



TIDINGS

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH OF WATERTOWN, MINNESOTA



APRIL 2024

INSIDE:

April Events at Trinity
Vacation Bible School
Social Ministry Highlights
Council Highlights
Message from our Missionary
Last Month in Pictures

Worship
Sundays 9:00 am
Onsite & Online

STAFF:

Pastor	Jeffrey M. Engholm
Children's Ministry	Hannah Rosholt
Children's Ministry	Chelsea Farniok
Office Manager	Robyn Behrens
Financial Secretary	Gail Cassidy
Financial Administrator	Mary Jech

Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church

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Office Hours: Mon - Fri 9:00 am - Noon

As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man, dressed in a white robe, and they were alarmed. But he said to them, "Do not be alarmed. You are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised, he is not here. Look, there is the place they laid him. But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him, just as he told you." ~ Mark 16



This passage from the Gospel of Mark sums up what we are all about as people of faith – I'm tempted to simply let those words speak for themselves and not add anything else! Because there's really nothing else to add to this story of darkness leading to light, despair leading to hope, and death leading to life.

Although, there is one last thing that could be added: The reminder of the angel, telling the women at the tomb to GO. The angel told the women to GO and tell the disciples about this new life. Later, Jesus would appear and tell the disciples to GO to all the ends of the earth. And now, today, the angel still speaks to us, giving us the same instructions: GO and tell the world about God's new life. The "dead end" you might think you're in isn't dead at all – once you pass through it, you will simply find yourself at a new beginning. So what are we waiting for? LET'S GO!

~ God's Peace, Pastor Engholm

What's Happening AT TRINITY LUTHERAN?

QUESTION OF THE MONTH

You will be my witnesses to the
ends of the earth. ~ Acts 1

Jesus has sent us out as witnesses of
new life given at Easter. Where do you
see it? How are you sharing it?

Children's Ministry



Join us this June for Vacation Bible School!

June 17-20, 2024

5:30 - 7:30 pm

Optional Family Dinner: 5:00 - 5:30 pm

For ages 3 years old (by September 1, 2023)
thru 4th Grade (2023-2024 School Year)

Join us for Scuba VBS, where we'll dive deep into an amazing undersea adventure and experience the ever-flowing, never-ending love of God. Each evening will include a Bible story, singing, prayer, games, snacks, explorations, friendships, and more! Online registration is now open.

Register @ www.trin.org/vbs

Volunteers Needed! There are many opportunities to help out with VBS. We'll need volunteers to help prep items before VBS as well as lots of helpers during the event itself. Adults and youth in 5th Grade and older are invited to volunteer. Email Chelsea Farniok at cfarniok@trin.org to sign up to be a VBS volunteer.



First Communion Sunday, April 21

Celebrate with Trinity's
Fifth Graders on Sunday,
April 21, as they receive
their First Communion
during worship.



Camp Sunday at Trinity Sunday, April 28

Spring is upon us and this is a perfect time to celebrate the great outdoors of God's beautiful creation! Join us for "Camp Sunday" where we'll join together in songs of prayer and praise in honor of all that God has made. Feel free to wear your flannels and camp sweatshirts to church that Sunday!

Another Successful Year of Packing the Pews

Many thanks to all those who contributed to our annual "Pack the Pews" campaign for the Watertown Food Shelf. And to the Trinity Apostles for getting all of our donations downtown for us. Last year we collected 347 pounds of food, and this year we collected 348 pounds – one pound more! Do you think we can hit 349 pounds next year? Let's go for it!



High School Youth Group Game Night

Wednesday, April 17
6:30 - 7:30 pm

Trinity youth in Grades 9-12 are invited to church to eat pizza and play games in the Youth Room. Hope to see you there! If you plan to join us, please sign up at www.trin.org under EVENTS.



Underwear Update

Thanks to all who donated to our Annual Underwear Drive. Thanks to all your efforts we received 114 packages of underwear, which means 776 total pieces will be delivered

to Central Lutheran Church and shared with those in need in downtown Minneapolis. Fantastic!



Thursday, April 18 | 10:00 am
Fellowship Hall

Join Trinity's OWLS (Older, Wiser Lutherans) Fellowship Group for coffee and conversation and to welcome Pat Hittle and Dave Niermann as they share pictures and stories from their Northern Adriatic 8-day bike trip from Venice to Croatia last year. All "older" and/or "wiser" Lutherans and friends are invited to attend.

Congregational NEWS

PASTORAL ACTS

BAPTISM

Beau Boyd
son of Samuel & Sarah Boyd
baptized March 1, 2024

FUNERALS

Diane Jorgensen
February 7, 1934 ~ March 9, 2024
Memorial Service on
March 16, 2024

Rick Mann
August 26, 1954 ~ March 15, 2024
Memorial Service on
March 22, 2024

MEMORIALS

in memory of

Betty Brabec
Undesignated ~ \$960
Cemetery ~ \$500

Diane Jorgensen
Undesignated ~ \$100

Rick Mann
Undesignated ~ \$805.70
A/V Upgrade ~ \$50

COUNCIL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

March 19, 2024

FINANCIAL REPORT

Operating Fund summary for February 2024

Beginning balance
2/1/2024: **-\$ 15,083.49**
Operating Fund income: \$ 32,048.77
Operating Fund exps: \$ 30,108.86
Net balance (Feb.): -\$ 1,939.81
Operating Fund balance as of
2/29/2024: **-\$ 13,143.68**

2024 operating fund EXPENSES exceeded INCOME by \$12,631.76.

Building Fund expenses:
Internal Loan Payment: \$ 5,000.00
Loan balance: \$ 60,000.00

Cash Summary:
Bremer: \$ 67,470.93
(includes \$1,674.26 for Feb. federal withholding)

Citizen's Building Fund: \$ 117,237.16

M/S/C Ryan Ress / Nancy Stello / carried

Comments:

- 6% of operating fund income for benevolence to Minneapolis Area synod amounted to \$1,919.16.
- Xcel bill amounted to \$1156 (down about \$1,180 from January which also reflects a credit of \$662).
- \$834.50 came in designated for the A/V Update.
- Insurance money held from 2019 in the amount of \$14,321.36 was paid to J&J Glass for repairing the stained glass windows.
- Memorial money was used for an additional stove for the kitchen.
- Several designated funds were emptied while those under \$100 were merged into the undesignated memorial fund.

PASTOR'S REPORT

During our underwear drive we collected 114 packages of underwear (776 pieces)! These will receive a "Blessing of the Underwear and Quilts" during our Palm Sunday service. Other Palm Sunday events include Pack the Pews, Palm Sunday Brunch and an Easter Egg Hunt. Lent began February 14 and ends March 20 – Pastor thanked all the Lenten speakers and Lori Sieling along with her crews for serving the Lenten meals. Holy week is approaching quickly with plans for Drive Thru Prayers, Golden Agers/OWLS dinner, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and TWO Easter services. Pastor also reported that the Audio/Visual Committee continues working with Dave Farber on the updates to our in-house sound system and online livestreaming capabilities.

OLD BUSINESS

- **Tech update:** We are continuing to experience equipment delays and are still waiting for it to all arrive to start the project. Trinity is regularly following up with the vendor for updates.
- **Kitchen/oven update:** The oven has been purchased, installed and used already for a funeral luncheon along with Lenten meals.
- **Council Retreat:** Tuesday, April 16, 2024, details to follow.

NEW BUSINESS

- **Church committee structure:** Pastor Jeff gave an overview of the Trinity website and discussion included the different committees/ministry teams and how they flow.

Greetings from Papua New Guinea



from Rev. Andrew Ronnevik serving in Papua New Guinea

After departing from Fargo, ND, on February 19, we successfully landed in Adelaide, Australia, two days later. Despite a long flight from Dallas to Sydney, our children managed well. In Adelaide, we were warmly received by Erin from the Lutheran Church in Australia (LCA) and had a fantastic time, meeting former missionaries and adjusting to the summer climate. We met so many lovely people who encouraged us in our work, expressed their excitement for us in this new adventure, and communicated a love for the people and place that will be our home for the next several years.

On February 27, we began our journey to Papua New Guinea (PNG), flying to Brisbane, then to Port Moresby, and finally reaching Lae. Settling into our temporary home on the ELC-PNG campus, called "Ampo," we've been busy setting up, meeting community leaders, and adapting to daily life.

Our upcoming adventures include a trip to the Highlands and Madang to visit educational institutions supported by ELC-PNG, followed by a stay in Buang to experience rural life. We're excited for the learning opportunities ahead. Please pray for safe travel and good health over these next few weeks.

Highlights from our time so far include a warm welcome at Martin Luther Seminary, where Andrew will be working, generous gifts from neighbors, language practice in Tok Pisin, and haircuts for the kids (because it is HOT)!

Blessings to all,
Meredith, Andrew, Bea, and Hans

Trinity supports the missionary work of Rev. Andrew & Meredith Ronnevik with prayer and financial sponsorship. Support for one week is \$25. We invite and encourage you to sign up on the calendar in the back of the sanctuary for a week of support.

Trinity College Scholarships

The Trinity Lutheran Church Foundation offers several college scholarship opportunities to Trinity's graduating seniors each year. The scholarship application is available at www.trin.org/scholarships. **Scholarship applications are due by May 1, 2024.**

Have You Remembered Trinity in Your Will?

Some people are able to continue to give to Trinity in death, as well as in life. Giving through your will helps to continue the 160-year tradition of ministry and mission at Trinity, continuing the legacy of your witness. With the advice of your attorney or tax adviser, the following language may be added to your will, trust, or codicil:
"I bequeath X% of my estate to Trinity Lutheran Church, 513 Madison Street SE, Watertown, MN 55388."

Thank you for considering a lasting gift to Trinity Lutheran Church!



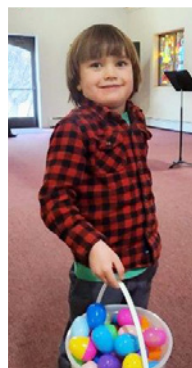
Love INC Fresh Start Program

Love INC Heartland aims to promote positive, lasting life transformation. Their Fresh Start Program encourages independence by helping people gain valuable life skills and see their self-worth. Volunteers from the partnership of local churches provide community meals, lead classes, and mentor participants. Love INC relies on donations to sponsor families in the Fresh Start Program.

Learn more about the Love INC Fresh Start Program at loveincheartland.org.

Last Month in Pictures

What a busy Holy Week at Trinity! Palm Sunday began with the waving of palms and ended with the hunting of Easter Eggs. In between we blessed quilts, food, & underwear, and enjoyed a Palm Sunday brunch. Easter morning was filled with beauty from our Easter Garden to the sounds of our Easter brass ensemble!



Even in wind and snow and sleet and hail, the Holy Week Drive Thru Prayers never fail!

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 <i>Church Office Closed</i> Priscilla Circle 2 pm AA Meeting 8 pm	2 Quilters 9 am <i>Happy Birthday</i> Kurt Beckstrom Jack Dalluge Adam Kirkman Sarah Ress	3 Prayer 12:30 pm 6-8 Confirm. 6:30 pm Worship Choir 6:30 pm Worship Band 7:30 pm <i>Happy Birthday</i> Kari Olson Sam Ragner	4 Housekeepers 9 am Tidings 9:30 am <i>Happy Birthday</i> Amy Kind Casey Skahaug Mary Sloneker	5	6
7 Worship 9 am Fellowship 10 am Sunday School 10 am <i>Happy Birthday</i> Brett Gens Darrel Holmes Grace Lopez	8 Apostles 8:30 am AA Meeting 8 pm <i>Happy Birthday</i> Perry Fails Sydney Lague David Sloneker	9 Quilters 9 am	10 Prayer 12:30 pm 6-8 Confirm. 6:30 pm Worship Choir 6:30 pm Worship Band 7:30 pm	11 Finance Committee 6:30 pm <i>Happy Birthday</i> Roger Anderson Mike Loehrs Cooper Thomson	12 <i>Happy Birthday</i> Emilie Empting Cindy Essen Amanda Hastings	13 <i>Happy Birthday</i> Nathan Zellmann
14 Worship 9 am Fellowship 10 am Sunday School 10 am First Communion Workshop 10:00 am <i>Happy Birthday</i> Kathy Baluski Linda Gray	15 AA Meeting 8 pm <i>Happy Birthday</i> Devin Horsman	16 Quilters 9 am Church Council Mtg. 6:30 pm	17 FCA Breakfast 7 am Prayer 12:30 pm 6-8 Confirm. 6:30 pm Youth Group 6:30 pm Worship Choir 6:30 pm Worship Band 7:30 pm <i>Happy Birthday</i> Bodil Empting Mike Haller Ben Lohmann Eric Skahaug Hailey Volkart	18 OWLS 10 am <i>Happy Birthday</i> Jena Drews Tristan Eliason Cole Koets	19 <i>Happy Birthday</i> Stephen Bolea	20 <i>Happy Birthday</i> Melissa Bauernfeind
21 FIRST COMMUNION SUNDAY Worship 9 am Fellowship 10 am Sunday School 10 am	22 Apostles 8:30 am AA Meeting 8 pm	23 Quilters 9 am <i>Happy Birthday</i> Tim Gulbrandson Carol Murray	24 Blood Drive 10 am Prayer 12:30 pm 6-8 Confirm. 6:30 pm Worship Band 7:30 pm <i>Happy Birthday</i> Elaine Mitteness Eliza Rowan	25 Tidings 9:30 am <i>Happy Birthday</i> Sylvia Becker Jonah Blakstad	26 <i>Happy Birthday</i> Megan Oak	27 <i>Happy Birthday</i> Bernadine Venske
28 CAMP SUNDAY Worship 9 am Fellowship 10 am Sunday School 10 am <i>Happy Birthday</i> Trevor Brabec Adelle Peterson	29 AA Meeting 8 pm <i>Happy Birthday</i> Carrie Williams	30 Quilters 9 am <i>Happy Birthday</i> Russ Kuntz Nancy Wandersee				



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SIGN UP FOR EMAIL UPDATES FROM TRINITY

Stay up to date with what's going on at Trinity Lutheran Church. Sign up for email updates to receive eNewsletters and other church-wide announcements. Subscribe to Email Updates on our website www.trin.org.

CONNECT WITH US



Facebook/Trinity Lutheran Church (ELCA) Watertown MN



When It Rains

The skeleton flower, a perennial native to Japan, has delicate petals that change from opaque white to almost transparent when wet. After it rains, only the flower's intricate, skeleton-like veins are visible.

When the rains come (and they will!) in our lives, the same can be said. Amid difficulty and struggle, our true selves often become more transparent. During a parenting challenge, criticism might emerge. Or while we tackle a tough work project, impatience might rear its ugly head.

Hosea 6:3 proclaims: "Oh, that we might know the Lord! Let us press on to know him. He will respond to us as surely as the arrival of dawn or the coming of rains in early spring." The rains will come. Whether you're experiencing light rain or a downpour, ponder what the water reveals. Then ask God how you can be more open to his work in that area.