

TEMPLE TALK

from Les and Karlyn Daenzer

**THIS TEMPLE TALK WAS SHARED DURING
WORSHIP ON SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2025**



When Karlyn and I retired from Alaska, it was my turn to follow her wishes for a place to live. She wanted to be near water and in a warmer climate. Since longtime friends had retired at Smith Mountain Lake, we visited, liked the area, and found Trinity. We were impressed with Gary's memory for names and felt at home as Lutherans in the early service. Our first activity was helping with the Trinity Treasures sale, and we've been involved ever since. We visited other Lutheran churches in Roanoke but never felt as welcomed as here.

We are lifelong Lutherans, always active in teaching and serving in our churches. At Trinity, we found a caring, open community reaching far beyond its walls. Though coming from the Missouri Synod with some differences, we felt our similarities were far more important. Our goal was to help Trinity be a strong witness in the community.

As a child, Karlyn worked with her father at a florist shop on Saturdays. After chores, the shop owner gave her two quarters—one for her and one for the offering plate. She always felt grown up giving part of what she had earned to the Lord. For me, giving started with the dimes and quarters my father handed us for the offering plate. Later, through confirmation and religion classes, I came to understand giving as an active part of worship, like the Old Testament sacrifices—an act of returning to God out of gratitude for His blessings.

Trinity offers many opportunities to be generous—with our finances, our talents, and our time. The benefit is not only for others but also for ourselves, especially in the fellowship we share. Whether cleaning up after OMG or visiting someone at Runk and Pratt, sharing God's love doesn't require a diploma—only a willing heart. As the Stewardship for All Seasons initiative reminds us, these opportunities are all around us.

Our greatest hope is that the Lord will continue to bless Trinity so that we remain a strong, active part of the community—helping those in need, supporting local efforts, and sharing the faith with all who seek to know our Lord and Savior.