



*Evangelical Lutheran
Church of the Holy Trinity*

*The Third Sunday after Pentecost
June 13, 2021*

Welcome in the name of Our Lord Jesus Christ! If you come as a visitor today, we hope you will leave as a friend. We count it a privilege and a blessing to have you with us in worship. If you are not presently a member of any congregation, please feel welcome to gather with us around Jesus in this community of his disciples at Holy Trinity. Come and worship with us again!

Invitation to Communion: Holy Communion is the body and blood of Jesus Christ by which our Lord is truly present to forgive sin and bring life and salvation. All baptized Christians who believe this promise are welcome to commune. Parents with children are encouraged to come to the altar together. Children who do not yet receive communion will receive the blessing of the Church from the Pastor.

Procedure for Communing: We will be using a form of processional communion. An usher will release each pew to come forward at a time to avoid a long line in the aisle. Pick up a communion cup on either side at the first pew. The pastor will place a host in your open palm. Turn to either the left or right side to the deacon or communion assistant to receive wine. After consuming the host and wine, pour any remaining wine into the container, then discard your cup. Children who have not yet received their First Holy Communion should come forward for a blessing. Please maintain social distance between non-family members.

Gluten-free wafers are available; let Pastor know when you come forward to receive.

Service of Holy Communion

Significance of the Day: The mustard seed becomes a great shrub that shelters the birds, recalling ancient images of the tree of life. We'd expect a cedar or a sequoia, but Jesus finds the power of God better imaged in a tiny, no-account seed. It's not the way we expect divine activity to look. Yet the tree of life is here, in the cross around which we gather, the tree into which we are grafted through baptism, the true vine that nourishes us with its fruit in the cup we share. It may not appear all that impressive, but while nobody's looking it grows with a power beyond our understanding.

Gathering

Prelude

Variations on *Ar Hyd Y Nos*

(Held et al)

Greeting / Announcements

(The assembly stands as the minister enters.)

Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

Amen.

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Gracious God,

have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord. Amen.

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of + Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

Amen.

Opening Hymn

Almighty God, Your Word Is Cast

1 Al - might - y God, your word is cast like seed in - to the ground;
2 Let not the sly sa - tan - ic foe this ho - ly seed re - move,
3 Let not the world's de - ceit - ful cares the ris - ing plant de - stroy,
4 So when the pre - cious seed is sown, life - giv - ing grace be - stow,

now let the dew of heav'n de - scend and righ - teous fruits a - bound.
but give it root in ev - 'ry heart to bring forth fruits of love.
but let it yield a hun - dred - fold the fruits of peace and joy.
that all whose souls the truth re - ceive its sav - ing pow'r may know.

Apostolic Greeting

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

O God, you are the tree of life, offering shelter to all the world. Graft us into yourself and nurture our growth, that we may bear your truth and love to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Word

First Reading

Ezekiel 17:22-24

A reading from Ezekiel:

22 Thus says the Lord God:

I myself will take a sprig
from the lofty top of a cedar;
I will set it out.

I will break off a tender one
from the topmost of its young twigs;

I myself will plant it
on a high and lofty mountain.

23 On the mountain height of Israel
I will plant it,
in order that it may produce boughs and bear fruit,
and become a noble cedar.

Under it every kind of bird will live;
in the shade of its branches will nest
winged creatures of every kind.

24 All the trees of the field shall know
that I am the Lord.

I bring low the high tree,
I make high the low tree;
I dry up the green tree
and make the dry tree flourish.

I the Lord have spoken;
I will accomplish it.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

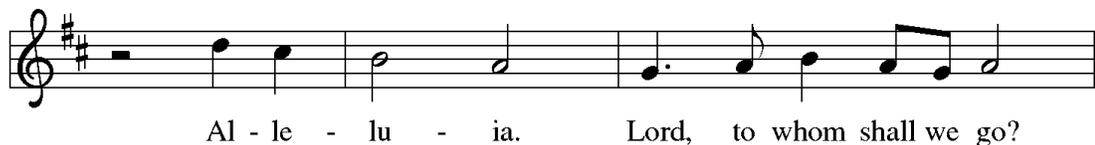
be able to answer those who boast in outward appearance and not in the heart. 13 For if we are beside ourselves, it is for God; if we are in our right mind, it is for you. 14 For the love of Christ urges us on, because we are convinced that one has died for all; therefore all have died. 15 And he died for all, so that those who live might live no longer for themselves, but for him who died and was raised for them.

16 From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way. 17 So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

(Saturday acclamation will be spoken, Sunday acclamation will be sung in unison.)



The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the fourth chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

(The reading of the Gospel.)

26 Jesus also said, He also said, “The kingdom of God is as if someone would scatter seed on the ground, 27 and would sleep and rise night and day, and the seed would sprout and grow, he does not know how. 28 The earth produces of itself, first the stalk, then the head, then the full grain in the head. 29 But when the grain is ripe, at once he goes in with his sickle, because the harvest has come.”

30 He also said, “With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable will we use for it? 31 It is like a mustard seed, which, when sown upon the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth; 32 yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes the greatest of all shrubs, and puts forth large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade.”

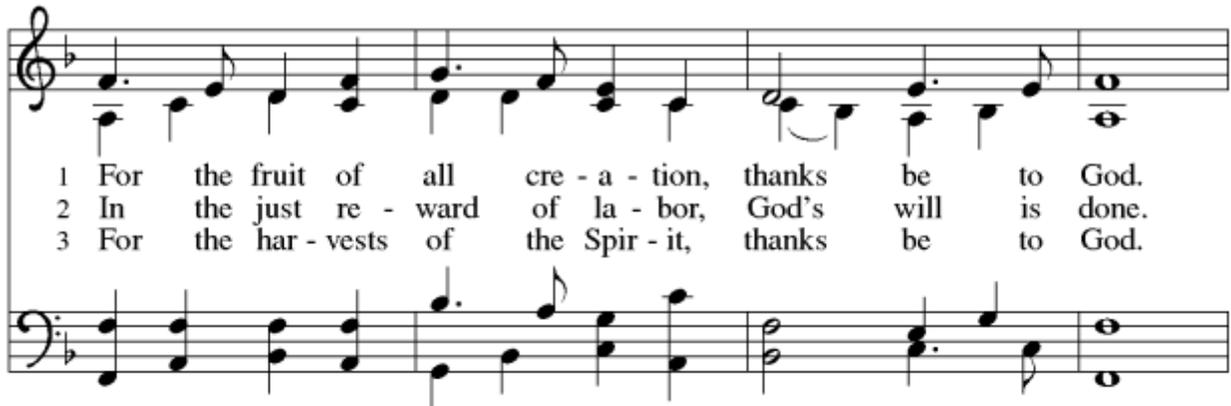
33 With many such parables he spoke the word to them, as they were able to hear it; 34 he did not speak to them except in parables, but he explained everything in private to his disciples.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Hymn of the Day

For the Fruit of All Creation



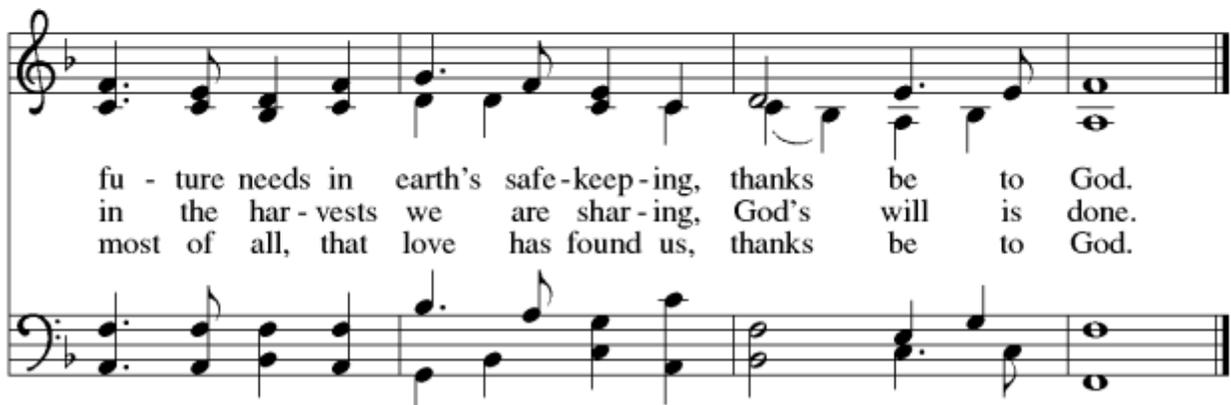
1 For the fruit of all cre - a - tion, thanks be to God.
 2 In the just re - ward of la - bor, God's will is done.
 3 For the har - vests of the Spir - it, thanks be to God.



For these gifts to ev - 'ry na - tion, thanks be to God.
 In the help we give our neigh - bor, God's will is done.
 For the good we all in - her - it, thanks be to God.



For the plow - ing, sow - ing, reap - ing, si - lent growth while we are sleep - ing,
 In our world - wide task of car - ing for the hun - gry and de - spair - ing,
 For the won - ders that as - tound us, for the truths that still con - found us,



fu - ture needs in earth's safe - keep - ing, thanks be to God.
 in the har - vests we are shar - ing, God's will is done.
 most of all, that love has found us, thanks be to God.

Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.*
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Prayers of Intercession

A: Let us come before the triune God in prayer, responding, "Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer."

(Brief silence)

A: Holy God, you plant the seeds of faith in every nation. Enliven your church, so that the good news of your grace may root and grow throughout the world. We pray for our bishops, Elizabeth and Michael; our pastors, deacons, communion assistants, council members, musicians, and volunteers. Lord, in your mercy,

C: **hear our prayer.**

A: Creator, even the trees, shrubs, and flowers delight in your goodness. From the depths of the soil to the highest mountain, bring forth new plants. Restore growth to places suffering drought. Lord, in your mercy,

C: **hear our prayer.**

A: Judge of nations, we pray for our leaders and those in power. Grant them the ability to regard those under their charge with humility, dedicating their lives in service to others. Lord, in your mercy,

C: **hear our prayer.**

A: Divine comforter, you show compassion to those in need and provide relief to those who call on you. Bless all who suffer, especially people trapped in cycles of poverty and homelessness. Lord, in your mercy,

C: **hear our prayer.**

A: Sovereign God, this house of worship belongs to you. We give thanks and pray for our church musicians. We dedicate to you the joyful noise that comes from this place; the cries of children, the melody of voice and instruments, and the songs from our hearts. We ask your blessing on all of those in our congregation who have graduated in this season from high school, college and graduate school: Grant, Griffin, Jacob, Ella, Zach, Virginia, Michael, Lauren, Marie, Garrett, Julianne, Michael, and Natalie. Lord, in your mercy,

C: **hear our prayer.**

A: Eternal God, we give thanks for our ancestors in the faith who are now at home with you. We look forward to that day when we are reunited in your new creation. Lord, in your mercy,

C: **hear our prayer.**

A: Are there others for whom we should pray?

P: We lift our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your abiding grace.

C: **Amen.**

Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

Meal

Music as the meal is prepared

Interlude on *St. Flavian*

(Shields)

(The assembly stands. The deacon, on behalf of the people, prays.)

Offering Prayer

Let us pray.

Gracious God, you open your hand, filling our lives with all good things and renewing the face of the earth. We offer these gifts in thanksgiving for all that we have received from your bounty. Accept them for the sake of him who offered his life for us, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

You are indeed holy,
almighty and merciful God.

You are most holy,
and great is the majesty
of your glory.

You so loved the world
that you gave your only Son,
so that everyone
who believes in him
may not perish
but have eternal life.

We give you thanks
for his coming into the world
to fulfill for us your holy will
and to accomplish all things
for our salvation.

In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup,
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Remembering, therefore, his salutary command,
his life-giving passion and death, his glorious resurrection and
ascension,
and the promise of his coming again,
we give thanks to you, O Lord God Almighty,
not as we ought but as we are able;
we ask you mercifully to accept our praise and thanksgiving
and with your Word and Holy Spirit to bless us, your servants,
and these your own gifts of bread and wine,
so that all who share in the body and blood of Christ
may be filled with heavenly blessing and grace,
and, receiving the forgiveness of sin,
may be formed to live as your holy people
and be given our inheritance with all your saints.

To you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,
be all honor and glory in your holy church, now and forever.

Amen.

Lord's Prayer

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.**

**Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.**

Breaking of Bread

When we eat this bread, we share the body of Christ.

When we drink this cup, we share the blood of Christ.

**Reveal yourself to us, O Lord, in the breaking of bread, as once you
revealed yourself to your disciples.**

The gifts of God for the people of God. Come, for all is now ready.

Communion of the Faithful

***Procedure for Communing:** We will be using a form of processional communion. An usher will release each pew to come forward at a time to avoid a long line in the aisle. Pick up a communion cup on either side at the first pew. The pastor will place a host in your open palm. Turn to either the left or right side to the deacon or communion assistant to receive wine. After consuming the host and wine, pour any remaining wine into the container, then discard your cup. Children who have not yet received their First Holy Communion should come forward for a blessing. Please maintain social distance between non-family members.*

(Following the Communion the assembly stands for the blessing.)

Music during communion

Appointed hymns

Post-Communion Blessing

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and preserve you unto eternal life.

Amen.

Prayer after Communion

Let us pray.

God of abundance, with this bread of life and cup of salvation you have united us with Christ, making us one with all your people. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue forever in the risen life of Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Amen.

Sending

Blessing of Graduates

Dear friends: Life presents us with various significant milestones that set the stage for the next phase in our earthly journey. Graduation from high school, college or graduate school is one of these milestones. Today we wish to honor those who are moving through this special time of accomplishment, transition, and change, and to show them that we, their community of faith, stand with them and support them as fellow believers in Jesus Christ.

Our graduates are: Grant Abraham, Natalie Bubenheim, Zach Chesmer, Garrett Daniello, Jacob Eppley, Julianne Eppley, Michael Eppley, Lauren Faber, Ella Hildebrand, Marie Lineman, Michael Lineman, Griffin Richardson, and Virginia Riddle.

At this time of celebration and transition, hear these words from holy scripture from the book of Proverbs: The human mind plans the way, but the LORD directs the steps. (Proverbs 16:9)

From the gospel of Matthew: He said to them, "Because of your little faith. For truly I tell you, if you have faith the size of a mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there,' and it will move; and nothing will be impossible for you." (Matthew 17:20)

Graduates: At this special time in your life we are eager to show you how delighted we are that you have reached this milestone in your life. As fellow members of this community of faith we rejoice with you and want you to know of our pride and excitement as you move from this accomplishment into the next phase of your life. We also want you to know that wherever you go and whatever you do, you are going forward with our prayers for God's continued guidance, power, protection, and strength.

Let us pray.

O Lord Jesus Christ, when you welcomed the children your invitation included each one of us. Your guiding hand has continually been upon these young men and women. You have sustained them. You have shared in their laughter and wiped away their tears. In times of confusion you have offered direction. In times of sorrow you have offered hope. In times of doubt your Holy Spirit has lifted them up. Grant, O Savior, to each of these graduates the knowledge of your continued presence as they go forth into the future. Bless them and keep them. Guide their steps. Hold them in the hollow of your hand. Bless them and keep them now and forever.

Amen.

Members and friends of name of congregation, will you promise to keep these graduates and their families in your thoughts and prayers as they go forth into the future?

We will.

Will you, as fellow believers in Jesus Christ, promise to help these young men and women as need and opportunity arise?

We will.

May the Lord bless you and keep you.

May the Lord watch over you and keep you safe.

May the Lord guide your every step.

May you always know of our unending love for you.

Amen.

Blessing

Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.
Amen.

Sending Hymn

The Spirit Sends Us Forth to Serve

1 The Spir - it sends us forth to serve; we go in
2 We go to com - fort those who mourn and set the
3 We go to be the hands of Christ, to scat - ter
4 Then let us go to serve in peace, the gos - pel

Je - sus' name to bring glad tid - ings
bur - dened free; where hope is dim, to
joy like seed and, all our days, to
to pro - claim. God's Spir - it has em -

to the poor, God's fa - vor to pro - claim.
share a dream and help the blind to see.
cher - ish life, to do the lov - ing deed.
pow - ered us; we go in Je - sus' name.

Dismissal

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Final on *Chesterfield*

(Manz)

Serving Tonight

Presiding Minister Pastor Brenda Martin
Pianist Maidene Hackett
Liturgical Deacon Linda Armstrong

Serving Today

Presiding Minister Pastor Brenda Martin
Organist Maidene Hackett
Liturgical Deacon Sheryl Lanning
Communion Assistant Catherine Snyder
Lector Don Achenbach
Head Usher Marj Stubert
Altar Guild Ruth Gruber
Mary Beth Bradley

Acknowledgments

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Pastors in residence:

The Rev. Martin Roth, Pastor Emeritus, Holy Trinity Lutheran Church
The Rev. Julia Fraser, chaplain at St. Paul Homes
The Rev. Brian Riddle, Thiel College Campus Pastor
The Rev. Dr. Curtis Thompson, retired, Thiel College

Attendance at the Saturday, June 6, 2021, 5:30 p.m. Service: 22. Attendance at the Sunday, June 7, 2021, 9:30 a.m. Service: 45. Total: 67.

Altar and Columbarium Flowers

The flowers on the altar have been given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Herbert and Janet Gebert by their family.

This Week at Holy Trinity

Sunday, June 13, 2021, *Third Sunday after Pentecost*

9:30 a.m. Liturgy of Holy Communion

7:00 p.m. AA Big Book meeting

Tuesday, June 15, 2021

7:00 p.m. Congregation Council

7:00 p.m. AA and AA Women's Discussion

Wednesday, June 16, 2021

7:00 p.m. Weekday Communion

Thursday, June 17, 2021

10:00 a.m. Weekday Communion

8:00 p.m. Happy Hour

Saturday, June 19, 2021

5:30 p.m. Liturgy of Holy Communion

Upcoming Events

Sunday, June 20, 2021, *Fourth Sunday after Pentecost*

9:30 a.m. Liturgy of Holy Communion

7:00 p.m. AA Big Book meeting

Monday, June 21, 2021

Messenger articles due today

Tuesday, June 22, 2021

9:00 a.m. Flying Quilts

7:00 p.m. AA and AA Women's Discussion

Wednesday, June 23, 2021

7:00 p.m. Weekday Communion

Thursday, June 24, 2021

10:00 a.m. Weekday Communion

8:00 p.m. Happy Hour

Saturday, June 26, 2021

5:30 p.m. Liturgy of Holy Communion

Mercer County Housing

If you, or if you know of someone, who is not able to pay their rent or utilities due to loss of hours or employment, please contact Mercer County Housing at 724-342-4000. They have received monies to be used for Emergency Rental and Utility Assistance Relief for the residents of Mercer County. Households who meet the guidelines can receive up to 12 months of financial assistance.

Office Closure

The office will be closed Friday at noon while Tammy has time away. Please leave her a message on the office phone and she will call you back on Monday, June 21. If this is a pastoral emergency, please call Pastor Brenda at 814-881-8959.

Lutherlyn Camperships

Camperships are offered to our members to spend a week at Camp Lutherlyn this summer. **It's now time to register for camp.** A \$250.00 Campership, approximately half of the cost of basic camp, will be provided for all Holy Trinity campers. You are asked to visit www.lutherlyn.com for dates, prices, details, and registration. For additional information please call 724-865-2161 or registrar@lutherlyn.com.

Holy Trinity Graduates to be Honored Today

On Sunday we will recognize and honor our graduates of High School, College, and Graduate Programs. Because of COVID concerns, however, gathering and eating at the same time in such a crowded space is not advisable. Therefore, as a congregation we will have the opportunity to greet and congratulate our guests of honor immediately after worship in the narthex, after which the graduates and their families will be invited downstairs to Trinity Hall for a cake reception. Thank you for your understanding about this.

Congregational Meeting Set For June 27

Our Congregation Council has scheduled the annual June congregational meeting for Sunday, June 27 at 11:00 a.m. We are planning to meet in person and via Zoom for those who are still not comfortable meeting in person

This is the meeting at which annual reports are received from the pastor and from the various committees. It's also the meeting at which we elect new members of council and our representatives to synod assembly for 2022.

Bulletin of Reports are available in the narthex.

Good Shepherd June Request

The Good Shepherd Center is our church community social service agency that supports the needs of many in the area.

The Good Shepherd Center's request for Holy Trinity for **June is canned or boxed meals**. Donations may be taken direct to the Food Pantry or placed in the marked box in the cloister.

Second Mile Giving for June is Bweranyange Girls Secondary School Scholarships

The school belongs to the Karagwe Diocese. It was officially started in July 2007 and was solemnly inaugurated by Bishop Benson Bagonza. The motto "It takes a woman to raise a nation" guides the school.

Bweranyange Girls Secondary School offers education studies from Form One to Form Four. There are 328 girls taught by 15 teachers in general subjects of Biology, Chemistry, Civics, English, Geography, History, Kiswahili, Religion, Mathematics, Commerce, Bookkeeping, and Physics. Classrooms for every Form as well as three dormitories, bathrooms, a dining hall, a kitchen, a store, laboratories, and an administration building provide the physical structure for the school.

A resolution was passed at the 2013 NWPA Synod Assembly to encourage all of our congregations to take up a special offering which will go into a fund that has been created for scholarships and support of the school. The scholarship fund exists at the synod. In January, funds are transferred to Karagwe to support the costs for 10 girls for tuition and housing. In 2018, the cost per student is \$800.

Second Mile envelopes can be found in the pew racks, or you may mail your contribution to the church office in an envelope clearly marked, "Second Mile Giving." All Second Mile contributions received during the month of June will be given to the designated cause.

Please Pray For

Permission is necessary to add a person to the prayer list. Please ask before your call the office. Thanks.

Health and Healing:

Paul (nephew of Henry and Ruth Heil)	Nancy (friend of Linda Armstrong)
Christina (niece of Henry and Ruth Heil)	John L (father of Catherine Mott)
Louise (friend of Rich and Denise Hall)	Brenda (sister-in-law of Betty K. Junk)
Donnie L. (friend of Rich and Denise Hall)	Carl
Donald (cousin of Fran Black)	Paul
Jerry Smith	Dillon (friend of Ed Pitcher and Beth Harpst)
Dan (friend of Carol and Bonnie Long)	Belle (granddaughter of Linda Bateman)
Donnie K. (friend of Wayne and Darla Swift)	
Marie (sister-in-law of Henry and Ruth Heil)	
Lori McCann	
Jim	

Christ's comfort for those who grieve the death of:

Family of Sean McGinley (step-son of James Logan (John's brother)
Joyce Gleason (wife of Pastor David Gleason)
Kate (Zgnoc) Slack (friend of Paul and Sue Bittler)
Kevin Crose (friend of Carl and Bonnie Long)
Bruce Reames (brother-in-law of Mary Reames)

In Military Service

Specialist (SPC) Andrew McCall, Fort Carson, Colorado Springs, Colorado (son of Mark and Jane McCall, grandson of Karen McKay and the late Jim McKay)
Sgt. First Class Nicholas Carman, US Army, Fredericksburg, Virginia (grandson of Nancy Ullstrom)
Admiral Richard Childs, Assistant Surgeon General of the USA (nephew of Harvey Childs)
CDR Ryan Leary, USN, Operation Officer, 7th Fleet, Yokosuka, Japan (son of David and Judy Leary)
Tim Ross, Navy Special Forces, (grandson of Rae Johnson, nephew of Lori McEwen)