TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH.

The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod
1960 East Johns Avenue
Decatur, Illinois 62521 - Phone 217-422-3630
Fourth Sunday Of Easter
Apríl 21, 2024



Adult Bible Study Opportunities

10:15 A.M. Today

Adult Bible Study

"The Book Of Exodus"

10:00 A.M. Thursday

Adult Bible Study

"The Gospel Of Matthew"

Everyone is welcome and encouraged to attend our Bible based study.

Our hymns for today: 475, 709, (710, 711, 548), 473

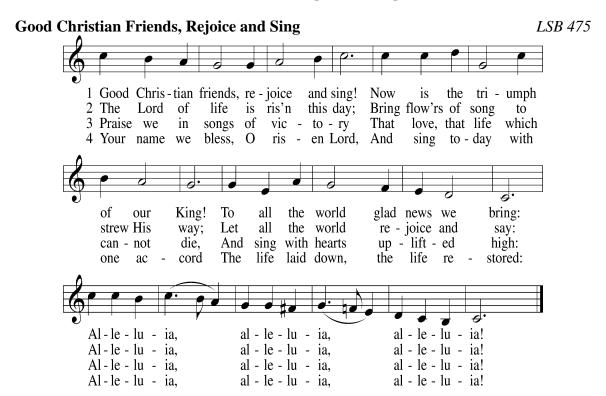
AS WE GATHER

Welcome to all who join us for worship today. We pray that God will bless you with a stronger faith through our worship service. Greet one another before and after the service, especially our visitors. Please fill out an attendance card, available in the pew racks, and introduce yourself at the door. If you would like a visit, prayer, or more information, about Trinity Lutheran Church, please note that on the card.

PRAYER IN PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

0 God, you give faith to believe in the healing power of your Word: Put away from us, we entreat you, temptations to doubt Your providential care and give us those things that are profitable for our salvation; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Divine Service Setting Three, Page 184



Stand

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

- **P** In the name of the Father and of the

 → Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.
- P Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.
- **P** Our help is in the name of the Lord,
- **C** who made heaven and earth.
- **P** I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,
- and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.
- P O almighty God, merciful Father,
- I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.
- P Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the

 → Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.

Introit

Psalm 23; antiphon: John 10:14, 15b

I am the good shepherd.

I know my own and my own know me, and I lay down my life for the sheep.

The LORD is my shepherd;

I shall not want.

He makes me lie down in green pastures.

He leads me beside still waters.

He restores my soul.

He leads me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for you are with me;

your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;

you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.

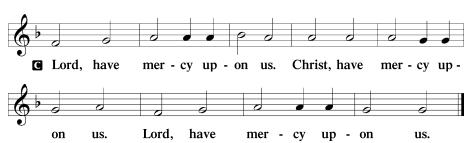
Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD forever.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

I am the good shepherd.

I know my own and my own know me, and I lay down my life for the sheep.

Kyrie





LSB 186



Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.



P Let us pray.

Almighty God, merciful Father, since You have wakened from death the Shepherd of Your sheep, grant us Your Holy Spirit that when we hear the voice of our Shepherd we may know Him who calls us each by name and follow where He leads; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



Old Testament Reading

Ezekiel 34:11–15

¹¹"For thus says the Lord GoD: Behold, I, I myself will search for my sheep and will seek them out. ¹²As a shepherd seeks out his flock when he is among his sheep that have been scattered, so will I seek out my sheep, and I will rescue them from all places where they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. ¹³And I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and will bring them into their own land. And I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the ravines, and in all the inhabited places of the country. ¹⁴I will feed them with good pasture, and on the mountain heights of Israel shall be their grazing land. There they shall lie down in good grazing land, and on rich pasture they shall feed on the mountains of Israel. ¹⁵I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I myself will make them lie down, declares the Lord GoD.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Gradual

adapt. from Matthew 28:7; Hebrews 2:7; Psalm 8:6

Christ has risen from the dead.

[God the Father] has crowned him with glory and honor.

He has given him dominion over the works of his hands;

he has put all things under his feet.

Epistle 1 John 3:16–24

¹⁶By this we know love, that he laid down his life for us, and we ought to lay down our lives for the brothers. ¹⁷But if anyone has the world's goods and sees his brother in need, yet closes his heart against him, how does God's love abide in him? ¹⁸Little children, let us not love in word or talk but in deed and in truth. ¹⁹By this we shall know that we are of the truth and reassure our heart before him; ²⁰for whenever our heart condemns us, God is greater than our heart, and he knows everything. ²¹Beloved, if our heart does not condemn us, we have confidence before God; ²²and whatever we ask we receive from him, because we keep his commandments and do what pleases him. ²³And this is his commandment, that we believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us. ²⁴Whoever keeps his commandments abides in him, and he in them. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit whom he has given us.

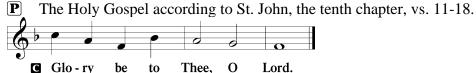
A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

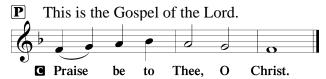
Alleluia LSB 190



Holy Gospel John 10:11–18



¹¹[Jesus said:] "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. ¹²He who is a hired hand and not a shepherd, who does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and flees, and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. ¹³He flees because he is a hired hand and cares nothing for the sheep. ¹⁴I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, ¹⁵just as the Father knows me and I know the Father; and I lay down my life for the sheep. ¹⁶And I have other sheep that are not of this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. ¹⁷For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life that I may take it up again. ¹⁸No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have authority to lay it down, and I have authority to take it up again. This charge I have received from my Father."



Nicene Creed

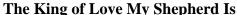
I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

> And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father. by whom all things were made: who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man: and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead. whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,

the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,

And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life + of the world to come. Amen.



LSB 709



- 5 Thou spreadst a table in my sight; Thine unction grace bestoweth; And, oh, what transport of delight From Thy pure chalice floweth!
- And so through all the length of days
 Thy goodness faileth never;
 Good Shepherd, may I sing Thy praise
 Within Thy house forever!

Sermon

"A New Shepherd"

Sermon Text

Ezekiel 34:11-15

Stand

Offertory LSB 192



Sit

Offering

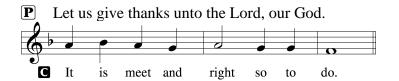
Stand

Prayer of the Church

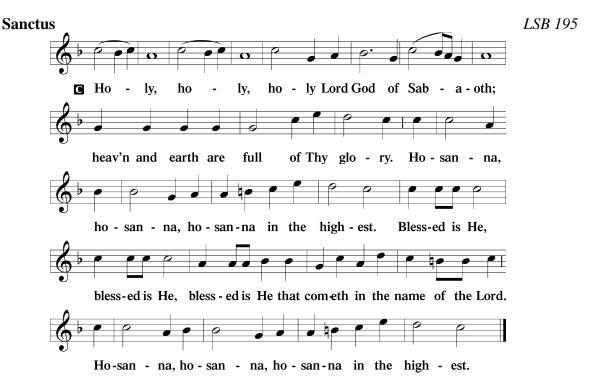
Preface LSB 194







P It is truly meet, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God. And most especially are we bound to praise You on this day for the glorious resurrection of Your Son, Jesus Christ, the very Paschal Lamb, who was sacrificed for us and bore the sins of the world. By His dying He has destroyed death, and by His rising again He has restored to us everlasting life. Therefore with Mary Magdalene, Peter and John, and with all the witnesses of the resurrection, with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:



LSB 196

P Our Father who art in heaven,

hallowed be Thy name,

Thy kingdom come,

Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven;

give us this day our daily bread;

and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation,

but deliver us from evil.

For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever.

Amen.

The Words of Our Lord

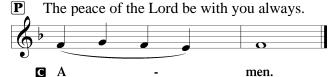
LSB 197

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My

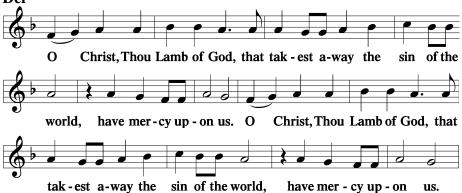
→ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

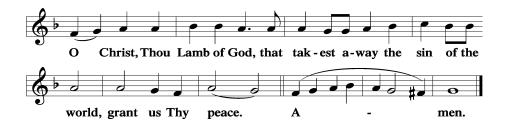
In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My + blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Pax Domini LSB 197



Agnus Dei

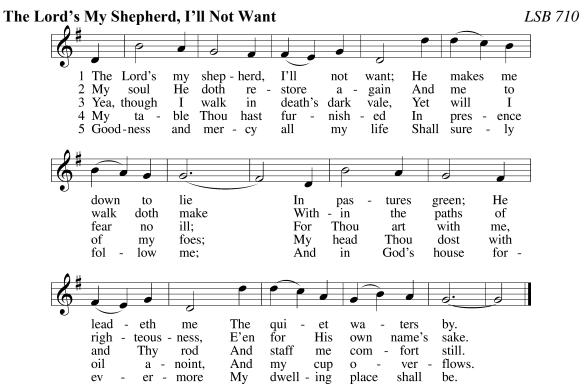




Sit

The Lord's Supper is the holiest gift of God to the Church. Therefore, we follow the New Testament practice of closed communion. Holy communion testifies to our oneness in the doctrine of the Apostles (Acts 2:42). The Scriptures teach that those who eat of Christ's blood in the Lutheran Church must believe in the real presence of Christ, must be instructed and believe in the correct doctrines of the faith. We invite communicant members of this and other Missouri Synod congregations to commune. If you are interested in communicant membership, speak to Pastor Versemann and he will happily work with you to arrange a time for you to be instructed in new membership classes.

Distribution



Hear us

Ear - ly

You have loved

chil - dren

us

us,

let

when

turn

love

pray.

You.

still.

we

to

us

bless - ed

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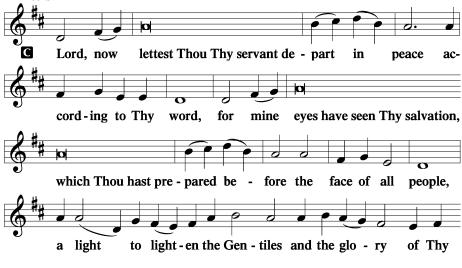


Stand

(Personal Prayer Of Thanksgiving After Receiving The Lord's Supper)

Almighty and everlasting God, I thank and praise You for feeding me the life-giving body and blood of Your beloved Son, Jesus. Send Your Holy Spirit to me, that, having with my mouth received this Holy Supper, I may by faith obtain, and eternally enjoy Your divine grace, the forgiveness of sins, oneness with Christ, and life eternal, through Jesus Christ, my Lord. Amen.

Nunc Dimittis LSB 199





A Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



Benedicamus LSB 202

A Bless we the Lord.

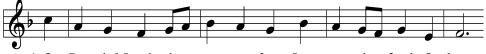


Benediction LSB 202

- **P** The Lord bless you and keep you.
 - The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you. The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and + give you peace.
 - C Amen, amen, amen.

Our Paschal Lamb, That Sets Us Free

LSB 473



- 1 Our Pas-chal Lamb, that sets us free, Is sac-ri-ficed. O keep
- 2 Let all our lives now cel e brate The feast; let mal ice die.
- 3 Let all our deeds, u nan i mous, Con fess Him as our Lord



The feast of free-dom gal - lant - ly; Let al - le - lu - ias leap: Let love grow strong a - new, and great, Let truth stamp out the lie. Who by the Spir - it lives in us, The Fa - ther's liv - ing Word.



Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! A -



gain Sing al - le - lu - ia, cry a-loud: Al-le - lu - ia! A - men!

CHILDREN'S ACTIVITY BAGS may be found on the stand just outside the center sanctuary doors.

P.A. DEVICE AVAILABLE - Please see an usher if you have difficulty hearing.

PEW CUSHIONS are available from a box near the Usher's Stand. Help yourself and please feel free to leave them in your seat after services.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION TODAY AT 10:15 A.M.

PRE-K – 4th GRADE – Sarah Casebeer, Laura Cogan – Downstairs

 5^{th} - 8^{th} GRADE – Tracie England, Denise Roberts - Classroom across from the church office

HIGH SCHOOL BIBLE STUDY – IN PASTOR'S CLASS – Downstairs

ADULT BIBLE STUDY – Pastor Versemann – Downstairs

THE CHURCH OFFICE regularly scheduled hours: 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM, Tuesday through Friday. Pastor Versemann's hours are 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM (tentative), Tuesday through Friday. If you need to speak with him, please call the church office at 422-3630 to make an appointment.

Weekly Average Offering for 2024	\$5,032.87
Weekly Offerings Needed for 2024 Budget	\$4,795.79
Weekly Average Attendance for 2024	68
Attendance for April 14, 2024	70

Sunday, April 21, 2024

9:00 AM – Worship Service

10:15 AM - Sunday School, High School Bible Study, Adult Bible Study

Monday, April 22, 2024

No office hours, Pastor's Day Off

Tuesday, April 23, 2024

4:00 PM - 1st Year Confirmation Class

Thursday, April 25, 2024

8:30 AM - Quilters

10:00 AM - Thursday Morning Bible Study

4:00 PM - 2nd Year Confirmation Class

Sunday, April 28, 2024

9:00 AM – Worship Service

10:15 AM – Sunday School, High School Bible Study, Adult Bible Study



Thank you for your kind reception and response to the mission presentations made on Sunday, April 7. Your warm welcome was most appreciated. The Lutheran Heritage Foundation is most grateful for all your prayers and support. God bless you. Rev. R. Rahm, LHF Founder

Leading us in worship today:

The Officiant Rev. Matthew Versemann

The Organist Rachel Versemann

The Elders Jim Harper, Bill Buechsenschuetz
The Ushers Zeb Poland, Kent Birmingham

The Greeters Sharon Harper, Diana Buechsenschuetz

The Acolyte Charlotte Patterson
The Altar Guild Tracie England

The Offering Counters Bill Buechsenschuetz, Diana Buechsenschuetz

Our Volunteers for Sunday, April 28, 2024

The Officiant Rev. Matthew Versemann

The Elders Kent Birmingham, John Casebeer

The Ushers Mike Kurecki, Adam Hunt
The Greeters Cathy Kurecki, Tracie England

The Acolyte Hannah Harper
The Altar Guild Becky Alexander

The Offering Counters Kent Birmingham, Susan Birmingham

Volunteers to serve snacks and coffee and clean up afterwards for Sunday Adult Bible class:

April 21 Jim and Sharon Harper

April 28 Terry and Sharon Koontz

Our deepest condolences to the family and friends of Brian Shookman who went to his heavenly home on March 28, 2024.

REMINDER: Because of privacy concerns, hospitals no longer notify us when a member has been admitted so, if you or a family member are hospitalized and would like a pastoral visit, please make the pastor or the church office aware. Thanks!



FUNDRAISER FOR UNITY CHRISTIAN SCHOOL NEEDS

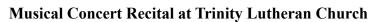
Please join us to support Unity Christian School. Mark your calendars to attend a Dinner/Auction Gala Event at Unity Christian School on Friday, May 3. It will be a red and black gala with both a silent and open auction. The cost is \$40.00 per person. Doors open at 5:30 pm, dinner served at 6:00. Sponsorship opportunities are available.

Unity Christian is looking for donated items for their silent and/or open auctions. Please consider donating: A Restaurant Gift Card basket, A Fishing basket, Specialized Wood Work, Home Decorations, A Gardener's basket, A Charcuterie Board, A Kitchen Essentials basket, A service (ie. 1 lawn mowed free), Collectibles.....the sky's the limit, just use your imagination. Donated items can be brought to church, but NO LATER THAN SUNDAY, APRIL 28TH!

The Trinity youth would like to thank everyone who supported us through purchasing cinnamon rolls and Easter Breakfast donations. The funds received will go towards the youth attending the 2025 National Youth Gathering in New Orleans.

We thank Thrivent, who provided the funds to purchase the food for the breakfast.

Last but not least, thank you to parents and grandparents who helped prepare, serve, and clean up.



Rachel Versemann, Trinity's organist, will have a concert senior recital on Saturday, April 27, 2024, 2:00pm at the church. She will play selections by various artists using her musical talents on the organ, piano, and clarinet. She may add an accompanist for some of her selections. A reception with light refreshments will follow the concert. Plan to attend this special concert and enjoy Rachel's musical talents.



Please let Pastor Versemann know if you or a family member are going



SCRIPS HELP THE LSA ASSESSMENT!

The KFF Committee has once again decided to donate all earnings from Scrip orders towards Trinity's LSA Assessment for grades K-8. So far, the total earned for the current school year is \$404.00. With everyone's help, we can surpass last year's total which was \$637.00. See Ilene McQuality on Sunday mornings or contact her at 217-429-1367 or ilenemcquality@att.net.

Order date	Delivery date
4/7	4/21
4/21	5/5
5/12	5/26
5/26	6/9
6/30	7/14



CHRISTIAN HIGH SCHOOL next year FOR THE FIRST TIME, please request an application from one of the KFF Scholarship Committee Members no later than Sunday, April 21st. *KFF Committee Members*: Harry Kaminski, Ilene McQuality, and Kristy Pranschke.



CANDIDATES NEEDED TO SERVE AT TRINITY

At our May 19th Voters meeting, Trinity will be electing a Chairperson for our five (5) boards, which are:

Board of Education - Current Chair: Denise Roberts Board of Evangelism - Current Chair: Rachel Buckley Board of Stewardship - Current Chair: Harry Kaminski Board of Trustees - Current Chair: Holly Flanigan.

Each elected position is for a 2-year term. If you would like to add your name to the ballot, please speak with our President, John Pranschke; our Vice-President, Tom Robinson, or one of the Chairpersons listed above. You can also speak to the pastor, or any of the above, if you have additional questions. Thank you.



PLEASE WARMLY WELCOME OUR NEW MEMBERS!

On Sunday, March 24, 2024, Adeona Simpson (who is Rachel Buckley's sister) and the Markwell family; Tim, Haley, and Hudson, joined our church family. Please warmly welcome Adeona as our sister in Christ, Tim as our brother in Christ, Haley as our sister in Christ, and Hudson as a child of God. And join me in praying that our congregation will be a great blessing to them and they will be a great blessing to Trinity, as together we serve our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ!

A Very Happy Birthday to:

Sarah Knowles	Apríl 27
Stephen McCarty	Apríl 28
Jerry Sadowskí	Apríl 28
Chuck Poland	Apríl 29
Adelle Chapman	April 30

Family prayers for
Phil and Terrie England and Tracie England and family
The altar flowers are given to the glory of God by
Bernard Bork family
blessings for our 69th wedding anniversary

The worship folders are given to the glory of God by Bernard Bork family blessings for our 69th wedding anniversary

2024 dates AVAILABLE for weekly altar flowers (\$35.00) are: 8/11, 8/25, 9/1, 9/15, 9/29, 10/6, 10/27, 11/3, 11/24, 12/1, 12/8, 12/15, 12/22. **Dates AVAILABLE** for worship folders (\$10.00) are: 8/4, 8/11, 9/1, 9/15, 9/29, 10/13,10/27, 11/3, 12/8, 12/15, 12/22, 12/29.



PLEASE SUPPORT TRINITY'S YOUTH GROUP RUMMAGE SALE!

Trinity's Youth Group will be having a rummage sale on August 23rd -24th, and we need your help! Please consider donating your nice - but no longer needed - items to this rummage sale. Donated items that we need: Gently used clothing in great condition (without stains, rips, or tears), Kitchen items, Home decor, Gardening items, Fishing items, games, video games, jewelry, electronics (ie. game systems, DVD players, TV's), books, Camping items, Car repair items, Bath and Beauty items, Restaurant gift cards, other gift cards, Tools, Hunting items, Small appliances (toasters, coffee pots, mixers, blenders, etc....), Silverware, Dinnerware, Cups, Pots and Pans. Bicycles, Children's Toys, Baby Items. Quilts, Needlework, etc...Exceptions: NO JUNK PLEASE. IF YOU WOULD NOT CONSIDER PURCHASING AN ITEM, THEN PLEASE DO NOT DONATE IT TO OUR YOUTH RUMMAGE SALE. Donations can already be brought to church and placed in the Northeast Room in the church basement (the room with red carpet)! Please bring your donations to church NO LATER THAN SUNDAY, AUGUST 11TH!



Gifts will be used to support our CID students who are attending an LCMS seminary or university to become a pastor, teacher, deaconess, or other called church worker. Please plan to make a generous gift now or on May 5th. Gifts may be designated "CID Scholarship Fund" to be used for the 2024-2025 school year or be designated "CID Scholarship Endowment Fund" to provide gifts every year for this ongoing need. Checks may be given through your church or sent to the Central Illinois District -LCMS, 1850 N. Grand Avenue West, Springfield, IL 62702-1626. Since the need for called workers is so great, we also ask you to encourage those who may be good candidates to consider pursuing a called church-worker vocation.

If you are considering a major gift, or would like to include scholarships for CID seminarians or church worker students in your estate planning or through a life insurance policy or IRA, please contact CID Planned Gift Counselor, Rev. Charles Olander, at (217) 416-8842 or c-olander@msn.com for assistance. Thank you.

Contact information

1960 E. Johns Ave. Decatur, IL 422-3630 Rev. Matthew Versemann

Church e-mail: office@trinitydecatur.com Pastor's Cell Phone: 217-454-6630 Church web address: www.trinitydecatur.com Church Fax: 217-422-8901 Church face book: www.facebook.com/trinitydecatur