

Trinity Tidings

February 29, 2024

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

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SECRETARY: AMY VAN DREEL TRINITY.NEWLONDON@GMAIL.COM

CHILDREN'S FAITH FORMATION COORDINATOR: ANGELA KUECHLER

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Lenten mid-week round robin worship will be Wednesdays at 6:30 pm at Trinity. When one of the other pastors is here, Pastor Chuck will be at one of their churches.

2024 Lenten Series - Sing with All the Saints

March 6	Dying and Rising with Christ	Pastor Erik Roth, Christus Greenville
March 13	Striving for Justice	Pastor Mark Laatsch, Grace Winchester
March 20	St. Patrick	Pastor Chuck

Devotionals will be available on Facebook and YouTube on Wednesdays during Lent.



Prior to each Lenten midweek service, a free soup supper will be served by Trinity's council/committees/groups at 5:30pm. Sign up at the Info Center if you would like to contribute to a meal. Come and be filled, body and soul.

March 2024

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

Sunday, March 3

- **No Sunday School or Story time**
- Adult Bible Study 8 AM
- Worship 9 AM

Monday, March 4

Tuesday, March 5

Wednesday, March 6

- WIC 9 AM
- Soup Supper 5:30 PM
- Lenten Worship 6:30 PM

Thursday, March 7

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

Friday, March 8

Saturday, March 9

Sunday, March 10 - Daylight Savings Starts

- Adult Bible Study 8 AM
- Worship 9 AM
- Sunday School 10 AM
- Story Time 10 AM

Click [here](#) for the most current calendar.

Click [here](#) for worship.

Office Hours:
8 AM - 12 noon
Monday - Thursday
Other times by appointment

Holy Week Worship

Palm Sunday, March 24, 9 AM

Maundy Thursday, March 28, 6:30 PM

Good Friday, March 29, 1:30 PM (ecumenical at Trinity)
and 6:30 PM

Easter Sunday, March 31, 6:30 AM and 9 AM

Prayers & Praises



Email or call with your request.

- Jake Guyer - son-in-law of Kirk & Amy Van Dree, recovering from an accident and surgery
- Kristin - friend of Kelly Newton, health concerns
- Sue Luba - recovering from surgery
- Carla Fulcer - friend of Sue Luba, cancer
- Keith Krueger
- Genie Shaw - friend of Dixie Hill, cancer and other health concerns
- Mary Jo Driessen - friend of Dan & Marta Wesenick, cancer
- Erin Larson - recovering from surgery
- Paul Bock - recovering from surgery
- Betty Anderson - friend of Amy Kuehl
- Brian Miller - health issues
- Trista Jo Westphal - health concerns
- Ginny Halverson - friend of Lehl's, recovering from a stroke
- Peter H. - friend of Dyreson's, leukemia
- Patty Dyreson - recovering from surgery
- Julie Smith - daughter of Jean Smith, recovering from transplant surgery
- Leslie Larson - uncle of Marta Wesenick, cancer
- Mike Loppnow - cancer
- Beth Cochran - friend of Dan Wegner, health concerns
- Kaden Wegner - grandson of Michael Wegner, health concerns
- Pastor Dean Desilet - friend of Pastor Chuck, health concerns
- Dixie Hill - health concerns
- Jill Maus - sister-in-law of Denise Knudsen, cancer
- Adam Lehmann - health concerns
- Dawn Haag - cancer

Personal Care Kits through Lutheran World Relief (LWR) Collection during Lent

Cleanliness may not actually be next to godliness, but it certainly helps a person feel more human. When families find their homes destroyed, or must flee for their safety, soap and a towel rarely make the cut for what they can carry. Arriving in a refugee camp or other place of safety, they are scared, vulnerable and dirty from the travel. The simple items included in a Personal Care Kit provide much-needed self-care, critical germ fighting, and the chance to regain dignity amidst situations of fear and uncertainty.

You will find bags in the narthex that have some items in them already. A list is attached so you can complete the kit. Once all those bags are gone, you can just start fresh with the list.

Completed personal care kits can be dropped off in the narthex.

Sue Krejcarek, LWR coordinator



Mission possible: just some impressive numbers for everyone to consider.

Trinity quilting group has completed over 100 quilts so far this year. This accounts for about 1,000 hours of donated teamwork so far. The material value of each finished quilt (not counting the hours put in on making it) is about \$20. So the team has made about \$2,000 worth of quilts, giving generously of their time and abilities. There are currently between 10-12 women who work on this outreach mission. We meet weekly on Thursday mornings from 10-12 to work on the quilts although a few women put in long hours at home for us to have made this many quilts. On behalf of the people around the world who receive our much needed quilts, I say thank you! And I invite any person interested in supporting this mission to either come to the church fellowship hall on Thursdays or contact me to set up a way for you to work from home.

Sue Krejcarek,
Mission leader for LWR outreach
skrejcar@gmail.com 920-680-2399

March's Joy of Giving is Mission of Hope House

Serving all of Waupaca County & Rural Central Wisconsin Mission of Hope's Resiliency Center is a 16 bed peer supported living environment that offers programs and services designed to help our clients break free from poverty, substance abuse disorder and homelessness. We are here to give those most in need in our community a hand up to a brighter future. Our programs are structured in a way to directly address access to housing, mental health concerns and substance use disorder. We aim to improve the wellbeing of the communities we serve!

Mission of Hope also operates The Bridge, a resale store that is open to the public; proceeds from sales support The Mission of Hope House's programs and, therefore, benefit residents of Waupaca County and surrounding rural central Wisconsin. As we grow awareness about this store, we can also grow awareness about the issues that these sales are supporting.

Please show your support, giving online or using your Joy of Giving envelope.



On Wednesday, February 28, Trinity handed out 178 meals! Thank you to everyone who donated items, packed, served, and delivered meals.
Our next meal is Wednesday, March 27th from 5 - 6 PM.





Third Sunday in Lent

First Reading: Exodus 20:1-17

After escaping from slavery, the Israelites come to Mount Sinai, where God teaches them how to live in community. The Ten Commandments proclaim that God alone is worthy of worship. Flowing from God, the life of the community flourishes when based on honesty, trust, fidelity, and respect for life, family, and property.

¹God spoke all these words:

²I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; ³you shall have no other gods before me.

⁴You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above, or that is on the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. ⁵You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I the LORD your God am a jealous God, punishing children for the iniquity of parents, to the third and the fourth generation of those who reject me, ⁶but showing steadfast love to the thousandth generation of those who love me and keep my commandments.

⁷You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the LORD your God, for the LORD will not acquit anyone who misuses his name.

⁸Remember the sabbath day, and keep it holy. ⁹Six days you shall labor and do all your work. ¹⁰But the seventh day is a sabbath to the LORD your God; you shall not do any work—you, your son or your daughter, your male or female slave, your livestock, or the alien resident in your towns. ¹¹For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but rested the seventh day; therefore the LORD blessed the sabbath day and consecrated it.

¹²Honor your father and your mother, so that your days may be long in the land that the LORD your God is giving you.

¹³You shall not murder.

¹⁴You shall not commit adultery.

¹⁵You shall not steal.

¹⁶You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

¹⁷You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or male or female slave, or ox, or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.

Psalm 19

¹The heavens declare the glory of God, and the sky proclaims its maker's handiwork.

²One day tells its tale to another, and one night imparts knowledge to another.

³Although they have no words or language, and their voices are not heard,

⁴their sound has gone out into all lands, and their message to the ends of the world, where God has pitched a tent for the sun.

⁵It comes forth like a bridegroom out of his chamber; it rejoices like a champion to run its course.

⁶It goes forth from the uttermost edge of the heavens and runs about to the end of it again; nothing is hidden from its burning heat.

⁷The teaching of the LORD is perfect and revives the soul;

the testimony of the LORD is sure and gives wisdom to the simple.

⁸The statutes of the LORD are just and rejoice the heart;

the commandment of the LORD is clear and gives light to the eyes.

⁹The fear of the LORD is clean and endures forever;

the judgments of the LORD are true and righteous altogether.

¹⁰More to be desired are they than gold, more than much fine gold, sweeter far than honey, than honey in the comb.

¹¹By them also is your servant enlightened,

and in keeping them there is great reward.

¹²Who can detect one's own offenses?

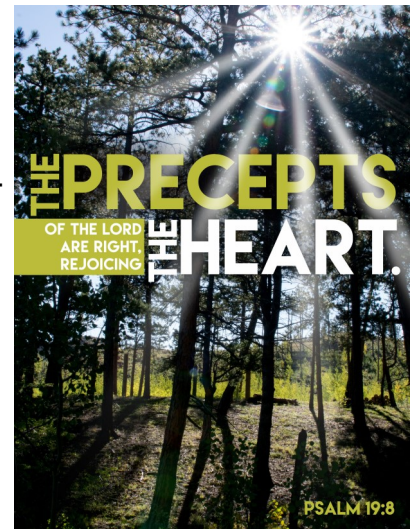
Cleanse me from my secret faults.

¹³Above all, keep your servant from presumptuous sins; let them not get dominion over me;

then shall I be whole and sound, and innocent of a great offense.

¹⁴Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight,

O LORD, my strength and my redeemer.



Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 1:18-25

The word of the cross is pure foolishness and nonsense to the world because it claims that God is mostly revealed in weakness, humiliation, and death. But through such divine foolishness and weakness, God is working to save us. The center of Paul's preaching is Christ crucified.

¹⁸The message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. ¹⁹For it is written,

“I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.”

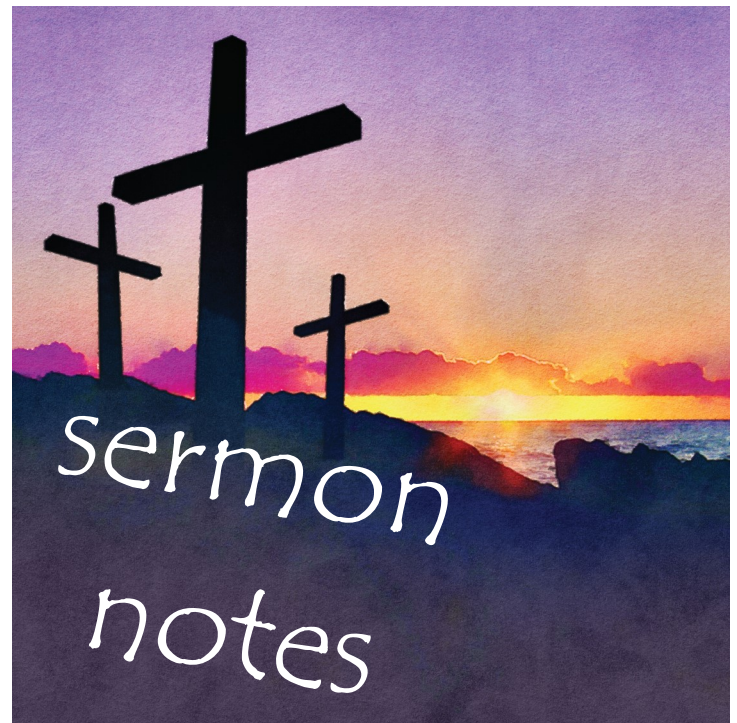
²⁰Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? ²¹For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe. ²²For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, ²³but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, ²⁴but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God.

²⁵For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

Gospel: John 2:13-22

Jesus attacks the commercialization of religion by driving merchants out of the temple. When challenged, he responds mysteriously, with the first prediction of his own death and resurrection. In the midst of a seemingly stable religious center, Jesus suggests that the center itself has changed.

¹³The Passover of the Jews was near, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. ¹⁴In the temple he found people selling cattle, sheep, and doves, and the money changers seated at their tables. ¹⁵Making a whip of cords, he drove all of them out of the temple, both the sheep and the cattle. He also poured out the coins of the money changers and overturned their tables. ¹⁶He told those who were selling the doves, “Take these things out of here! Stop making my Father's house a marketplace!” ¹⁷His disciples remembered that it was written, “Zeal for your house will consume me.” ¹⁸The Jews then said to him, “What sign can you show us for doing this?” ¹⁹Jesus answered them, “Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up.” ²⁰The Jews then said, “This temple has been under construction for forty-six years, and will you raise it up in three days?” ²¹But he was speaking of the temple of his body. ²²After he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this; and they believed the scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken.



What's wrong with this picture?

Oops. Perhaps the church no longer existed but forgot to take the sign down.

Otherwise this is quite a conflicting message.



Or what about this one?



Some of you may have seen this one already.

Messaging is important. In the text we just heard from John Jesus is conveying a strong message.



It was not clear to the disciples at first what he was saying, but later on they would understand. He had just gone into the temple and threw some crooks out. He threw out those who were selling animals for sacrifices as well as the money changers. The selling of animals for sacrifices was not the problem; they were focused upon their sales ra-

ther than what was really important.

And the money changers were probably taking advantage of people as well.

Jesus says this is not a marketplace, this is God's house!

When the Jewish authorities questioned him on what gave him the right to do this Jesus makes a startling claim:

"Destroy this temple and in three days I will raise it up!"

What's wrong with this picture?

Absurd claim, for the temple had been under construction for 46 years.

John, however, explains to us what Jesus meant: he was talking about the temple of his body.

He was claiming to be the true temple.

John then tells us "After he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this; and they believed the scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken."

To further understand this story we need to recognize that John was written after the temple was destroyed in 70 AD.

John was likely written between 90-100.

John's readers were most likely Jewish Christians who were grieving the loss of the temple.

It was devastating.

The temple was God's house, where God lived, the center of their faith.

The temple was the meeting place between the God of Israel and God's people.

The holy place where sacred rituals were performed. They were struggling to figure out how to live as God's people without it.

John is giving them a clear message: Jesus is the temple that they need.

Jesus's body was where God lived among us.

Jesus' crucified and risen body is the new holy

place.

God's kingdom was not in a building but in the person of Jesus Christ.

Jesus is where God and humanity meet!

Jesus is still our temple, where we encounter God.

As John said earlier, Jesus is the Word made flesh...full of grace and truth.

This is clear messaging.

If we want to encounter God we look to Jesus.

Our building and everything else we put so much stock in ultimately are not where the true temple is.

You all learned years ago after the tornado that the church is not the building: it's the people.

The church was rebuilt but it was the people coming together in Christ's name that made it happen.

Christ's body is in us and in our relationships.

When we gather together under Word and Sacrament we experience Christ's presence:

we are the body of Christ.

Everything we do is in the name of the Triune God revealed to us in Jesus through the power of the Holy Spirit.

Every way we reach out to one another and the world is encountering Christ's body.

Always stay focused on Jesus.

There is nothing wrong with that picture! Amen.

Serving at worship on Sunday

Ushers

Dawn Hess, Kirk Van Dreef

Lector

Dawn Hess

Communion Assistant

Cindy Wolford

Slides

David Newton

Livestream

Randy Cleveland

Altar Guild

Sue Krejcarek, Sandy Krueger