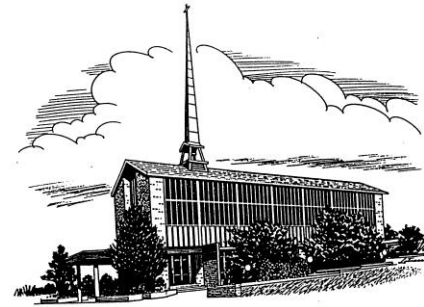


TRINITY LUTHERAN - DARMSTADT



NEWSLETTER

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This past month of June was a very important anniversary for the Christian Church: the 1700th anniversary of the Council of Nicea.

Throughout the first 300 years of its history, the Church had been separated from, and often was opposed by, the government of the Roman Empire. The Church was left alone to sort out all its various issues on its own.

This changed with the conversion of the emperor Constantine in 312. After that, with a few temporary exceptions, Christianity became the official religion of the Roman Empire and the various European kingdoms that followed it.

What this meant was that the government became involved in the affairs of the Church. The good news about this was that persecution of Christians by the Empire came to an end. The bad news was that, because of the involvement of the government, important decisions regarding the doctrine and practice of the Church now became subject to political intrigues as much as they were subject to theological discussions amongst Christian leaders.

The price the Church paid for this was the rise of Arianism. Arius was a teacher who came to believe that Jesus was not really God; He was merely the greatest of the creatures that the Lord had made. The Arians had a saying that summed this up: "There once was a time when he was not," meaning, Jesus did not exist before the Lord began His creation.

The teachings of Arius attracted a great many people. Under normal circumstances, the Church would have promptly sorted this issue out for herself. It was obvious that the doctrine handed down from the Apostles was that Jesus is God, Jesus and the Father are One, Jesus, along with the Holy Spirit, has been with the Father from all eternity. Left alone, this clear theology that had been at the heart of Christianity, especially for St. John, would have been easily believed, taught, and confessed against the Arian heresy.

The problem was that many of the Arians were good politicians, and many of the officials of the government were very poor theologians. As a consequence, in many places the Arian teachers were able to get in the good graces of the government and convince the

leaders that they were right. As a result, the teachings of Arius were promoted by the government and the teachers of orthodox Christianity were actually outlawed and exiled.

This became the most dangerous time in the Church's history. Heresy came very close to winning the day and completely stamping out Orthodox Christianity. Somewhere, the devil was smiling.

But the Lord never, ever leaves Himself without witness (Isaiah 43:10, Acts 14:17). The Holy Spirit led all the orthodox leaders of the Church to what became the first Church Council, at Nicea in Asia Minor in 325. From a human perspective, this Council came about when the Emperor Constantine decided to call together all the leaders of the Church to settle the issue once and for all. From the Lord's perspective, He was calling His people together in one place to confess the truth against the demonic heresy.

At Nicea, the theologians debated the matter against one another until the clear Apostolic teaching of the New Testament won the day. The result was the formulation of the Nicene Creed, which for the past 1700 years has been the definitive expression of true Christian doctrine. The Second Article of this Creed is so detailed because getting that right was what Nicea was all about: confessing the Person and Word of Jesus Christ in a clear way that cannot be misinterpreted and misrepresented. As St. John often said, getting Jesus right is what the Christian faith is all about.

Things were not exactly cut and dry after the council was adjourned. Arians hung around for a long time and caused a lot of trouble. But they could no longer pose as orthodox Christians. And they could no longer persuade government leaders to outlaw and exile the leaders of the true faith.

Ever since, this great Creed has been professed by Christians everywhere. Some of us use it every week in worship. Others use no creed, but will happily confess that they believe in all the doctrines taught in the Nicene Creed. Any group that does not believe in them is not Christian. Period. The Council of Nicea said that that is the end of the discussion, and so it has been ever since.

What a joy it is that the Holy Spirit has called, gathered, and enlightened us with this saving doctrine. And what a joy it is to confess it, along with all of you! The Lord truly gave us great gifts in Nicea 1700 years ago.

Starting August 13th, we will have an evening Bible study at about 645p/700p. We will be studying the Nicene Creed along with a study on the Augsburg Confession. I look forward to joining with you on studying the Bible and these great pillars of our faith!

ALLELUIA! LET PRAISES RING

Thank you to the **LLL** for hosting Ladies night in June.

Thank you to **EVERYONE** who helped serve, clean up and brought food the bereavement dinner for Don Keck.

Thank you to **PASTOR MICHAEL PAUL & HIS WIFE, IRENE** for a wonderful presentation after church on Sunday, July 13. They are spreading the word of God to all people in Taiwan.

Thank you to the **BD of PARISH FELLOWSHIP** for hosting the luncheon after the Paul's presentation. It was delicious.

Thank you to **KANDI & CHARLIE JACKSON, DEAN WATHEN, ALAN REININGA, RAY LAUGHBAUM & GREG DOWNES**, who help with the Preschool tables.

O SING TO THE LORD

Congratulations to the following people who celebrated their milestone birthday/anniversary in JUNE/JULY

WALLY & GAYLE STREMMING – 63

JESUS LIVES! THE VICTORY'S WON

DONALD KECK – JUNE 13

LYLE PLANK – JULY 9

PRESCHOOL

Thank you to everyone that helped with table removal and assembly.
Thank you to everyone that has donated snacks to the preschool.

The preschool is now enrolling for the 2025-2026 school year.
We have openings for Jr. Preschool only.

Visit www.trinitylutheranpreschooldarmstadt.com for more information.
Schedule a tour today! Please help us spread the word.

Preschool Open House will be on Wednesday, August 13 from
5:00 – 7:00 PM



First Day of School is Monday, August 18. Please pray
for a successful school year.

God's Blessings,
Breenna Smith, Director
Trinity Lutheran Preschool

LEAH VANDERGRIFF'S COOKBOOKS – NOW AVAILABLE TO PURCHASE

Leah was a member of Immanuel Lutheran Church and was the mother of past children in our school and was a grandmother of current children in our preschool. She passed away suddenly in 2023. Her family and friends have put together a cookbook in her memory of all her favorite recipes including some from Trinity Lutheran School. All proceeds will be going to her Memorial Scholarship at Murray State University. The cost is \$25.00 per book. If you would like one, Trisha has some in the office.

SALEM CHICKEN SUPPER

Salem Church of Darmstadt will be hosting their annual Chicken Sunday on Saturday, August 23 from 4:00 – 7:00 PM. They will be serving Fried Chicken or Ham, Mashed Potatoes & Gravy, Dumplings, Green Beans, Coleslaw, Desserts & Drinks. Adults \$14 & Children \$7. Carry-out is also available.

WHAT'S COMING UP

NEW ADDRESSES: If you or someone you know from the church has a new address or phone number, please let the church office know. Thanks Trisha

CALENDAR IN THE OFFICE: There is a calendar in the office for all the events that are happening at the church this year. If you know when things are happening during the year, they need to be put on that calendar.

FOR SARAH'S AND ALL SARAH-ELIGIBLE LADIES: The Sarah Bible Class will meet on Thursday, August 14 at 10:30 AM in the Fellowship Hall. Pastor Glowinski will be the guest speaker. The topic will be on Closed Communion. Fellowship, Coffee and Treats begin at 10:00 AM. All Ladies are invited to attend. Bring a Friend.

BABY SHOWER: We will be celebrating the birth and baptism of **BABY GIRL GLOWINSKI**. There will be a table set up in the Fellowship Hall beginning August 30 through September 14. You may place a gift or gift card at this time. They are registered at Amazon.

CHURCH SERVICE LIVE STREAM

In August the live stream of the Sunday church service will move from Facebook to YouTube. YouTube does not require an account to view.

The YouTube channel
<https://www.youtube.com/@TrinityLutheranDarmstadt>

During the month of June/July, the following people were in the hospital, had surgery, recovering at home or our shut-ins – **ELLJEAN NICHOLS, ROGER DENNIS, DON & MEVELYN FEAGLEY, SHIRLEY ZINN, TODD KORFF, RICHARD & MARY DENNIS, WAYNE WATHEN, NEAL WATHEN, AL & GLORIA**(Heritage room 112) **ARENDT, ARLENE HARTMAN**(North River room 607), **MARGE DAVID, and ALICE KECK**(Heritage room 145)



August 3
 Regarding Possessions – Eighth Sunday after Pentecost
 Rev. Dr. Walter Maier III
 Sermon Text: Luke 12:13-21 Readings: Psalm 100; Colossians 3:1-11; Luke 12:13-21
 Featured Choirs: St. John Lutheran School of Plymouth, Wis.; Christ Our Rock Lutheran High School Choir of Centralia, Ill. Featured Art and Architecture: Immanuel Lutheran Church, Terril, Iowa

August 10
 Do Not Be Anxious– Ninth Sunday after Pentecost
 Rev. Dr. Thomas Ahlersmeyer
 Sermon Text: Luke 12:22 Readings: Psalm 33:12-22; Hebrews 11:1-16; Luke 12:22-34
 Featured Choir: St. John Lutheran School of Plymouth, Wis. Featured Art and Architecture: St. Paul Lutheran Church, Ames, Iowa

August 17
 The Faith Race – Tenth Sunday after Pentecost
 Rev. Shayne Jonker
 Sermon Text: Luke 12:49-50 Readings: Psalm 119:81-88; Hebrews 11:17-31, 12:1-3; Luke 12:49-53 Featured Choir: Christ Our Rock Lutheran High School Choir, Centralia, Ill.; Holy Cross Lutheran Church, Fort Wayne, Ind. Featured Art and Architecture: Zion Lutheran Church, Arcadia, Iowa

August 24
 The Time is Coming– Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost
 Rev. William Mueller
 Sermon Text: Isaiah 66:18-23 Readings: Psalm 50:1-15; Isaiah 66:18-23; Luke 13:22-30
 Featured Choir: St. Paul Lutheran School, Munster, Ind.; St. Paul Lutheran Church, Decatur, Ind. Featured Art and Architecture: Faith Lutheran Church, Cumming, Ga.

August 31
 It’s Hard to Be Humble– Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost
 Rev. Paul Shoemaker
 Sermon Text: Luke 14:1-14 Readings: Psalm 131; Proverbs 25:2-10; Luke 14:1-14
 Featured Choir: St. Paul Lutheran Church, Decatur, Ind.; Christ Our Rock Lutheran High School, Centralia, Ill. Featured Art and Architecture: Lake George Lutheran Chapel, Fremont, Ind.

<u>CHURCH ATTENDANCE</u>	<u>BIBLE CLASS/SUNDAY SCHOOL</u>
Sunday, June 1.....	46
Saturday, June 7.....	14
Sunday, June 8	45
Saturday, June 14.....	12
Sunday, June 15	53
Saturday, June 21.....	17
Sunday, June 22	59
Saturday, June 22.....	13
Sunday, June 28.....	51
Wednesday, July 2.....	22
Saturday, July 5.....	17
Sunday, July 6.....	60
Saturday, July 12.....	18
Sunday, July 13.....	51
Saturday, July 19.....	12
Sunday, July 20.....	68
	33

ST JOHN’S LUTHERAN CHURCH: in Evanston IN will be celebrating 175 years of God’ Grace on Sunday, September 14. Their festivities start at 8:30 AM with a walk down memory lane. Worship Service will start at 9:30 AM. Their guest speaker will be their former pastor, Rev. Jeffrey Stuckwisch. A catered meal by Schnitzelbank will follow the service. Everyone is welcome to attend. RSVP by September 6th by calling 812/547-2007.

August

BIRTHDAYS

- | | |
|--|--------------------------------------|
| 3- TIM ROBBINS | 14- WALLY STREMMING |
| 5- EILEEN KAHRE
DANA MEYER | 15- TIM KORFF |
| 7- LYDIA CONNER | 17- LINDA RAE KORFF |
| 10- KATHRYN COOMER
STEVE HEEGER
SHIRLEY ZINN | 19- OSCAR HOFFHERR |
| | 21- CHELSEA JACKSON
KAROL ROBBINS |
| | 26- MELAINA RAMSEY |

CHURCH PICNIC AUGUST 24th

Fun for the whole Family

Games

Fish Pond for all ages

Lutheran Bingo

Attendance Prizes

Ice Cream Floats

Food—Fun—Fellowship

Fried Chicken, Lemonade, Iced Tea and

Tableware will be provided.

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

