

**Fifth Sunday after Pentecost**  
**July 13, 2025**  
**Service of Prayer & Preaching-LSB 260**



**TRINITY  
MONITOR**

LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL

Salzburg & 8 Mile Road  
Bay City, Michigan  
(989)662-6093

Rev. Seth C. Kaiser, Pastor  
Cell: (989)318-3950  
[pastorkaiser@trinitymonitor.org](mailto:pastorkaiser@trinitymonitor.org)

Joy Feinauer-Organist

**Sunday Worship**  
8:30 am & 10:30 am

**Worship On Wednesdays**  
6:00 p.m.

**Bible Study**  
September-May  
9:40 am

**Sunday School**  
September-May  
9:40 am

[www.trinitymonitor.org](http://www.trinitymonitor.org)

**Opening Hymn #869 With the Lord Begin Your Task**

- 1 With the Lord begin your task;  
Jesus will direct it.  
For His aid and counsel ask;  
Jesus will perfect it.  
Ev'ry morn with Jesus rise,  
And when day is ended,  
In His name then close your eyes;  
Be to Him commended.
- 2 Let each day begin with prayer,  
Praise, and adoration.  
On the Lord cast ev'ry care;  
He is your salvation.  
Morning, evening, and at night  
Jesus will be near you,  
Save you from the tempter's might,  
With His presence cheer you.
- 3 With your Savior at your side,  
Foes need not alarm you;  
In His promises confide,  
And no ill can harm you.  
All your trust and hope repose  
In the mighty Master,  
Who in wisdom truly knows  
How to stem disaster.
- 4 If your task be thus begun  
With the Savior's blessing,  
Safely then your course will run,  
Toward the promise pressing.  
Good will follow ev'rywhere  
While you here must wander;  
You at last the joy will share  
In the mansions yonder.
- 5 Thus, Lord Jesus, ev'ry task  
Be to You commended;  
May Your will be done, I ask,  
Until life is ended.  
Jesus, in Your name begun  
Be the day's endeavor;  
Grant that it may well be done  
To Your praise forever.

Text: Morgen- und Abend-segen, 1734, Waldenburg; tr. W. Gustave Polack, 1890-1950, alt.

Text: © 1941 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110002421

## Invocation

- P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
**C** Amen.

## Confession and Absolution

- P** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.  
**C** But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

*Silence for meditation and reflection.*

- P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.  
**C** Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.  
**P** Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
**C** Amen.

## Opening Versicles

- P** This is the day which the Lord has made;  
**C** let us rejoice and be glad in it.  
**P** From the rising of the sun to its setting,  
**C** the name of the Lord is to be praised.  
**P** Better is one day in Your courts than a thousand elsewhere;  
**C** I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than dwell in the tents of the wicked.  
**P** Make me to know Your ways, O Lord.  
**C** Teach me Your paths.  
**P** Sanctify us in Your truth.  
**C** Your Word is truth.  
**P** From the rising of the sun to its setting,  
**C** the name of the Lord is to be praised.  
**C** Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

## Old Testament Canticle (spoken)

*LSB 261*

**ALL:** The Lord God is my strength and my song, and He has become my salvation.

**MEN:** With joy will you draw water from the wells of salvation. And you will say in that day:  
“Give thanks to the Lord, call upon His name, make known His deeds among the peoples, proclaim that His name is exalted.”

**ALL:** The Lord God is my strength and my song, and He has become my salvation.

**WOMEN:** Sing praises to the Lord, for He has done gloriously; let this be made known in all the earth. Shout, and sing for joy, O inhabitants of Zion, for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.

**ALL:** The Lord God is my strength and my song, and He has become my salvation.

**PASTOR:** Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

**ALL:** The Lord God is my strength and my song, and He has become my salvation.

## Readings From Holy Scripture

### Reading

*Leviticus 18:1–5; 19:9–18*

**P** A reading from Leviticus, the eighteenth chapter.

<sup>1</sup> The LORD spoke to Moses, saying, <sup>2</sup>“Speak to the people of Israel and say to them, I am the LORD your God. <sup>3</sup>You shall not do as they do in the land of Egypt, where you lived, and you shall not do as they do in the land of Canaan, to which I am bringing you. You shall not walk in their statutes. <sup>4</sup>You shall follow my rules and keep my statutes and walk in them. I am the LORD your God. <sup>5</sup>You shall therefore keep my statutes and my rules; if a person does them, he shall live by them: I am the LORD. . . .

<sup>9</sup>“When you reap the harvest of your land, you shall not reap your field right up to its edge, neither shall you gather the gleanings after your harvest. <sup>10</sup>And you shall not strip your vineyard bare, neither shall you gather the fallen grapes of your vineyard. You shall leave them for the poor and for the sojourner: I am the LORD your God.

<sup>11</sup>“You shall not steal; you shall not deal falsely; you shall not lie to one another. <sup>12</sup>You shall not swear by my name falsely, and so profane the name of your God: I am the LORD.

<sup>13</sup>“You shall not oppress your neighbor or rob him. The wages of a hired servant shall not remain with you all night until the morning. <sup>14</sup>You shall not curse the deaf or put a stumbling block before the blind, but you shall fear your God: I am the LORD.

<sup>15</sup>“You shall do no injustice in court. You shall not be partial to the poor or defer to the great, but in righteousness shall you judge your neighbor. <sup>16</sup>You shall not go around as a slanderer among your people, and you shall not stand up against the life of your neighbor: I am the LORD.

<sup>17</sup>“You shall not hate your brother in your heart, but you shall reason frankly with your neighbor, lest you incur sin because of him. <sup>18</sup>You shall not take vengeance or bear a grudge against the sons of your own people, but you shall love your neighbor as yourself: I am the LORD.”

**P** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

### Reading

*Colossians 1:1–14*

<sup>1</sup>Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and Timothy our brother,

<sup>2</sup>To the saints and faithful brothers in Christ at Colossae:

Grace to you and peace from God our Father.

<sup>3</sup>We always thank God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, when we pray for you, <sup>4</sup>since we heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and of the love that you have for all the saints, <sup>5</sup>because of the hope laid up for you in heaven. Of this you have heard before in the word of the truth, the gospel, <sup>6</sup>which has come to you, as indeed in the whole world it is bearing fruit and growing—as it also does among you, since the day you heard it and understood the grace of God in truth, <sup>7</sup>just as you learned it from Epaphras our beloved fellow servant. He is a faithful minister of Christ on your behalf <sup>8</sup>and has made known to us your love in the Spirit.

<sup>9</sup>And so, from the day we heard, we have not ceased to pray for you, asking that you may be filled with the knowledge of his will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding, <sup>10</sup>so as to walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to him, bearing fruit in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God. <sup>11</sup>May you be strengthened with all power, according to his glorious might, for all endurance and patience with joy, <sup>12</sup>giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of the saints in light. <sup>13</sup>He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, <sup>14</sup>in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

**P** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Ten Commandments

**C** You shall have no other gods.

You shall not misuse the name of the Lord your God.

Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy.

Honor your father and your mother.

You shall not murder.

You shall not commit adultery.

You shall not steal.

You shall not give false testimony against your neighbor.

You shall not covet your neighbor's house.

You shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or his manservant or maidservant, his ox or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.

## Reading

*Luke 10:25–37*

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the tenth chapter.

**C** Glory to You, O Lord.

<sup>25</sup>Behold, a lawyer stood up to put [Jesus] to the test, saying, “Teacher, what shall I do to inherit eternal life?” <sup>26</sup>He said to him, “What is written in the Law? How do you read it?” <sup>27</sup>And he answered, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind, and your neighbor as yourself.” <sup>28</sup>And he said to him, “You have answered correctly; do this, and you will live.”

<sup>29</sup>But he, desiring to justify himself, said to Jesus, “And who is my neighbor?” <sup>30</sup>Jesus replied, “A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and he fell among robbers, who stripped him and beat him and departed, leaving him half dead. <sup>31</sup>Now by chance a priest was going down that road, and when he saw him he passed by on the other side. <sup>32</sup>So likewise a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. <sup>33</sup>But a Samaritan, as he journeyed, came to where he was, and when he saw him, he had compassion. <sup>34</sup>He went to him and bound up his wounds, pouring on oil and wine. Then he set him on his own animal and brought him to an inn and took care of him. <sup>35</sup>And the next day he took out two denarii and gave them to the innkeeper, saying, ‘Take care of him, and whatever more you spend, I will repay you when I come back.’ <sup>36</sup>Which of these three, do you think, proved to be a neighbor to the man who fell among the robbers?” <sup>37</sup>He said, “The one who showed him mercy.” And Jesus said to him, “You go, and do likewise.”

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C** Praise to You, O Christ.

## Responsory

- P** Forever, O Lord, Your Word is firmly set in the heavens.  
**C** Lord, I love the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glory dwells.  
**P** Blessed are those who hear the Word of God and keep it.  
**C** Lord, I love the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glory dwells.  
**P** Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.  
**C** Lord, I love the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glory dwells.

## Apostles' Creed

- C** I believe in God, the Father Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell.  
The third day He rose again from the dead.  
He ascended into heaven  
and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.  
From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy Christian Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life  $\text{✠}$  everlasting. Amen.

## (8:30) Children's Message

### Sermon Hymn #537 Beautiful Savior

- |                                                                                                                                                                          |                                                                                                                                                                             |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1 Beautiful Savior,<br>King of creation,<br>Son of God and Son of Man!<br>Truly I'd love Thee,<br>Truly I'd serve Thee,<br>Light of my soul, my joy, my crown.           | 3 Fair is the sunshine,<br>Fair is the moonlight,<br>Bright the sparkling stars on high;<br>Jesus shines brighter,<br>Jesus shines purer<br>Than all the angels in the sky. |
| 2 Fair are the meadows,<br>Fair are the woodlands,<br>Robed in flow'rs of blooming spring;<br>Jesus is fairer,<br>Jesus is purer,<br>He makes our sorr'wing spirit sing. | 4 Beautiful Savior,<br>Lord of the nations,<br>Son of God and Son of Man!<br>Glory and honor,<br>Praise, adoration<br>Now and forevermore be Thine!                         |

Text: Münsterisch Gesangbuch, 1677, Münster; tr. Joseph A. Seiss,  
1823-1904  
Text: Public domain

## Sermon

## Offering

*Thank you for your ongoing support of the ministry here at Trinity Lutheran Church and School. Your offerings are gifts to God. They help us serve Him as a witness to our community. As you continue to place your offerings in the baskets, mail them to the church office, or give through our online giving opportunities, (follow the "Giving" link on the Trinity website at [www.trinitymonitor.org](http://www.trinitymonitor.org) or text the word "GIVE" to 989-270-0281 and follow the directions) know that we seek to use these resources to the glory of God and the furthering of His Kingdom.*

## Prayer

- P** In peace let us pray to the Lord:  
**C** **Lord, have mercy.**  
**P** For the gift of divine peace and of pardon, with all our heart and with all our mind, let us pray to the Lord:  
**C** **Lord, have mercy.**  
**P** For the holy Christian Church, here and scattered throughout the world, and for the proclamation of the Gospel and the calling of all to faith, let us pray to the Lord:  
**C** **Lord, have mercy.**  
**P** For this nation, for our cities and communities, and for the common welfare of us all, let us pray to the Lord:  
**C** **Lord, have mercy.**  
**P** For seasonable weather and for the fruitfulness of the earth, let us pray to the Lord:  
**C** **Lord, have mercy.**  
**P** For those who labor, for those whose work is difficult or dangerous, and for all who travel, let us pray to the Lord:  
**C** **Lord, have mercy.**  
**P** For all those in need, for the hungry and homeless, for the widowed and orphaned, and for all those in prison, let us pray to the Lord:  
**C** **Lord, have mercy.**  
**P** For the sick and dying and for all those who care for them, let us pray to the Lord:  
**C** **Lord, have mercy.**  
**P** For . . . [additional bids for prayer may be inserted here] . . . let us pray to the Lord:  
**C** **Lord, have mercy.**  
**P** Finally, for these and for all our needs of body and soul, let us pray to the Lord:  
**C** **Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.**

## Collect of the Day

- P** Lord Jesus Christ, in Your deep compassion You rescue us from whatever may hurt us. Teach us to love You above all things and to love our neighbors as ourselves; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.  
**C** **Amen.**

## Collect for the Word

- P** Blessed Lord, You have caused all Holy Scriptures to be written for our learning. Grant that we may so hear them, read, mark, learn, and take them to heart that, by the patience and comfort of Your holy Word, we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.  
**C** **Amen.**

## Morning Prayer

- C** I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have kept me this night from all harm and danger; and I pray that You would keep me this day also from sin and every evil, that all my doings and life may please You. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me.  
Amen.

## Lord's Prayer

- |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |                                                                                                                                                                                             |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p><b>C</b> Our Father who art in heaven,<br/>hallowed be Thy name,<br/>Thy kingdom come,<br/>Thy will be done on earth<br/>as it is in heaven;<br/>give us this day our daily bread;<br/>and forgive us our trespasses<br/>as we forgive those</p> | <p>who trespass against us;<br/>and lead us not into temptation,<br/>but deliver us from evil.<br/>For Thine is the kingdom<br/>and the power and the glory<br/>forever and ever. Amen.</p> |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

## New Testament Canticle (spoken)

*LSB 266*

- ALL:** Christ has been raised from the dead! Alleluia. Alleluia.
- MEN:** Christ our Passover Lamb has been sacrificed.  
Raised from the dead, He will never die again.  
Death has no more dominion over Him.
- ALL:** Christ has been raised from the dead! Alleluia. Alleluia.
- WOMEN:** Dying, Christ dies to sin, once for all.  
Living, He lives to God.  
Count yourselves as dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus, our Lord.
- ALL:** Christ has been raised from the dead! Alleluia. Alleluia.

## (10:30) National Youth Gathering-Commissioning of Participants

### Blessing

- P** Let us bless the Lord.
- C** Thanks be to God.
- P** The almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, the ✠ Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless and preserve us.
- C** Amen.

## Closing Hymn #924 Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing

- |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>1 Lord, dismiss us with Your blessing,<br/>Fill our hearts with joy and peace;<br/>Let us each, Your love possessing,<br/>Triumph in redeeming grace.<br/>O refresh us; O refresh us,<br/>Trav'ling through this wilderness.</p> | <p>2 Thanks we give and adoration<br/>For Your Gospel's joyful sound.<br/>May the fruits of Your salvation<br/>In our hearts and lives abound.<br/>Ever faithful, ever faithful<br/>To Your truth may we be found.</p> |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

- 3 Savior, when Your love shall call us  
 From our struggling pilgrim way,  
 Let not fear of death appall us,  
 Glad Your summons to obey.  
 May we ever, may we ever  
 Reign with You in endless day.


*Text (sts. 1-2): attr. John Fawcett, 1740-1817, alt.; (st. 3): Godfrey Thring, 1823-1903, alt.  
 Text: Public domain*

### Acknowledgments

*Service of Prayer and Preaching from Lutheran Service Book*

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JUNE TOTALS		ATTENDENCE			
General Fund	\$54,639.85	7/6	1st	60	
Missions	\$265.00		2nd	66	
BFF	\$195.00	7/9	WOW	9	
Church Maintenance	\$220.00	TOTAL		159	
School Maintenance	\$00.00	Budgeted Income Needed Each Month			\$67,101.00
Tuition Assistance	\$40.00	General Fund Total for June			\$54,639.85
Christmas Tree Fund	\$00.00	TOTAL			-\$12,461.15
TOTAL	\$56,899.85	PLEASE NOTE: NO WOW SERVICES ON JULY 23 & AUGUST 6			
Memorials \$620.00 included in the above total.					

CALENDAR			
Tuesday	7/15	9:00am	Peacemakers
Wednesday	7/16	6:00pm	Worship On Wednesdays
Sunday	7/20	8:30am & 10:30am	Worship w/Communion

SCHEDULED SUMMER OFFICE HOURS			
Pastor Kaiser		Lisa	
Monday	9:00am-2:00pm	Tuesday	9:00am-1:00pm
Wednesday	9:00am-12:00pm	Thursday	9:00am-1:00pm
Thursday	9:00am-12:00pm	(989)662-6093	
Cell: (989)318-3950 Call or text anytime.		All bulletin announcements must be submitted by Thursday morning to churchsecretary@trinitymonitor.org	
Pastor Kaiser will be away from the office July 17–25 to attend the National Youth Gathering in New Orleans. Should you require pastoral care during this time, feel free to call or text him on his cell (989)318-3950 or you may also reach out to Pastor Andrew Menz (989)662-4264 or Pastor Seth Hemme (989)600-5343 from Zion (Beaver) Lutheran Church.			





## National Youth Gathering Participants



### **Eston Jimenez**

Eston is 16 years old and will be a junior at Bay City Western High School in the fall. He likes skateboarding, track, playing video games, and hanging out with his friends. He is excited to go to the youth gathering because "it seems fun!"



### **Addisyn Kotewa**

Addisyn is 16 years old and will be a junior at Valley Lutheran in the fall. She enjoys competitive cheerleading and tumbling. Addisyn is excited to see new things and hopefully grow more in her faith at the youth gathering.



### **Landon Kotewa**

Landon is 17 and will be starting his freshman year at Concordia Chicago in the fall. He enjoys building Lego, reading, archery, and hiking. Landon is excited to learn about the city of New Orleans and strengthen his faith with fellowship at the youth gathering.



### **Chris Spyker** (*Bethlehem Lutheran, Standish*)

Chris is 15 years old and will be a sophomore at Standish-Sterling Central High School in the fall. He enjoys track, cross country, and wrestling. Chris is excited to see and experience a new place at the youth gathering.



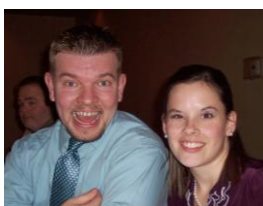
### **Laura Spyker** (*Bethlehem Lutheran, Standish*)

Laura is 17 years old and will be a senior at Standish-Sterling Central High School in the fall. She enjoys track and cross country. Laura is excited to travel to a new place for the youth gathering.



### **Adalyn Young**

Adalyn is 17 years old and will be a senior at Valley Lutheran High School in the fall. She plays soccer and enjoys traveling, doing puzzles, hanging out with friends, and working at chick-fil-a. Adalyn is excited to experience something new and fun, make new friends, and learn about/explore new places at the youth gathering.



### **Pastor Kaiser & Kate Kaiser**

This will be Pastor's 10th youth gathering! It will be Kate's third, and first as an adult leader. Pastor and Kate are excited to take this group of students to New Orleans (the city where they first met!) and share the amazing experience of the youth gathering as well as the sights and sounds of the oldest city in the country!



## OUTDOOR WORSHIP SCHEDULE

The 10:30 a.m. service for the following dates will be held in the pavilion.

July 27  
w/Communion  
August 10

August 24  
w/Communion

In case of inclement weather, worship will be held inside the church.

Join Us For A Good  
Old Fashioned

**Ice Cream  
Social**



July 27<sup>TH</sup>

Following our  
10:30 a.m.  
Outdoor  
Worship  
Service.

Hosted by the Stewardship Committee

## Vacation Bible School

July 27<sup>th</sup>-31<sup>st</sup>

5:30-8:00pm

Preschool-5<sup>th</sup> Grade

Scan the QR code to  
register a student or to  
volunteer.



42nd Annual

# ★ PIG ROAST & CHICKEN BBQ ★

## AUGUST 22-24, 2025

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

### TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

20 E. Salzburg Rd. Bay City

	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
<b>EVENTS</b>	<b>CAFE TRINITY</b> 5:30-10:00PM	<b>CHICKEN BBQ-\$15</b> 11:00-3:00PM	<b>OUTDOOR WORSHIP</b> 10:30AM
	<b>LIVE MUSIC</b> 6:00-10:00PM	<b>CAFE TRINITY</b> 11:00-3:00PM	<b>CAFE TRINITY</b> 12:00-3:00PM
	<b>SIX WHISKEY</b>	<b>CORNHOLE</b> 4:00-6:00PM	<b>PIG ROAST-\$17</b> 12:00-3:00PM
	<b>FLOYD G'S JUICE MACHINE</b>	<b>LIVE MUSIC</b> 6:00-10:00PM	

### BLOOPERBALL TOURNAMENT

- DOUBLE ELIMINATION
- \$150/TEAM
- PLAYER MUST BE 14 OR OLDER
- TEAMS MAY BE CO-ED

**FOR MORE INFORMATION**  
TEXT KYLE AT  
989.239.8035

Sponsored by the Trinity Monitor Athletic Booster Club

## STEWARDSHIP CORNER

### *Using our Resources Faithfully*



The following two examples in Scripture clearly point out how God blesses people who freely put to work what they have and that using what we have for God's purposes demonstrates our faithfulness and obedience. The Parable of the Talents teaches us to

put God's resources to work rather than hoard them in fear while our Master is away (Matthew 25:14-30). The two servants who grew their talents or gifts heard the Master tell them, "Well done, good and faithful servant." Their faithfulness was rewarded with more responsibility. The boy who gave up his five loaves and two fish to Jesus so He could feed the 5,000 offers a beautiful picture of what happens when God's people freely put to use what they have. Jesus multiplies the bread and fish in a manner that brings God glory and serves His people. May God grant us faithfulness to use our blessings faithfully and responsibly.