Jesus said, “I say to you, rise!” … The dead sat up and began to speak. (Luke 7:14-15)

Dear Friends in Christ,

After a recent Sunday, I received some questions as to a particularly blunt statement I made. In the sermon, I had said, “If we plan to go on the mission trip to Pine Ridge Reservation armed only with our compassion and a desire to “do good,” we should cancel the trip right now.” I am always grateful to receive questions and comments following a sermon. Ideally, a sermon would be a two-way conversation, an opportunity for mutual exploration and learning, a chance for us all to get to know one another a little better and “grow in faith through spiritual friendships” as our Marks of Discipleship suggest.

In this case, the question invited me to dig a little deeper as to what I thought the gospel was saying to us. Surely acting out of compassion for our neighbor is central to our calling as Christians. Luther affirmed this commitment when he said, “We are freed by Christ for one purpose only, to be of loving service to our neighbor.” This joy of humble service, however, can quickly become a burden if we forget that it is Christ who brings healing, who brings life, who has the power to overcome death. We are invited by Christ to enter into the work of God with the promise that he is already there, ahead of us, working in lives and communities by the Holy Spirit bringing life and wholeness.

We are also invited by Christ into the reality that as we work together for the healing of others, we ourselves are healed in the process. May God bless us and bring healing to us even as we participate in Christ’s ongoing work of bringing healing and reconciliation to our broken and beautiful world.
Dr. Rob Reid:
Pastor Ed Treat

Gather In Grace

Worship With Us
This Summer

Dr. Rob Reid: Summer is here and we can worship weekly here at TLC. Sundays at 8:30 or 10:00 a.m. or at our Wednesday Oasis Service at 6:15 p.m. Young and old are invited to come share their singing or playing gifts at Oasis. Come to our weekly 5:30 p.m. practice and join the team leading the music. Those in senior high or older are also invited to sing in the Occasional Choir on our Patriotic Sunday, July 3rd. Come to the Music Room at 9:15 a.m. for our warm-up practice for the 10:00 a.m. service.

I’d also like to invite you to consider joining Pastor Ed and me on our “Footsteps of Martin Luther” tour to Germany, Prague, and Vienna next April 24 – May 5, 2017. I’m really getting excited about the trip! Our goal is to have at least 32 people, in order to have our own coach bus for the tour. Sign up soon or email if you need a brochure or have any questions. Friends or relatives can join us. People do not need to be members of TLC. We will be having educational and informational meetings leading up to the tour, and after, that will be open to the entire TLC community, as we all take advantage of this opportunity to learn more about our Lutheran Heritage, leading up to the tour. Please do not be limited, Wednesday evenings, Sunday mornings, and throughout the week at TLC.

We are blessed by you.

Connie Anderson

Volunteers Plant the Seeds of Kindness

We are grateful for volunteers who use their skills and abilities weekly, as scheduled, and for all those who step up at the last minute, as needed, Wednesday evenings, Sunday mornings, and throughout the week at TLC. We are blessed by you.

Sympathy

to friends and family of:
Kathaleen Madison
Marcine Nelson
Robert Haraldson

GERMANY, AUSTRIA AND PRAGUE
In the Footsteps of Martin Luther

12 DAYS: APRIL 24 – MAY 5, 2017

Dr. Rob Reid: Tel: (763) 516-2878 / Email: RReid@tlcmn.com

SPACE IS LIMITED - BOOK EARLY TO AVOID DISAPPOINTMENT!

Walking with our children
In the Truth

Dr. Rob Reid: Tel: (763) 516-2878 / Email: RReid@tlcmn.com

Early Learning Center

The Early Learning Center is caring for children, infants through twelve years old this summer. Some of the fun places they are visiting include Como Zoo, Minnesota Lynx game, Cascade Bay, Lake Harriet Trolley and Jonathan Paddleford. Please keep the children and the staff in your prayers.

ELC office 952-884-7955

I have no greater joy than to hear that my children are walking in the Truth. 3 John 1:4

Barb Wigstadt

Ministry Needs

Continued prayer for the ELC.
Health and Wellness

Reduce Stress Through Prayer and Meditation
Is your daily routine so full of activities that it’s causing you stress and agitation? Too much stress results in negative health risks, but how can you reduce stress and find peace in daily life? To achieve a sense of peace, you can turn to the gift of prayer and meditation.

There are many benefits to meditation and prayer.

1. Stress reduction
   It will teach you to get to a more peaceful state of mind and get away from the worries of your life.

2. Improved health
   Studies prove that prayer and meditation help lower blood pressure and decrease the risk of heart disease.

3. Better control over your thoughts
   We can control our negative thinking before it escalates and causes mounting stress in our lives.

4. Happiness
   Peace of mind and happiness are benefits of prayer and meditation. By spending time in personal reflection we’re able to appreciate all that we’ve been given.

5. Better concentration
   During prayer and meditation we welcome tranquility into our minds which alleviates stress helping us to concentrate on the important things in our lives. It can be difficult to make the time to pray and meditate, but it’s easier than you think. Simply find a quiet place in your home and allow yourself to relax and feel at peace for 10-15 minutes. You deserve those 15 minutes of peace each day. The more you practice the more benefits you will achieve. Over time you will begin to experience this wonderful gift in your own life and you’ll be thankful that you did.
   - Pat McMullen, Volunteer Parish Nurse

May Financial Update - Ann Johnson, TLC Treasurer

Excluding the special appeal gifts in January, 2016 is tracking pretty close to 2015 with a modest increase in giving compared to last year. We continue to pay additional principle on our mortgage each month and we are on track with our benevolence payments.

As we go into the busy summer months and attendance is down, congregational receipts and cash position will be closely monitored. Simply Giving is a wonderful tool to use for those weekends that you are enjoying the summer at the cabin. Thank you for your continued dedication and support of TLC.

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<th>ACTUAL YTD 2016</th>
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Transfiguration Lutheran Church
11000 France Avenue South, Bloomington, MN 55431
Ph. 952.884.2364
Fax. 952.884.2151
Email: office@tlcmn.com
www.tlcmn.com

Office hours:
Monday-Thursday: 9:00-3:00
Friday: 9:00-12:00

Summer Sunday Worship
8:30 and 10:00 a.m.

Wednesday Worship
6:15 p.m.

Nursery
Available at all Sunday worship services

Early Learning Center (Daycare)
952.884.7955
Director: Barb Wigstadt

As disciples of Jesus
we gather in grace,
grow in faith,
and go forth to serve.

Interim Pastor Karen Treat

Time for Renewal

Now about eight days after these sayings Jesus took with him Peter and John and James, and went up on the mountain to pray. On the next day, when they had come down from the mountain, a great crowd met him.

Luke 9: 28, 37

The verses above are found for Transfiguration Sunday. We see Jesus going to the mountaintop with his disciples to pray. Jesus sets time apart to be strengthened for his ministry.

Immediately after their renewal, Jesus and his disciples are met with the needs of the community. The world. As I always say, no rest for the weary. Or just a little rest for the weary.

We are in our summer months and there is always the hope for replenishment. Yet, life feels more chaotic. Routines are broken. The needs do not go away.

How do we find mountaintop experiences? Come to worship this summer. This is the place we are strengthened to live life. It is in this place, we set apart our busyness to reflect, find companionship and are bound in prayer. It is here we are filled with Christ and set to be God’s love in the world.

Interim Pastor Karen Treat
**VBS—collections this year went to**

- VEAP
- ELC
- ELCA World Hunger Water Purification Project

**Coming this Fall**

**Sept. 11 “Water We Doing” For Rally Day**

- 10:00 a.m. Kids and parents worship
- 10:15 a.m. kids go to Fellowship Hall and take part in a fun Teddy Bear Band presentation. Bring friends (and a teddy bear or two)
- 11:00 a.m. Fun, games, food, check out education options for fall

**Water initiative.** We will partner with other churches in the MPLS area synod to explore faithful ways to improve our watershed. Watch for more details.

**Senior Adult Fellowship**  Save the dates:

- **Sept. 22** Day Trippers Theater “Miracle on South Division Street” luncheon and play
- **Nov. 10** Guided tour of Martin Luther exhibit at MPLS Museum Of Art

**Library Sale with a difference:**

Nov. 20 Mission Bazaar will feature books and goods. Sales will benefit TLC’s missions.

**Pine Ridge Youth Mission Trip Update**

As this edition of Transcripts goes to press, some of our high school students are on a mission trip to Pine Ridge Indian Reservation in South Dakota. The trip has been eye-opening and heart-softening so far. We have met many Lakota people and have learned Lakota words and customs. We have been working in two work groups. One group is working on a house renovation, when not playing with the neighborhood kids. The other group is working on renovating a community center which is being converted for use as a small business incubator and thrift store. This group has had many fascinating conversations with the neighborhood people as well. We have worked, prayed, listened, laughed and lamented.

We are staying very near Wounded Knee and visited the monument to that massacre the first day of our visit. A native man who is an Episcopal priest met us at the monument and spoke to us about the history. May we all continue to keep the people of Pine Ridge in our prayers.

We give thanks for their open spirits and patient willingness to teach us.

Arthur Murray, Associate Pastor
TLC celebrates Lutheran Social Services of Minnesota

It all started with children. 150 years ago Swedish Pastor Eric Norelius took a powerful action that has lived on in the action of thousands of others ever since. In 1865, Vasa Lutheran Church near Red Wing opened its church to care for four children in need. Immigrants from Sweden, the surviving children of Mikola Erickson and his wife who suddenly found themselves orphaned and in need of care. Pastor Norelius drove a wagon from Vasa Lutheran to St. Paul, brought them to his home and thus began something that has spread throughout every corner of Minnesota. Today we know it as Lutheran Social Services of Minnesota.

LSS of MN has 2,300 employees and 8,000 volunteers who help 1 in 65 Minnesotans every year, covering all 87 counties and 800 communities in the state. It has an annual budget of $98 million which is generated through individual contributions, support of congregations across the state and from funding provided by the State of Minnesota.

Some LSS programs are familiar ones like the Center for Changing Lives in both Minneapolis and Duluth, Adoption, Refugee Services, Crisis Nurseries and Shelters for Youth, Homeless Youth Services and Meals for Seniors. In all there are a total of 25 different programs that reach out in the name of Christ to provide loving care and concern for people in all sorts and conditions of situation.

TLC volunteers on the first and third Mondays of each month at the warehouse in Fridley. We have different jobs each time that range from rough-sorting donated items, data entry of inventory, to packaging and perhaps the most exciting, helping pack the semi trucks for shipment. It is then that we see our hard work has paid off and know that a clinic or hospital somewhere is getting the much needed help to care for some of the world’s poor and vulnerable.

If you think you might be interested in volunteering and would like more information, please email mmahre@comcast.net or talk to Pastor Arthur Murray.

JULY

Global Health Ministries – Helping the Hands That Heal

During the month of July, the mission team will be highlighting the work done at Global Health Ministries. TLC supports their work with volunteers and financial contributions.

GHM is a non-profit, volunteer powered organization committed to building partnerships that support Lutheran efforts in health care around the world. They work in dozens of countries by shipping much-needed donated medical equipment and supplies, as well as consulting and capacity-building. Capacity building projects include clean water initiatives, scholarships, expansion and renovation of health facilities.

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If you think you might be interested in volunteering and would like more information, please email mmahre@comcast.net or talk to Pastor Arthur Murray.

AUGUST

Wapo and Luther Dell

Sign up at http://lwlbci.com/transfiguration.

July 15-17 Seeds Camp, 2nd-3rd grade
July 17-22 Wapo Youth, 4th-9th grade
July 24-29 Luther Dell, 7th-12th grade

Camperships are available, please contact Ben at bgieseke@tlcmn.com to make arrangements.

Wacky Wednesdays, Wednesdays in July/Aug

Come hang out at TLC for worship at 6:15, then games, activities and snacks from 7-8.

Boundary Waters, July 10-16

Pastor Arthur and volunteers from TLC are leading a canoe trip to the Boundary Waters for all who are interested. Email amurray@tlcmn.com to join.

“Do Justice” Twins Game, August 10

TLC is headed to Target Field with other churches tackling racial justice in the Twin Cities! Cost is $14/person, plus transportation. RSVP to amurray@tlcmn.com

Farewell Service for Ben, Sunday, July 24

Join us in worship to send Ben on his way as he concludes his internship here at TLC.

Confirmation Calendar Highlights

Sept. 7 Orientation for 7th grade families and Small Group Leaders. Registration Due.
Sept. 14 Confirmation begins. Community meal at 5:30, family worship at 6:15 and large group and adult education at 7:00!
Oct. 1-2 Confirmation Retreat at Luther Park

Peer Ministry Retreats
Aug. 26-27
Sep. 9-10

It seems crazy to be planning for fall already, but if you are in high school or a member of our Oasis Worship Team, mark these dates on your calendar!

Oasis Worship Team retreat!
August 26-27, 5-8:30 P.M., 9 A.M.-4 P.M. Come hang out at TLC and play and learn some new music for our Wednesday worship service.

Peer Ministry Retreat
September 9-10, 5-8:30 P.M., 9 A.M.-4 P.M. Required for all 2016-17 Peer Ministers! We will learn vital skills and practices, equipping us to take the lead with a confirmation small group!

“Don’t let anyone put you down because you’re young. Teach believers with your life: by word, by demeanor, by love, by faith, by integrity.”
1 Timothy 4:11
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TLC online calendar room key:
- **AE** adult education room
- **C** conference room
- **CH** chapel
- **K** kitchen
- **OS** off site
- **FH** fellowship hall
- **EFH** east fellowship hall
- **M** music room
- **WFH** west fellowship hall
- **S** sanctuary

Room abbreviations:
- **C** conference room
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~ July 2016 ~