

JULY 2025						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>Elders</b> 6th—B. Lindstrom 13th—R. Schill 20th—M. Perkovich 27th—R. Schill	<b>Ushers</b> 6th & 13th—J. Carbone, A. Lund 20th & 27th—Z. Carey, D. Vetter, S. Loy	<b>1</b> 7:00 pm—Trustee’s Meeting	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> Office Closed  4th of July	<b>5</b>
<b>6</b> 9:30am—D.S. III 11:00am—Adult Bible Study & Children’s Sunday School	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> Office Closed	<b>12</b>  8:00—Men’s Bible Study
<b>13</b> 9:30am—D.S. III 11:00am—Adult Bible Study & Children’s Sunday School	<b>14</b> 6:30—Church Council Meeting	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> Office Closed	<b>19</b>
<b>20</b> 9:30am—D.S. III 11:00am—Adult Bible Study & Family Sunday School	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b> Pastor Schuldheisz Installation anniversary—2018	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>  6:30pm—Stewardship Mtg.  Pastor—out of Office	<b>25</b> Office Closed	<b>26</b>
<b>27</b> 9:30am—D.S. III 11:00am—Adult Bible Study & Children’s Sunday School Guest Preacher—Rev. Ron Norris 12:00—Voter’s Meeting	<b>28</b>  Pastor—out of Office	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>Counters</b> 6th—Todd & Terry 13th—Mike & John 20th—John & Mark 27th—Todd & Steve	<b>Acolytes</b> 6th—Andrew Vetter 13th—Daniel Vetter



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Church Office Hours  
Monday—Thursday  
8:30 a.m.—3:30 p.m.

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# The Messenger

Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church and  
Preschool

July 2025 — Volume 18, Issue 7



Dorothy L. Sayers and the Case of the Holy Trinity  
by Samuel Schuldheisz

I don’t know about you, but I love a good mystery story. Whether it’s riding shotgun with Scooby Doo and Shaggy in the Mystery Machine or bustin’ ghosts with Dr. Peter Venkman; whether it’s sleuthing the clues alongside Sherlock Holmes, Father Brown, or Peter Wimsey, enjoying the modern thriller by Stephen King, or getting my butt kicked in the game of *Clue* by my daughter, the adventure and the chase, the plot, characters, and story always draw me in. Whatever your favorite mystery story is, there’s a little detective in all of us that’s dying to solve the crime, catch the killer, and get caught up in a suspenseful caper.

Christianity is no stranger to mystery: think of the incarnation, the two natures in Christ, and of course, the Holy Trinity. As the church calendar finds us hot on the trail of Trinity Sunday, Christians open their Scripture and find that there’s a mystery afoot. Whenever you confess the creeds of the church you run straight into a mystery, the doctrine of the Holy Trinity: “We worship one God in Trinity and Trinity in Unity, neither confusing the persons nor dividing the substance.”

And who better to help track down the mystery of the Trinity than the famous author of the Lord Peter Wimsey detective stories, Dorothy L. Sayers. Having authored over twenty novels and short stories recounting the tales of her chief protagonist and detective, Lord Peter Wimsey, Dorothy Sayers was no stranger to mystery stories either. From her fictional stories to her theological essays, you can count on Sayers’ creativity, imagination, and Christian witness to follow her trail in whatever she writes, and lead you through the mystery, in the end, to the cross of Christ.

In one of her most well-known theological works, *The Mind of the Maker*, Sayers sets out not as a sleuth to solve the mystery of the Holy Trinity, but as an artist and writer, witnessing the truth and beauty of the creative work of God - Father, Son, and Holy Spirit in the Christian confession and doctrine of the Trinity.

For Sayers, however, the doctrine of the Trinity is not a problem to be solved, like Lord Peter Wim-

sey does so often in her novels. Rather, the Trinity remains a mystery that the Scriptures reveal, doctrine teaches, and the Christian confesses and praises. The doctrine of the Trinity is not so much the story of a “who-dunnit” as it is the story of the “who-is-it”. The doctrine of the Trinity is not so much a problem that you can solve, as it reveals the handiwork of an artist that is to be admired.

Far from being dull and dreary, this doctrine, like the whole Christian faith, is wild, exciting, and adventurous, rich in divine drama. For Sayers, “The Christian faith is the most exciting drama that ever staggered the imagination of man - and the dogma is the drama.” (Dorothy L. Sayers. *The Greatest Drama Ever Staged* in *The Whimsical Christian*, p. 11).

In the story of Christianity, the dogma is the drama. And every drama has an author. Every play has a playwright. From Sayers, we learn that Christianity is no different. The Holy Trinity is the author of this divine drama, revealing in the Scriptures, the greatest story ever told, the story of rescue, redemption, and remarkable goodness and grace. Christianity is the story of the comforting and “the terrifying assertion that the same God who made the world, lived in the world and passed through the grave and gate of death.” (Dorothy L. Sayers. *Letters to a Diminished Church*, p. 21)

On the one hand, Sayers satirically writes of the doctrine of the Trinity, exclaiming, *The Father incomprehensible, the Son incomprehensible, the Spirit incomprehensible, the whole thing incomprehensible.* (Dorothy L. Sayers. *Letters to a Diminished Church*, p. 18)

And yet, on the other hand, Sayers wants Christians to know that the doctrine of the Trinity is known and revealed in Scriptures and, albeit in a limited and finite way, known through analogy, that is, until one pushes language or analogy too far into heresy. Even the best analogies, Sayers acknowledges, eventually break down.

So, she approaches the doctrine of the Trinity in *the Mind of the Maker* not so much by analogy like the infamous apple or shamrock, but by way

of drawing parallels. More like Moses in cleft of the rock glimpsing God’s glory than a full discovery of the God-head. More like a mirror and less like a manual.

When you look at the work of the Trinity, Sayers observes, he reveals himself in creative activity. In the act of creation the Trinity reveals himself to you and for you. And in our acts of creation, even as limited as they are when compared to God’s - after all, we cannot create out of nothing as he can, only with what we have been given - even so, we reflect the mind of the maker as we create and imagine. Or, as Tolkien says, “we make still by the law in which we are made.” We make and create because God first made and created us.

Dorothy Sayers follows this same plot line when exploring the doctrine of the Trinity. One of the things that makes Sayers a brilliant theologian is that she approaches her work, both fictional and theological, as a creative, artistic, imaginative writer. It’s no different when she follows the trail of the mystery of the Trinity.

In *The Mind of the Maker* she quotes from her play, *The Zeal of Thy House*, and then proceeds to unpack these thoughts throughout the rest of the book. Within the creative imagination, Sayers observes a three-ness of creativity and artistic action. For Sayers, there is a three-ness or a trinitarian framework in the mind and imagination of man, which is mirror, albeit imperfect and finite, which reflects or gives us a glimpse of the mind of the maker in the Holy Trinity. Sayers describes the three-ness, or trinity of writing, in this way. Within the mind of the author, there exists the book as thought or idea, the book in its written form, and the book as read. This artistic three-ness, or trinity of writing, Sayers goes on to say, corresponds to, or reflects and mirrors, God’s triune nature. In man’s artistic, creative, and imaginative work, we catch a glimpse of the creative work of the Holy Trinity. God’s triune nature is reflected in the three-ness of man’s artistic, creative, and imaginative work

*“For every work (or act) of creation is threefold, an earthly trinity to match the heavenly.*

*First, (not in time, but merely in order of enumeration) there is the Creative Idea, passionless, timeless, beholding the whole work complete at once, the end in the beginning; and this the image of the Father.*

*Second, there is the Creative Energy (or Activity) begotten of that idea, working in time from the beginning to the end, with sweat and passion, being incarnate in the bonds of matter: and this is the image of the Word.*

*Third, there is the Creative Power, the meaning of the work and its response in the lively soul: and this is the image of the indwelling Spirit.*

*And these three are one, each equally in itself the whole work, whereof none can exist without the other: and this is the image of the Trinity.”* (Dorothy L. Sayers. *The Mind of the Maker*, Harper Collins, 1987, p. 37-38)

In *The Mind of the Maker*, Dorothy Sayers joins creedal Christianity with creative writing. She brings together Christian instruction and imagination in service of a confession of the mystery of the Holy Trinity. She sees in the lesser creative work of man a glimpse of the greater and gracious work of the Maker and Creator of all things. The art of the created reflects the handiwork of the Creator. Man’s imagination and creativity reflect the creative work of the Artist, the invisible God who became incarnate to save.

And in doing so, Sayers leads us from one gracious mystery to another, from the Trinity to the incarnation, death, and resurrection of Jesus. Throughout her writings, Sayers uses her God-given gifts of artistry, creativity, and imagination in service of the Gospel. Her detective novels and theological writings point to the good news that the incomprehensible, untouchable, mysterious God has become comprehensible and touchable and revealed himself to us in the incarnation of the Son of God. That God himself has taken to the stage in the greatest story ever told, unveiling his love and grace and mercy for sinners. That the author of the play is also the author and perfecter of our faith who for the joy set before him endured the cross and walked out of the grave three days later for you.

Indeed, the dogma is the drama. And the mystery is as magnificent as it is gracious, revealing the goodness of the mind of the Maker.



# STEWARDSHIP

The stewardship board voted at our April meeting to send a portion of our at-large mission dollars to provide aid for the hunger crisis in Africa. Samaritan’s Purse is delivering vital emergency food to Sudan, a nation grappling with the devastating effects of civil war, a massive influx of 700,000 displaced individuals, and a failed harvest. Similarly, World Vision, in partnership with the World Food Programme (WFP), is distributing RUTF (ready-to-use therapeutic food) to save lives in famine-stricken regions across Africa. We contributed \$1,000 to each organization, helping to bring relief and hope to malnourished children and families. The LCMS is not presently involved in campaigns providing life-saving food to Africa.

Closer to home, we also turned our focus to our local community. Recognizing the needs of our neighbors, the board voted to donate \$250 to the food pantry at St. Paul’s Lutheran Church in Graham.

If you would like to learn more about the at-large mission donation process or have a mission you would like the stewardship board to consider, please reach out to a board member or join us on the fourth Thursday of the month here at BSLC at 6:30 PM.

Submitted by Melissa Lee

Men’s Bible Study - Saturday,  
July 12th, 8:00 a.m.



Sunday Adult Bible Study  
Pastor is leading us in a study  
on “*The Christian’s Mission*”

Summer is upon us!!!..... While traveling, you might be able to find a Lutheran Church in your area. Go to [LCMS.org](http://LCMS.org). Click on “locators”, (top right corner), then on next page click “find a church”



# Happy Birthday

2nd—Wally Holmquist	11th—Dan Duncan
2nd—Jacob Howard	12th—Mark Reetz
3rd—Ed Hohnstein	13th—Matthew Goldenburg
6th—Scott Diekmann	18th—Craig Ramsey
7th—Alex Perkovich	25th—Gerd Carbone
9th—Blake Hohnstein-Combs	27th—Greg Adams
10th—Karen Schlaht	29th—Nolan Jannsen

## Happy Anniversary

5th ~ Todd & Cristal Waetzig

11th ~ Dan & Sandi Duncan

23rd ~ Rev. Samuel & Natasha Schuldheisz

## Baptismal Birthdays

6th—Scott Diekmann	15th—Theodore Perkovich
6th—Rev. Arnold Walta	17th—Jacob Howard
8th—David Uetter	18th—Craig Ramsey
14th—Todd Waetzig	22nd—Penelope Hepola
15th—Jonah Last	

## In the Library...



This month we're taking a look at a few books related to raising kids that are in the library. The first two books are both written by Dr. Meg Meeker, who has spent more than 30 years practicing pediatric and adolescent medicine. Both books are easy reads. Here's a couple quotes from the first book, *Boys Should Be Boys: 7 Secrets to Raising Healthy Sons*:

In this book I mean to cut through a lot of the misapprehensions, misinformation, and misleading assumptions that too many parents have. It's a book of practical advice based on my clinical experience, relevant scientific data, and the sort of common sense that too many of us managed to misplace from reading too many politically correct "parenting" books. My concern is not with what is politically correct, but with what is true and what is best for our boys.

Boys actually thrive more when they're not forced into organized activities—or shuttled from one organized sport to another—but when they organize games and adventures and projects on their own, when they're outside with their buddies. They need that time on the fort and in the sandlot, to mix it up with their peers, with kids from different grades, to feel what it's like to be the runt... and to grow into a leader...

Quoted from the second book by Dr. Meeker, *Strong Fathers, Strong Daughters: 10 Secrets Every Father Should Know*:

...Someone has to tell fathers to uncage their masculinity. In too much of popular culture, masculinity is either disparaged (often by feminists) or displayed wrongly (as in rap music). True masculinity is the moral exercise of authority.

One day, when she is grown, something between the two of you will shift. If you have done your job well, she will choose another good man to love her, fight for her, and be intimately connected to her. But he will never replace you in her heart, because you were there first. And that's the ultimate reward for being a good dad.

Both these books are quick reads and well worth your time.

Next we come to Anthony Esolen, professor at Thales College and editor of *Touchstone* magazine. His superb tome *Ten Ways to Destroy the Imagination of Your Child* is an analog to C. S. Lewis's book *The Screwtape Letters* (a copy of which is in our library). Esolen plays, at times, the evil mastermind whose goal it is to destroy the imagination of your kids, extolling the plodding dullard: "If we can but deaden the imagination, then, we can settle the child down, and make of him that solid, dependable, and inert space-filler in school and, later, a block of the great state pyramid." He warns: "...One image would be sufficient to quicken a dying imagination, undoing months of hard and programmatic labor."

Elsewhere he says

But if we want to ensure that our young people grow up with the cramped imagination of the cynic, we should, if we cannot ignore the past completely, at least magnify the tarnish on those who came before us. We should emulate God's creation of man in His image and likeness, but in reverse, as through the wrong end of a telescope. We should make everything small—like ourselves. That will leave us with quite a sense of moral and intellectual superiority. And that's more deadly to the imagination than were the spears of Hannibal's soldiers to the Romans at Cannae, centuries ago.

Esolen is also worth reading for the sheer joy of his prose. Here's an example:

Some people—I'm guilty of this—underline favorite passages, or write wry comments in the margins, so that the book eventually becomes a kind of successive crime scene. Here a priest wrote, "This is the modernist heresy all over again," but over there an infidel wrote, "Church, enemy of thought." That is not to mention fingerprints and inkblots and even bloodstains—from crushed mosquitoes, I guess.

I'll leave it to you to discover all ten ways to destroy your child's imagination. It'll be an adventure, and you and your kids, or grandkids, or acquaintances, will be the beneficiaries.

Christina Hoff Sommers' book *The War Against Boys: How Misguided Feminism Is Harming Our Young Men*, is a very useful book, examining current societal threats to our boys and countering them with well-reasoned responses that rely on common sense, historical truth, and research. Her basic thought: "The energy, competitiveness, and corporal daring of normal, decent males is responsible for much of what is right in the world."

Here's a couple of quotes to give you a flavor for the book:

The belief that boys are being wrongly "masculinized" is inspiring a movement to "construct boyhood" in ways that will render boys less competitive, more emotionally expressive, more nurturing—more, in short, like girls. Gloria Steinem summarizes the views of many in the boys-should-be-changed camp when she says, "We badly need to raise boys more like we

raise girls.”

But this supposed antibullying guide devotes more than half of its lessons to sexism and sexual harassment. ...The antibullying content is simply a cover under which the girl advocates promote their own disquieting view of social reality. Getting into the schools with their harassment prevention programs gives them a platform from which to teach boys and girls that our society is male-dominated and sexist. Although that gets the feminist point across, it is an ineffective, expensive, distracting, and socially divisive substitute for the kind of moral education and safe environment that children so badly need.

The off feminist who goes on to have boys is confronted with the reality of what a boy actually is. Some of them, the honest ones, are forced to reevaluate their preconceptions, as this feminist mom relates in the book:

‘How could I be a good feminist, a good pacifist, and a good mother to a stick-wielding, weapon-generating boy?’ And ‘What exactly is a five-year-old boy?’ ‘A five-year-old boy, I learned from reading summaries of various neurological studies ... is a beautiful, fierce, testosterone-drenched, cerebrally asymmetrical humanoid carefully engineered to move objects through space, or at very least, to watch others do so.’

These books are all worth reading. At the same time, we read them carefully through our own unique Lutheran lens. Meeker writes from a Judeo-Christian perspective. Esolen is a Roman Catholic. Who knows what Sommers is. We recognize that YHWH created us male and female, and that that gift is inscribed into our very being. The sexes are different, and rightly so. Through the gift of His ordered creation God blesses us. Marriage, headship, family, and gender are all parts of His plan for our lives, and point us to the greatest gift of all, the incarnation of our Savior Jesus Christ, both God *and man*. We celebrate these things, and are reminded why *it's great to be a Lutheran!*

Other notable mentions in the library that we don't have the space to review are Anthony Esolen's book *Defending Boyhood: How Building Forts, Reading Stories, Playing Ball, and Praying to God Can Change the World*, and Scott Keith's *Being Dad: Father as a Picture of God's Grace*. All of these books are located in the MARRIAGE & FAMILY section of the library.

You can listen to author Meg Meeker on *Issues, Etc.*:

On raising daughters: <https://issuesetc.org/2020/02/11/0421-raising-daughters-dr-meg-meeker-2-11-20/>

On rediscovering boyhood: <https://issuesetc.org/2008/09/16/rediscovering-boyhood/>

You can listen to Anthony Esolen on *Issues, Etc.*:

<https://issuesetc.org/2020/02/14/0481-raising-boys-dr-anthony-esolen-2-17-20/>

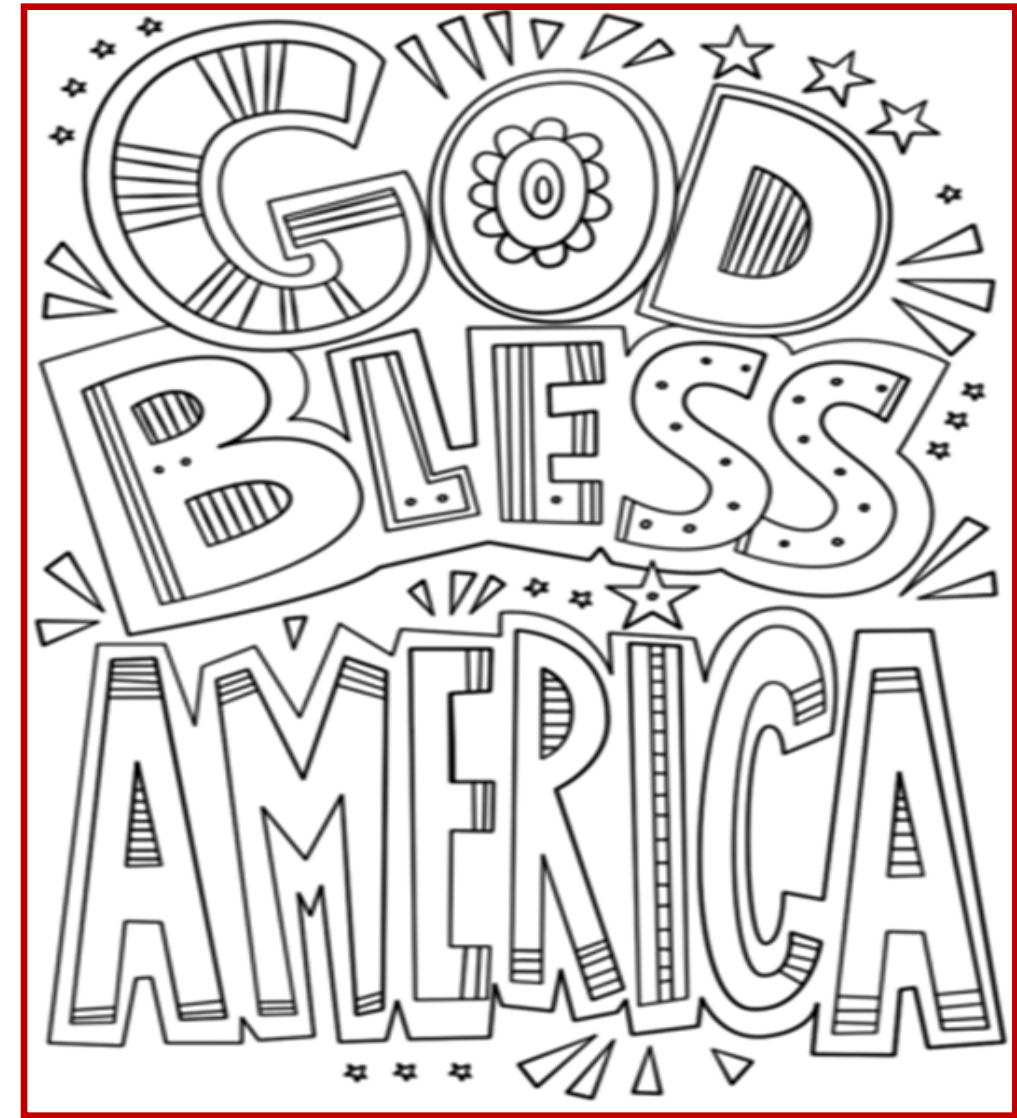


### “TURN THE RADIO ON!”

A popular song some years back encouraged listeners to “turn the radio on!” Do people even listen to the radio anymore? Many of us do not, as we have traded radios for newer technology, listening to music, podcasts, news, and events by means other than radio. Working in global ministry, bringing Christ to the Nations, radio is still a very important means of sharing God's Word. In Sri Lanka, Chandani, a 68 year old disabled woman, discovered “Time of Hope”, Lutheran Hour Ministries' local radio broadcast. She wrote a letter to LHM describing her homebound life and isolation and that she was encouraged amid the suffering she experiences. She asked LHM staffers to pray for her, connecting her to LHM staffers. Radio is a medium of choice in Sri Lanka, where only 8% of people are Christian. Listeners of all ages tune into the weekly LHM broadcast for the music, drama, messages, discussions and quiz competitions.

In our WA-AK District, there is a similar need to provide The Lutheran Hour radio broadcast. The isolated villages and towns of Alaska use radio as their communication contact beyond their homes. The Lutheran Hour is an important outreach to those remote locations. Our district has committed to support these broadcasts so Alaskans will hear about the crucified and risen Christ that loves and forgives them. We can be a part of reaching Alaskans with God's Word by donating to this WA-AK District effort. Contact David Dybwad at 253-219-1785 to learn how to participate.

## Children's Coloring Page



### Christian Pledge

I pledge allegiance to the Cross of Our Lord Jesus Christ, and to the faith for which it stands, One Savior, King Eternal, with mercy and grace for all.”



### Pledge of Allegiance

“I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America, and to the republic, for which it stands, one nation, under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.”