

Trinity Tribune: October 2026

Trinity Ev. Lutheran Church
Paola, Kansas

“Women Serving the Church”

Although it's not “official” in any way, October can be a time of recognition for the work of women in the church. The Lutheran Women's Missionary League, for example, celebrate their LWML Sunday on the first Sunday in October. Our Ladies' Aid has served our congregation ever since 1912 to help with congregational needs and promote church activities; their history and work can be seen on the following page.

The New Testament commends and brings attention women in their work of service to Christ, the disciples, the Church, and children.

1. Women supported Jesus's ministry. Luke 8 begins by describing Jesus's travels and work of proclaiming the gospel. He notes that “the twelve were with him,” but then names three women in particular who also followed and assisted Jesus's group: Mary Magdalene; Joanna, the wife of Chuza; and Susanna. It adds, “**...and many others, who provided for them out of their means**” (8:3). We're not told what exactly they did, but one could imagine that much was needed to support Jesus and his disciples. Remember too that Jesus had more than twelve disciples—“the Twelve” were the ones he called who followed him throughout his whole ministry, but there were many others, male and female, who followed him for a time.

2. Women proclaimed the resurrection. They had come to anoint Jesus' body—a typical task for women of that day. Jesus then met them and tasked them with telling the disciples that He had risen. Although this is not equated with preaching in church, which St. Paul forbids in 1 Tim. 2:11–15 and 1 Cor. 14:33–35, women can tell others what Jesus has done. This is also echoed in the Samaritan women's message to her townsfolk.

3. Women were praised for their vocational work. Women have long been associated with making garments. When Peter was in Lydda, a woman named Tabitha died. When Peter arrived at her house, “**All the widows stood beside him weeping and showing tunics and other garments that Dorcas made while she was with them**” (Acts 9:36). The church there recognized the good works that she had done through her vocation. Peter then prayed to God and raised her from the dead.

4. Similar to Jesus, St. Paul had both men and women who followed him and assisted him in his ministry. He praises by name two women, Euodia and Syntyche, “**who have labored side by side with me in the gospel together with Clement and the rest of my fellow workers, whose names are in the book of life**” (Phil 4:3).

5. Women opened up their houses so the early church could meet and worship. Lydia from Thyatira was a wealthy woman because she was a seller of purple goods (purple was expensive to produce), and she was described as a worshiper of God. She urged Paul and Silas to stay: “**If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come to my house and stay**” (Acts 18:15). We know that John Mark (later St. Mark, author of the Second Gospel) had a mother named Mark (Acts 12:12), and she hosted a house church “**where many were gathered together and were praying**.” Aquila and Prisca hosted a house church in Rome (Rom 16:3; 1 Cor 16:19), as did Nympha in Laodicea (Col 4:15). Aquila (husband) and Prisca (wife) are especially noteworthy, because they both took Apollos “**aside and explained to him the way of God more accurately**” (Acts 18:26). The prohibition on women preaching does not extend to the private sharing of the gospel.

6. Women taught children and raised them in the faith. Not only is this commended in Titus 2:3–5, but we see a touching example of Paul praising Timothy's grandmother Lois and mother Eunice for doing this well. Paul connects Timothy's faith to that of Eunice and Lois.

7. Finally, in his thanksgiving for the people in Rome, St. Paul mentions a few women besides Prisca, mentioned earlier. He commends Phoebe, a deaconess. Besides the men, he mentions Mary, “**who has worked hard for you**” (16:6) and Julia (v. 15).

The blessing *for* women is the same blessing as men: the word of God gives faith and salvation. St. Paul says that the gifts of baptism do not discriminate: “**For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ. There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is no male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus**” (Gal 3:27–28).

On the other hand, God does give particular gifts to each of us individually. This includes gifts to women that fit their station in life. Not every woman will have every gift, but each of us are to serve one another with whatever skills and talents God has given us. Women served Jesus and Paul. We do not know how exactly, but we can imagine that there was probably a lot of food to prepare, clothes to wash, and so forth.

Paul exhorts us to recognize the gifts that are given to all in the body of the Christ. His longer passage on us being members of Christ is 1 Corinthians 12, but a shorter passage from Romans 12 is easier to quote:

For by the grace given to me I say to everyone among you not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think with sober judgment, each according to the measure of faith that God has assigned. For as in one body we have many members, and the members do not all have the same function, so we, though many, are one body in Christ, and individually members one of another. Having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, in proportion to our faith; if service, in our serving; the one who teaches, in his teaching; the one who exhorts, in his exhortation; the one who contributes, in generosity; the one who leads, with zeal; the one who does acts of mercy, with cheerfulness. (Rom 12:3–8).

As members of Christ's Church, God commends women, their works and service, their raising of children, and their sharing of the gospel to those around them.

Yours in Christ,
Pastor Woelmer

Trinity Lutheran Ladies Aid

Trinity Lutheran Ladies Aid of Block (Paola, Kansas) was organized in 1912 with eleven members. In the early years, the ladies met in homes of the members for their meetings and quilted on the first Thursday of each month. Since 1959, we have met in the church basement. We meet regularly every Thursday at 10 am, our business meeting is held on the first Thursday of each month; all are welcome.

Our goal has always been to help with our congregational needs and promote church activities, works of Christian love and charity within and outside our congregation.

Today, sewing projects include making quilt tops, walker aprons, lap quilts, needle work, and baptismal napkins. With money earned from our sewing projects, serving dinners and raffles, we give to missions at home and abroad, and to food pantries.

Our current quilt raffle will be drawn on Heritage Sunday October 18th. The raffle includes two items given to Ladies Aid by Nada Thoden's family. The square quilt bound in pink was given as a quilt top. We picked a backing and put the fabric and batting in the quilting frame and began hand quilting it. Long time members Nina Gerken, Norma Peckman and Shirley Hubbard spent time quilting it over the past few years. We met once a week, as hand quilting takes time. We came to a point where we needed some outside help with the hand quilting to finish this beautiful quilt. We asked Heidi Kessler, a retired school nurse of Paola, to help us complete the hand quilting. She happily accepted and joined us on Thursdays. She hand-quilted while we worked on other quilts to be completed by machine quilting.

Our machine quilter, Helen Brand of Osawatomie, has been a blessing to our group. She can machine quilt many different designs on the quilt to follow a theme we may have. For example, our school t-shirt quilts were machine quilted with pencils and books as the design. She has maple leaf designs, stars, hearts, stars & stripes or almost anything we can dream up, she can machine quilt the design.

When we are not serving dinners for funerals or church suppers, we continue to work on many sewing and quilting projects. We welcome interested church members to join us on Thursdays for fellowship and to work on projects that involve simple sewing, cross-stitch, fabric cutting and anything else that may come our way to be done for others.

We also welcome donation of fabric and used or partial quilts. We rescue gently used quilts or partially completed quilts to be given to others in their time of need. Contact a member of Ladies Aid for more information or to donate.



Birthdays

October 1	Mike Schmitt
October 1	Kimala Morton
October 1	Michele Minden
October 2	Ashley Peckman
October 2	Sharon Prothe
October 4	Kyle Minden
October 5	Mark Deering
October 5	Jenna Brown
October 5	Paxton Springer
October 8	Megan Stutzman
October 8	Brian Oberheide
October 9	Kyle Garrison
October 10	LeRoy Thoden
October 10	Lennon Jonas
October 11	Shelby Barrett
October 11	Kegan Warring
October 13	Vicky Boyer
October 13	Aaron Mueller
October 15	Pam Peckman
October 15	Jay Warring
October 16	Ariel Alcorn
October 16	Erica Peckman
October 17	Dylan Fanning
October 17	Julie Kellogg
October 18	Carter Zajic
October 18	David Puckett
October 19	Betty Prothe
October 19	Joe Stephens
October 19	Aaron Prothe
October 20	Khrystin Davis
October 23	Brett Golubski
October 23	Kaelah Garrison
October 23	Hannah Allcorn
October 24	Payton Bruce
October 26	Charlie Peckman
October 26	Dalton Russell
October 27	Kolby Fanning
October 27	Lloyd Peckman
October 27	Kayla Shappell
October 30	Chris Kettler
October 30	Rose Peckman
October 30	David Prothe
October 30	Jai Jenkins
October 31	Nina Gerken
October 31	Stan Loftiss

Anniversaries

October 1	Chance and Becky Hager (15)
October 7	Scott and Nancy Golubski (37)
October 7	Ryan and Emily Springer (9)
October 12	Nathan and Journey Peckman (8)
October 17	Joe and Anisha O'Barto (28)
October 17	Darrel and Brigitte Rodewald (45)
October 19	Dustin and Candice Prothe (13)
October 19	Kyle and Pam Minden (35)
October 22	Alaric and Schyler Bogle (4)
October 25	Mark and Diana Deering (23)
October 28	Joe and Christie Stephens (18)
October 30	Les and Beth Prothe (33)
October 31	Dale and Linda Prothe (49)

COFFEE HOUR

Everyone is invited to stay for Coffee Hour in the Gathering Room following worship. Our thanks to those that provide snacks each Sunday. The sign-up sheet to provide snacks for Coffee Hour in 2026 is on the counter in the Gathering Room. Consider signing up to honor birthdays, wedding anniversaries, etc.



ADULT BIBLE CLASS:

"Wisdom Literature"

What is "Wisdom"? Our next series of books will be the Wisdom Literature books of the Bible: Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, and Song of Songs. Come to hear what wisdom is and how we can learn from her regarding faith and life. Join the Adult Bible Class at 9:00 a.m. on Sundays in the Heritage Room to learn more!

"LOOKING AHEAD" BIBLE STUDY

We meet on Wednesdays from 10:30-11:30 am in the Heritage Room. Join us to study the Scripture readings for the upcoming Sunday service, so you can get a "sneak peek" of what you will hear on Sunday.



Janet England
Entered Eternal Rest June 6, 2025

*"Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord."
Revelation 14:13*

HERITAGE SUNDAY: OCTOBER 18

As a nod to the long-standing hymnal that has served our Synod and congregation well for many decades, our worship on October 18th will be entirely from *The Lutheran Hymnal* of 1941, with the order of service being the familiar "Page 15."

We will also have our traditional Chili and Chicken Noodle Lunch following the service downstairs, hosted by the Generations Group.

CREATION MUSEUM AND ARK ENCOUNTER

Our Youth and families are planning a trip to the Creation Museum and Ark Encounter in Kentucky June 2–6, 2027. Congregation members are also invited to join them! In order to finalize housing plans, we need a firm commitment from any Youth families by November 1. Please let Kristina or Lori know if you are planning to attend. We are asking each Youth family attending to pay a \$100 commitment fee to help offset the cost of the trip. There will be a sign-up list in the back of church for any other congregation members planning to join us. We ask that congregation members sign up by December 1. See Lori Schlegel for any questions you have.

NURSING HOME SERVICES

You are invited to help Trinity provide brief worship services for nursing home residents this month. The simple services are approximately 20 minutes in length at each home. This month, we are scheduled for Sunday, **October 11th**. We will begin at 1:30 pm at North Point and then go to Medicalodge around 2:15 for the second service. The residents really enjoy these services, especially singing their favorite hymns. It's great to have church members there to greet the residents and sing along. We have a few members who help but we could use your help too!

VOTERS AND COUNCIL MEETINGS

The quarterly meeting of the Voters Assembly will be held following worship on Sunday, October 18th at 7:00 p.m. Included on the agenda will be the election of church officers for 2027, officer reports, setting the mission budget, designating the Thanksgiving and Christmas offerings, and any other business presented.

In order to prepare for this meeting, the Church Council will meet Tuesday, October 13th at 7:00pm.



Sunday, October 25th, 4:00–6:00 p.m.
at the Shelter House

Food – Games – Crafts

Everyone is invited to offer trunk or treats from your car, truck, or other vehicle!
(Please have your setup completed by 3:30 p.m.)

All Invited—Everyone Welcome!



The new quarterly issue of the devotional booklet Portals of Prayer for October thru December is available at the church, in regular size, large print, and a “digest” size (same size as Reader’s Digest). A great way to keep close to the Lord!

KANSAS LUTHERAN SCHOOLS SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION

The Kansas Lutheran Schools Scholarship Foundation (KLSSF), a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, provides essential scholarships for K–12 students attending Lutheran schools in the LCMS Kansas District. As an approved Scholarship Granting Organization (SGO) under the Kansas Tax Credit for Low Income Students Scholarship Program, KLSSF enables donors to support Christ-centered education while receiving a 75% Kansas state income tax credit on eligible contributions. Your gift can directly transform a child’s educational journey. Visit www.klssf.org to donate and learn more. Join us in expanding access to Lutheran education and strengthening its mission across Kansas.



QUILT RAFFLE

The Ladies Aid are preparing to sell raffle tickets for quilts. The display will be set up in the Gathering Room with separate boxes for each quilt for you to place your ticket in the box of your quilt choice. There will be drawings for quilts at Blocktoberfest September 19th and Chili/Chicken Noodle dinner scheduled for Heritage Sunday, October 18th. Tickets are \$1 each or 6 for \$5.

THRIVENT CHOICE DOLLARS

If you have a Thrivent account (or know someone else who does), don't forget to periodically check the account for Thrivent Choice Dollars; you are able to donate them to church or to various charities of your choice. If someone you know is not able to check online easily, feel free to help them see what might be sitting in their account, ready to be designated!

AUBURN PHARMACY CAPS

Please save your Auburn Pharmacy caps; Trinity earns 25 cents for every specially marked cap collected from AuBurn Pharmacy and submitted! There are 4 submission periods per year with an opportunity to earn up to \$2500 per period! There is a box in the gathering room for collection.

PRAYER CHAIN

If you would like to be added to a texting group for getting prayer requests, please sign up on the sheet in the Gathering Room, or speak with Pastor or Susan Schmitt.



News from the Clausing Family

Mid-Sabbatical Newsletter

This newsletter is unusual in that I'm currently on sabbatical and have little news to share about the fall semester at St. Peter Seminary in Tanzania. I'm grateful to my Tanzanian colleagues who have taken on extra work to cover my courses and continue the work of the seminary during my absence. In lieu of news, I'd like to offer the following brief reflection on the work of the LCMS in Tanzania.

It's striking how the work of mission and the work of reform go hand-in-hand. St. Paul was probably the most famous missionary who ever lived, yet his letter to the Galatians (which may have been the first he ever wrote) was a letter of reform. Paul wasn't introducing the Galatians to Jesus for the first time; he had already done that in person. When he wrote to the Galatians, he was telling them to get rid of the new teachings they had adopted since his visit and to return to the pure Gospel that they had heard the first time around. Paul's letter was a call to reform. He wrote, "I am astonished that you are so quickly deserting him who called you in the grace of Christ and are turning to a different gospel." (Ga 1:6) He continued even more sternly, "As we have said before, so now I say again: If anyone is preaching to you a gospel contrary to the one you received, let him be accursed." (Ga 1:9) The first part of Paul's mission work had been to plant the seeds of the Gospel. The second part was to make a second pass and pull out the weeds.

I can't help but notice the parallel between the work I've been called to do and this "second pass" mission work of St. Paul to the Galatians. Evangelical missionaries first came to Tanzania more than a century ago, and they planted the seeds of the Gospel. Since then, weeds have sprung up. Others have come in with "a different gospel," "contrary to the one you received," and many Tanzanian Christians recognize this. Laymen, pastors, and bishops of my own Tanzanian church body as well as the much larger ELCT are now reaching out to the LCMS to assist them in "pulling out the weeds" of modern liberalism, sectarianism, and sexual perversion, and to help them return their churches to the pure teaching of the Gospel - the same Gospel that Paul first preached to the Galatians and later helped them recover, the same Gospel that, centuries later, Martin Luther would help the church of his own day to recover. This too is mission work.

Paul famously wrote to the Galatians, "I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me." (Ga 2:20) For Paul it was personal. What Paul had received

himself, he wanted to share with others. He wanted everyone to know the love that Jesus had shown to him, and he didn't want any lies to get in the way of that love. That's why he did what he did. That's why we do what we do. Thanks for your partnership in the Gospel as the church today continues this work of mission and reform.



We rejoiced to celebrate the Confirmations of Lily Bowman, Jenna Brown, Colby Durham, Jaxon Durham, Ella Durham, Nate Eberly, Ethan Horn, Wesley Horn, Jackson Lester, and Aliyah Lester on August 9th. "Be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee the crown of life" (Rev 2:10).

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