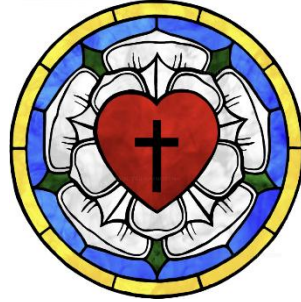


Tidings of Trinity



June 2026

A Message from Pastor Joseph McCalley



Following the Collect of the Day, the Service of the Word continues with the readings from Holy Scripture.

What's the basis for the public reading of Scripture in the Divine Service? 1) The Lord's own command. Jesus commands the Apostles to teach and obey all that he has commanded and taught (Matthew 28:20). In doing so, the Lord has promised to be with His Church until the end of the age, that is, until He comes again. He desires to be present with us by His Word. Jesus teaches the study the Scripture is important so that He continues to prosper us. He wants to bless, strengthen, and increase our knowledge in and trust on His promises through His Word.

Look at how St. Peter instructs the Church in his second letter, chapter 3: And count the patience of our Lord as salvation, just as our beloved brother Paul also wrote to you according to the wisdom given him, as he does in all his letters when he speaks in them of these matters. There are some things in them that are hard to understand, which the ignorant and unstable twist to their own destruction, as they do the other Scriptures. You, therefore, beloved, knowing this beforehand, take care that you are not carried away with the error of lawless people and lose your own stability. But grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be the glory both now and to the day of eternity. Amen. (vv. 13-18).

St. Peter urges us to persist in learning the Word of God, even when the subject matter is challenging. The hearing of the Word of God is a protection against being carried off into false doctrine and errors that destroy faith. Instead, he counsels Christians to *grow* in the grace and knowledge-and that comes by the hearing and study of the Word.

By continuing in His teaching, we rightly believe what God has revealed (John 8:31). You hear God's word "so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name (Jn. 20:31). People who belong to God desire and need to hear what he has to say. God commands and promises this for the Old Testament worship (Deut. 31:11, Exodus 24:7; Joshua 8:34; 2 Kings 22-23; Nehemiah 8-9). In the New Testament, the Gospels record that Jesus was hearing, preaching, and teaching in and near local synagogues. Even Jesus went to church! A synagogue was a village building, frequently someone's house, where Jews would hear the promises of God and be instructed in holy living (Mt. 4:13, 13:54, 23:2, 6; Mk. 1:21-28, 5:21-43 cf. Lk. 8:41-49; Lk. 2:41-47, 4:31-37; Jn. 6:59). In the New Testament, St. Paul instructs Timothy, a young pastor, to "devote [him]self to the public reading of Scripture, to exhortation, to teaching" (1 Timothy 4:13). This passage is also a good description of the responsibilities given to the Pastor in the Divine Service. The public reading of Scripture is given to Timothy as a pastor because He is the one who must teach the Word and encourage them holy living. Why? "All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work" (2 Timothy 3:16, 17). The early church placed great emphasis on hearing the word together. Acts

Trinity Lutheran Church
410E 1935 North, Cedar City, UT 84721
Office: 435-586-7103

Website: www.cedarlutheran.org Email: cedarchurch@cedarlutheran.org

2:42 and Hebrews 10:25 both show this, too. Thus, reading of Scripture in worship was happening before, during, and after Jesus' life on earth.

The Lutheran Confessions profess the Word of God is the most important component for believers because people's souls are at stake. The confessions say, "We believe, teach, and confess that the only rule and norm to which all teachings, together with all teachers, should be evaluated and judged are the prophetic and apostolic Scriptures of the Old and New Testament." Everything the church does must come from and be in accord with God's Word. This belief is drawn from Scripture. It is not a pious or stubborn wish. When St. Paul teaches in synagogues as he travels on his missionary journeys, he uses the Old Testament to show people that Jesus is the true Savior (Acts 13, 17:11). St. Paul also asks "how shall they hear without someone preaching?" (Romans 10:14). Thus, the Bible itself teaches the importance of the Bible and the Confessions echo it. When it comes to worship, the *Small Catechism* teaches that the meaning of third commandment teaches Christians regularly hear the Word of God. Think also on Luke 10: Mary is extolled because she prioritizes hearing and learning the Word of God. We learn: Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy; We should fear and love God so that we do not despise preaching and His Word but hold it sacred and gladly hear and learn it. Thus, the Word of God is the center for all that we believe and do as the people of God (Joshua 1:8). In sum, faith comes by hearing and hearing and hearing through the word of Christ (Romans 10:17).

Why three readings? Synagogues in Jesus' time regularly had two readings: one from the Law and one from the Prophets. Christian congregations continued this practice but added the New Testament writings as they became widely available.

The Old Testament? This reading is helpful because the history and prophecy point directly to Christ and ideally helps us understand the Gospel reading more clearly.

The Epistle? The epistle lesson frequently teaches God's law for Christian living, in light of Christ's death and resurrection. The Epistle is not "*thou shalt* and *thou shalt not*," but "how shall I and the Christian church properly understand _____?"

The Gospel? The Gospel is the mountaintop of the first half of the worship service. It gives a living witness of our Lord, His teaching, His saving death and resurrection, and His commands and promises to His church. We confess with St. Peter, "Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life!" (John 6:68). The Gospel reading serves as the basis for the day's main teaching point. The Old Testament and epistle supplement the main point. Many years ago, Scripture was read (which included preaching) if time permitted (all day church, anyone?). Things have changed quite a bit for our time together to be only one hour.

Next time: the Sermon, Three Ecumenical Creeds, and hymns!

When Can and Should You Call Your Pastor?

Jesus gives life and forgiveness; this is Good News. Whether in times of blessing or in times of trial, people in every circumstance need this gospel, this Good News applied to them. There is salvation and comfort is no one else and so the Lord Jesus earnestly desires us to cast every care on Him. He has promised to hear our prayers and care for us through Word and Sacrament through His ministers. Your pastor is given to support, encourage, and build up in every need.

People typically contact their pastor for major life events but there are many other good reasons to call the pastor:

- A new family member is born
- Holy Baptism is desired
- Holy Marriage is desired, or giving thanks to God for anniversaries
- A House Blessing is desired
- You or a loved one is in the hospital

Trinity Lutheran Church
410E 1935 North, Cedar City, UT 84721
Office: 435-586-7103

Website: www.cedarlutheran.org Email: cedarchurch@cedarlutheran.org

- You would like someone to pray for you or someone you know
- Your conscience is troubling you
- You're wrestling with a spiritual concern or have a question about what the Bible says
- You're facing a challenging decision or dealing with difficult life circumstances
- You're not able to come to church for a prolonged period of time
- A family member is going to college or relocating
- You know someone who wants to know more about Jesus
- You have an issue in your marriage that you're having difficulty resolving
- You have a question, concern, or suggestion about something at church.

May Attendance and Offerings



The 2026 budget calls for donations of \$2,246 per week. For the first 21 weeks of the year, the budget receipts should be \$47,179.23. Donations were **\$60,287.02**. This is **11.22% more** than what is needed or \$13,107.79 over for the year. Thank you to all who continue to give so generously. We are truly a giving congregation! Let's keep up the good work!

Date	Attendance	Collections	Bible Study
May 3	46	\$1,406.00	12
May 10	68	\$5,518.13	14
May 17	61	\$3,315.00	13
May 24	54	\$2,050.00	13



Children's Ministry Matters



SUMMER BREAK

There will be **NO SUNDAY SCHOOL IN JUNE AND JULY!** We will return to Sunday School on the first Sunday in August.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL - COMMUNITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH is once again offering VBS for all children in Cedar City, **June 8-12, 9am-Noon**. (Flyers with VBS information are in the Narthex). This is a wonderful free program. ***If anyone is considering sending their children to the VBS, Pastor McCalley would like to visit with parents before enrolling.***

Thanks,
Charmaine

Trinity Lutheran Council News

“As each has a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God’s varied grace.” - 1 Peter 4:10

Our monthly meeting was held on May 14th @ 10:30 with all council members present and guest Linda Norman.

Pastor McCalley opened the meeting with a devotion on Accession Day. A small wording correction was noted by Pastor in our April minutes. The correction was made. If anyone is interested the monthly council minutes are posted on the bulletin board in the fellowship hall. Pastor is planning to start catechism classes for both adults and children soon.

The Elders presented a detailed report. The elders are working on various items, including updating our printing needs. Look for more information as it becomes available. Our trustees have been hard at work. The maintenance shed has a new roof. (Thank you Kyle and Lonnie). The fire extinguishers have been serviced, a gas pipe has been removed from the Pastors office, and an **outside spring cleanup** has been scheduled for **Saturday, May 30th @ 9:00 AM**.

The council would like to get a committee together to brainstorm adding on to our existing building. We are outgrowing our space. More room would help our Sunday school as well as future Bible studies. Please let us know if this is your area of expertise and would like to chair a fact-finding committee.

Linda Norman and Sonya Swatsley presented ideas to celebrate our 50th anniversary here at Trinity, Cedar. Put **Sept. 19th** on your calendar for this celebration. If anyone has any old photos, news articles, etc. Linda and Sonya could use them.

- Stacie Hehn, Recording Secretary

Lutheran Woman’s Missionary League - Cedar City, UT - Esther Circle

Our monthly meeting was held on Saturday, May the 16th. This is much later than normal in the month for us. Regardless, we had a good turnout.

Cathy Koontz and Suzi Lieber gave us a re-cap of the Spring Tea they attended in Las Vegas on Saturday, May 2nd. It sounded like a fun event. They learned a lot about Project 150, the charity of choice for this event.



There will be no official LWML meetings in June, July or August. There will, however, be planning meetings. Look for information in the weekly bulletin and sign-up sheets in the fellowship hall for the events listed below. This summer there will be plenty of events that will need to be staffed by volunteers. Please consider helping with one or more events.

June 21st - will be our Father’s Day Ice Cream Social.

July 5th – will be our annual 4th of July BBQ. We will combine this with Americas 250th Potluck.

July 11th- we will be having a booth at the July Jamboree

Our next scheduled meeting will be **Saturday, Sept. 5th @ 10:30** after choir practice. Combined with our meeting will be a craft day project. As it gets closer, I’ll let you know what the craft will be and get a count of how many ladies will be participating.

Have a great summer and I’ll be seeing you at church.

- Stacie Hehn, LWML Chair

May 2026 Services Available Online

Trinity Lutheran Church services are streamed live and archived on YouTube.



<https://www.youtube.com/@trinitylutheranchurch4605>

The Utah Food Bank -- www.utahfoodbank.org/programs/mobile-pantry

The Utah Food Bank is delivering food packages to the parking lot of the LDS Church at 520 S. 1100 West and in Enoch at the LDS chapel at 451 E. Midvalley Road.

This food is for anyone in need. The only question will be how many are in the family. The Cedar delivery will be on the **1st Friday from 10:30-11:30** and in Enoch on each **3rd Friday from 10:30-11:30**, according to their current online calendar.

Bible Class Announcement

Pastor will continue a topical Bible study: *Ars Moriendi: Dying Well in Christ* in the month of June.

PLEASE NOTE that there will be **no Bible study on Wednesday, 6/24/2026**, however.

Choir Practice – Schedule Change

There will be no choir practice in June. **Practices will resume on Saturday, July 11, 2026.**



Please mark your calendars and save the dates for the following upcoming events here at Trinity:

July 5th – Our nation's 250th birthday. We will be celebrating our nation's birthday along with our annual Forth of July Bar-B-Que cookout after Sunday's service. We are planning outdoor games and fun!

July 11th – Cedar City July Jamboree. We will be having a vendor booth at the event to promote our church in our community.

August 15th – Not Your Grandma's Bingo. We will be having our annual bingo fundraiser to benefit our LWML and Youth Futures.

September 19th – Trinity's 50th Anniversary Celebration. We will be celebrating our church's 50th Anniversary with a picnic/cookout along with many fun games and other activities.

We will need volunteers for all of these events. So plan now to help any way you can! Please ask someone how you can help.

Trinity Lutheran Church
410E 1935 North, Cedar City, UT 84721
Office: 435-586-7103

Website: www.cedarlutheran.org Email: cedarchurch@cedarlutheran.org



June 2026



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3 8:00am Breakfast at Amber Kay's 4:00pm Bible Class	4	5  Bob Crabtree's Birthday	6  Millie Jaster's Birthday No Choir Practice
7 8:45am Bible Study 10:00am Divine Service with Communion	8	9 10:00am Ladies' Breakfast at IHOP 11:00am Elders Meeting	10 8:00am Breakfast at Amber Kay's 4:00pm Bible Class	11 10:30am Council Meeting	12	13 No Choir Practice
14 8:45am Bible Study 10:00am Divine Service	15	16	17 8:00am Breakfast at Amber Kay's 4:00pm Bible Class	18	19 10:00am Quilts of Valor at Cedar City Visitor Center 	20  Suzi Lieber's Birthday No Choir Practice
21 <i>Father's Day</i> 8:45am Bible Study 10:00am Divine Service with Communion and ice cream social 	22 <i>NEWSLETTER DEADLINE</i>	23	24 8:00am Breakfast at Amber Kay's NO BIBLE CLASS	25	26	27 No Choir Practice
28 8:45am Bible Study 10:00am Divine Service with Potluck 	29	30		Trinity Lutheran Church 410 E 1935 North Cedar City, Utah 84721 Office: 435-586-7103 Website: www.cedarlutheran.org Email: cedarchurch@cedarlutheran.org		

← PASTOR CONTINUING EDUCATION IN ST CLOUD, MN →