

July 2020 Newsletter

Spiritual Tips for Not-So-Ordinary Days

This morning I read Patty Tillman's prayer list. She added to that a suggestion to "let go".

On the day that I am writing this, I have just met with a couple of young people who have spent their lives letting go. They are members of a military family. They move somewhere and stay maybe 3 years, then pack up and move again. Change is their way of life.

Perhaps letting go, learning to accept change is a skill that can be learned, nurtured and grown.

It appears that the Covid virus has forced change on us. Letting go of shaking hands, hugging, sitting in a crowded restaurant. But in its place, we have begun to wear masks to protect those around us. We have begun to write cards and letters to someone to tell them about our day and to ask about theirs. We are picking up groceries for our neighbors, or they are doing that for us. We are taking more walks and perhaps seeing more neighbors because we are all at home during the day. We are trying new recipes and trading them with good friends as we cook at home more.

In the midst of letting go of some ways of doing things, we may find the blessings of discovering new joys. Think of the changes you have made in the last few months. Consider what you have "let go" and seek God's gift in the new path you walk.

Submitted by Patty Jo Dooley-Jones

A Letter to My Trinity Friends

Trinity Friends

It's been a crazy few months...And the world looks completely different now than it did at the beginning of the year. There has been so much to

contend with—things are changing so quickly. Still, with all of this turmoil if there is one thing I know about the human spirit—it is resilient. So, even though times are hard there is still goodness to be found.

I want to start by sharing a quote with you from poet and philosopher Mark Nepo. A quote that has been helping me to navigate my thoughts and feelings during this time—a way to find the good in life.

"Our constant challenge is to accept how life wears away what does not matter until the miracle of life is revealed in everything. This is the purpose of the human journey: to live openly and honestly until we become a source of uncovered light." Mark Nepo

How are you holding up? These drastic changes to our way of life are a challenge, as we aim to live more authentically, more lovingly, in the midst of it all. I will share a few questions I have been asking myself as the pandemic has unfolded:

- What is most important right now?
- What am I learning about myself and my loved ones?
- Who needs me, and how can I help?
- What expectations need to be released?
- What am I grateful for?
-

My answers change continually, depending on the day's events, but they help to peel away the unnecessary, the unneeded. Yes, we face uncertainty, losses, and widespread suffering, but as Nepo notes, the miracle of life remains ever-present before us. We can choose to keep our eyes open and search for those little miracles all throughout the day. That is my hope and prayer for this time.

Sending love and light to each of you,
Deacon Patty

July 2020 Newsletter

Trinity Re-Opening -July and August 2020

Illinois is moving toward Phase 4, titled “Revitalization”. As such, this is the plan for Trinity in the months of July and August:

- All plans and actions are dependent on Illinois and CDC guidelines and are subject to review and change.
- Video and telephone program options will continue.
- All people should make their own decision about attending “in-person” events.
- If you do not feel well, or you are in a high-risk group, it is best to avoid gatherings.
- All in-person events will require prior registration and sign-in at the building.

JULY:

- No worship inside at Trinity. Time is needed to secure all the necessary cleaning and sanitizing supplies, to train volunteers in cleaning, and to master the proper procedures for before, during, and after a worship service.
- **Worship in July: July 5 video, July 12 & 19 Drive-In at 10:30 am, July 26 video.**
- Small gatherings in the building – 10 or less – will be considered on a case-by-case basis after a conversation with the group and the Pastor. Masks and distancing are required.
- Meetings will only happen in Faith Hall, using the restrooms next to Faith Hall. Groups will help with cleaning and sanitizing after their program.
- Groups should first consider other options for meeting – especially outside.

AUGUST:

- If it is appropriate according to Illinois and CDC guidelines, we will begin worship inside in August, in groups of no more than 50, calling ahead to register.
 - August 2 – One “demonstration” service of no more than 50 people. This service will test the worship procedures developed and practiced in July.
 - August 9 – Two services, no more than 50 each. One at 9 am, another at 10:30, with the typical order of service at each.
 - August 16 – Three services of no more than 50 each, if two services is not enough to accommodate all who wish to worship in person.
 - August 23 & 30 – 2-3 services as necessary, no more than 50 at each service.
 - We will continue a worship schedule of no more than 50 people at each service until Phase 5 is implemented in Illinois.

EDUCATION MINISTRIES:

- Blessed Beginnings Preschool, Sunday School, and Confirmation are all being reviewed. They will not necessarily follow the worship schedule, based in Illinois and CDC guidelines, and the willingness of parents to have their child participate in group programs in the church building.

July 2020 Newsletter

Hunger Ministry

Hunger Ministry is participating in the 5th annual Churches United "Thanksgiving in July". During this month, food and money can be donated to support food pantries across the Quad City region.

You can bring non-perishable, not-expired food to Trinity on Monday mornings in July from 9:00 am – 11:00 am. Drop off by elevator door entrance.

Also, an easy way to support this effort is by giving a monetary contribution. For every \$1.00 we donate, a food pantry provides 4 meals worth of food to a family.

You may make a monetary donation by sending a check to Trinity with "Thanksgiving in July" written in the memo. Donations can also be made directly to Churches United of the Quad Cities: www.cugca.org.

We appreciate and thank you for supporting Hunger Ministries in our community during this time of extraordinary need.

TLC Book Club

July 21st at 11:00 am to review 'The Huntress' by Kate Quinn. Meeting will be via Zoom. If anyone needs some "coaching" to join (via Zoom) contact Jane Bahls at 309-236-4272 or Julie Blew at 309-876-5890.

TerraCycle

Thanks everyone for continuing to recycle! We continue to collect TerraCycle items every Tuesday from 3:00 to 5:00 in the parking lot shed. The response has been GREAT as each week we sort and fill tub after tub. You can either stay in your car to drop off or don your mask and come into the shed to help us sort. Wipes, sanitizer and gloves

are available upon request. We continue to ask that no items be left outside of the shed during non collection times as they will be thrown away. Please contact Karen Neder if you have any questions

kneder@msn.com<<mailto:kneder@msn.com>> or 309-517-6972 - or go to Trinity's facebook page or Terracycle Quad Cities facebook page. If you would like to be put on the TerraCycle e-mail list for updates, please let Karen know. We will NOT be collecting TerraCycle on July 21st.

With Appreciation

I want to thank everyone for the cards, prayers and food given to me after my total hip surgery. I am grateful for all of you and the support you are giving me during my recovery.

Cindy Wildermuth

Haikus

A sunny, cool day, *(Sheryl Eckermann)*
Cars with people, wave and pray,
Drive-in church, okay!

Wrens making their nests *(Barb Johnston)*
Gathering sticks and debris
Preparing for young

Bridge game now over *(Barb Johnston)*
No good bids were made today
We will do better

We encourage you to submit your Haiku (three lines, 5 syllables, 7 syllables, 5 syllables) for future publications to Tari Weeks at lornadoom@mchsi.com.

July 2020 Newsletter

Endowment Requests

The next meeting of the Trinity Endowment Committee will be on Thursday, July 16th. All grant requests for this quarterly meeting need to be in the church office two weeks prior to our meeting or by July 4th. Details and request forms may be found on our website at

www.tlcmoline.org/endowment/

Team 1330 Highlights

- Exploring an updated member directory.
- Initiate a new member mentorship ministry

Free Books

On behalf of The Friends of the Moline Public Library, Tari Weeks has a wide selection of large print, hard back (ex library) books by genres and authors. If you would like some free books, contact Tari Weeks at lornadoom@mchsi.com.

Women of Trinity (WELCA)

The Women of Trinity are in search of a new president. Please contact Jan Peterson at 309-269-9632 or Cindy Wildermuth at 309-206-0140 if you are interested in serving in this role. We welcome you to join our board!

Happy Fourth of July!



Happy Summer!

Blessed Beginnings Preschool

Like the Eagle Scout motto says, "Be Prepared". Here at Blessed Beginnings Preschool, we have been preparing our classroom, re-thinking our procedures, and creating lesson plans and activities in anticipation of the 2020-2021 School Year. We are preparing for the joyous sound of the children in our building again . . . within the challenges that this global pandemic has brought us. We will be following all CDC and state of Illinois guidelines to help ensure the safety of our children and their families, and the greater community of Trinity Lutheran Church.

In part of preparing, we need to know that we have students that will be coming. We still have a few openings in our classes if you know of any 3 or 4-year-old children who could join us. Please spread the good word. Due to the pandemic, we have not been able to hold our usual Enrollment Open House. If there are any parents interested in Blessed Beginnings Preschool, please feel free to contact me at blessedbeginnings@tlcmoline.org.

Birdies for Charity

Birdies for Charity is a program that can enhance your stewardship to Trinity Lutheran Church.

When you make a charitable gift to TLC through Birdies for Charity, the Birdies Bonus Fund will supplement your gift with a guaranteed bonus of 5%. Your gift and the bonus will then be received by the Church on October 30th.

Birdies pledge forms are now available online at <https://birdiesforcharity.com/donor>, or will be available through the Church Office. All Birdie pledge forms must be received by the Birdies for Charity office by Friday, July 10.