

Trinity Pews



May 2024

Pastor's Pondering

By: James Hennig

Pastor came across this article thought it was appropriate for the times:

The Folded Face Covering – He is definitely is coming again, but don't base it on this.

John 20: 6 “Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen cloths lying there, 7 and the face cloth, which had been on Jesus’s head, not lying with the linen cloths but folded up in a place by itself.” You’ve probably heard the story. The “face cloth” used to cover the head of the deceased Jesus was neatly folded on resurrection Sunday, “by itself”. Just as a master upon leaving the dinner table would leave his napkin neatly folded to indicate to his servant that he was returning to the meal; so we are told the folded “face cloth” or handkerchief was a witness to His second coming. Now I do like stories, and this is a good one (I wish it were true). I find no evidence that is anything more than a made-up story. First of all, the Greek word entylisso, translated as “folded” in some translations really comes from words that mean “to twist” or “to entwine” (hardly neatly folded). Secondly, the Greek word “soudarion” used for “linen cloth,” or “face cloth,” is generally used for some sort of general cloth, but not a table napkin. Further, references about table eating practices in the time of Christ make no reference about the master folding a napkin if he were not done with the meal. Perhaps it’s a custom among some ethnic groups, but I have not found that practice to be part of 1st century Jewish practice. So why is this story so popular? Good question. My number one hunch is that some preacher got his creative juices flowing and made up a good story which got picked up by others. Now don’t get me wrong. I like the story. But it’s a story like Hansel and Gretel, not true. And that is a big problem. The word “face cloth,” or handkerchief is used in John 20:7. If it were true that a neatly folded napkin left at a dinner table in a Jewish home indicated that the master of the house was returning, that certainly could be used as evidence that Jesus wanted His disciples to remember and prepare for His second coming. That would be good. But that “custom” did not exist in Judaism. To use this story for that purpose opens the door for serious criticism. Imagine skeptics ridiculing the story of “the folded napkin.” I can hear them say, “There’s no evidence that this was a Jewish table custom. What else is made up in the resurrection story?” No! Clever fabricated stories, as interesting as they may be, have absolutely no place in sermons or Bible classes.

Peter destroys such stories in II Peter 1, “ 16 For we did not follow cleverly devised myths when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we were eyewitnesses of his majesty.” (Note the word “eyewitness.”) Paul speaks against such shenanigans as well in I Timothy 4. “Have nothing to do with irreverent, silly myths.” Stay away from clever unsubstantiated stories and focus on Christ crucified and risen. There is enough material in the Gospel account to give the pastor enough sermonic material. Beloved... it was needful for me to write unto you, and exhort you that ye should earnestly contend for the faith which was once delivered unto the saints” (Jude 1:3).



Dear Friends and Family at Trinity Lutheran Church and School,

I wanted to take this opportunity to let you know that I have asked for a peaceful release of my Call as teacher here at Trinity effective the end of this school year.

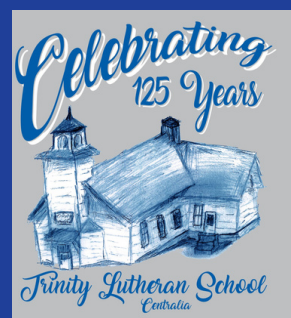
I have given prayerful thought and consideration to my decision. While I have enjoyed my time here with you, I believe this is the right step for me. I have great faith that God has a plan for me as it says in Jeremiah, "For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord. "Plans to prosper you and not to harm you. Plans to give you hope and a future."

I ask for your continued prayers as I wait for God's plan to come to fruition.

It has been a blessing to be a part of the church and school these last four years.

I pray for God's continued blessings into the future.

Sheila Bremer



Did you know?

The last day of school is May 22nd.

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Saturdays	Sundays
5:30 PM	8:30 am

BIBLE STUDIES

Wednesday

- 6 am Men's Bible Study
- 8 am Prayer Group
- 8:15 am Chapel with Students
- 10 am Wednesday in the Word
- 6:30 pm Wednesday in the Word

Sunday

- 9:45 am Youth Bible Study
- 9:45 am Adult Bible Study
- 9:45 am Sunday School
(3 years old thru 5th grade)



Created by Farrah

May Birthdays

05/01 Carter M. & Dennis F.
05/02 Brennan H. & Robert R.
05/03 Toni H.
05/04 David M. & Gail J.
05/06 Karen R. & Emma S.
05/08 Shirley K., Kelly B., & Lee Ann E.
05/12 Connor Z. & Ashley E.
05/13 Dale M.
05/14 Jazzmen Q.
05/15 Ronnie L. & Kurt K.
05/16 Gina S., Christina D., & Sarah S.
05/17 Jared P.
05/18 Kelley A. & Harlann L.
05/20 Shannon Z. & Jim F.
05/21 Mae K.
05/23 Bert G. & Nancy F.
05/28 Kaylee H. & Randy W.
05/30 Alexis F., Liz H., & Keaton M.

PRAYER FRIENDS

Connie C.
Susan B.
Barb B.



ALTAR GUILD

Kim K.
Karen R.

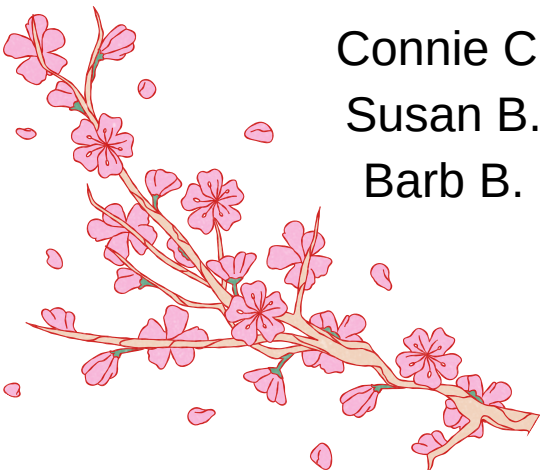
ACOLYTES

05/05 Easton F.
05/12 Malory K.
05/19 Farrah H.
05/26 Vincent S.

May

ELDERS

05/06 Greg F. & Larry S.
05/13 Jack H. & Dale M.
05/20 Dave K. & Joe B.
05/27 Corey S. & Louis K.



DEFENDERS



SPORTS AWARD NIGHT

MAY 14, 2024

6 PM

CHRIST OUR ROCK LUTHERAN HIGH SCHOOL
BRING A DESSERT

Congratulations to
Gabriel Stafford
for being selected for the
24-25 Chapel Shirt



I am the vine; you are the branches.
John 15:5



Trinity Lutheran Church Rummage Sale

The annual Trinity church-wide rummage sale is coming up soon and we need your help to make this a success for our church and school! We had great support in the past, and ***we need your help*** once again.

The Friendship Guild is helping to organize but we cannot do this alone. You can do your part by ***donating items, helping set up, working a shift, and spreading the word!***

Questions? Call **Betty Malone 322-1285** or

Nancy Freels 322-6788 or the church office **532-2614**.

DROP OFF YOUR ITEMS TO DONATE:

Where: Crouse Gymnasium

When: **Tuesday May 28th 8:00 am - 6:00 pm**

or Wednesday May 29th 8:00 am - 6:00pm

EARLY Preview Sale:

Thursday, May 30th 5pm-7pm

*Shop early for an **additional \$5.00** at the door*

*With a **\$20 purchase** your **\$5.00** will be **refunded***

Rummage Sale

Friday, May 31st

8:00 a.m. - 5:00 pm

Saturday, June 1st

8:00 am - 12:00pm

Fill a bag on Saturday for \$5.00



Trinity Lutheran Church Rummage Sale

203 S. Pleasant
Centralia, IL

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