

# Trinity Torch



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## August 2019

And just like that it is August. Spring and Summer weddings are completed, the fall school schedule is being looked at, and our families are getting in their final getaways before that first class starts. Some families are driving their new college student to the dorm and have mixed emotions as they see the campus disappear in their rear-view mirror. Everything is changing.

But one thing should not change. Indeed, by definition it is unable to change. If something is absolutely true, then it is always true no matter what. Opinion changes. Certainly, anything that is not based on actual, settled fact can change. But make no mistake about it, absolute truth is always true... even if we or the whole world, says otherwise.

Gravity is absolutely true. No matter what your opinion on gravity is, it is an actual, settled fact. My opinion of gravity, does not make it untrue for me, but true for you. If I do not believe in gravity, then, ultimately, I am wrong. You may say to me, "let's agree to disagree" in order to stay friends. But make no mistake about it... I would still be wrong. Absolute truth is absolutely true no matter what.

Saint Paul, who evangelized and taught during the clash of the emerging Christian church and the very secular and pagan world of the Romans, always encouraged the church to remain stable and steadfast in the Gospel of Jesus. Anything other than the true Gospel would be hopeless and wrong.

Paul encourages Christians to encourage one another to remain steadfast in the Gospel. We are to believe and trust that Jesus is the one and only way of salvation. He alone is our redeemer and has given Himself as the final atoning sacrifice for sin. We need Jesus and Jesus alone. This is absolute truth: God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but has eternal life. This is absolute truth: Jesus said to him, I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.

Yes, everything seems to be changing. But truth never changes.

In Christ,

*Pastor Bob*

## Congratulations Walther Graduates!

### The numbers are in!

With twenty-eight students reporting, the combined total of scholarships awarded to these Walther 2019 graduates was \$5,996,000, an average of \$214,000 each.

Out of the 58 graduates, eight will be attending Lutheran Colleges or Universities, including six enrolling at Concordia University Chicago.



### Walther Christian Academy Upcoming Dates

#### Tuesday, June 25th

Placement Test for prospective middle and high school students, 9am

#### August 30

Friday Night Football Game vs. Guerin Prep, 8:00 p.m.

#### September 28

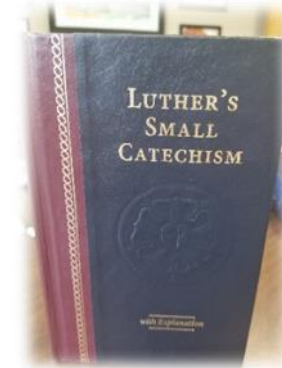
Walther Homecoming 2019

#### February 29

Bronco Benefit - Funding Education and Scholarships

## The Third Commandment

Honor your father and your mother.



### What does this mean?

We should fear and love God so that we do not despise or anger our parents and other authorities, but honor them, serve and obey them, love and cherish them.

### The Central Thought:

God gives parents a unique task that serves the well-being of all society. As Christians, we are to give parents special honor as God's representatives on earth – gifts of God through whom He gave us the gift of life at our conception. Read John 19:25-27. Note how Jesus honored His mother as He was dying. For family discussion: How can we show that we truly honor and cherish our parents as gifts of God and as His representatives on earth?

## 2019 Honduras Trip Report

Thirty one people from at least seven churches across the country came together to serve the small remote village of Buenos Aires Meredon, in the San Pedro Sula district of Honduras. The vast majority were first timers to Honduras. Together the team accom-

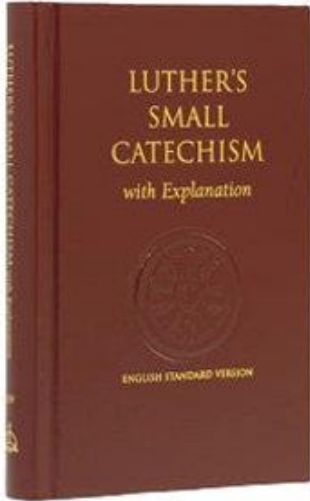


plished 1865 patient contacts in Medical, Dental, Optometry, Chiropractor and Hair Dressers. Several hundred children were exposed multiple times to God's word through Vacation Bible School studies and hundreds of children were fed lunches. Many individuals were witnessed to and prayed over. Funds for two classrooms were raised and the two class rooms were started and will be finished by the village. Classrooms built last year were painted. We visited Casa Hogar the orphanage and concluded



with an evening of thanks and celebration for the opportunity our Lord had given us. - Tom Brun

## Trinity Confirmation Update



Recently, The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod has published an updated questions and answers section to the Small Catechism. This was released in 2017. In 2018, a new curriculum was released, although it was too late for us to implement due to the time of its availability. We will begin using the new Confirmation program this year.

Why do we have confirmation? What is so important about passing down our Christian faith to the next generation? In part, it is due to the persecution of the Christian church through the ages. A recent United Nations report (<https://www.mnnonline.org/news/christians-top-of-the-persecution-list/>) has declared that Christians are the number one persecuted religious group in the world today. Since its inception, the Lutheran Church has been persecuted as well.

In 1521, bookseller Johann Herrgott was beheaded in a public square in Leipzig, Germany, for bringing Luther's writings to town and selling them. Catholic monks Heinrich Voss and Johann Esch were burned at the stake in Belgium in 1822 because they read Luther's writings and confessed the evangelical truth. They believed the Holy Bible is the absolute authority, not the pope or Church law. When told to recant or die, they responded, "We are glad that God will allow us the mercy to die for the Christian faith" (Martyrs of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, Third Booklet, by C. J. Hermann Frick, 1853, translated by Erika Bullman Flores).

One hundred years later, Pastor Woldemar Rueger was arrested while serving Lutheran congregations in Moscow and Tver, Russia. Communist authorities closed the churches in 1935, arresting Pastor Woldemar and deporting him to a concentration camp in Siberia. He died in Siberia three years later at the age of forty-seven. His only crime was preaching the Good News of salvation by grace through faith in Jesus Christ.

Confirmation is the program that we offer to strengthen our belief that we are saved by God's grace through faith in Jesus, the Christ. Our students will learn the Bible, the Small catechism and the Lutheran Confessions as they are discussed in class and at home with the family. Public School confirmation begins Wednesday, August 21, at 4:45 p.m. at the church and Trinity School confirmation takes place during the 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Religion classes each day.

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## New Member—Lauren Fisher

Lauren joined Trinity on Monday, June 10th at the 630 pm service.

Lauren's family has been a part of Trinity for over 50 years (Her grandfather is Frank Neitzel). Growing up she would always attend services at Trinity, and it always felt like home and very comforting. Becoming a member at Trinity brings back all of those great memories, and she is excited to continue to grow her faith in the Trinity community.

Lauren will be getting married at Trinity on August 10th, and will honeymoon in Hawaii. Both Lauren and her fiancé love to work out. She has completed triathlons, and has committed to a half ironman in Des Moines, Iowa next June. Good Luck Lauren!

Lauren is an Associate Art Director for Pampered Chef. In her free time, she likes to work on graphic design which she went to school for at the University of Iowa.

Please help me welcome Lauren to Trinity and also congratulations on your upcoming marriage!



## Alcoholics Anonymous

Dear church family, a local chapter of Alcoholics Anonymous has just started a meeting at our church. Six A.A. members of another chapter, with over 20 years of sobriety, are starting a meeting every Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. in the Trinity Fellowship Hall (Lower Level, kitchen side). Men and women from Trinity are invited to participate as are all members of our community, and your friends. To be clear, this is not a "Lutheran" version of A.A., and it is not sponsored by Trinity, as this group is renting our facility. I know that A.A. has helped many, many people over the years and I am happy to welcome them to Burr Ridge. -Pastor Bob Geaschel (& Trinity Church Council)



## The Christian and Climate Change

By Rev. Mark Bussert, Director of Stewardship

Should I have put "climate change" in quotation marks? In the highly politicized climate of our country right now, feelings about this issue seem to fall along party lines (which doesn't make much sense to me). One party says loudly, "We must do something about climate change NOW, before it's TOO LATE!" The other seems to say, "What climate change?"

And we, the average Americans who are not climate scientists, are caught in the middle, not knowing who to believe.

Of course, the real issue is not just climate change – there is clear evidence that the climate does change over time – but is what some scientists are seeing *human-caused* climate change? This is where it gets political. Should the US be a part of the "Paris Accord" on climate change? Should the government regulate auto emissions, and if so, how much? Should tax revenue be used to promote or limit some kinds of energy production? (e.g. solar and wind vs. coal and oil)

Is there a Christian (that is, biblical) view of climate change? I think there is, at least to a certain degree. Of course, God is the creator and sustainer of the earth, and changes in the land and the seas, the tides and the atmosphere, are part of His design and plan.

On the other hand, He has given us "dominion" (stewardship) over the earth (Genesis 1:28); as managers of this beautiful and precious resource, we ought to exercise all care and caution to not waste or spoil it. We stand accountable to God for our management of this gift, as with all the gifts and blessings He has placed in our hands. (Of course, through Jesus we have forgiveness of our failures in this area, just as in other areas of our lives!)

Thus, we should constantly examine our lifestyles for signs of waste and misuse. We should reduce our use of energy as we are able. We should choose fuel-efficient cars, if possible, and drive less if we can. We should be careful to not waste food and water, to recycle what we can, to minimize what we send to the ever-growing landfills.

The old Quaker proverb "Use it up, wear it out, make it do or do without" is a good motto for the 21<sup>st</sup>-century Christian who wants to be a good steward of the earth. Is climate change real? Is it our fault? I don't know that the answers to those questions should matter a whole lot – we should be good stewards of the earth either way!



# TRINITY LUTHERAN'S 9TH ANNUAL GOLF OUTING



**AUGUST 16, 2019  
1 PETE DYE DRIVE  
LEMONT, IL 60439**



**RUFFLED FEATHERS  
GOLF CLUB**

SCHEDULE		ON-COURSE GAMES
12:00	REGISTRATION BEGINS	\$50 Package/Each Golfer:
12-1:30	LUNCH	⇒ CLOSEST TO THE PIN
12:00	GOLF RANGE OPENS	⇒ LONGEST DRIVE
2:00	SHOTGUN START	⇒ STRAIGHTEST DRIVE
	- ON COURSE GAMES	⇒ LONGEST PUTT
7:00	DINNER/AUCTION	⇒ 2 MULLIGANS
	WITH 2 HOUR OPEN PREMIUM BAR	
	(Fettuccini Alfredo, 3-Cheese Lasagna, Parmesan Chicken, Sauteed Zucchini & Yellow Squash, Caesar Salad with Herb Crusted Croutons, Garlic Bread, & Assorted Mini Pastries)	
9:00	DRIVE HOME SAFELY	



Golf Chairman: Rob Grady:  
708-839-1200 x6 or rgrady@tlbr.org  
Golf Secretary: Michele Geaschel:  
708-839-1444 x221 or  
trinitylutheranschool@comcast.net

**REGISTRATION:**

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_  
ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_  
E-MAIL: \_\_\_\_\_  
PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_  
INDIVIDUAL GOLFER \$175.00  
FOURSOME \$600 (Please include all golfers' names.)  
ON-COURSE GAMES \$50 EACH GOLFER

**SPONSORSHIP INFORMATION:**

\_\_\_\_\_ \$1000 Platinum Sponsorship  
4 rounds of golf with dinner for 4 that day, Name recognition/ golf course sign  
\_\_\_\_\_ \$500 Gold Sponsorship  
2 rounds of golf with dinner for 4 that day, Name recognition/ golf course sign  
\_\_\_\_\_ \$ 250 Silver Sponsorship  
Dinner for 2 that day, Name recognition/ golf course sign  
\_\_\_\_\_ \$100 Bronze Sponsorship  
Name recognition/ golf course sign

Please make checks payable to Trinity Lutheran School.  
11503 German Church Rd., Burr Ridge, IL 60527



## TRINITY YOUTH NEWS!

### GOD'S BLESSINGS TO OUR YOUTH AS THEY HEAD BACK TO SCHOOL!

It seems like we were just ending the school year and talking about all of the events on the youth calendar, and now are headed back to school! The youth have had quite a busy summer traveling and serving. We pray for our youth who are headed back to middle school and high school. We know you will all do great things this year and make your Trinity family proud! God's Blessings to our Seniors who graduated and are headed off to different colleges and universities! We know you will all do great things!

The High School Youth headed to Minnesota for the National Youth Gathering. What a blessing for us to be with so many people to grow in our faith! They had a wonderful trip and are looking forward to plans for next year's mission trip! The Junior High Youth headed to this year's Mission Trip, this year's trip was in Grand Rapids, Michigan where they served this community in various capacities for a Week of Hope. We thank God for each and every youth who attended and who took a week of their summer vacation to serve those less fortunate. You are all a blessing and we pray that you have great memories of your week!

Our regular schedule for Open Youth Room will resume in September. Watch your Youth Newsletter, the Torch, Fast Direct and the weekly Bulletin Announcements for dates and times. Remember, you can always bring a friend. The refrigerator is always packed with snacks!

A parent meeting was held in August, in the Church Library. We discussed our upcoming schedule for the year which included fundraising, retreats, events and mission trips. It was an important meeting. If you were unable to attend, we ask that you contact Mr. Grady to get a recap of what was covered.

Plans are being made for our Annual Winter Retreat. You won't want to miss out on this event! More details on this fun weekend will be discussed in the fall at Open Youth Rooms.

Blessing's on School Year 2019-2020!

The Board of Youth Ministry

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## Principal's Page

**PROVERBS 3:5-6 "TRUST IN THE LORD WITH ALL YOUR HEART AND LEAN NOT ON YOUR OWN UNDERSTANDING; IN ALL YOUR WAYS SUBMIT TO HIM, AND HE WILL MAKE YOUR PATHS STRAIGHT."**

Greetings in the name of our Lord!

Who's ready for school?!?! While I welcome a nice break for the summer. I also forget how quiet Trinity Lutheran School can get over the summer!

The students, parents, and teachers are off doing their own thing and enjoying family time. It is nice to see families involved in Trinity's summer camp, and also some of our upper grade students taking advantage of our STEM camps that are going on every week. The students are doing some fun things in both the summer camp, and also some cool inventions and STEM activities.

However, August 21 is closer than we know and we will be back for another wonderfully blessed school year at Trinity! There will be many opportunities for the students to learn this year, and also ways to get closer to their Lord and Savior. Our school year theme is "Fruit of the Spirit", and we will be celebrating all our gifts from the Lord throughout this school year.

In His Service,

Mr. DeWitt





VBS 2019

"ROAR"

Life is Wild - God is Good



# 1980's Trinity Sponsored Boy Scout Troop 246

In the early 1980's Trinity Lutheran Church sponsored Boy Scout Troop 246 under the leadership of Charles Havens, Bob Keifer, and Adolf Pohlis. We had participated in many exciting scouting events. Several times our troop went up to Camp Mach-Kin-O-Siew, Wisconsin. While the scouts enjoyed themselves and earned valuable merit badges, I took pictures and movies. These slide pictures and 8 mm movies are digitized and enhanced with titles and sound.

I would like to share these pictures with the leaders, scouts, parents and friends of scouting.

Here are some of the names of participating scouts:

Bob Kiefer,  
Adolf Pohlis  
Bob Schueler  
Steve Kiefer  
Paul Havens  
John Richards  
Bruce Beverage  
Tim Almstedt  
Scott Gasparas  
Paul Baron  
Kevin Kiefer  
Mark Havens  
Ricki Marriot  
Elliot Repel  
Clinton Mahoney  
Dan Petrusha  
Brian Pohlis



Do you know any of the above participants? If so, please inform them of the chance to obtain some memories from their past by contacting Adolf Pohlis at 708-246-7566 or via email at [pohlis@earthlink.com](mailto:pohlis@earthlink.com)



## *Greetings from Trinity Lutheran Ladies Aid*

Ladies Aid is taking their summer break from meetings. Below is a recap of last month's article. We are excited about our upcoming events. We will have more to share after our next meeting in September.

We will be hosting a seminar with a guest speaker on September 28th at 9:00AM, in the Church Library. Colleen Klimczak, Certified Professional Organizer, will speak on ... getting organized! She will include tips on cleaning out our closets and storage areas in preparation for our rummage sale. Her website is Peace of Mind, Professional Organizing, LLC. The Ladies Aid Rummage Sale will be October 25th & 26th.

The Holiday Market will be on Saturday, November 16, in the school gym. We are still looking for additional crafters. Please help us by spreading the word. For additional information, please contact Nancy Bordak, Eileen Stonys or Valarie McClain.

The next meeting of Trinity Lutheran Ladies Aid will be September 9th, at 630PM. Please join us. We extend a warm welcome to women of all ages to "Come serve the Lord with gladness!"

## Special Thanks to our Church Veterans

In case you missed it, a small group of Military Veterans decorate Trinity Cemetery every Memorial Day weekend. USA flags are placed at the graves and memorials of World War 1, World War 2, Korea, Vietnam, Cold War, and Afghanistan War, a total of 43 flags. Thank you, Veterans, for honoring your fellow service members!!!



WW1 = 8 Flags  
WW2 = 23 Flags  
KOREA = 9 Flags  
VIETNAM = 1 Flag  
COLDWAR = 1 Flag  
AFGHANISTAN = 1 Flag





**TRINITY  
LUTHERAN  
CHURCH &  
SCHOOL**

11503 German Church  
Road  
Burr Ridge, IL 60527

Church: (708)839-1200  
School: (708)839-1444  
Fax: (708)839-8503

Email Addresses:  
trinitylutherschool@comcast.net  
rgeaschel@tlbr.org  
adewitt@mytlsonline.com  
rgrady@tlbr.org  
rbordak@tlbr.org  
csecretary@tlbr.org  
lvasquez@tlbr.org  
heggert@tlbr.org

**SUMMER OFFICE  
HOURS**  
Church Office Hours  
Tues—Thurs 8am-3pm  
School Office Hours  
Tues—Thurs 8:30am-12pm

In an emergency, contact  
Pastor Bob  
(708)846-4170/call or text

Pastor Emeritus Albrecht  
(815) 293-0934 / home  
(815) 531-7590 / cell



## August Birthdays

- |  |   |  |
|--|---|--|
| 1 Mitchell Barnacle<br>Riley Barnacle<br>William Ramos   | 12 Donna Halla<br>Scott Reinhart<br>Melanie Siler   |  |
| 2 Michael Moreno<br>Marilyn Todd   | 13 Justin Gouty<br>Diane Lyall  | 25 Jim Wielebnicki   |
| 3 Tatiana Murphy   | 14 Joseph DeWitt  | 26 Nancy Beaudry<br>Damian Fritschel                               |
| 4 Leann DeWitt<br>Howard Eggert<br>Lynn Hughes   | 15 Sean Martin  | Shawn Gartman<br>Steven Radtke<br>Eric Zoller                      |
| 5 Michael Fischer<br>Danielle LaPorte<br>Alice Messinger   | 16 Jamie Collings<br>Trisha Stremski  | 27 Dorothy Anderson<br>Alice Buege<br>Laurie Kunst                 |
| 6 Stephanie<br>Gogolewski<br>Cindy McSweeney   | 17 Cassandra Lantz<br>Wendy Ulrich  | Catherine Peters<br>28 John Wielebnicki                            |
| 8 Dani Eggert<br>Sabrina Garren<br>Christopher Gartman<br>Sheryl Gogolewski<br>Jaynia Schiller<br>Mark Schwoebel | 18 Piper Lakics<br>19 Ruby Radosevic<br>20 Cayden Cook<br>Savannah Hawbaker<br>Shirley Kaminski             | 29 Suzanne Ackerman<br>Amy Hutcheson<br>Mack Rediehs<br>Paul Satek |
| 9 Jute Camper<br>Isabella Stillo   | 21 Janet Grimes<br>Rick Thorburn Jr   | 30 Chris Guerin<br>Phil Strieter                                   |
| 10 Ryan Conoboy<br>Trisha Kulis<br>Tomas Malina<br>Natalie McCormick   | 22 Madison Fritschel<br>Dina Gnat<br>23 Jaden Rochkind<br>Amy Sojka<br>Pamela Winterroth<br>Karri Wunglueck | 31 Donna Rekau   |
|  | 24 Kati Marwitz<br>Ryan Miller<br>Gene Weisbecker   |  |



## Summer Worship Schedule



**Sunday Worship times remain the same at 8:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.**

**However, our Saturday worship moves to Monday evenings during the months of June, July and August. Please join us for worship on Monday evenings starting June 3 at 6:30 p.m.**



**2019**

**Trinity Lutheran Church & School**  
 11500 German Church Road ☪ Burr Ridge, IL 60527  
 Church: 708.839.1200 ☪ School: 708.839.1444 ☪ Fax: 708.839.8503  
 For more information, go to our website: [www.tlbr.org](http://www.tlbr.org)

HC = Holy Communion; BC = Bible Class

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>Meeting areas:</b> <i>(shown in parenthesis)</i> Ch = Church CR = School Conference Room CL = Church Library TFH = Trinity Fellowship Hall	SK = School Kitchen CK = TFH Kitchen SL = School Library G = School Gym N = Narthex YR = Youth Room OP = Off Premises	<b>Altar Guild:</b> Ruth Hess Nancy Alex Lisa Haak Dorothy Supeter	<b>Ushers:</b> 8:30 – Group 3 11:00 – Group 1	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> 8:30am Trustees <b>11am-2pm TLC Outreach Event (G)</b>
<b>4</b> 8:30am HC 9:45am BC 10:45am Parish Ed Brd (CL) 11:00am Cont Worship	<b>5</b> 6:30pm Celebration Service HC	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> 7:30pm AA (TFH)	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> 8:30am Trustees Fischer Wedding
<b>11</b> 8:30am Worship 9:45am BC 11:00am Contemp HC	<b>12</b> 6:30pm Celebration Service HC	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> 7:30pm AA (TFH)	<b>15 St. Mary, Mother of our Lord</b> <b>12:00pm TORCH DEADLINE</b>	<b>16</b> <b>2pm Golf Outing (OP)</b>	<b>17</b> 8:30am Trustees
Camp Luther – 6 <sup>th</sup> , 7 <sup>th</sup> , 8 <sup>th</sup> Grade Confirmands						
<b>18 Teacher Installation</b> 8:30am HC 9:45am BC 11:00am Cont Worship – <i>Baptism Miller Kids</i>	<b>19</b> 6:30pm Celebration Service HC	<b>20</b>	<b>21 First Day of School</b> <i>11:30am Dismissal</i> 7:30pm AA (TFH)	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24 St. Bartholomew, Apostle</b> 8:30am Trustees
<b>25</b> 8:30am Worship – <i>Baptism Kurmkoski</i> 9:45am BC 11:00am Contemp HC	<b>26</b> 6:30pm Celebration Service HC	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> 6:30pm Elders (CR) 7:30pm AA (TFH)	<b>29 The Martyrdom of St. John the Baptist</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>