

June 2024



Trinity Lutheran Church

Villa Park, IL

Always Growing in Christ

The Lion's Roar

Amos 3:8

"The lion has roared; who will not fear?"

The Lord GOD has spoken; who can but prophesy?"

"Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you." I

Thessalonians 5:16-18

The Habit of Prayer

Habits: Good ones are hard to form and easy to break. Bad ones are easy to form and hard to break. It takes months to get into the habit of regular exercise and only a couple weeks of vacation or a holiday to throw it all away and have to start all over. Prayer is a similar situation.

Prayer does not come naturally to us human beings. Incorporating God into your day-to-day life and decisions requires discipline but once you achieve habitual prayer, you will find that there is far less stress in life. Too often we think of prayer like one might think of calling his parents. He knows that he ought to call them, and he will, just as soon as he has a break. The dog gets out of the yard, there's no milk for his cereal, he gets caught by a train on the way to work, a meeting goes long, dinner is woofed down before a meeting at church and suddenly another day has gone by without having called his parents. Oh well, he'll try to call tomorrow.

Speaking to God is not an obligation that you must fulfill to be a good Christian. Speaking to God is a gift from God. Calling you parents is an obligation. Whether you get anything out of it or not, it is your duty under the 4th Commandment to honor your parents and that includes talking to them on a regular basis, helping them with anything you are able, remembering that as you needed them once, so now they need you. Speaking with God is not an obligation but a privilege. The King of the Universe has invited you to speak to Him about whatever you wish. Not only that, but He will respond to you if you listen!

So, prayer should include both speaking and listening. First, we are invited to address God for whatever we perceive that we need from Him. Then we open His Word, which contains everything we really need to know and He will speak to us through that word. If you doubt that, and I'm sure there are some who do, try it. Get into the habit of speaking to God every day and then reading the Bible for His answer. If you do this every day for a month and see no appreciable difference in your life, come and tell me. But I don't think anyone who tries it will ever go back to their former way. It is miraculous how God speaks through His word the very answers to all your troubles. As you learn this and come to rely upon it, greater peace will settle over your life. You will become convinced that God really is in control and you don't have to steer the world. He is doing it Himself and He is doing it quite well regardless of what anyone might think.

Habitual prayer is one of God's greatest gifts to us. We are welcomed to dialogue with Him every day – dialogue - you speak and He listens and then you read and He speaks. It takes some discipline but I promise that it will pay dividends beyond your expectations.



Golf Outing

August 10, 2024

Tee Times Begin at 1 PM @ Sugar Creek Golf Course

Dinner 5 pm @ Trinity Center

Please join us for golf, dinner or both. Registration and sponsorship forms are located in the Narthex. We encourage non-golfers to join us for dinner. The outing is a great way to invite friends and neighbors to come and enjoy fun and fellowship at Trinity.

Sign up by August 2nd. Any questions please contact Bob Rundgren at rundgy@gmail.com
Sponsors are needed - Please consider asking local businesses you frequent to support Trinity through event sponsorship.



The Projects

Many thanks to Tony Pavlovsky Jr. for his dedication to helping the kids at The Projects make this table for the front lawn at church.

Inspired by the book *The Turquoise Table Finding Community and Connection in Your Own Front Yard* by Kristin Schell who desired to make a connection within her community and find moments of peace. Her simple idea is "What if meeting neighbors and connecting with friends was as simple as showing up and being available?" More information

at <https://theturquoisetable.com/>

Next time you're in the neighborhood come have a seat at the Turquoise Table!

Third Thursdays

June 20th, July 18th and August 15th
7 PM in the Prayer Garden

Back by Popular Demand! Third Thursdays are back this month. If you did not make it last year, don't worry you have another chance.

Join Us in the Prayer Garden on the Third Thursday of the Month Each Month of Summer! Bring a chair, bring a snack, a game, an instrument. We will be enjoying the beauty of our prayer garden (our new Turquoise Table) and each other's company. This is a family-friendly activity. All are welcome.

Congregational Meeting



Voters' Congregational Meeting

Sunday, June 23, 2024

11:45 am

Trinity Center

Please attend the congregational meeting. Elections will be held for: Assistant Director, Lay Ministry, Christian Ed, Stewardship & Church Properties.

Sponsor-A-Bill

This quarter's bills to sponsor are Fire/Elevator Compliance and Insurance Premiums (approx. \$1,500/mo). This year's Insurance premiums had a recent rate increase, and we are trying to work out a new plan. In the meantime, please consider sponsoring one of these bills above & beyond your normal giving. Sponsor-a-Bill contributions help keep our budget on track & reduce the need for end-of-year pleas to meet the budget.

Worship Services

Saturdays 4:30 pm

Sundays 8 am & 10:30 am

Save the Date

July 18 - Third Thursday

July 21-27 Summer Servant Event in North Carolina – Current 8-12 Graders

August 15 - Third Thursday