

“CHEERS & TEARS”

Cheers to **EVERYONE** who was involved in the Darmstadt Day! Everyone had a great time!

Cheers to **TOM & DORIS TURPIN** for their 15 years of service. You are going to be missed!

Cheers to **JERRY & LINDA RAE KORFF**, who celebrated their 57th wedding anniversary on June 3rd.

Cheers to **ALTON REININGA**, who celebrated his 100th birthday on June 28th.

Cheers to **PAUL SCHNUTE**, who celebrated his 93rd birthday on June 30th.

If anyone has a thank you of appreciation, please let Trisha know and she will put them in the next newsletter.

THANK YOU

We thank all those who served and participated in our community outreach event of Darmstadt Day on June 2, especially the boards of outreach and social ministry. We served over 50 families and raised over \$700 for the Highland Challenger Baseball League for children with disabilities.

BOXTOPS FOR EDUCATION

We are still collecting BoxTops for Education. We receive 10 cents for every label. Here are some of the products that have labels on them: Ziploc bags, Kleenex, Old El Paso, Hefty Cups, Hefty Bags, Wheaties, Cheerios, Nature Valley Granola Bars & Totino’s Party Pizza to name a few. If you have labels to donate, there is a box in the narthex. Thank you for your support.

CUSTODIAN: We will be needing a new custodian for the Church and School. The job description and duties is being developed and will be posted soon. If you are interested, please contact Alan Letterman at 812-867-7692



Formally Worship for Shut-ins
Can be seen Daily 7:30 AM & 7:30 PM WOW Channel 9
Direct TV Channel 377 Sunday Mornings at 11:30 AM

July 1, 2018 – Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

Psalm: 30; Epistle: Lamentations 3:22-33; Gospel: Mark 5:24b-34
“The Big Picture” - Sermon Text: Psalm 30:5 - *Rev. Dr. Thomas Ahlersmeyer*

July 8, 2018 – Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

Psalm: Psalm 132:13-16; Epistle: 2 Corinthians 12: 1, 6b-10; Gospel: Mark 6:1-13
“The Carpenter & Credentials” - Sermon Text: Mark 6:1-13 - *Rev. James Elsner*

July 15, 2018 – Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

Psalm: 85:1-13; Epistle: Amos 7:7-15; Gospel: Mark 6:14-29
“How Do You Measure Up?” - Sermon Text: Amos 7:7-15- *Rev. William Mueller*

July 22, 2018 – Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

Psalm: 23; Old Testament: Jeremiah 23:1-6; Gospel: Mark 6:30-44
“See Jesus With the Crowd” - Sermon Text: Mark 6:30-44 - *Rev. Dr. Walter Maier III*

July 29, 2018 – Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

Psalm: 136:1-9; Epistle: Ephesians 3:13-21; Gospel: Mark 6:45-52
“Knowing Christ’s Love” - Sermon Text: Ephesians 3:13-21 - *Rev. Paul Shoemaker*

PICTURE DIRECTORY: The Stewardship Committee has decided it is time for an updated picture directory! Since no one likes to be pressured to buy photos you don’t need, we have decided to take a more informal approach. Summer is a time for family gatherings and pictures. We are asking that you share one of those photos to be used in the directory. An electronic photo can be e-mailed or a hard copy can be placed in the Stewardship box in the office. Please be sure to completely label all individuals. Electronic photos can be e-mailed to: valeberhart@yahoo.com. We will be accepting these until Sept. 1, 2018.

CHURCH PICNIC

AUGUST 19th

Fun for the whole Family Games

Clabber Tournament

Attendance Prizes

Ice Cream Floats

Food—Fun—Fellowship

Uncle Tom's Fried Chicken, Grandma's Lemonade, Aunt

Millie's Iced Tea and Tableware will be provided.

Bring a Covered Dish, Salad and/or Dessert to share.

Casual Dress for church.

JULY BIRTHDAYS

- | | |
|---------------------|---|
| 3- ERIC CURE | 20- DONNA SENSMEIER (95) |
| 4- BOB NICHOLSON | 21- ROSA DAVIDSON |
| 5- LIZ KRIETEMEYER | 23- LYNN STEPHENS |
| 6- JACOB LETTERMAN | 26- KEN FEHD (92)
JERRY KORFF
RAY LAUGHBAUM |
| 8- CHARLES VANSTONE | |
| 14- LINDA ORR | 27- KERRY KECK |
| 18- DAVID KAHRE | 30- GARY GANN |

During the month of June, the following people were in the hospital, had surgery, recovering at home or our shut-ins – **DON FEAGLEY, JEFF SENSMEIER, ROGER DENNIS, ELLJEAN NICHOLS, CHARLIE VANSTONE, KEN TEMME, TOM & DORIS TURPIN, AL ARENDT, WALT SOMERS, DONNA SENSMEIER, NEAL WATHEN, NINA THURMAN, GIL KAHRE, PAUL SCHNUTE, RUTH MANS, ALTON REININGA, MARGARET CHEANEY, LOIS KAHRE, KERRY KECK, ROBERT KRON, and WANDA MILLER.**

CHURCH ATTENDANCE

Saturday, June 2.....	14
Sunday, June 3.....	91
Saturday, June 9.....	8
Sunday June 10.....	76
Saturday.....	9
Sunday.....	76

SUNDAY SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

	<u>June 3</u>	<u>June 10</u>	<u>June 17</u>
Nursery – High School (plus teachers & parents)	8	6	7
Adult Bible Classes	30	26	27
Music & Office	3	2	3
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Total	41	34	37

WHAT'S COMING UP

NEWSLETTER ITEMS: If you have an item for the monthly newsletter it must be in no later than the 20th of every month! Nothing will be accepted after business hours on the 20th. You can also submit items by emailing them to: trisha@tldarm.org

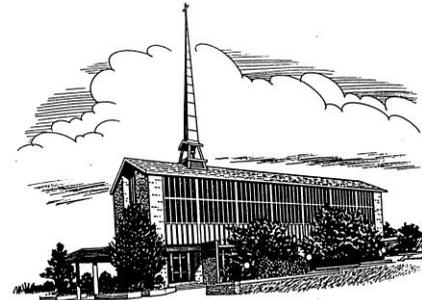
SARAH BIBLE CLASS: **PASTOR TEMME** is to present a class on “Types” to the Sarah Bible Class beginning at 9:30 AM on July 19th in the Christian Fellowship Room. Coffee, treats and fellowship available beginning at 9:00 AM. Do bring your Bibles and a friend to learn about this fascinating Biblical topic.

YOUTH CONFERENCE: **PASTOR** and **LINDA TEMME** will be taking our youth to the Higher Things conference at SIU Carbondale from July 10-13. This year's theme is titled “Sanctified.”

STEWARDSHIP: **ANSWER** to last month's **RIDDLE**, courtesy of the Board of Stewardship: “Salemink” is the family name of the person who is to be the speaker following our Loyalty Dinner on October 21st. The Rev. Michael W. Salemink is executive director of our Lutherans for Life. **SAVE THE DATE** to hear this enlightening and encouraging address!

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

DARMSTADT NEWSLETTER



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Formula of Concord, Article 10 – Adiaphora or Indifferent Things

My grandparents on my mother's side were pious Lutherans from Nebraska. They had a policy in their household of "no dancing." Dancing between a man and a woman in close proximity to one another could lead to lustful thoughts and sexual immorality. So they didn't dance, nor did their daughters. It was a discipline in their household that they felt would help prevent sinning. Even long after my parents were married, they didn't dance so as not to offend them. But after my grandparents passed away, my parents took ballroom dance lessons and enjoyed dancing together for many years.

Now my grandparents' rule of "no dancing" was not a commandment of God. It really falls under the category of *adiaphora*, a Latin word meaning "indifferent things." We often use the word *adiaphora* to describe those things neither commanded nor forbidden by God in the Scriptures. Now just because something is indifferent or not commanded nor forbidden by God does not mean that it is unimportant. *Adiaphora* help provide good decorum and order and discipline in life. However, concerning *adiaphora*, we must be careful not to cause *offense*, impose on *Christian freedom*, or become *legalistic*.

You may have a Baptist friend who will not drink alcohol. This practice serves a purpose. If he never drinks alcohol, he will never be drunk. We as Lutherans consider this an *adiaphoron*. While drunkenness is forbidden in Scripture, drinking alcohol is not. Therefore, we freely drink a beer at a ball game or have a glass of wine with our evening dinner. We just shouldn't overindulge. Now let's suppose you invite your friend to dinner. While drinking alcohol is not forbidden, if you were to set a glass of wine in front of your friend or drink wine yourself, you might *offend* him. You would not be showing Christian love. The apostle Paul says, "If your brother is distressed because of what you eat, you are no longer acting in love. Do not by your eating destroy your brother for whom Christ died." (Romans 14:15) However, if he condemned your practice and called it a sin, he would be imposing on your *Christian freedom* and inciting false guilt. Again Paul says, "One man's faith allows him to eat everything, but another man, whose faith is weak, eats only vegetables. The man who eats everything must not look down on him who does not, and the man who does not eat everything must not condemn the man who does, for God has accepted him. . . Do not allow what you consider good to be spoken of as evil." (Romans 14:2-3, 16)

In our area of Indiana and Michigan we have religious groups known as Amish or Mennonite. They have many rules and limitations concerning how they live – transportation, use of electricity and phones, attire, etc. These rules serve a purpose. They hope to remain separate from the world and its temptations. We consider them adiaphora, neither commanded nor forbidden by God. But these rules result in *legalism* if they believe a person is saved or condemned according to whether he keeps these rules or not. Jesus rebuked the Pharisees concerning their manmade ceremonies and traditions when he said, “They worship me in vain; their teachings are but rules taught by men.” (Matthew 15:9) The apostle Paul had Timothy circumcised so he could enter the synagogues without offending the Jews. But when the Jews insisted that Titus *must* be circumcised, Paul refused. He would not let their legalism destroy the Gospel of Christ.

In our worship service we have many ceremonies and rituals which are adiaphora. And while they are indifferent things, they serve an important purpose. We bow at the altar in reverence to the presence of God as we receive his body and blood. We have different colored par aments on the altar which remind us of the season of the year and the life of Christ. The pastor wears a special collar which identifies his divine call through the congregation into the office of the holy ministry. He wears a white alb or surplice signifying the covering of his sin by Christ’s righteousness. The music of our hymns and liturgy are the medium which convey the words of the Gospel. We rise at the reading of the holy Gospel in respect to the words of the life of Christ. These rituals help provide good order and decorum and discipline throughout the worship service. They are not commanded by God, but yet we would have difficulty worshipping without them. Without selecting a particular day for worship, without an arrangement of pews and altar, pulpit and lectern, without an order of service and some directions from the pastor or ushers, our worship service would be chaos. Adiaphora may be indifferent things, but they are still important.

But again, we must be careful that in our use of adiaphora we do not cause offense, impose on Christian freedom, or become legalistic. In our Christian freedom we do not want to cause offense by our casual manners or by suddenly changing traditions which have great meaning to others. On the other hand, we do not want to impose on the Christian freedom of others by insisting a crucifix is more appropriate than a cross, a common cup is preferred to individual cups, or the King James version should be read instead of a more modern translation. We certainly do not want to become legalistic and require the use of the Lutheran Hymnal or the Lutheran Service Book for our salvation. We do, however, want all our choices in adiaphora to serve the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Pastor Temme