



trinity

LUTHERAN CHURCH,
MISSOURI SYNOD



Watch Services on [Trinity McAlester Facebook page](#)

“Feeling as if I’m Surrounded by the Enemy”

Dear Friends in Christ,

For the king of Syria, Elisha was his worst nemesis. Every time he moved his camp to attack Israel’s army, Elisha warned Israel’s king before it even happened so that he could avoid the trap. When the king of Syria found out it was Elisha’s prophetic word foiling his plans, he sent his whole army to kill Elisha. Did it work?

2 Kings 6:14–17 (ESV) *“14 So he [Syria’s king] sent there horses and chariots and a great army, and they came by night and surrounded the city [where Elisha lived]. 15 When the servant of the man of God rose early in the morning and went out, behold, an army with horses and chariots was all around the city. And the servant said, ‘Alas, my master! What shall we do?’ 16 He said, ‘Do not be afraid, for those who are with us are more than those who are with them.’ 17 Then Elisha prayed and said, ‘O LORD, please open his eyes that he may see.’ So the LORD opened the eyes of the young man, and he saw, and behold, the mountain was full of horses and chariots of fire all around Elisha.”*

And Elisha prayed to God to strike Syria’s army blind, which he did. Then Elisha led them into the city and there, God restored their sight to see Israel’s army surrounding them. Then Elisha had them fed and sent them home.

This story reminds me that when I feel surrounded, under siege, facing a problem of astronomical proportions, God has power to resolve in miraculous ways I would never conceive. God’s solution to the threatening king of Syria’s army used their own health against them, reducing their power to nil, nothing, nada. As we sometimes feel like Elisha’s servant with worry that the enemy virus might strike us or someone we love, God already has everything under his merciful control. God’s mighty, invisible angels watch over us in constant vigil, protecting us and fighting for us in ways we never know for certain. Occasionally, we have the rare gift to see angelic intervention from God to rescue us from peril. However, the comfort for Elisha’s servant was being allowed to see God’s army dwarfing the enemy.

The servant no longer feared when he realized God’s pres-

ence in such a powerful display as horses and chariots of fire. We’ve seen the track record of this disease and we live in a world where leaders have isolated people to protect them, done all sorts of additional things to protect people, and mustered resources to treat those infected. Those governing authorities are all appointed by God for our safety (Rom. 13). They are not the angels guarding us. But God is using them for our benefit.

Our comfort is always in God’s indwelling presence in us through the Holy Spirit. We are never alone. In sickness and in health, God is watching and working for our good as his beloved children. Though harm may come to us in this world. His constant reminder for our comfort is the life to come that lasts forever. Our comfort is life fully forgiven by God because of Jesus precious blood, spilled for our sake to make us righteous. His win came in victory at Easter, which we celebrate this year from a social distance. It is the most unique Easter we have ever experienced. Still, it is Easter, the big victory day for us in Christ, who rose to defeat sin, death and the forces of the evil one.



May God bless you to with the kind of peace that Elisha’s servant received in his vision of God’s army even when surrounded by threats. May you look to Christ Jesus as you prepare your heart for the victory of Easter in April, and may each day be a little Easter for you to live forgiven!
Yours in Christ,

Pastor Glenn

Anti-Covid-19 Precautions: Worship services are being held with the small group (6 to 10 people) able to attend within precautions. Communion precautions are Pastor using hand sanitizer and setting cups on the rail to pick up. We spread out.

“Because you have made the LORD your dwelling place—the Most High, who is my refuge—no evil shall

Stewardship: Please remember that all church expenses go on even if you worship remotely or miss entirely. You can still do an offering as your act of worship to God by sending your offering to Attention: Harold Dunlap Trinity Lutheran Church, 190 E. State Hwy. 31, McAlester, OK 74501. It remains confidential.

Evangelism: We are streaming service from our church Facebook page using Facebook Live and hope to keep doing so. We discovered that our Service Builder license covers that, which we didn't know. We'll likely keep doing it indefinitely. We completed the communication card that everyone will use in worship services and we begin using it once services are back to normal. An advertising card to hand out for Olive Branch ministry should be delivered any

day. The Trinity Life banner sign for the entrance looks great! *Carol Niedfeldt*

Education: Sunday School is not meeting until restrictions are lifted. Cell group has a new name: Deep Dive Cell Group Bible Study. But it is not meeting in April due to virus precautions.

Carol Niedfeldt

Youth: Hoping to start up Youth night once rules are lifted. *Loretta Meyer*

Fellowship: We plan to do game night event on March 15th with a St. Patrick's Day theme. We'll have a sign-up sheet for food and drinks to bring and share. *Don Gleichman.*

Social Ministries: The food pantry served one family in January/February. *Don Niedfeldt*

LWML: We cancelled the March and April meetings to comply with the President's rule. *Loretta Meyer*

Olive Branch Outreach

We added this as a service listing to the church Facebook page. Primus is ready to do mediations to complete training and be ready to serve the ministry.

Disc Golf: The club hopes to install a gate and fencing on our eastern-most driveway up to keep out dumpers. They still need to haul away the dumped tires when the Pride Cleanup comes around. There's lots of work to do clearing trees and brush for the new 9 and cleaning up from winter. Spring also means spraying for weeds and putting out tick granules. Mowing has started.

Trustees: Kitchen and office lighting fixed. Roof and gutter repairs on the East side held in light rain. Parking area holes filled and bushes weeded on 28th workday. Need to roof the Noah's Ark, if you have the skills. Next workday is May 2.



BIBLE STUDY GROUPS

Clayton Bible Study — 1st and 3rd Tuesday of the month 6:30 pm (April cancelled)
 Man Card Men's Bible Study Breakfast, 2nd Saturday @ 8:30 am at His Place (April cancelled)
 Sunday Morning Bible Class: Sundays at 9:15 am
 Noon Cell Group Bible Study in the Church 1st and 3rd Thursdays@ 11:30 am (April cancelled)
 Evening Cell Group Bible Study in Pastor & Loretta's home 1st and 3rd Thursdays @7:00pm (April cancelled)

MAN CARD GUIDELINES

This Man Card acknowledges your good standing as an "authentic" man in today's society. As a Man Card holder, your conduct should always bring honor and respect to man.

This Man Card® will be seized and all privileges revoked for dishonorable actions, including, but not limited to, the following:

- Using the words "cute," "adorable," and "precious" for anything other than a baby and not even then
- Stopping to ask for directions
- Wearing your blue jeans
- Reading romance novels
- Refusing aid to a woman in distress
- Showing disrespect to God, country, and family

*You may have your Man Card restored for exceptional acts of manliness requiring courage, heart or intelligence.

WWW.IHMMEN.COM

Next Men's Man Card Breakfast May 9, 2020 (APRIL CANCELLED)

A video-based study of Paul of Tarsus, "Odyssey of St. Paul," spans from the founding of Christianity through his missionary journeys to his demise in Rome. Historic views from all over the Mediterranean region give you the feeling that you're there with St. Paul as it's happening. FREE pancake and sausage breakfast served with coffee and juice. If you don't have your **Man Card** yet attend to get one. Prayer, food, fellowship and an invigorating Bible study by Pastor Glenn will earn you an official Man Card (wallet size). We meet the second Saturday at 8:30 am at His Place. It's at the entrance to the church and disc golf course property

Lutheran Bible Translators – Ghana!

Michael Ersland Naomi and I are in Dallas where I hope to finish up my remaining classes, leaving me with thesis work. I will need to gather more data for a thesis and so that will be something that I am hoping to do during our next term in Ghana. Naomi will also be taking some language learning classes while we are in Dallas in order to help prepare her to learn Komba. We are hoping to return to Ghana sometime in 2020, and would appreciate your prayers for us as that planning and preparation takes place.



Directory Address Update
Please update your pictorial directory for new contact information at the right.

Jerome and Julie Atkinson
268 Holiday Hills Rd.
Eufaula, OK 74432
His 763-218-2533
Hers 612-323-5212

Norma Latham
185501 N. 4230 Rd.
Finley, OK 74543
580-565-9544
Lilbliever7@yahoo.com

USHERS CAPTAIN
Jerome Atkinson

April 2020

ALTAR GUILD
Loretta Meyer

COMMUNION ASSISTANT
Harold Dunlap

GREETER
Harold & Primus

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 <i>Lenten Service 7:00 pm</i>	2 <i>Confirmation 3:00 pm</i>	3 <i>Pastor's Day Off</i>	4 <i>Pastor's Day Off</i>
Friday 9:15 am <i>Worship</i>	6	7 <i>No Clayton Bible Study</i>	8 <i>Confirmation 3:00 pm (Facebook Chat)</i>	9 <i>Holy Thursday Worship Service 7:00 pm</i>	10 <i>Good Friday Tenebrae Service 7:00 pm</i>	11 <i>Holy Saturday Pastor's Day Off</i>
Sunday 9:15 am 10:30	13	14	15 <i>Confirmation 3:00 pm (Facebook Chat)</i>	16	17 <i>Pastor's Day Off</i>	18 <i>Pastor's Day Off</i>
9:15 am <i>Worship</i>	20	21 <i>No Clayton Bible Study at 6:30 pm</i>	22 <i>Confirmation 3:00 pm (Facebook Chat)</i>	23	24 <i>Pastor's Day Off</i>	25 <i>Pastor's Day Off LWML cancelled Family Night cancelled</i>
9:15 am 10:30	27	28 <i>No 6-Church Men's Group At Tablequab</i>	29 <i>Confirmation 3:00 pm (Facebook Chat)</i>	30		Altar Flower for the Month Hannah & Teresa Reese for Easter

