

# CLARION

JULY 2023

## FROM PASTOR'S DESK



### Pastor Michael Meyer!

Hello there! *(As Obi Wan Kenobi says in Star Wars: Episode III-Revenge of the Sith)*

My name is Mike Meyer (a.k.a Pastor Mike), your new Associate Pastor of Youth & Families at HTLC! I've been serving among you, here in NW Arkansas, for a whopping 26 days, as of the writing of this article. My wife, Stacey, and sons Clayton (13), Cooper (11), are still in Nebraska until our house sells in Seward. However, they've been visiting almost every other weekend and have attended worship on those weekends.

Here's a few quick facts about me:

I love baseball, especially the Kansas City Royals; I'm a fan of the Nebraska Cornhuskers and Creighton Bluejays; I like to cook (except baking), fish, hunt, vegetable garden, walk, bike, any activity/time with family and friends. I've included the "bio" that was part of the installation service bulletin from June 18 that shares more about who I am. I'm excited to get to know who you are too!



*Michael J Meyer was born on March 9, 1969 in Fremont, NE, to Jon & Jane (Borgmeyer) Meyer. He was baptized on April 13, 1969 at Trinity Lutheran Church in Fremont by Rev. Donald Levenhagen. He grew up in Fremont where he attended K-8<sup>th</sup> grade at Trinity Lutheran School and was confirmed on May 1, 1983, by Rev. Donald Levenhagen and Rev. John Heffelfinger.*

*In May of 1987, he graduated from Fremont Senior High School. Later that fall, he enrolled at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln in the College of Agriculture and Natural Sciences. While in college, he took an interest in plant breeding and genetics and worked as one of the first student interns in the soybean breeding program at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. In May of 1992, he graduated from college with a Bachelor of Science in Agricultural Sciences, majoring in Agronomy.*

*(continued on page 2)*

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Later that month, he accepted a position with Pioneer Hi-Bred International as a Specialty Corn Research Technician in Champaign, IL. A year later, he accepted a position with Hoegemeyer Hybrids, Inc. as a Research Technician in Hooper, NE, and later became Research Manager/Assistance Breeder under Dr. Thomas C. Hoegemeyer, a position he held until June 2000.

He married Stacey Mueller on December 28, 1996, at Immanuel Lutheran Church in Columbus, NE. They were married by Rev. Kenton Birtell and Rev. Rodney Meske. Stacey serves the Lord of the Church as a teacher and has taught at Immanuel, Hooper, NE, (1993-1999); Trinity, Fremont, NE, (1999-2010); Emmanuel-Faith, York, NE, (2012-2023). God has blessed their love with five children: Courtney, [24]; Caleb, [22]; Colton, [19]; Clayton, [13]; and Cooper, [11].

At just the right time, God called Michael into full-time service in His church as a Lay-Minister Intern in July 2000 at Trinity Lutheran Church in Fremont, NE. In the Fall of 2001, he enrolled in the Distance Education Leading to Ordination (DELTO) program of the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod at Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, MO. The DELTO program allowed students to gain the experience of a vicarage along with their academic work, rather than as an intensive one-year internship. During their vicarage, the students were engaged in Word and Sacrament ministry in some capacity. Michael was engaged in such a ministry at Trinity, Fremont, NE. He graduated from Concordia Seminary, St. Louis on January 20, 2006, then ordained and installed as Associate Pastor at Trinity, Fremont, NE, on February 12, 2006, serving until January 2010. On February 14, 2010, he became the 1st Pastor of The Rock, Seward, NE.

## FROM THE OFFICE

Any information you need put into our weekly **NEWS & NOTES** needs to be submitted to the office by **NOON** on **WEDNESDAY** of each week.

Any information you'd like put into the **CLARION** is due to the office by **NOON** on the **15th** of every month.



The church office will be **closed Tuesday, July 4th** in observation of Independence Day.



**FOOD PANTRY**  
**Tuesday-Friday**  
**2 pm-4 pm**

**PASTOR'S CARE FUND**  
**Thursday & Friday**  
**2 pm-4 pm**

**GENERAL OFFICE HOURS**  
**Monday-Friday**  
**9 am -4 pm**

### Holy Trinity Office

(479) 636-1135

office @holytrin.org

### Pastor Longman, Senior Pastor

elongman@holytrin.org

### Pastor Meyer, Associate Pastor

mmeyer@holytrin.org

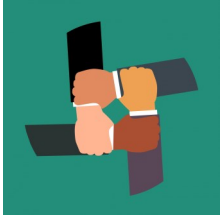
### Tabby Michaelson, Office Admin

tabby@holytrin.org

### Krista Malone, Office Assistant

krista@holytrin.org





## **UNITY SUNDAY**

Don't forget that Sunday, July 16th is a Unity Sunday! Education hour starts at 8:45 am, and worship with communion will be at 10 am! Following worship, there will be a HTY Café and Voters Meeting.



## **CHURCH LIBRARY**

Our library has fiction and nonfiction books that are Christian based for ALL ages! DVDs, CDs, puzzles, and Bible study materials for groups or individuals are also available. No due dates or late fees! Please come enjoy our library!



## **NURSERY ROLL**

We would like to expand our Nursery Roll Ministry to include friends and family of church members as an outreach for non-members with children and babies aged 3 and under. The Enduring Faith Beginnings booklets and materials are designed to help new parents share the love of Jesus from birth through the first three years of life. These booklets, beautiful picture Bibles, and small children's books are periodically mailed to parents and are a wonderful resource for building a habit of reading God's Word in the home. If you know of a young family that you would like the church to share these materials with please contact Melinda Miller at [themillers2@cox.net](mailto:themillers2@cox.net) or (479) 295-2978. Please include the recipients' names and addresses and include the name of the child and birthdate if possible.



## **PINOCHLE**

**Friday, July 14th** will be our next date for playing cards. Hopefully you have your calendar marked and will be ready to help set up at 6:00 pm and get cards in your hand for play at 6:30. Don't forget to bring a little something to share for a snack. Looking forward to seeing everyone and perhaps a few new faces!



## **CHURCH BUS**

We offer rides to our Sunday services in the church van. The van does **NOT** have wheelchair access so riders will need to be able to get in and out with a hand from the driver. We are looking for drivers to help with this ministry as well. If you could help even one or two Sundays a year it would be greatly appreciated! If you are interested call or text Ted Reinker at (409) 750-9633.

# VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

## July 16-20, 2023



We are excited to share with you that we ARE having Vacation Bible School this year! All registrations (participants and volunteers) can be done online. Please use the QR code or visit <https://www.holytrin.org/vbs> for information and to sign up to attend VBS and/or help with VBS. For volunteering, there are several different areas to help listed online. If you can't help all week, but can help with a day or two - we will take it! Any help is appreciated! Just be sure to fill in your availability.

If you have any questions, please contact Deb Peterson at [deborah0547@att.net](mailto:deborah0547@att.net) or (479) 586-6961

### **ADULT VBS OPTION!**

Crafty Crew will be meeting each night of VBS this year! Bring your craft project and join us. Also, if you've ever wanted to help with making the Scripture books or just seeing what the project is all about, drop in for a visit! No need to come every night, we will be here crafting our little hearts out each evening and look forward to spending fellowship time with crafty adults! We meet in Classroom 6. VBS Dinner begins at 5:30 pm, crafting begins at 6 pm!

# HOLY TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

# P D O Parents' Day Out

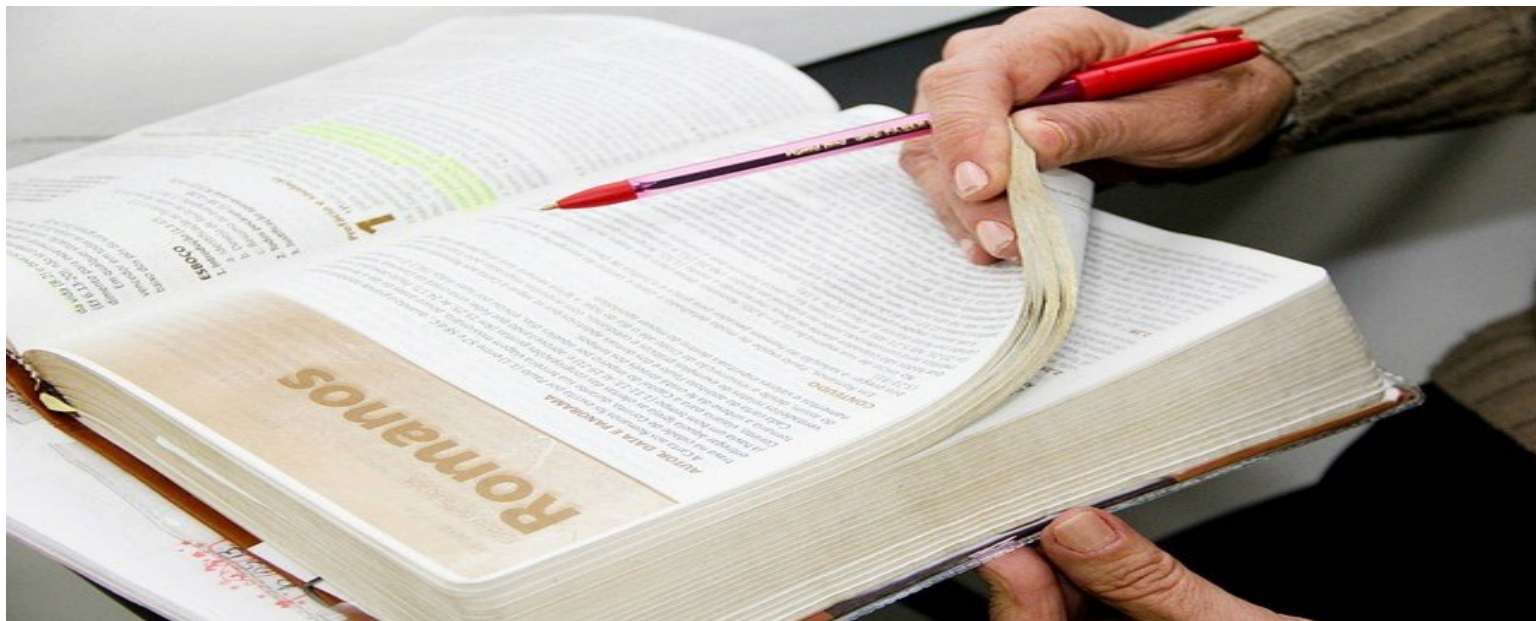
We're having a wonderful start to our summer at Holy Trinity PDO! The children are enjoying the Toddler side of our playground. We are planning on getting some mud kitchens and a sandbox so we can use the Preschool side as well. If you have outdoor play items in good condition you're looking to get rid of, or even old kitchen items like pots, pans and ladles, we will happily accept them! We're also accepting monetary donations to help cover the cost of the mud kitchens, playground mulch, playground borders, half ramp and storage shed. Cash donations can be put in the offering plate and designated for the PDO playground.

We celebrated Trinity Sunday in early June as we reflected on the Creation Story from Genesis, noticing that God refers to Himself as "we" and "us" in that story. How can God be One and yet Three Persons? We may not understand this mystery, but we trust in God's word.

With so much construction happening in our area, the children have lots of interest in construction vehicles and engineering. Our toddlers especially love construction vehicles. In May we took some time to read about construction, and we even noticed dump trucks and tractors moving along West Hudson Road. The children tried some engineering themselves in the Preschool room, working with paper tubes, tape, wood and glue.

As always, thank you for your continued support! We appreciate you!





# Plagiarizing Jesus: The Gift of the Lord's Prayer

**The Lord's prayer is a prayer in perfect accord with the will of God,  
and Jesus gifts it to us to plagiarize at will.**

Ben Franklin's oft-repeated motto, "remember that time is money," requires a serious upgrade. Today, text is money. Intellectual property (IP) rights are the new cash cow, not the time clock. It seems a shame that Jesus didn't have a financial advisor to counsel him on such matters. If he would have only trademarked John 3:16 or monetized himself as an "influencer" and cashed in on his public image and words! Think of what kind of financial legacy he could have bequeathed the church from the royalties gathered by the protected use of the Golden Rule. But, alas, so far from retaining the intellectual property rights to his best material, Jesus forfeits all, instructing every disciple to plagiarize, even the Lord's Prayer.

Jesus had an excellent reason to cultivate generations of serial plagiarizers. His disciples are to be plagiarizers, but with this one significant difference: because he gives his Word as a sheer gift, there is no violation of the second, seventh, eighth, or tenth commandments. Violation of the commandments happens when we intentionally take someone else's documented material and claim it as our own, purposing to deceive others as we steal, cheat, and lie amidst our covetousness of another's intellectual property. That has nothing to do with the kind of plagiarism our Lord encourages, especially with the Lord's Prayer.

Our Good Shepherd intends for us to take this prayer upon our lips and entrench it within our hearts through over-learning because "we do not know what to pray for as we ought" (Romans 8:26). It's because we don't have the words that he gives us the words themselves to shore up our confidence that our heavenly Father hears us, indeed, clearly hears us amidst our ignorance, inability, and inarticulateness.

Plagiarizing Jesus' prayer assuages several troubling dynamics for everyone who finds themselves failingly sinful and yet also declared righteous before God. First, there is a divine expectation that we converse and commune with God. Jesus gets at this when he says, as a statement of fact, "When you pray..." (Luke 11:2). Note that he didn't say, "If you pray" or "Should you like to pray." No, the disciples of Jesus will be praying. It's expected. But then the second dynamic, the troubling one, namely that we do not and cannot pray as we ought because we are constantly sinning in thought, word, and deed, even while justified in this life on account of Jesus' righteousness and blood atonement. What then is the solution to the prayer dilemma? Christ must fulfill even the *lex orandi* ("the rule of prayer") on our behalf.

*(continued on page 9)*

Jesus not only fulfills the law of prayer and wins for us the Holy Spirit who, with the Son, ever makes intercession for us (Romans 8:26; Romans 8:34; 1 John 2:1; Hebrew 7:25), but he also bequeaths to us the perfect prayer as an availing entreaty to our heavenly Father. Jesus covers all the bases for us when it comes to prayer so that we may know we are the children of God and he hears us: "This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us" (1 John 5:14). The Lord's prayer is a prayer in perfect accord with the will of God, and Jesus gifts it to us to plagiarize at will.

Fabricating a prayer as one "ought" is an impossible task because it falls under the domain of the law. It is something you ought to do – that is, it is a divine expectation that must be fulfilled. Now consider what the standard is for serving God: Perfection. "You therefore must be perfect, as your heavenly Father is perfect" (Matthew 5:48). What are we required to do in terms of the law? All of it and not only outwardly but inwardly as a disposition of the heart: "You shall therefore love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength" (Mark 12:30). Praying as we ought, then, is utterly impossible under the law.

This is why every Christian feels, in a visceral as well as cognitive way, the insufficiency of their prayers. That is our simul iustus nature, as Luther put it. Our words are failing and ill-suited because we so often live by sight and not by faith. Our approach to the Holy One is undeniably contrived and ill-mannered; our speech muddled and imprecise. But thanks be to God that Christ has liberated us from even the "oughtness" of prayer and, with his own words, has transformed our ignorant stammering into a soul-satisfying communing with God through the plagiarized words of that Word made flesh. In gifting us with the perfect prayer that perfectly accords with the will of God, Jesus has turned our imperfect prayers from the point of failing condemnation into a sweet gift of the gospel, from an exercise in insecurity to one of confident security. By plagiarizing the prayer, Jesus gave to his disciples.

It was once said that it is really the "Disciples' Prayer" because disciples are to be the ones praying it. But this misses the point of the gospel. Jesus prayed this prayer first, taking prayer as an institution that once underscored human failure and insufficiency, fulfilling it himself for "the prayer of a righteous man avails much" (James 5:16). Christ our righteousness (Romans 3:26), then transferred prayer to us as an instance of pure gospel. In this way, it is the Lord's Prayer. And, now, it is ours to plagiarize when we pray so that we may be sure that whatever else we may have prayed, it is bound up with a prayer that undoubtedly accords with the will of God and, what is more, is a prayer tethered to the availing mediation of Christ Jesus.

\*The substance of this article is adapted from Rev. Paul Willweber's "All Theology is Plagiarism" paper presented at the (25 April) 2010 Catechism Convocation on the Lord's Prayer at Trinity Lutheran Church, Whittier, CA. Willweber is the parish minister at Prince of Peace Lutheran Church in San Diego.



**Contributor | John Bombaro**

*Rev. John J. Bombaro, Ph.D. (King's College, University of London) is a missionary of the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod, serving as the Assistant Director of Theological Education at the Luther Academy, Riga, Latvia.*

*Plagiarizing Jesus: The Gift of the Lord's Prayer.* (2023, May 22). <https://www.1517.org/articles/plagiarizing-jesus-the-gift-of-the-lords-prayer>

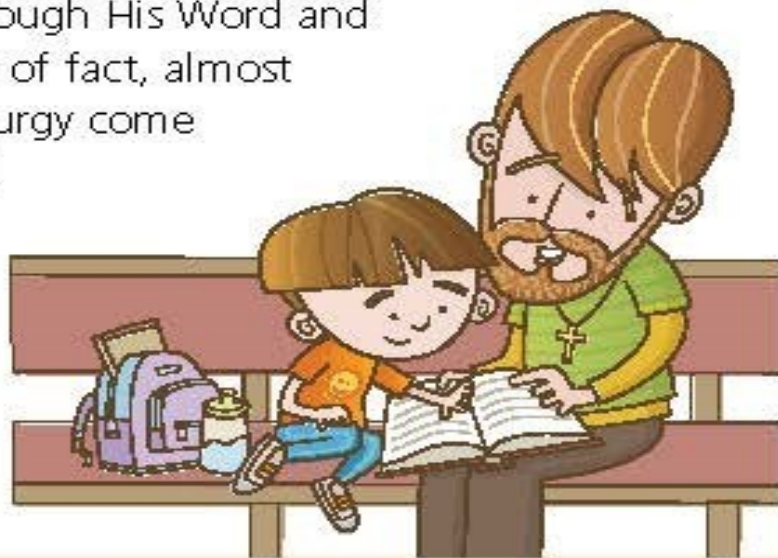
# KIDS IN THE DIVINE SERVICE

## What is the “liturgy”?

Maybe you have heard this word before. The word “liturgy” (pronounced LI-tur-jee) comes from the Greek word “leitourgia,” which means “public service” or “divine service.” The liturgy is God’s service to us through Word and Sacrament.

## Why do we use it?

Just as the word “liturgy” means “divine service,” God is the one serving us in our Lutheran worship. We are simply responding to Him with thanksgiving and praise. Isn’t it wonderful to be involved in worship that has God doing all of the work through His Word and Sacraments? As a matter of fact, almost all of the words in the liturgy come straight out of the Bible! What a great way to worship on Sunday morning!



**Parents:** Before or after the Divine Service, direct your children to the various services in the hymnal. Encourage use of the liturgy with your family at home. Matins (*LSB*, 219) and Vespers (*LSB*, 229) make for great family devotions.



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Praise and thanksgiving. Father we offer

# FEED MY SHEEP

**MAY 2023**

Total Households = 58 (196 people total)

*Food Pantry Statistics*

Adults (18-60) = 107

Children (0-17) = 64

Senior Citizens (61+) = 20

Other (*Unknown*) = 2



# PASTOR'S CARE FUND

**MAY 2023**

*These disbursements are from money designated for the Pastor's Care Fund. Your contributions bring a tremendous relief to your neighbors who are in difficult circumstances.*



Total Households = 18

Utility Help = 8

Rent/Mortgage = 2

Motel = 5

Transportation = 4



# July



## Birthdays

- |                           |                              |                            |
|---------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------|
| <b>1 Bryan Evans</b>      | <b>10 Trisha Brockhoff</b>   | <b>23 Sara Bublitz</b>     |
| <b>Michael Fanning</b>    | <b>Mike Cario</b>            | <b>24 Claire McClellan</b> |
| <b>Barbara Raleigh</b>    | <b>David Neumann</b>         | <b>27 Roberta Belviy</b>   |
| <b>Linda Recob</b>        | <b>11 Aaron Gust</b>         | <b>Alisha Bracht</b>       |
| <b>2 Helen Campbell</b>   | <b>Amy Wright</b>            | <b>Gilbert Campbell</b>    |
| <b>Becky Jones</b>        | <b>12 David Frevert</b>      | <b>Pam Pickett</b>         |
| <b>Becca Kirby</b>        | <b>Connie Steeby</b>         | <b>Toni Shane</b>          |
| <b>Abigail Tang</b>       | <b>14 Kaden Bowen</b>        | <b>28 Dolores Bernthal</b> |
| <b>3 Dave Lehenbauer</b>  | <b>15 Brittany Augustine</b> | <b>Matthew Martin</b>      |
| <b>4 Nicci Winters</b>    | <b>Maddison Mayer</b>        | <b>29 Stevie Moeller</b>   |
| <b>5 Brenda Smith</b>     | <b>16 Angela Hartwig</b>     | <b>30 David Black</b>      |
| <b>7 Roger Gliedt</b>     | <b>Lou Holtz</b>             | <b>Jacob Smith</b>         |
| <b>8 Stuart Finley</b>    | <b>21 Amy Gregory</b>        | <b>31 Levi Jones</b>       |
| <b>Aria Stottlemeyer</b>  | <b>Dakota Ockinga</b>        | <b>Molly Michaelson</b>    |
| <b>9 Brydon Evans</b>     | <b>22 Sharon Frye</b>        | <b>Maxine Reihman</b>      |
| <b>Shelby L'Hommedieu</b> | <b>Heather Stottlemeyer</b>  |                            |

## Anniversaries

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <b>4 Mike &amp; Mary Girshner</b>         | <b>16 Zachary &amp; Lauren Sanders</b>  |
| <b>8 Aaron &amp; Heather Stottlemeyer</b> | <b>17 Joseph &amp; Amber Burr</b>       |
| <b>9 Jeff &amp; Terri Blake</b>           | <b>19 John &amp; Gloria Jenkins</b>     |
| <b>9 Josh &amp; LeAnn Girshner</b>        | <b>22 Kevin &amp; Becca Kirby</b>       |
| <b>15 Mike &amp; Dorothy Button</b>       | <b>27 Mike &amp; Lisa Nelson</b>        |
| <b>Bill &amp; Jean Gregesich</b>          | <b>29 John &amp; Brittany Augustine</b> |

# SERVING IN JULY 2023



**JULY 2**  
**(PENTECOST 5)**

**JULY 9**  
**(PENTECOST 6)**

**JULY 16**  
**(UNITY)**

**JULY 23**  
**(PENTECOST 8)**

**JULY 30**  
**(PENTECOST 9)**

**READERS**

8:00 AM	KAREN LAUNDERVILLE	KAREN LAUNDERVILLE	--	JOHN JENKINS	ELAINE LAUNDERVILLE
10:45 AM	JEANNE MEYER	PAM PICKETT	SHARON DAVIS	SHARON DAVIS	BRENT GARNER

**GREETERS**

8:00 AM	DAVID & MARY FREVERT	DAVE & WENDIE FERGUSON	--	DEAN & NANCY EISMA	RAY ESCHENBURG & KAREN LAUNDERVILLE
10:45 AM	SHARON DAVIS	BILL & JEAN GREGESICH	RICH RUMPF & MARIAN VENENGA	SHARON DAVIS & MAXINE REIHMAN	BRENT & LIBBY GARNER

**MEDIA**

8:00 AM	DAVID HEINTZ	JENA EISMA	--	DONNA WINTERS	BETH KILOEN
10:45 AM	JEAN GREGESICH	ZACHARY GUST	JOHN JENKINS	LEVI WRIGHT	JEAN GREGESICH

**STREAMING**

MAC MACGOWAN	OWEN WINTERS	MAC MACGOWAN	OWEN WINTERS	MAC MACGOWAN
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**LEAD COUNTERS**

MAC MACGOWAN & HT MEANS	MAC MACGOWAN & HT MEANS	MAC MACGOWAN & HT MEANS	MAC MACGOWAN & HT MEANS	MAC MACGOWAN & HT MEANS
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**LAWN CARE**

TEAM 3 (GAS)	TEAM 4	TEAM 5	TEAM 1 (EDGING)	TEAM 2
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**ALTAR GUILD  
ELDERS**

LANA MOELLER & MELINDA MILLER  
8:00 AM – DAVE FERGUSON  
10:45 AM – BRENT GARNER

**USHERS**

8:00 AM – TEAM B  
(JAMES SIJ, RAY ESCHENBURG, BRUCE PILCHER, JOHN AUGUSTINE, STEVE MOELLER)  
10:45 AM – TEAM D  
(JIM WILLIAMS, DON BRACHT, BOB BAUER, PHIL GARLING, CHRIS PLAISANCE, GENE KIESEL)




# July 2023

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church | Rogers, Arkansas

It's time for VBS!



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
<b>2 PENTECOST 5</b> <b>(FEED MY SHEEP)</b> 8 AM COMMUNION 9:30 AM EDUCATION/BELLS 10:45 AM COMMUNION	<b>3 PASTORS' DAY OFF</b>	<b>4 INDEPENDENCE DAY</b> <b>OFFICE CLOSED</b> 	<b>5</b> 12 PM NEWS & NOTES DUE 2-4 PM FOOD PANTRY	<b>6</b> 2-4 PM FOOD PANTRY	<b>7</b> 2-4 PM FOOD PANTRY	<b>8</b>
<b>9 PENTECOST 6</b> 8 AM WORSHIP 9:30 AM EDUCATION/BELLS 10:45 AM WORSHIP 3 PM INSTALLATION	<b>10 PASTORS' DAY OFF</b>	<b>11</b> 2-4 PM FOOD PANTRY 6:30 PM ELDERS	<b>12</b> 12 PM NEWS & NOTES DUE 2-4 PM FOOD PANTRY	<b>13</b> 2-4 PM FOOD PANTRY	<b>14</b> 2-4 PM FOOD PANTRY 6 PM CARDS	<b>15</b>
<b>16 UNITY SUNDAY</b> 8:45 AM EDUCATION 10 AM COMMUNION 11:30 HTY CAFÉ 12 PM VOTERS ASSEMBLY 5:30 PM DINNER 6 PM VBS	<b>17 PASTORS' DAY OFF</b> 5:30 PM DINNER 6 PM VBS	<b>18</b> 2-4 PM FOOD PANTRY 5:30 PM DINNER 6 PM VBS 6:30 PM COUNCIL	<b>19</b> 12 PM NEWS & NOTES DUE 2-4 PM FOOD PANTRY 5:30 PM DINNER 6 PM VBS	<b>20</b> 2-4 PM FOOD PANTRY 5:30 PM DINNER 6 PM VBS	<b>21</b> 2-4 PM FOOD PANTRY	<b>22</b>
<b>23 PENTECOST 8</b> <b>30 PENTECOST 9</b> 8 AM WORSHIP 9:30 AM EDUCATION/BELLS 10:45 AM WORSHIP	<b>24 31 PASTORS' DAY OFF</b>	<b>25</b> 2-4 PM FOOD PANTRY	<b>26</b> 12 PM NEWS & NOTES DUE 2-4 PM FOOD PANTRY	<b>27</b> 2-4 PM FOOD PANTRY	<b>28</b> 2-4 PM FOOD PANTRY	<b>29</b>