

From Pastor Anne

The Class We Never Finish

When I was a teen, we lived on a farm in the very rural southern Missouri Ozarks. We had moved there from the Chicago area, where my twin sister and I were very active in Church (Sunday school, youth group, choir). It seemed like we were there whenever the doors of the Church were open. And we were drop-off kids. Our parents weren't in any kind of habit about Church attendance. The Bible was present in our home, and I remember Pop reading it from time to time, and Mama reading to us from a Bible story book. We said our prayers before meals, if we had company, and frequently said bedtime prayers. But, when it came to Church, our parents simply didn't go.

That all changed after we moved to the country. Pop spirited Mama, my sister Edith, and me off to Sunday worship every week. It was a welcome change. After a few weeks we learned that Sunday school was held before worship and I remember telling Pop there was even a class for him. His reply "I graduated from Sunday school after the sixth grade. I earned my diploma!" His statement seemed to me to be "I am done." This season of graduation reminded me of that story and of Pop's insistence that he had received all he needed of Bible study by the time he was twelve. Our need to learn doesn't end when we are handed a diploma at the end of high school or any other kind of school. Even more, the importance of reading, studying, and praying with God's Word never ends.

The great Church reformers of the 16th century, working across Europe and in Great Britain, did not all agree on the reforms needed, but the translation of the Bible into the languages of the people was a common mission. Martin Luther completed his translation into German in 1534. William Tyndale was the first to translate most of the Bible into English from the original Hebrew and Greek. These reformers made the Bible available to all who could read. For centuries, homes without other books often had a Bible and there are still those among us who remember learning to read with the Bible as their primer.

I tell you all of that to tell you this. Reading the Bible is important. Studying the Bible and talking about it with others is a wonderful way to open the scriptures up to you. Yes, you will hear a good bit of the Bible in worship. Yes, a decent preacher will open the Word up and help us apply it to our lives. All that and, reading and praying with God's word is an activity from which we never graduate. It is a class we never finish. It is God's plan for our life-long learning.

Synod Assembly

The Central States Synod Assembly will be held in person on June 5-7 in Olathe, KS. Pastor Anne, Beth Olson and Betty Barnes will be attending. Keep them in prayer as they participate in the meetings and represent our church.

5th Sunday on June 29

Save the date for our 5th Sunday Combined Worship at Calvary Episcopal. Worship will begin at 10:00 am. We will gather with our friends to worship together. Brunch will follow. Plan now to attend!

Meals on Wheels

Christ and Trinity and Calvary team up to serve Meals on Wheels again on July 14-18. We need drivers and runners for five routes. Please let Pastor Anne know if you can help serve meals to our senior neighbors.

Good Book Club Readings for Summer 2025

Reading the Bible is one of the best ways to grow spiritually, especially if you are able to join in the company of fellow travelers on the journey. The Good Book Club offers you a chance to join with others—whether locally in your church or globally online—for an immersive experience in a book of the Bible. The next offering from the Good Book Club is *Summer 2025: Summer with Psalms*.

This June and July, each of us can choose our own adventure and either read a selection of psalms (Track 1) or all of the psalms (Track 2).

You will find a Summer with the Psalms reading schedule on the table in the Fellowship Hall and attached to the Newsletter email, as well. You will find the Good Book Club online at:

<https://www.goodbookclub.org/>

The website offers a sign up for those who would like to receive reading reminders online.

News from the Church Council

The council met for the annual administrative meeting on May 18th. The 2025-26 officers include Beth Olson, president; Linda Jo Huber, vice president; and Linda Jo Huber, treasurer (ex officio). Local benevolence is unchanged and includes Open Door, CACTUS, Child Safe, the Pettis County Community Partnership (PCCP), the Senior Center, CASA, Meals on Wheels, and the Community Café.

The 2026 Budget meeting was set for January 4, 2026, and the Annual Meeting was set for May 3, 2026.

Pr. Anne presented two bids for foundation repair. These bids will be disclosed to potential buyers at the time of the sale of the property. Pr. Anne will be working with Calvary and Burns Chapel to plan the next 5th Sunday, which falls on June 29 at Calvary.

Announcements

- Pastor Anne will offer laying on of hands and prayers for healing on Sunday, June 1st following worship.
- Pastor Anne will be out of the office June 16-18.
- The church office will be closed June 19, 25 and 26.
- July newsletter items are due to the secretary by June 18th.
- Feed the Hungry Sunday is on Sunday, June 22nd. We are collecting breakfast cereals this month for Open Door.
- We will collect the Noisy Offering for ELCA World Hunger on Sunday, June 22nd. Bring your coins and make some noise!
- This month the local benevolence offering will be given to CASA.

Mid-MO Bible Camp

Mark your calendars for July 20-24. Pr. Anne will serve as camp chaplain and nurse. The theme for this year is on Psalm 119: 105 – “Your word is a lamp for my feet, a light for my path.” The cost is \$100 and is open to kids who have finished 4th grade – those who have finished 9th grade. The deadline to register and receive a camp t-shirt is June 27th.

The camp is looking for a lifeguard to work on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday afternoons. Contact Pr. Anne if you are interested.

Prayer Requests

Victoria, Linda Boe, Floyd Hatfield, Helen Ewing, Sara, Connie Shoemaker, Lavern, Debbie Dollinger, Amyah Smith, Marcy Cash, Richard Dean, Shirley and Bill Neff, Scott Arnold, Rick Morrison, Jill, Gerald Hunton, Carol Benner, Gwen Eppenauer.

Continue to pray for our home-bound members: Sandra Graf, Marene Levin, and Val Hoon.

Let us also remember Getayawckal Ariaya from Ethiopia, and Mouniratou from Burkina Faso; and those who serve our country in the armed services, peace corps and missions.

Happy Birthday!

- 14 Betty Barnes
- 17 John Willadsen
- 24 Patrick Harrison

June Anniversaries

- 14 Pastors Anne and Mike Kyle
- 21 Floyd & Cathy Hatfield
- 23 Don and Linda Jo Huber

Mowing Volunteers Needed

Volunteers are needed to help mow the church grounds, especially in June. There is a mowing schedule on the bulletin board in the fellowship hall. All of the equipment is here at the church – we just need your time and willingness. Please sign up if you can help.

A Single Thought

We are called upon to reflect the love of God as much in trial as in tranquility. **John Blanchard**

Readings for Sundays in June

June 1 – 7th Sunday of Easter

- Acts 16: 16-34
- Psalm 97
- Revelation 22: 12-14, 16-17, 20-21
- John 17: 20-26

June 8 – Day of Pentecost

- Acts 2: 1-21
- Psalm 104: 24-34, 35b
- Romans 8: 14-17
- John 14: 8-17 [25-27]

June 15 – The Holy Trinity

- Proverbs 8: 1-4, 22-31
- Psalm 8
- Romans 5: 1-5
- John 16: 12-15

June 22 – 2nd Sunday after Pentecost

- Isaiah 65: 1-9
- Psalm 22: 19-28
- Galatians 3: 23-29
- Luke 8: 26-39

*June 29 – 3rd Sunday after Pentecost

- 1 Kings 19: 15-16, 19-21
- Psalm 16
- Galatians 5: 1, 13-25
- Luke 9: 51-62

***5th Sunday Combined Worship Service at Calvary Episcopal, beginning at 10:00 am**



June 8th

News from the 2025 Annual Congregational Meeting

The congregation met as a part of worship on Sunday, May 4th. Council members elected include Karen Randall, Paul Williams, and Hadley Randall. John Willadsen and Andrea Eppenauer gave a report from the Steering Committee presenting the following recommendations to the council:

- a. We have an important messaging to carry forward which is that the sale of the building does not represent closing this congregation. Christ-Trinity Lutheran Church will become a congregation which is not a property owner.
- b. Foundation repair bids are for between \$58,000 and \$63,000. These bids will be disclosed to the seller. The work will not be done at this time.
- c. It is time to list the property for sale. We have asked Glen Ewing for a recommendation of how to list and who to list with. He is working to help us set an appropriate sale price.
- d. We will establish a reunion committee to plan an event, during autumn 2025, possibly on Reformation Sunday. This event may coincide with a 50th anniversary celebration event for Debbie Mueller.
- e. We will establish a property disposal committee to distribute items prior to sale. This will look different if the property is sold as a Church than if it is sold for another purpose.
- f. We have notified Bible Baptist Church of our intention to sell the building. The steering committee recommended that the buyer must secure their own financing and the council concurs.

Praying Our Way Forward

I didn't have to be your pastor very long to know that this is a community of faithful people who are steadfast in prayer. Just yesterday I asked Linda Turley to pray for a woman at Calvary whose father just died. Linda drove to the church and sat in our lovely prayer garden to pray. What a testimony to a prayer-filled life!

As we discern together our best way forward as a congregation, I ask for all of us to be in prayer for God's hand in all that is before us and for the guidance of the Holy Spirit. I plan to add a prayer to our weekly worship and would like us to use this prayer at home to help us keep our eyes ever on Jesus. *Let us pray. O God, you have drawn us together into this community of faithful disciples. Help us to keep following our teacher Jesus Christ into every walk of life, together serving in Christ's mission to the world, and together witnessing to your love wherever we are. We ask for the gift of the Holy Spirit and for the wisdom, the will, the courage, and the strength to follow where the Spirit guides us. In Jesus' name. Amen!*

