Trinity Tidings

April 13, 2023 News

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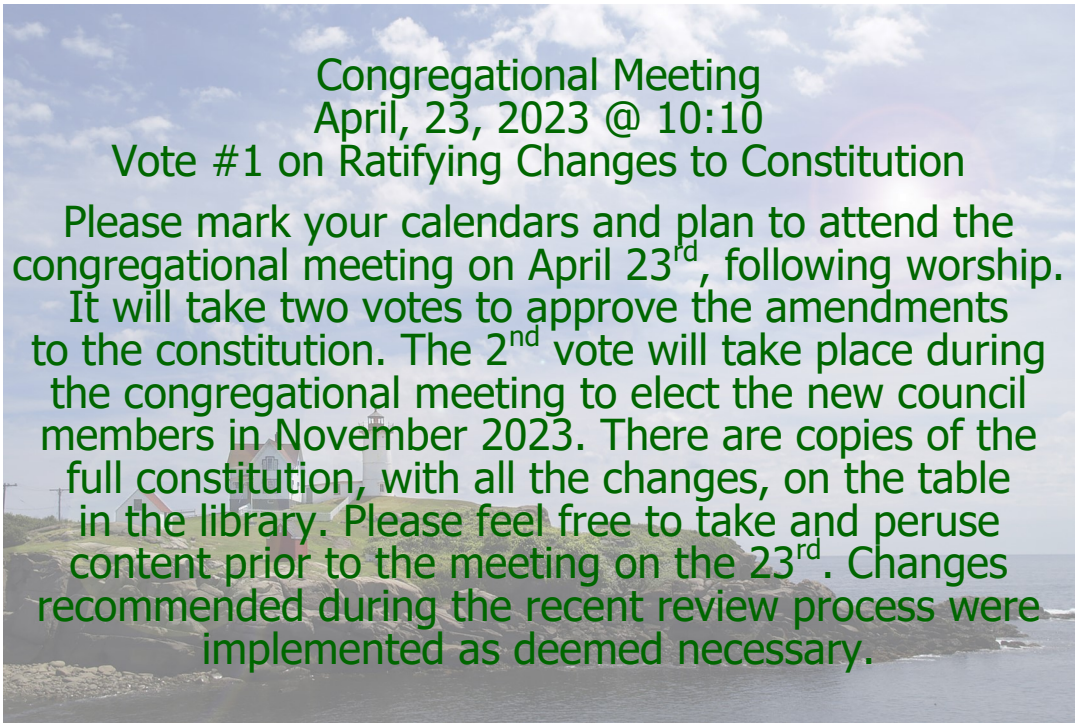

Congregational Meeting
April, 23, 2023 @ 10:10
Vote #1 on Ratifying Changes to Constitution

Please mark your calendars and plan to attend the congregational meeting on April 23rd, following worship. It will take two votes to approve the amendments to the constitution. The 2nd vote will take place during the congregational meeting to elect the new council members in November 2023. There are copies of the full constitution, with all the changes, on the table in the library. Please feel free to take and peruse content prior to the meeting on the 23rd. Changes recommended during the recent review process were implemented as deemed necessary.

April 2023

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16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

Sunday, April 16
- Adult Sunday School 8 AM
- Worship 9 AM
- Sunday School 10 AM

Monday, April 17

Tuesday, April 18
- Council 6:30 PM

Wednesday, April 19
- Staff/volunteer meeting 8 AM
- Confirmation Class 6:30 PM

Thursday, April 20
- Bible Study 9 AM
- Quilting 10 AM
- Comfort Crafts 5:30 PM
- Carport Clutch 6 PM

Friday, April 21

Saturday, April 23

Sunday, April 24
- Adult Sunday School 8 AM
- Worship 9 AM
- Sunday School 10 AM
- Congregational Meeting 10:10 AM

Click *here* for the most current calendar.
Click *here* for worship.

Healing:

- Mason Walter - hospitalized
- Julie Smith - daughter of Jean Smith, awaiting a transplant
- Jean Smith - recovering from surgery
- Oscar Kronquvist - nephew of Marta Wesenick - hospitalized
- Steve Gohman - nephew of Terry & Lois Wegner; cousin of Dan and Kat
- Daniel Bodway
- Dixie Hill - health concerns
- Jill Maus - sister-in-law of Denise Knudsen, cancer
- Adam Lehmann - health concerns
- Bonnie Wegner - cancer
- Dawn Haag - cancer

Bingo isn't the same without your prize donations!

Do you have some regifting items to donate for Bingo? To make the party a success we will need some small prizes donated. Bingo will be held for about an hour after church service on April 30. Please drop off in the bin outside (clearly labeled for Bingo) or in the church office. Thank you!
Support and Service committee

Trinity Lutheran Church
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

CHANGE IN ENTRÉE FOR APRIL MEAL

For the April 26th meal, red beans, and andouille sausage in a savory sauce over rice will be served.

Donations of fruit cups or applesauce cups are needed for the April meal. They can be dropped off in the bin outside the church office doors.

TRINITY SUPPORTS 70 FAMILIES WITH PERSONAL CARE KITS

Your Support of Lutheran World Relief is greatly appreciated. We had another very successful Lenten service project. We are God's hands in a needful world. Your gifts will provide care around the world. Thank you to the confirmation students who assembled the kits for us this year!
Sue Krejcarek
LWR ministry contact

Holy Week

MaundyThursday

GoodFriday

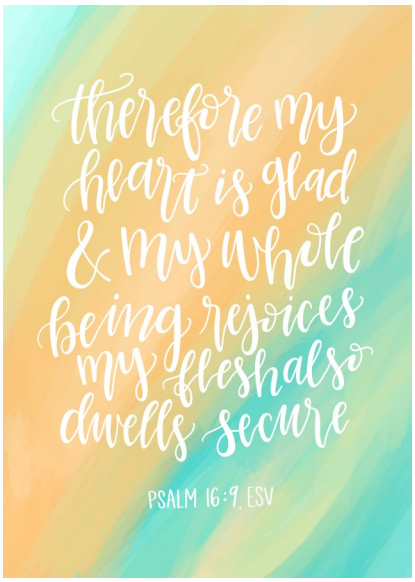
EasterSunday

Second Sunday of Easter

First Reading: Acts 2:14a, 22-32

After the Holy Spirit comes to the apostles on Pentecost, Peter preaches the gospel to the gathered crowd. He tells them that Jesus, who obediently went to his death according to God's plan, was raised from the dead by God. Finally, he appeals to scripture, quoting Psalm 16:8-11, to show that Jesus is the Messiah: though crucified, the risen Jesus is now enthroned.

14a Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his
voice and addressed [the crowd], 22 "You
that are Israelites, listen to what I have to
say: Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to
you by God with deeds of power, wonders,
and signs that God did through him among
you, as you yourselves know—23 this man,
handed over to you according to the definite
plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of those outside
the law. 24 But God raised him up, having
freed him from death, because it was impossible for him to be held in its power.
25 For David says concerning him,
'I saw the Lord always before me,
for he is at my
right hand so that I
will not be shaken;
26 therefore my
heart was glad, and
my tongue rejoiced;
moreover my
flesh will live in
hope.
27 For you will not
abandon my soul to
Hades,
or let your Holy
One experience corruption.
28 You have made
known to me the ways of life;
you will make me full of gladness with
your presence.'



29 "Fellow Israelites, I may say to you confidently of our ancestor David that he both
died and was buried, and his tomb is with
us to this day. 30 Since he was a prophet, he
knew that God had sworn with an oath to
him that he would put one of his descendants on his throne. 31 Foreseeing this, David
spoke of the resurrection of the Messiah,
saying,
'He was not abandoned to Hades,
nor did his flesh experience corruption.'

32 This Jesus God raised up, and of that all of
us are witnesses."

Psalm 16

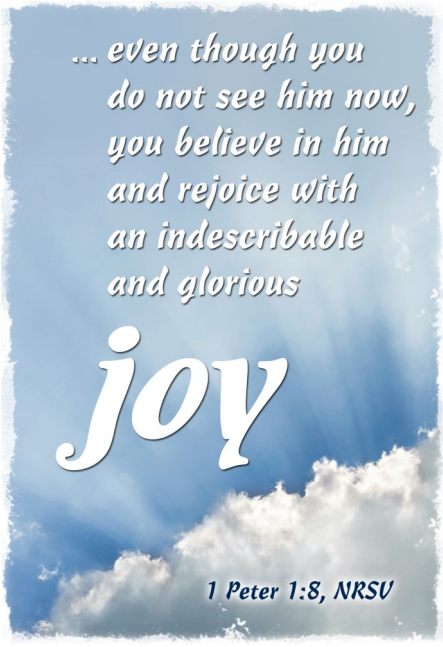
1 Protect me, O
God, for I take
refuge in you;
I have said to
the Lord, "You are
my Lord, my good
above all other."
2 All my delight is
in the godly that
are in the land,
upon those who
are noble among
the people.
3 But those who
run after other
gods
shall have their
troubles multiplied.
4 I will not pour out drink offerings to such
gods,
never take their names upon my lips.
5 O Lord, you are my portion and my cup;
it is you who uphold my lot.
6 My boundaries enclose a pleasant land;
indeed, I have a rich inheritance.
7 I will bless the Lord who gives me counsel;
my heart teaches me night after night.
8 I have set the Lord always before me;
because God is at my right hand, I
shall not be shaken.
9 My heart, therefore, is glad, and my spirit
rejoices;
my body also shall rest in hope.
10 For you will not abandon me to the grave,
nor let your holy one see the pit.
11 You will show me the path of life;

in your presence there is fullness of joy, and in your right hand are pleasures forevermore.

Second Reading: 1 Peter 1:3-9

This epistle was written to encourage Christians experiencing hardships and suffering because of their faith in Christ. The letter opens by blessing God for the living hope we have through Christ's resurrection even amid difficult circumstances and surroundings.

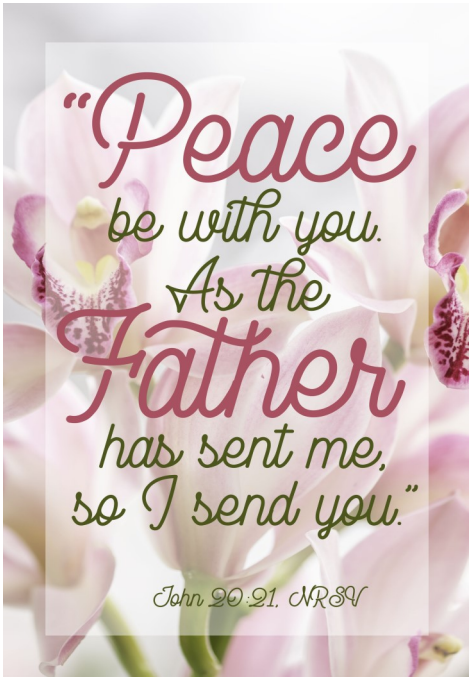
[3]Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, [4]and into an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, [5]who are being protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. [6]In this you rejoice, even if now for a little while you have had to suffer various trials, [7]so that the genuineness of your faith—being more precious than gold that, though perishable, is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed. [8]Although you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and rejoice with an indescribable and glorious joy, [9]for you are receiving the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.



Gospel: John 20:19-31

The risen Jesus appears to his disciples, offering them a benediction, a commission, and the gift of the Holy Spirit. But one of their number is missing, and his unbelief prompts another visit from the Lord.

[19]When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." [20]After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. [21]Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." [22]When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. [23]If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."



[24]But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. [25]So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."

[26]A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." [27]Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." [28]Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" [29]Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."

[30]Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. [31]But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

2nd Sunday of Easter

"Hey, hey, holy mackerel, no doubt about it, the Cubs are on their way."
This song was written in 1969, a year the Cubs looked like they were going all the way.

They folded in August and September, and broke their fans' hearts.
My mother grieved for years after this.
After a long drought it looked like that was the year,
But it all came crashing down.
My mother had a hard time watching them after that.
It was hard for her to get her hopes up again.
Unfortunately, she had dementia the last years of her life and she was not able to enjoy the Cubs winning the world series in 2016.
We do root gift the Brewers too. They came so close to winning it all back in 1982.
That was heartbreaking when they lost to the Cardinals in the world series in 7 games.
When our hopes are dashed it is difficult to get them up again.
We can get over our sports teams letting us down but in more important things in life it can be tough to handle: loss of relationships, loss of jobs, loss of loved ones, unexpected illnesses and tragedies, the loss of the way things used to be, or things have not turned out the way we expected.

I wonder what was going through Thomas' mind.
We know he was a faithful follower of Jesus.
He said to the other disciples when Jesus was going to raise Lazarus from the dead, and was entering dangerous territory, "Let us also go, that we may die with him."
Perhaps he had hoped Jesus really was the messiah who would save Israel from the oppressive Romans.
He must have had hopes and dreams.
Now Jesus was gone.
Jesus died the humiliating death of many messianic pretenders.
His disappointment must have been devastating.

So when the other disciples told him they saw Jesus he could not believe it.
Maybe he did not want to be disappointed again.
This was too good to be true!
Can we blame him?
If we were in his shoes how would we have reacted?
Would we have just taken the other disciples' word for it off the bat?
The story seemed far-fetched.
The Jews believed that dead people do not come back to life until the final judgment in the last days.
Thomas wants tangible proof that Jesus had risen from the dead.
He wants to see Jesus' wounds for himself.
What was ultimately probably behind his skepticism? Fear.
Fear of unknown, fear of change, fear of being hurt again.
But as Jesus appeared to the rest of his disciples earlier, who were hiding in fear, he shows up a week later and greets Thomas and the disciples with "peace be with you."
This is not just a calm feeling he is offering them.
He is giving Thomas and the others courage to overcome their fear.

Jesus does not scold Thomas and the others for their fear, he offers them the peace they need to move forward.
Jesus shows Thomas his wounds and Thomas falls to the ground and proclaims Jesus as his Lord and God.
All of the disciples needed Jesus to come to them to overcome their fears.
On their own they were powerless.
But Jesus meets them where they are empowering them to boldly go out into the world and share the good news.

How about us today? Do we have our fears?
Absolutely, if we are honest.
Many churches are fearful of survival.
Many like the disciples in the upper room cower in fear and are afraid to reach out.
All of us, to some degree, are afraid of the future, as things are not the way they used to be.
The world is always changing.
Churches need to find new ways to connect with people.
As with Thomas and the other disciples we have our disappointments.
Jesus understands this.
It is not a sin to have fears.
Fears protect us from doing foolish things.
However, Jesus gives us the courage to overcome them.
One of my favorite quotes is from Archbishop Desmond Tutu:
"Courage is not the absence of fear, but the ability to act despite it."
When we get fearful, we can go into a default mode, old ways of thinking.
But Jesus gives us courage to overcome it.
Jesus still comes to us today to offer us peace the world cannot.
He is present with us as we gather together and support one another.
He is present with the church to give us courage when we are fearful or anxious.
Jesus never promised us life would be easy, but gives us the strength to move forward.
As a church that means to keep trying new things, taking risks, not being afraid to fail.
We can learn from our failures.
Above all, we can trust that our crucified and risen Lord is with us always.
He will never let us down.
"Hey, hey, holy mackerel, no doubt about it, in Jesus, we are on our way." Amen.

Serving at worship on Sunday

Ushers
Cindy Wolford, Steve Dyreson

Lector
Cindy Wolford

Communion Assistant
Dixie Hill

Slides
Stella Dunday

Livestream
Ron Flohr

Altar Guild
Jayne Murphy, Sue Luba