



Pr. Rob O'Berg

The First Word

So they said to him, "What sign are you going to give us, then, so that we may see it and believe you?"

John 6:30

Signs of power—what we usually call miracles—play an important role in John's gospel. They validate the truth of what someone claims or teaches. So, the crowd finds Jesus in Capernaum and asks him some questions; after Jesus gives his answer, the crowd expects some extraordinary show of power to prove what he is saying is true. They don't get one. Not this time, anyway.

Sometimes Jesus does miracles to jolt his listeners into faith. Matthew, Mark and Luke all report Jesus' healing of a paralyzed man, whose friends lower him from the roof to Jesus' feet. Jesus forgives the man his sins, much to the injury of the religious scruples of the scribes and Pharisees. Noticing their discomfort, Jesus says: "Why do you raise such questions in your hearts? Which is easier: to say, 'Your sins are forgiven you,' or to say, 'Stand up and walk'? But so that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins"—he said to the one who was paralyzed—"I say to you, stand up and take your stretcher and go to your home." Immediately he stood up before them, took what he had been lying on, and went to his home, glorifying God [Luke 5:22-25]. Pretty convincing, if you ask me!

Jesus does the same thing at the raising of Lazarus. Just after the stone is rolled away from the tomb entrance and before he calls Lazarus to life, Jesus prays: "Father, I thank you for having heard me. I knew that you always hear me, but I have said this for the sake of the crowd standing here, so that they may believe that you sent me." [John 11:41-

42]. Lazarus walks out of his tomb and, doubtless, many are brought to faith.

It's enough to wonder why everything Jesus teaches isn't proven by a miracle. Why do the crowds in Luke 5 and John 11 benefit from a miracle but the folks in John 6 don't? I think the answer has something to do with the trustworthiness of Jesus whether a miracle happens or doesn't. And maybe more miracles happen than we always recognize.

As I write, we've only had 6 days of 100+ weather in July. Is it miraculous? Does it affect if or how we believe in Jesus? It's good to wonder about these things now and then. On what do we base our faith? What assures us of who we are to God? I think signs and wonders are all around us, each illustrating God's great love for us. But if there weren't a single one, would there still be enough to convince you? Give it some thought; and, while you're at it, stay cool!

With you in Christ's service,

Pastor Rob

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OFFICE HOURS

Monday CLOSED
 Tues-Thurs 9:00 a.m.- 2:00 p.m.
 Friday 9:00 a.m.- 12:00 p.m.

(559) 229-8581

Check Out Our Website!

Our website is constantly being updated with new photos, sermons, event information and more! Go to tlcfresno.org and share our website with your friends and family.



**Follow us on
Facebook and
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PRAYER REQUESTS

Did you know that you can put in a request for prayer on Trinity's website? It's simple and you can do it at any time of day or night. Just go to tlcfresno.com and follow the link to put in your request. You'll be put on our prayer list right away!

Congregation Council

A fundamental human need is to be heard.
 Your Congregation Council is here to listen.

Ed Brewer.....	273-6123
Frank Collins.....	250-3589
Wyatt Czesinski.....	593-5797
Veronica Flanders.....	287-8432
Walt Flanders.....	287-8432
Paul Fountinelle	229-3637
Barbara Stalis.....	270-7708
Shawn Swaim.....	360-1009
Jeff Willis.....	jwillis0312@gmail.com

COUNCIL'S CORNER

One of the most impactful things the Council does is present important things to the congregation. The Council identifies new people to serve as Council members and presents them to the congregation at its September annual meeting. The Council also presents the budget for adoption at the December meeting. But it's the smaller things the Council does that often are just as important.

We've already spoken here about the time we take at every meeting to discuss who in the congregation has served in a way that deserves notice. This is one way Trinity can stay up to date both with what's going on and who's involved. Most of the time, we send letters of thanks to Trinity members. Some of the time, we commend contractors who went the extra mile. Not long ago, we sent a letter of thanks to a painting contractor who has done a lot of work at the church. He was thrilled to get the letter and keeps it with him as he goes from job to job!

The Council is also privileged to present the needs of those who come to the church seeking help. We've helped people with rent, with shoes required for a new job, rain jackets and warm coats to stave off winter weather and lunch bags with non-perishable items for people who don't have access to kitchen facilities.

Currently, we're looking for a reliable, used car to help a member re-enter the workforce. We've already located a job—we continue to look for a means to get to the job. It's a privilege to serve people, in ways large and small. Thank you for all the ways you support the work we do to live out God's good news!



Wow! School begins August 18! Where did our summer go? We went to the movies, to Shinzen Friendship Gardens & the river, had three pool parties, and the trampoline park, not to mention, all the nachos, ice cream, sno-cones, popcorn and pizza! We had arts & crafts, cooking classes, water balloon fights, slip & slide fun and so much more! We packed so many adventures into a short period of time!

We will be having our "Back to School Bash" Friday August 22, from 2:30-5:00. Again, this year we are giving away new backpacks filled to the brim with school supplies! We have 35 backpacks ready to go, however, we would like to put together a few extras...any monetary donations will be greatly appreciated!

Thank You for always supporting TKC, the children we serve and our many ministries!

In His Service Always,

Josh Lee, Jose Arreola, Kayla Stuebner, and Lisa Lindeman



The Bulldog Pantry would like to thank Trinity for all of your support and prayers. At this time of uncertainty, your prayers and support are critical for the work of the Bulldog Pantry to continue.

Financially it is becoming difficult to secure the food that we need constantly to share with those who need it. We are currently especially interested in donations of canned goods.

We are grateful for all donations no matter how big or small. If you would like to join us, or learn how to support the pantry, contact Erica Bird at airnstuff@hotmail.com



In Our Thoughts and Prayers

Morgan Edgeworth, John & Roni Grove; Gary Caskey; Barbara Cucuk; Bob and Joan Zoldoske; Dale Newman, Tammy Thompson's father; Caitlin Rosenhouser; Carolyn Stahl; Coleen Schwartz; Kathy Brown; Debbie Zoldoske-Clark; Sebastian Traux; Continued prayers for Reva Chand and Debbie, friends of the Fountinelle's; Dr. Stephen & Jodi Swanson for their work in Tanzania; the people of the Holy Land; the people of Ukraine and Russia; all victims of natural disasters, including those affected by the flooding in Texas; victims of violence and terror attacks; our troops, first responders, & their families.

LINKS OF LOVE

Our Links of Love ministry at Trinity reaches out to Trinity members who are homebound or in need of having one of our lay ministers come out and visit, bring Communion, or send cards. Interested or know someone in need,? If so, please call Lisa Collins, at the Church office at 229-8581, and we will make sure to contact you.

Deb Moe
Twinedeb2@yahoo.com
559-907-2914

Liz Davis
Twinliz2@icloud.com
559-779-7740





WELCA IS ON "SUMMER BREAK" but our women's ministry continues!

The annual Summer Bible Study with Pastor Sharon was a wonderful morning when forty of us gathered for a study and sack lunch.

So far this year, we have reached out in ministry:

....Sent 15 baby layettes to the Fresno County health nurses each month.

....Sent \$500 to the Bulldog Food Pantry, plus Action card for \$250.

....Sent \$1,000 to Lutheran Campus Council, plus \$200 from Mary Martha Circle.

....In July we sent \$1,000 to Lutheran World Relief focused on help for Texas and Louisiana floods.

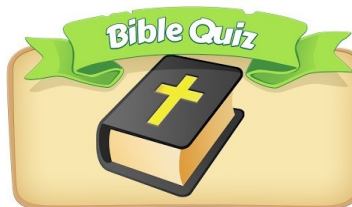
....in April we sent \$1,000 to Lutheran Disaster Response for Southern California fires.

....in February we sent \$500 to Lutheran Social Services.

....We sponsored two children (\$500 each) for school in El Salvador

....We used fourteen Action cards (\$250 each). Thanks to Diane Durando, Connie Phillips, Elaine Shoemaker, Charlotte Fountinelle, Sharon Rowley, Sandra Trippel, Laurell Huber, Diane Ellis, Phyllis Lea, Wanda and Judy Friesen, and Margie Back.

We are constantly searching for women (or men) who will apply for a Thrivent Action Card to help us undergird our ministry activities. Our WELCA board is meeting often this summer to discuss and plan for coming events this fall. Circles will return for monthly meetings in September, beginning the season with a three-part discussion of "Money, Stewardship and Generosity - What Do We Treasure?" We currently have five "circles," and all women are invited to become a part of these monthly study/fellowship/service groups.



BMAT Puzzle of the Month

(Bible Study Ministry Action Team)

BOOKS OF THE BIBLE

In each set of words, one "book" is not in the Bible. Can you identify it?

1. Judges, Ruth, Samson, Genesis, Amos
2. Paul, Mark, Peter, Matthew, James
3. Isaiah, Ezra, Baruch, Nahum, Zephaniah
4. Deuteronomy, Leviticus, Numbers, Covenant, Psalms
5. Ephesians, Israel, Hebrews, Colossians, Philippians
6. Haggai, Hosea, Ezekiel, Adar, Joel
7. Joseph, Titus, Luke, John, Philemon
8. Galatians, Malachi, Hezekiah, Daniel, Obadiah
9. Micah, Andrew, Acts, Jude, Esther

Answer on page 6

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Sundays

- 9:00 am**-Contemporary Worship Service
- 9:00 am**-Adult Bible Study - Conference Room
- 9:00am**-Chancel Choir - Music Room
- 10:30 am**-Sunday School (K-6) - Multipurpose Room
- 10:30 am**-Traditional Worship Service

Mondays

- 9:00 am**-Exercise Class 11am-12pm (online)
j3jordan@hotmail.com

Wednesday

- 6:00pm**-Middle & High School Gathering/Worship
- 9:00 am**-Exercise Class 11am-12pm (online)
j3jordan@hotmail.com

Thursday

- 7:00 am**-Men's Bible Study,
- 12:00 pm**-Bell Practice
- 1:00 pm**-Choir Practice
- 6:00 pm**-Women's Bible Study
Via Zoom, contact Pastor Rob for link

OCTOBER 18 - SAVE THE DATE!!



LUTHER'S LIBATIONS

...returns in October

and you DO NOT want to miss it!

Mark your calendar now and plan on joining us!!!

FMAT continues its work to make our church appealing and welcoming. A lot of time and effort went into selecting art work for the walls in Seashore Hall, after we had installed new carpet and added the new furniture. Our latest addition are beautiful "stained-glass-like" pictures of Jesus and his disciples, on the Sea of Galilee.



HAVE YOU SEEN IT?? Gorgeous new art work in Seashore Hall!!

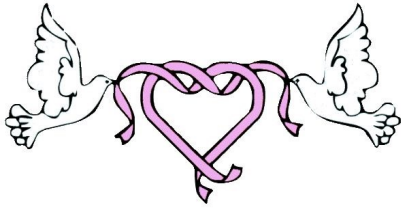


With all the updating work **FMAT** has done, we have more people/groups who want to rent space for lessons and meetings. The school we have renting classrooms is getting larger and they need 2 more class rooms at the beginning of their school year in August. **FMAT** members have been working fast and furious to get 2 classrooms cleared out and ready for school to begin. We have had rooms that were not being used that became a place to store whatever needed to be put somewhere, just out of the way. We are much better stewards utilizing our "store rooms" as actual rooms for students, lessons, and meeting rooms for groups.

FMAT will host another Open House this Fall to spotlight all the work that has been done in the last 2 years.

FMAT has a policy that we do not begin a project until we have it funded. We have been able to do that thanks to generous supporters of **FMAT**: buying shopping totes, participating in our First Annual Cornhole Tournament, and Luther's Libations over the last few years. We will be looking for volunteers to help with the 2025 Luther's Libations: October 18. Thank you for sharing in our ministry and vision for Trinity Lutheran Church.

August Birthdays & Anniversaries



Andrew & Loralee Scherf	8/05/1995
Robert & Tay Cherry	8/06/1960
Stephen & Ruth Mendyk	8/15/1992
Bob & Joan Zoldoske	8/22/1953
Charles & Cathie McConnell	8/22/1964
Thomas & Cheryl Abshere	8/23/2008
Laurence & Anita Frede	8/26/1977



Bruce Jackson	8/01
Annabell Plessmann	8/02
Roni Grove	8/05
Erica Bird	8/12
Shirley Bruegman	8/15
Charlotte Fountinelle	8/16
Irene Hansen	8/23
June Lawlor	8/26
Terry Roberts	8/29
Patricia Bailey	8/30
Greg Panten	8/31



BMAT PUZZLE ANSWER:

1-Samson; 2-Paul; 3-Baruch; 4-Covenant; 5-Israel; 6-Adar; 7-Joseph; 8-Hezekiah; 9-Andrew



August 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
3 9a Chancel Choir 9a Cont. Worship 10a Coffee Hour 10:30a Trad. Worship 11:30a Coffee Hour	4 11a Exercise Class via Zoom	5 9a Layettes 12p WELCA Board Mtg.	6 11a Exercise Class via Zoom	7 7a MBS 12p Bells 1p Choir 6p WBS	1	2
10 9a Chancel Choir 9a Cont. Worship 10a Coffee Hour 10:30a Trad. Worship 11:30a Coffee Hour	11 11a Exercise Class via Zoom	12	13 11a Exercise Class via Zoom	14 TKC CLOSED 7a MBS 12p Bells 1p Choir 6p WBS	15 TKC CLOSED	16
17 9a Chancel Choir 9a Cont. Worship 10a Coffee Hour 10:30a Trad. Worship 11:30a Coffee Hour	18 11a Exercise Class via Zoom	19	20 11a Exercise Class via Zoom	21 7a MBS 12p Bells 1p Choir 6p WBS	22	23
24 9a Chancel Choir 9a Cont. Worship 10a Coffee Hour 10:30a Trad. Worship 11:30a Coffee Hour	25 11a Exercise Class via Zoom	26	27 11a Exercise Class via Zoom	28 7a MBS 9a WELCA Quilters 12p Bells 1p Choir 6p WBS	29	30
31 9a Chancel Choir 9a Cont. Worship 10a Coffee Hour 10:30a Trad. Worship		MBS-Men's Bible Study WBS-Women's Bible Study Contact Pastor Rob for a link to join via Zoom!	Warming Fresno is open to all levels of crocheters and knitters and they are willing to teach anyone interested!	Exercise class via zoom j3or-dan@hotmail.com		

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(559) 229-8581

August 2025

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

**Our Mission:
To Lead People Into The Life-Changing Love of Jesus Christ**