

The
NEWSLETTER

Of

Trinity Lutheran Church

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Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod

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Reverend Robert Ziegler and Reverend Marty Reed

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FROM PASTOR ZIEGLER'S DESK

CALLS AND MEETINGS IN March



**Home
Hospital
Shut-Ins
Meetings & Classes
Hours Counseling**

CALLS AND CLASSES

In terms of calls and classes and meetings this month, there is not much to report. I made one home call and shut-in call. Our Finance Committee did meet, and Board of Directors met. We have had Wednesday School and I have met with three of our School 8th graders for two hours on Mondays and Thursdays.

STREAMING SERVICES

We began streaming our Sunday 8:00 a.m. Service on March 22nd. We also streamed our Good Friday service. A BIG THANKS to Jeremy Blanton who has spent hours setting up everything for this. Rehearsing on Saturdays what he was going to do on Sunday mornings. And, each week he has reviewed and then made adjustments and tried new things to make the presentation better. Bart Lennington has been here every Sunday, taking care of the sound system, doing the work of an Elder. Jim Duitsman and Tom Brincefield have taken care of the offering plate in the Narthex. Thank you also to the brass quartet which played on Easter, our soloists and Cheryl and Melissa. And, Penny Long who has taken care of the flowers. So, although streaming is all we have been able to do the past few weeks, lots of people have done much to make it happen.

And, many hundreds of people have watched the streamed services – all over the country and even a young lady in London, England.

EASTER

The mass mailing of our Easter invitation caused much confusion. It arrived in mailboxes the week before Easter with our Easter message and an invitation to attend one of our four Easter services. We were already streaming our services but folks who did not know this assumed we were going to have services. We had a couple of calls from people saying they would be present because their church was closed. Someone reported us to the Health Department which called us. A lady called and immediately began to berate us and then after I explained what happened, she said she was sorry for being so rude. One cut the card up and mailed it back with this written on it: "Is this a joke? Protect your flock. Protect Atchison. My church protects me. Shame on you!!"

We received much advertising in all of this. We put two adds in the Globe saying we were not having in-person services. The Health Department was very kind and put a picture of our postcard on their website and noted we were streaming, and the Saturday before Easter the Globe had a big picture of our church under which it said we would be streaming.

We mailed the card to every home within 20 miles of the church, 7,000 homes. Around the first of February we contracted with a company in California to send the card. At that time, we picked the card we would send, wrote the copy for the back of it and had it printed and paid for the cards, printing and postage. About three weeks before it was to be mailed the

company called so see whether we still wanted it mailed. If we did not it would refund what we had paid for postage. It was at that time President Trump was saying he was sure the crisis would be over by Easter and that as usual, the churches would be full. On the basis of this we decided to mail the card. One good thing, the name of Trinity Lutheran Church, Atchison, was in 7,000 area homes, on two websites on the radio and three times in the paper.

BIG NEWS!!

But, NOW, for the BIG NEWS of April 2020. On Friday, April 17th, at Zion Lutheran Church in Hiawatha, before Pastor Michael Dunaway, Randy and Debbie Jewell (witnesses) and Lela Middendorf (organist), Charlotte Teuscher and I said our vows in the presence of God and became husband and wife. We were 18 years old when we first met, freshman at St. John's College in Winfield. She was there to become a Lutheran Christian Day School Teacher. I was there to become a pastor. After we graduated she taught at Trinity in Winfield and I went to Concordia Seminary in St. Louis. She eventually married Lee Teuscher, who by the way, taught me first year Latin in St. John's Academy (BUT, I'm going to let her tell her story in the column which follows this one). Last summer at the Johnnie Reunion in Winfield we re-met. Since then I have made many Friday evening trips to Olathe and she has come to Atchison several times. All of which culminated in the event on April 17th. We told our children on Saturday morning the reaction of everyone was the same..."You what?" After that, it was happy congratulations and the same from siblings, extended families, old classmates, Trinity members and friends.



SOME SPRUCING UP

Have you noticed the church basement, the church doors on the south side, the railings on the front and on the south side? All have been painted by Terry Mills last month. And have you noticed Esther's Nest? Diane Schletzbaum spent hours weeding, cutting, planting and putting in new chips last month. Thank you Terry and Diane. What you have done certainly looks good and adds to the beauty of our church and grounds.

As you know a couple of months ago, Trinity purchased the old Seven Day Adventist Church on the corner of 8th and Riley. Thank you to Jim Duitsman and Glen Buckley who spent hour and hours cleaning it out. Eventually we will tear it down and this will make possible the filling of the gully north of the Garage/Maintenance Building so that it can be used someday for a playground or parking or something.

We have extended a call to Mr. Steve Hobus of Grand Junction, Colorado to become Principal of our Trinity School. Please be praying that he will accept our Call. Also, Mrs. Jennie Fuhrman who was the Teacher's Aide in the Kindergarten Room last year will be taking Linda Goodpasture's place as teacher of 4-year-old Pre-School.

On April 18th one of our members, Kathy Ann Piper, 60, was called to her eternal home. Visitation for Kathy was held at the Becker-Dwyer-Stanton Funeral Home on April 24th. Kathy was baptized here at Trinity on December 13, 1959, graduated from Trinity School in 1974 and was confirmed on June 2, 1974. We pray the Lord's comfort to her loved ones.

A Blood Drive is scheduled for Monday, May 4th. The need for blood right now is acute. Please call the office, 367-2837, to make an appointment.

With the uncertainties we are now facing, it is hard to put together a May calendar. A decision about VBS still has to be made as well as decisions about confirmation, Ascension Day Services, etc. In the meantime, we will continue to "stream our 8:00 a.m. service. Please remember, too, our 9:30 a.m. KAIR radio broadcast.

Finally, thank you to all who have been bringing or sending your offerings. I have noticed that those doing this are mainly folks who have pledged. Let me encourage those who did not pledge to do the same. Your gifts are also really needed.

And finally, please continue to pray, that the virus will soon run its course, that a vaccine will soon be discovered, that people will be protected, that God will use all to accomplish His will, that He will bring good out of it for His people and His church. Hope to see you soon here on campus.

PEACE!

Pastor Robert Ziegler

A WORD FROM CHARLOTTE

I was born in a Lutheran parsonage in Aron, South Dakota on January 31, 1934 where my father, Rev. Otto A. Pinnt was Pastor at Zion Lutheran Church. I attended Zion's Parochial School, all 8 grades in one room in the basement of the church. Then I graduated from Aron High School in 1952 and on to St. John's College, Winfield, Kansas. That's where I first met Pastor Ziegler. I had 4 siblings, 2 older brothers, 1 sister and 1 younger brother who lives in Yuma, Arizona. All 3 of my brothers also went to St. John's College one become a minister, the others teachers. After teaching in Winfield for 3 years and after my husband Rev. Lee Teuscher, who was a teacher at the S.J.C. went into the ministry. We lived in Auburn, NE, Wichita, KS, Ann Arbor, MI, El Dorado, KS and Great Bend, KS. After my husbands death in 1989, I lived wherever one of my children or mother needed help. In Norfolk, NE, Springfield, MO, El Dorado, KS and the last 6 years in Olathe, KS. We were blessed with 6 children, 14 grandchildren and 30 great-grandchildren and expecting 3 more this year yet! It's a good thing I like making baby quilts, as one of my hobbies, isn't it?

I've enjoyed my few days here in Atchison now and look forward to serving our Lord with you as God's family of faith. The extraordinary help you have given me in moving is so appreciated, especially I want to thank, Terry Mills, Joyce Duitsman, Pat Hetz, Judy Hetz, Jim Duitsman, Glen Buckley, Mike Farrell and John Bisping, Bob, Linda, Mike and Colton Grippen.

Charlotte Ziegler

THE FINANCIAL PICTURE

Home	Needed in 2020	\$ 314,491.16
	Given in 2020	313,630.44
Missions	Needed in 2020	13,965.72
	Given in 2020	11,965.72
Building	Needed in 2020	10,788.54
	Given in 2020	10,892.74

At the end of April, our Financial Picture looks really good. Thank you to all who have been so faithful in bringing and sending your offerings. It shows your love for your Lord and your church Trinity and your commitment to our Lord's mission. At the end of four months, we are behind \$860.72 in the HOME budget, behind \$1,977.68 in the MISSION budget and \$104.20 ahead in the BUILDING budget. If you need your stewardship report for 2019 or for the first quarter of this year or if you need offering envelopes, please contact Debbie in the church office.

Special gifts during April were:

Lutheran Hour	10.00
Lutheran World Relief	100.00
Emergency Fund	150.00
KAIR Broadcasts	200.00
Flower Fund	35.00
Technology (current) Fund	70.00
Restroom Fund	3.00
Pew Cushion Fund	144.00
Vacation Bible School	58.00
Lutheran Heritage Foundation	10.00
Trinity Place Endowment Fund	59.00
School Sponsor Plan	70.00
Loaves and Fishes	10.00
Initial Offering	8.25
Portals of Prayer	55.00
Bethesda Home	65.00
Dream Fund III	50.00
Adult Choir	110.00
Streaming Services	50.00

With these gifts this is how our BENEVOLENCE PICTURE looked at the end of the April:

<u>BENEVOLENCE</u>	<u>GOAL</u>	<u>GIVEN</u>
Bethesda Home	\$ 1,100.00	\$ 349.24
Luth. Heritage Found.	600.00	114.00
Lutheran Hour	900.00	777.13
Luth. World Relief	3,500.00	508.95

Please remember these ministries with special gifts. Each one brings the Gospel and God's love to people in different ways. Bethesda Home reaches the mentally handicapped. Lutheran Heritage Foundation prints materials for missionaries to use in foreign lands. The Lutheran Hour reaches millions through radio, DVDs, internet, etc. And, World Relief brings all kinds of help (food, clothing medicine, water) wherever there is need.

We now have sponsors for our 2020 KAIR Broadcasts. Thank you to each and to all who have given the \$50.00 to be a sponsor.

The debt on our Garage/Maintenance Building is now \$36,215.71. Please remember that the second Sunday of the month (May 10th) is "Debt Down Sunday". Extra gifts received through the Building Fund that day go to pay down principle.

ONCE AGAIN PLEASE NOTE: When using your offering envelopes, please always write on the outside the amount that is on the inside and how you want it divided between the three areas of the budget. This really helps our counters. If you don't write the amount on the outside, they must stop and do it. And

if there are many who do not write on the outside, this really extends the time of counting with usually takes two to four hours. Also, please do not use extra tape to seal them or do not staple them shut. Thank you. And, if you forget your envelope, use one of the generic ones which are on the Registration Desks in the Narthex.

I read this recently, written by Dr. Donald Barnhorse, one of great preachers of the 20th century. Please read and think about it. "If by our giving souls may be saved on the other side of the world, if by our giving young people may be saved who then carry the torch of truth into the next generation, then when our control of money fails, when death relaxes our hold upon the possessions to which we have so tightly held, we shall find on the other side in the presence of God those whom we have blessed with our gifts, the souls who have been reached through all we have expended for the Lord, those who have been blessed through the teaching of the Word because we gave – these will be there to welcome us in reception to our reward."

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LOOKING BACK

Ten Years – April 2010

.....Funeral services were held for Thomas Torbett, 77; Roy Walker, 68; Bill Shipman, 56; and Bernita (Bunny) Linden, 67.

.....Rev. John Fischer from "Food for the Poor", spoke on April 18th. The Home builders Bible Class set a goal raising \$2,600 to build a home in a Caribbean country.

.....We were seeking to raise \$40,000 for the 40th Anniversary of the School Endowment Fund.

.....In 2009-10, instead of the average 19 inches of snow, we had 44 inches. We thanked Bob Williams, Bob Weatherford, Rick Weatherford, Jim Sowers, David McRae, Ed Sowers, Travis Peuker and Terry Crank for all the work they did in "snow removal".

.....We also thanked Terry Mills and Carl Dunn and the Fellowship Committee for the great Praise Festival they put on, on April 16th.

.....Debt on the second parsonage was \$56,402.44.

.....The Technology Endowment Fund had grown to \$57,833.80.

.....Katie Kistler and Chance Reams were chosen for the American Legion Awards for 2010.

.....Planet Zoom Vacation Bible School was being planned by Sylvia Thompson.

Health Note for May 2020

Stress what do you do with it?

I think all of us are experiencing some level of stress these days. Stress has been defined as "a state of mental or emotional strain or tension resulting from adverse or very demanding circumstances." Almost everyone has had their usual activities altered by the Covid-19 pandemic, resulting in some level of stress. When I googled ways to deal with social distancing I found plenty of websites with ideas ranging from bizarre to practical. Many of you are probably already doing some of these more practical things:

1. Talk to one friend each day, on a regular phone call, text, or other social media.
2. Send someone you love a handwritten letter.
3. Foster connection with those you're stuck at home with.
4. Reach out to friends who have depression or anxiety.
5. Have a family member (you are unable to see in person) read your child a bedtime book through FaceTime, Skype, or Zoom.
6. Learn to love solitude. If you've struggled with spending time alone in the past, take advantage of this unexpected solo time. Do something that forces you to sit with your thoughts, such as completing a puzzle, crafting, or going for a long walk in nature.

I noticed that none of the secular websites mention the one thing that should come to our minds naturally; that is to pray. I think I find that it is easier now than ever for me to talk to God naturally and lay my worries at His feet. I hope it is the same for all of you. I often recall the words of Saint Paul to the Philippians; "And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus" Philippians 4:19. And my favorite verses from Psalm 27:13-14; "I believe I shall look upon the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living! Wait for the Lord; be strong and let your heart take courage; wait for the Lord."

Blessings,
Marcene Selberg RN, parish nurse
resources: www.sucess.com, mayoclinic.org

**AND BE YE *kind* TO ONE ANOTHER,
tenderhearted, FORGIVING ONE *another,*
EVEN AS GOD FOR CHRIST'S SAKE
HATH *forgiven* YOU.
EPHESIANS 4:32**

MISSION ENDOWMENT FUND

Since the beginning of the year, the Mission Endowment Fund has received, \$2,309.75 in gifts. Given assets of this fund now stand at \$120,144.72. Last year (2019) income from this fund was \$8,684.96. This was distributed various mission projects here in Atchison, around our country and overseas. In January, gifts in the Epiphany envelope were \$273.25. Gifts received in the Ascension Day and Pentecost envelopes will go to this fund.

So far in 2020, the following gifts have been given:

POBLO International-Muslim Missions	\$ 500.00
Monica Lennington-VBS in Poland	\$ 600.00
Lutheran Urban Mission-Kansas City	\$ 600.00
Atchison Public Library-Summer Reading	\$ 250.00
Atchison Fire Depart.-School Program	\$ 300.00
Elliot & Serena Derriks-Bible Trans.	\$ 350.00
Lutheran High School-New Orleans	\$ 500.00
Ebenezer Baptist Church-Atchison	\$ 300.00
St. Paul's High School, Concordia, MO	\$ 300.00
Lutheran medical Missions	\$ 350.00
Atchison Co. Health Clinic	<u>\$ 350.00</u>
	\$4,400.00

"Thank you" letters have been received for all the above gifts. It is great to send gifts and receive the "Thank you" notes. In the front of your packet is a "Mission Endowment Fund" envelope. It would be GREAT if every member would use this envelope. Let's continue to work and pray that this will happen. The NEED is so GREAT. We can't do everything, but we can do something.

My Changing Image of Mother

- Age 4— My Mommy can do everything!
- Age 8— My Mommy knows a lot! A whole lot!
- Age 12— My Mother doesn't really know quite everything.
- Age 14— I doubt if Mother knows anything about that either.
- Age 16— Mother? She's helplessly old-fashioned.
- Age 18— That old woman? Mom is way out of date!
- Age 25— Well, Mom might know something about this.
- Age 35— I need to get Mom's opinion before I make this decision.
- Age 45— I wonder what Mom would have thought about this?
- Age 65— I wish I could talk this over with Mom.
- Age 75— I can't wait to see Mom again.

Christ's Ascension

Questions 146-148 from

Luther's Small Catechism with Explanation

What do the Scriptures teach about Christ's ascension? They teach that 40 days after His resurrection, Christ, in the presence of His disciples, ascended bodily into the glory of His Father, to prepare a place for us in heaven (see Luke 24:51, Eph. 4:10, John 14:2-3, John 17:24, and Acts 1:9-11).

What does it mean that Christ sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty? With this expression Scripture teaches that Christ, as true man, is not only present everywhere, but also now fully exercises His divine power over the whole universe (see Eph. 1:20-23).

What comfort do we get from Christ's ascension to the right hand of God? We know that the exalted God-man, Christ (A) as our Prophet sends people to proclaim the saving Gospel by the power of the Holy Spirit (see Eph. 4:10-12, Luke 10:16, John 16:7); (B) as our Priest pleads and prays for us before the Father (see Rom. 8:34; 1 John 2:1); and (C) as our King rules and protects His church and governs over all the world especially for the benefit of His church (see Ps. 110:1, Eph. 1:20-23).



SCHOOL ENDOWMENT FUND – FIFTY YEARS

As of April 27th, we have received \$21,490.00 from 57 graduates, former students and friends of Trinity School. Gifts have come from many states: South Carolina, Iowa, Wisconsin, Kansas, Georgia, Nebraska, Texas, Missouri, Oklahoma, Tennessee, Michigan, Colorado, Arizona, California, and Indiana. Here are the folks we have heard from so far and the year they graduated from Trinity. There are several years where no name is listed. Let's try to get one or some names under each year. And please note there are no names since 1999.

<u>1948</u> Jerry Bonnell	<u>1961</u> Ron Estes	<u>1973</u> Sue (Kruger) Sherffius	<u>1986</u> Jeff Woodruff (Memorial)
<u>1949</u> Don Kempin	Jeanne (Handke) Durkin	<u>1974</u>	<u>1987</u>
<u>1950</u> Thomas Schmitt	<u>1962</u> Sandra (Jaynes) Watowa	<u>1975</u>	<u>1989</u> Jody Woodruff (Memorial)
<u>1951</u> Rev. Robert Nestler	<u>1963</u> Warren Kaufman	<u>1976</u> Anne (Ziegler) Compton	<u>1990</u> Brian Young
<u>1952</u> Rosalie (Jacobsen) Kearney	<u>1964</u> Bonnie (Schmidt) Young	<u>1977</u>	<u>1991</u>
<u>1953</u> Bill Magers	<u>1965</u> Lee Seetin	<u>1978</u>	<u>1992</u> Aaron Sinclair
<u>1954</u> Robert Peterson	<u>1966</u> Mechelle (Ingels) Underwood	<u>1979</u>	<u>1993</u> Kristin (Estes) Robinson
<u>1955</u> Loretta (Boatright) Lassen	Patty (Handke) Woodruff	<u>1980</u>	<u>1994</u>
<u>1956</u> Larry Jacobson	<u>1967</u> Linda (Earl) Banks	<u>1981</u> Eileen Peterson	<u>1995</u>
<u>1957</u> Norma (Hetz) Donahoo	<u>1968</u>	<u>1982</u>	<u>1996</u> Heather (Duitsman) Katzenmeier
Sharon (Haeffele) Oestmann	<u>1969</u> Dean Kaufman	<u>1983</u>	<u>1997</u>
<u>1958</u> Sandy (Genail) Green	<u>1970</u>	<u>1984</u> Jennifer Gerardy	<u>1998</u> Brett Duitsman
Connie (Miles) Harris	<u>1971</u>		<u>1999</u> Adam Goodpasture
<u>1959</u>	<u>1972</u>	<u>1985</u>	<u>2000</u>
<u>1960</u> Mary (Fricke) Bohnmaier Carol (Scholz) Dupree			

Friends of Trinity School:

Bryan and Pattie Becker	Kevin and Mary Pieper	Jerry and Toni Bisping	Larry and Anita Sadowski
Jim and Joyce Duitsman	Hank Schlattmann	Mary (Miller) Eberhardt	Dora Williams
Mike and Jill Lowe	Merrill and Vonda Young	Nancy Nelson	Pastor Robert Ziegler
Sherri Smith	Marvin Muhlenbruck	Marie Kiehl	Lois Estes
Archie and Kristine Sharp	Peggy Haase	Mike and Georgia Peitsch	John and Roschelle Bisping
Dr. Bill and Carolyn Hubble			

Thank you to all the above for their gifts. We pray that during May we will be able to add many more names. Let's encourage and remind each other and pray God's continued blessings.

— Attention all participants of 'Everyone His Witness' seminar —
Remember LASSIE— Listen-Ask-Seek-Share-Invite-Encourage

Dear Friends:

Isn't it true that all too often we fail to recognize and appreciate the basic blessings that God gives to us? For example, right now I'm sure you're realizing how you've undervalued going out into public without wearing a mask or social distancing, going to work or school, eating at a restaurant or visiting stores in town the government considers "non-essential".

And I'm sure you miss the blessing of going to church, gathering as God's people in God's house, hearing God's Word read and preached, listening to the organ, taking part in the liturgy, singing hymns, and receiving the Sacrament! But I digress. I've moved on from God's basic blessings to blessings far greater: our abundant spiritual blessings in Christ!

So, let's get back to basics.

This month we will observe a special day, Mother's Day. This day concerns one of God's basic blessings in life: mom, a person we often forget and undervalue. Next month we'll observe another one: dad, on Father's Day, a day set aside to honor this individual we often forget and undervalue.

Though God has distinguished parents above all others by giving a commandment that concerns them, parents are still widely undervalued and too frequently under-appreciated, though they are foremost among God's basic blessings.

Sadly, the opportunity to honor parents is past for some of us. That's true for me. Like some of you, I've stood beside the graves of both parents. *"Time heals all wounds,"* we say, and that may be true with some things. But I still miss my parents. And if you've lost yours, I'm sure you do too.

- How wonderful if you still have one or both parents. What a blessing! Your parents are special people. Now is the time for you to show your mom and dad how special they are. Take the time to tell your parents what they mean to you, to visit and talk with them, and to learn from them. I guarantee you that you are one of their favorite people and you mean more to them than you can ever imagine.

I think it's interesting that the Church Year calendar doesn't have a special day dedicated to God the Father. The Son of God, of course, has many special days set aside to honor Him and what He's done. In fact, another day to honor Him is coming up, Ascension Day, May 21st. God the Holy Spirit also has a day set aside for Him: Pentecost. But there isn't a specific day set aside to honor God the Father, something like, "Holy Father Sunday".

I'm not suggesting we need one and should establish one. Rather, I'm pointing this out to get us to think. Does this mean we don't honor God the Father? No, of course not! That's silly. Still, what would happen if we didn't have a specific day set aside to honor parents? Would they still get the recognition, admiration, and appreciation they deserve?

God the Father doesn't need a special day dedicated to honor Him because Christ, His Son, honors Him by doing everything the Father asks of Him. And as God's children, we seek to do the same thing as well.

This helps us understand how we should honor our parents. With Mother's Day and Father's Day on the calendar, this might lead us to think about honoring parents only once a year, with cards, gifts and a phone call. Instead, our aim should be to honor them all year long through our words and actions. When children do what mom and dad ask of them, when children do what's good and avoid what's bad, they are honoring their parents.

So again, two special days are coming up, one in May, Mother's Day; and one in June, Father's Day. But as God's children seek to honor their Father always through words and deeds, children— and especially Christian children— should show honor and appreciation for their parents all year long and in the same way.

On-going Easter Blessings to you,
Pastor Reed



News from the Principal

Jim Bradshaw, KS LCMS, sent KS Lutheran Principals an article for discussion that involves the reopening of school in the fall. Here are some excerpts from that article (NPR National Public Radio).

Three-quarters of U.S. states have now officially closed their schools for the rest of the academic year. While remote learning continues, summer is a question mark, and attention is already starting to turn to next fall.

Recently, governors including California's Gavin Newsom and New York's Andrew Cuomo have started to talk about what school reopening might look like. And a federal government plan for reopening, according to The Washington Post, says that getting kids back in classrooms or another group care is the first priority for getting back to normal.

But there are still many more unknowns than guarantees. Among the biggest, says Lily Eskelsen Garcia, president of the National Education Association, the nation's largest teacher's union, is this: "Is it safe and healthy for my kids to pack them into that classroom?"

Here are nine key ideas — drawn from interviews with public health experts, education officials and educators around the country — for what reopening might look like.

1. *Stepped-up health and hygiene measures*
2. *Class sizes of 12 or fewer*
3. *Staggered schedules*
4. *Younger students earlier in day (older students in afternoon)*
5. *Calendar changes (start school year later as an example)*
6. *Changes to attendance policies*
7. *No assemblies, sports, or parent-teacher conferences*
8. *Remote learning continues*
9. *Social, emotional and practical help for children*

These are all areas that we will need to consider when school opens in August. It is difficult currently to make any lasting decisions, but certainly planning is important.

Our teachers continue to prepare lessons for our students during this time. I am pleased at how our families have stepped up and worked hard with their children to ensure they don't fall behind.

The week of May 3rd is Teacher Appreciation Week. Team Falcon is doing many wonderful things to recognize our staff and let them know how valued they are to our school and families. We hope you will take time to thank a teacher during that week, also. It is amazing no matter how old you are, you can still remember that teacher that truly made a difference in your life.

Trinity staff prays that you and your family is healthy and safe during this time. Pictured below are our four 8th grade graduates. We will plan to recognize them later in the summer when possible. It is an important milestone for them as they enter high school. Congratulations to all of them!

Preston Blakley



Emily Fuhrman



Maddie Green



Josh Pierce



LISA BROOKOVER, principal

COURTSHIP AFTER MARRIAGE by Zig Ziglar

One morning several years ago, my wife and I were quietly having a cup of coffee in our bedroom. Neither of us was saying very much when she looked at me and said, "Honey, I wish I were younger." Naturally, I responded and asked her why. She answered that if she were younger, she could be married to me even longer.

It truly was one of the most beautiful and moving moments in our marriage. Last year we celebrated our 44th wedding anniversary and it was the most beautiful experience of our life together. Today we're more in love than we have ever been, enjoy each other's company more, and have more fun together.

Question: Is ours just a blip on the national scene, or is this kind of relationship possible with literally millions of couples? Answer: I am absolutely convinced that it is not only possible, but probable, if you will make the commitment and follow some basic principles in the marriage and courtship process.

First, start each day by asking, "Honey, is there anything I can do for you today that will make your life more interesting, easier, or more fun?" During the day affirm your love for your mate by word and deed.

Second, every day do something for your mate that he/she is completely capable of doing for himself or herself. Simple example: My wife, whom I lovingly refer to as "The Redhead" when I'm talking about her and "Sugar Baby" when I'm talking to her (her name is Jean), in forty-four years of marriage hasn't opened her car door more than a half-dozen times when I was along. She's quite capable of doing that on her own, but each time I open her door it reminds me that she is the most important person on this earth to me.

On my side, I'm very capable of putting a tea bag in a cup and pouring hot water on it, but in the mornings when I'm at home she always asks, "Honey, are you ready for your tea?" When I suggest that I am but, "I'll be glad to get it," she always says, "No, let me do it for you." Not a big deal, but it's a beautiful reminder.

Number three, make your mate your best friend. If your best friend is your mate, chances are excellent that the marriage is going to be not only permanent, but a happy one.

Step number four, don't be stupid. Here's what I mean. Over 50 percent of all divorces happen because the husband or wife meets someone in the marketplace and is attracted to them with disastrous results. In 70 percent of the cases, that "other person" works in the same department or the same general area. Sex, like fire, properly handled in marriage is a beautiful gift from God. A fire in a fireplace can bring cheer, comfort, and warmth. If it spreads into the rest of the home, disaster is the result. Sex outside of marriage leads to more problems and difficulties than any other single thing. Every night you need to say to your mate, "Honey, I love you and I was faithful to you today."

Number five, do lots of hugging. From our perspective, fellows, I can tell you this much about your wife. She resents it when you ignore her all day and then give her your undivided attention when the lights go out at night. She wants a hug when all you have on your mind is a hug. Admittedly, I hit the jackpot here because the Redhead is affectionately known as the "Happy Hugger." If it's moving, she'll stop it and hug it and if it's not moving, she'll dust it off and sell it!

Number six, go back and court each other like you did when you first fell in love. Remember how you were thoughtful and considerate, when out of your way to spend time along together, were willing to do things the object of your affection was interested in doing. You remembered not only birthdays, Valentine's Day, Christmas, etc. Start over—do it again.

Seven, make the commitment. We did a comprehensive survey of over 300 couples who had been married 25 years or more and who would marry the same person again. One hundred percent of them said that when they said, "I do," they considered it a lifetime commitment. That's critically important, because if you're committed and difficulties arise, you will look for a solution to the problem. If you're not committed and difficulties arise, you will seek and escape from the problem.

Finally, carefully follow Ephesians 4:32(a), "Be ye kind, one to another, tender-hearted, forgiving each other."

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