady 08/13 BOUCHARD, Evalise 08/13 EDWARDS, Karen 08/13 FLATER, Robert 08/15 EDWARDS, David	08/15 GAST, Kevin 08/15 GUILLEY, Sandy 08/15 HANBY, Sheila 08/15 SCHRAMPFER, Mitchell 08/16 BROWN, Amanda 08/16 VOIGT, William 08/17 COLBY, Juliet 08/17 JANDREY, Janine 08/18 PEOTTER, Jerry 08/19 FLENZ, Sloane 08/21 BECKER, Mark 08/21 FUNK, Aria 08/21 HENSON, Grace 08/21 LUKASAVAGE, Diane 08/22 GAST, Bruce 08/22 MAYNARD, Logan 08/22 NIELSEN, Jane	08/22 SCHULTZ, JoAnn 08/23 ERDMANN, Franklin 08/24 CARPENTER, Tinley 08/25 GAST, Brian 08/26 TUYLS, Shiloh 08/27 HANBY, Cody 08/28 HENKEL, Connie 08/29 MLODIK, Samuel 08/30 BAEHMAN, Kathryn 08/30 EMERY, Daniel 08/30 KISLEWSKI, Howard 08/30 WITTMANN, Desiree 08/31 BATES, Dewey 08/31 GERUE, Elizabeth 08/31 WIRTH, Timothy
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**A Memorial Gift – was given to Trinity in memory of  
Clifford Moran.**

### ✠ *Trinity Membership Update* ✠

New Members/Transfers In:	Released/Transfers Out:
Baptisms:	
Weddings:	Members Who Have Passed:

<sup>25</sup>For I know that my Redeemer lives, and at the last He will stand upon the earth. <sup>26</sup>And after my skin has been thus destroyed, yet in my flesh I shall see God. Job 19:25-26



# Catechetical Comments

A Series

## THE TEN COMMANDMENTS

This month we continue our look at The Close of the Commandments:

*What does God say about all these commandments?* He says, “I, the LORD your God, am a jealous God, punishing the children for the sin of the fathers to the third and fourth generation of those who hate Me, but showing love to a thousand generations of those who love Me and keep My commandments.” [Ex. 20: 5–6]

*What does this mean?* God threatens to punish all who break these commandments. Therefore, we should fear His wrath and not do anything against them. But He promises grace and every blessing to all who keep these commandments. Therefore, we should also love and trust in Him and gladly do what He commands.

Question 78. *What is sin?*

Sin is every thought, desire, word, and deed that is contrary to God's Law.

The *Catechism 1991* now takes up the question: “What is sin?” and answers it by saying: “Sin is every thought, desire, word, and deed that is contrary to God's Law.” In support of this it lists the following Scripture:

**1 John 3:4** – Everyone who makes a practice of sinning also practices lawlessness; sin is lawlessness.

Other names for sin are *disobedience* (**Rom. 5:19**); *debts* (**Matt. 6:12**); *iniquity*, *transgression* (**Ex. 34:7**); *fault* (**Matt. 18:15**); *trespass* (**Rom. 5:17**); *unrighteousness* (**Rom. 6:13**); and *wrong* (**Col. 3:25**).

Disobedience. Debt. Iniquity. Transgression. Fault. Trespass. Unrighteousness. Wrong. These terms all look at sin from a slightly different angle. Let's explore them briefly.

*Disobedience.* Merriam-Webster says that disobedience is a refusal or neglect to obey. We are disobedient toward God when we either rebel against His law or simply ignore it.

*Debt.* We owe God our allegiance. When we refuse or neglect to abide by His will, we are in His debt. Scripture says that the debt we owe on account of our sin is death (Rom. 6:23).

*Iniquity.* This refers to an imbalance in a relationship. Our sin puts us on unequal ground with God – our “even standing” has been fractured because of our disobedience.

*Transgression* is an infringement upon an implied or expressed set of guidelines, laws, or principles. The law says you cannot exceed a certain speed on a roadway. If you do, you have transgressed that legal limit.

*A fault* is another kind of fracture. It represents a weakness or a failure – either an inability to keep a set standard or a slipping of adherence to that standard. We are incapable of keeping God's law perfectly. Therefore, when we – though we attempt to – fail to do as He expects, we have created a rift in our relationship with Him.

To *trespass* is to go beyond a boundary into areas in which we do not belong. God's law sets boundaries for us. When we violate those boundaries, we trespass His law.

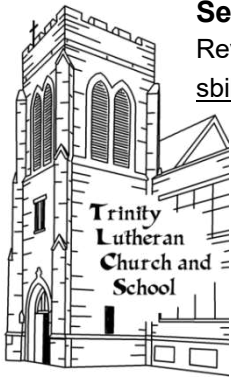
*Unrighteousness* is the state of being “not right” with God. God, because He is our Creator, has the right to place over us certain expectations, which He has delivered to us in His law. If we were to abide by those expectations, we would be considered to be “right” with Him, or *righteous*.

*A wrong*, according to Merriam-Webster, is an injurious, unfair, or unjust act inflicting harm without due provocation or just cause. Our sin injures God and we are guilty of wrong.

All of these terms together help us understand what's happening when we sin. ✠

Humbly in His service,  
Rev. Steven S. Billings  
Senior Pastor



**Senior Pastor**

Rev. Steven S. Billings

[sbillings@trinitymenasha.com](mailto:sbillings@trinitymenasha.com)**Associate Pastor/Principal**

Rev. Keith E. GeRue

[kgerue@trinitymenasha.com](mailto:kgerue@trinitymenasha.com)**Administrative Assistant**

Nathan Dahms

[ndahms@trinitymenasha.com](mailto:ndahms@trinitymenasha.com)

# TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL

Lutheran Church~Missouri Synod

**300 Broad Street  
Menasha, WI 54952****Church: (920) 722-2662****School: (920) 725-1715**

Dear School Families and Friends of Trinity Lutheran School,

Welcome back! We welcome back all of our returning students, and we add a special welcome to our new students. We praise God for each of these students and ask His blessing on them as they go through the school year. Trinity Lutheran School begins the 2021-2022 school year with 3<sup>rd</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> Grades, starting classes on August 30. PS3 -2<sup>nd</sup> Grade starts September 1. Registration will be August 17-19.

This year's school theme is "In All Things." **"He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through him and for him. And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together. And he is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything he might be preeminent. For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross. (Colossians 1:15-20)**

Our staff for the year is as follows: Mrs. Caitlin Vanden Bloomer, 3-year-old PS; Miss Nina Johnson, 4-year-old Kindergarten; Mrs. Heather Andreshak, 5-year-old Kindergarten; Ms. Kirsten Johnston, Grades 1 – 2; Mrs. Valerie GeRue, English / Language Arts / Grades 3 – 4; Miss Elizabeth Bahrns, Science / Social Studies / Grades 5 – 6; Mrs. Rachel Maloney, Music / Math / Grades 7 – 8; Miss Katherine Newman, Student Teacher; Miss Desiree Wittmann, Before and After Care and Teacher Aid; Mrs. Anne Dahms, School Cook; and Mr. Nathan Dahms, School Administrative Assistant.

We will publish a newsletter (Tiger Tracks) every other Friday. This letter will be sent out on Fast Direct. We will also be uploading the monthly lunch calendar at the end of every month. Please keep it handy so you can refer to it throughout the month. We hope this will help you. Check out our Trinity website at [www.trinitymenasha.com](http://www.trinitymenasha.com). The teachers are working to add more to their classroom information.

**SCRIP PROGRAM** –you may purchase scrip cards after service on Wednesday, Saturday, or Sunday. It may also be purchased at the school or church office during regular business hours.

**ONE MONTH FREE TUITION** – You can receive a referral discount of one month's tuition for each child you refer that enrolls in our school and pays their first month's tuition.

**FREE AND REDUCED HOT LUNCH** forms can be picked up on Registration Day. *(These still need to be filled out, even though Hot Lunch is free for all students this year.)*

**TUITION PAYMENTS** – You may make tuition payments by automated deduction from your checking or savings account. Please bring along a voided check to registration begin the process.

Please feel free to call or email me with any questions at [kgerue@trinitymenasha.com](mailto:kgerue@trinitymenasha.com) or (920)886-1077.

God's Richest Blessings in Christ, He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation.

Rev Keith E. GeRue

Associate Pastor and Principal



LUTHERAN CHURCH      MISSOURI SYNOD



# Lutheran World Relief Drive



Dear Trinity Congregation,

It is that time of year again when we begin to set our goals for our Lutheran World Relief Drive. Our sewers have been very busy and have already reached their goal of 50 homemade quilts. Thus, they will indeed surpass their goal this year. Our goal for personal care and school kits has also been set at a higher number of 100 of each. God commands us to care for our neighbors and thus He expects that of us. Thus, we joyfully want to pass on our blessings to those many people all over the world who are in need, perhaps this year more than ever. Please prayerfully consider partnering with your Trinity Ladies Aid/Lutheran Women's Missionary League.

Thank you for the many personal care items received within the last few weeks. We still need the following:



98 metal nail clippers with attached file, packaging removed

To assemble 100 school kits, we need the following: **WATCH FOR BACK-TO-SCHOOL SALES ON THE SCHOOL KIT ITEMS:**

200 70 sheet spiral notebooks, wide or narrow lined

9 boxes of crayons (16 or 24 count)

40 pencil sharpeners

71 30-centimeter rulers

7 pairs of blunt scissors

55 unsharpened #2 pencils with erasers

32 black or blue ballpoint pens



You may place your purchased items on the large shelf in the Small Fellowship Hall or in. You can also drop the items off in the Church office. Assembling and packing of the kits is scheduled for August 17 at the Ladies Aid/LWML meeting at 6:30 p.m. You are welcome to join us and give us a hand. We will keep you posted on updated numbers. We ask God to bless our efforts so we can be a blessing to others. To HIM be the glory! For any questions, please contact an officer of Trinity Ladies Aid/LWML; their names and phone numbers are listed on the poster in the narthex. Cash donations are always appreciated.

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## Stewardship Message – Ron Kraus shares his memories...

The very first time we walked through the church doors we were greeted with many smiling faces and handshakes welcoming us to Trinity. We were so impressed by the order of the worship service and the way we were welcomed that we set up a meeting with Pastor Lichtsinn to discuss joining this family. That was 1976. Shortly after joining we were visited in our home by Jerry and Joan Knapp. These two wonderful people talked to us about the opportunities that Trinity had to offer in serving the Lord by serving others. There was no pressure of any kind as they lovingly shared their love for this family, and they encouraged us to become involved in proclaiming HIS gospel as well as sharing God's love. It was an awesome meeting and the beginning of a long relationship.

One of the most important opportunities available to us was our school and we quickly took advantage of that by enrolling our first child, Tammi. Later on, of course we enrolled our other daughters, Kerri and Staci. To this very day our three girls talk about their learning experiences at Trinity with love and appreciation for the wonderful teachers they had. Mrs. Lichtsinn, Miss Kopitzke, Miss Trimberger, Principal Ken Waldburger are just some of the names often mentioned. Of course, we cannot forget Mrs. Jean Colby who took great pride in feeding the children with quality homemade food. Her recipe book is still around here somewhere I heard.

Throughout the years Dottie and I served on various boards, committees, task forces and continue to serve as God calls us... We serve because of the mentors God placed in our faith walk with the Lord. Positive feedback, sound communication, involvement, dedication, concern, care, love, encouragement, and appreciation came to us through fellow members that



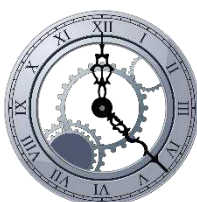
amazed us. People like Pat Blank, George Henkel, Russ and Duane Wilke, Pastor and Vaneta Shackel, Jim and Renee Early and my favorite...Rudy Reinke, were among the many people that come to mind. Today there are many more Trinity members that continue to support us as family.

Why this testimony today? Folks, this is the legacy of Trinity. We are loving, caring and God-fearing members of a family that truly cares about God's people. We utilize our time and special talents to serve God by serving others. We return first fruits from our financial gifts to continue to support Trinity's mission of reaching out to those that do not know Jesus. Your gifts, time and talent all contribute to this family's purpose, and it is evident to Dottie and me. We thank all of those that came before us for their sacrificial giving. We sincerely thank each one of you for being who you are and how you individually support this family. You are amazing! Most of all we praise God for you and for placing us among you. It is a wonderful place to call home and be among family.

Thank you for your time!

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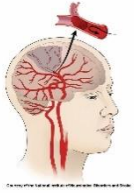
## Time, Talents & Treasures





# From the Parish Nurse

## Sun Stroke Versus CVA – Do You Know the Difference?



A **brain stroke or CVA**, is a disruption in the blood flow to part of the brain and can occur when a clot cuts off the blood supply to a portion of the brain. The other type of brain stroke is a “brain bleed”, or a hemorrhage in the brain.

Symptoms of a brain stroke are easy to recognize:

- **Sudden** onset of weakness, numbness, or paralysis on one side of the body
- **Sudden** trouble seeing, speaking, or understanding
- **Sudden** loss of coordination or balance

The important theme here is sudden. There is no gradual build up to an event like this in the brain. A brain stroke comes on suddenly.

**Heat stroke**, on the other hand, is the latter stages of heat exposure. The body is exposed to abnormally high temperatures for an extended period of time. This can happen during exercise, or if you are working in an excessively warm environment. Your body becomes unable to cool itself properly.

Other factors that can keep your body from cooling itself properly is lack of fluid intake. Stay hydrated, drink plenty of water if you know you will be putting yourself at risk for heat stroke! Drinking alcohol, caffeine or taking stimulants can increase your risk of heat stroke. The very young and elderly also have a higher risk of suffering from heat stroke.

Symptoms of heat stroke:

- Skin becomes dry and red, clammy
- Nausea and cramping
- Level of consciousness deteriorates
- Confusion to the point of not recognizing they are in danger
- Become unconscious, suffer brain damage and possibly death



Keep in mind that a typical brain stroke happens when the blood flow in the brain is suddenly slowed or stopped completely. Heat stroke from heat exposure develops slower. Feeling clammy, nauseated or cramping are signs you may be in trouble.

As we enjoy the beautiful Wisconsin summer, be aware of your exposure to excessive heat. Stay hydrated, stay safe, and be aware of what your body may be telling you. Know when you are overtaxing your body.

God's blessings!

Mary Howden, Parish Nurse

Reference: The Journal of Emergency Dispatch, dated October 14, 2013, “*Heat Stroke Versus Brain Stroke*,” author, Brett Patterson.



# TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH - FINANCIAL REPORT JUNE 2021

	<u>BEGINNING BALANCE</u>	<u>DEPOSITS/INCOME</u>	<u>WITHDRAWALS/EXPENSES</u>	<u>ENDING BALANCE</u>
Nicolet General Fund	\$16,966.81	\$69,820.93	(\$65,388.46)	\$21,399.28
Nicolet Restricted Funds	\$140,615.43	\$3,835.54	(\$1,830.48)	\$142,620.49
LCMS Endowment Fund	\$124,531.40			\$124,531.40
LCEF Steward Fund	\$695.54	\$8,125.22	(\$7,414.10)	\$1,406.66
Nicolet Money Market	\$25,474.24	\$0.69	\$0.00	\$25,474.93
RBC Account	\$53,930.17	\$3,189.53	(\$140.00)	\$56,979.70
Nicolet Memorial Fund	\$8,664.20	\$500.67	\$0.00	\$9,164.87
Nicolet Office Acct	\$1,127.33	\$200.01	\$0.00	\$1,327.34
Nicolet Debts Repaid	\$5,388.84	\$0.40	\$0.00	\$5,389.24
Nicolet Think Tank	\$3,182.47	\$0.24	\$0.00	\$3,182.71
Nicolet Scrip	\$14,361.22	\$28,064.74	(\$30,801.94)	\$11,624.02
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$440,075.44</b>	<b>\$113,737.97</b>	<b>(\$105,574.98)</b>	<b>\$448,238.43</b>
LCEF Mortgage (BOTR)	\$1,041,917.56		(24,197.01)	\$1,017,720.55

## **SCRIP News \$**

**SCRIP** is sold in the Church/School Office Mon.– Fri. from 8:00AM-3:00PM, and in the narthex before and after worship services.

How to Order Scrip? Call the office Mon.– Fri., 8:00AM-3:00PM, or email your order to: ChurchAdmin@trinitymenasha.com. They will put it together.

YEAR 2, JULY 2021

# CALLED TO GO: KYIV, UKRAINE

*The newsletter of Amanda Groshek  
(teaching English, sharing Jesus)*



Connecting with friends for coffee

## STAY IN TOUCH:

Email:

[amanda.groshek@missionofchrist.org](mailto:amanda.groshek@missionofchrist.org)

Blog:

[Called to Go](#)  
(on Wordpress)

## BEING EXCITED FOR JESUS

{the faith of children}

After almost a year of online services, one of the best things about this summer has been getting back into the habit of worshipping God in person with others on Sunday morning!

There are two times during the service that the whole congregation raises their voices together. I think but am not 100% sure, since none of the service is in English, that it is for the Nicene Creed and the Lord's Prayer.

Standing in church this morning, listening to all of these voices singing together, I smiled as I remembered back to last week and this part of the service. There was a little boy standing behind me, probably around kindergarten age. As everyone started to sing, this little boy's voice carried over the group because he was belting it! He was so excited and pleased to know the words. And everyone in the church couldn't help but smile.

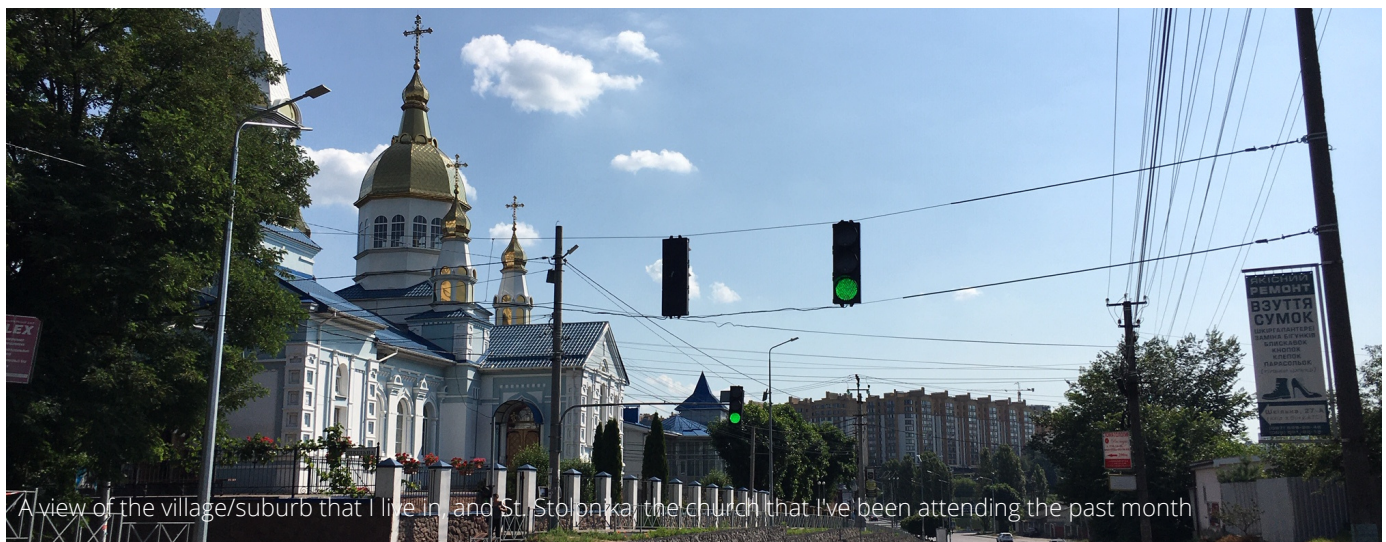
Jesus told his disciples -- and us today! -- to have the faith of a child. A faith that can't help but be trusting and not ashamed and excited. Just like that little boy singing at the top of his lungs in church last Sunday.

And when he belted out those words expressing faith and trust in God, everyone around him smiled. They couldn't help it! And when we, as Christians, demonstrate that same simple faith of a child that trusts, loves, and is excited, those around us can't help but notice. Sometimes God calls us to do big things for Him, but more often than not, God works in our lives and shines through us in the simple little things, drawing us and those around us closer to Him. May we all live that faith of a child!



A cake that made for a Fourth of July gathering that I attended at some friends' house here.





A view of the village/suburb that I live in, and St. Stolpnika, the church that I've been attending the past month

## AN INVITATION

### {little ways that God has been involved in conversations}

It shouldn't be surprising that when we invite God to be a part of our day and our conversations that He shows up, and yet I am constantly amazed and thankful to see Him do just that. With no classes currently, my weekly routines have been more relaxed and varied, but that it is easier to connect with friends because my schedule isn't as full as it normally would be; and as I spend time with friends here, God continues to show up.

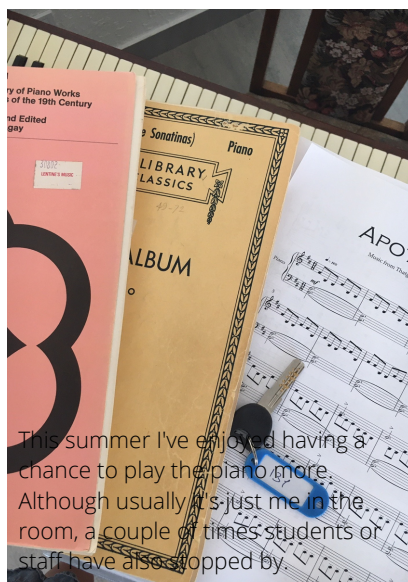
After returning from Georgia, a Ukrainian friend (who's working on her doctorate) reached out to me asking if I would be willing to meet once a week so that she could practice her English: speaking, writing, reading... all of it. Of course, I agreed right away. The other week one of the things we talked about was how society puts so much pressure on people to be a look or behave certain ways and how as a result many people struggle with insecurities. Both of us are Christians, so we also then discussed how God gives us all different gifts and how beautiful the diversity in God's creation is, including in people. That doesn't mean that there's not sin and that we

shouldn't repent of that and work to change; but it ultimately it means our value comes from God.

Three friends/co-workers and I met up for lunch last week, a last get together before our one friend moves to Turkey. As the meal wrapped up, the friend moving looked at each of us and said, "So, how can I pray for you?" And at the end of the meal, we all prayed together and for each other.

An American co-worker and friend had several people over to her family's house for a 4th of July cook out. Before eating, our hostess said, "Sometimes living overseas it's easy to forget to pray for the country you were born in because we're so aware of what's happening in the country we're living in, so I thought it would be good for us to take a minute to pray for the U.S. before we eat" (which is most of the attendees' passport country). So, we went around the table thanking God for the freedom we have and praying for health and healing.

What a blessing to be able to encourage each other!



This summer I've enjoyed having a chance to play the piano more. Although usually it's just me in the room, a couple of times students or staff have also stopped by.

### *Prayer Requests:*

- *Prayers of thanksgiving for a restful summer that has been filled with reading, baking, and connecting with friends; and also for the ways that God continues to use conversations*
- *Prayers for the Writing Workshop that I will be teaching at the end of the July/beginning of August*

