

# Trinity **SONRISE** News



*Trinity Lutheran Church*

*on the Sunrise Side of Michigan*

*2020*

## **A MESSAGE FROM PASTOR AZZAM**

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

I predicted it...winter would finally arrive... The good news is that next Sunday is already Ground Hog's Day. Will there be 6 weeks left this winter, or will the corner around which spring resides be only 42 days?

Years ago I went to the doctor with a bad cold...you know the kind of cold I am talking about: the kind where you are either miserable from your condition or from all your failed attempts to cure it. So, when the doctor told me that I had a virus...and there was really nothing he could give me since antibiotics do not work on viruses, he sent me home with the usual advice. Then he added, I could prescribe this pill if you insist that I write you a prescription. What is it, I asked? There is an anti-viral that I could prescribe that is supposed to shorten the severity of your virus and reduce the symptoms. Tell me more, I replied. Well, he said, do you want your virus to go away in just 7 days, or do you want to live with it for a whole week? With this pill, it will go away in seven days. I declined.

February is usually over in exactly 4 weeks, 28 days. Historically it was the catch-up month, resetting the Roman Calendar so that the March could begin with the spring Equinox. This year it will take an extra day to catch up, a leap day. So even if spring is just around the corner, we will still have to put up with one more winter day than last year.

The disciples of Jesus were also concerned about the times and seasons. After learning that their beloved temple was going to be sacked...that Jesus was going to be crucified and rise again...that there will be a great persecution of the church, before the judgement, they wanted to know if there were any signs that might give them heads up. Jesus' answers were anything but satisfying. This left them and many in the church still speculating, even St. Paul. Some scholars believe that Paul privately held that Jesus would return sometime during his own lifetime. But God has other plans...notice the present tense. God has other plans, plans that were set in place before He created the world, plans that were not even known by Jesus while in his earthly Human State. (Matthew 24:36) According to our Lord's words on the very day he ascended into heaven, he said,

“It is not for you to know times or seasons that the Father has fixed by His own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you, and you will be My witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.” (Acts 1:2-8)

This is how Christians are to use the time between now and that day whether soon or later, as witnesses to the love and salvation earned by Jesus, our Risen Savior. This is also how we can pass the cold days of February, now one day longer, whether Jesus returns before months end or many years hence. Come quickly Lord, (*Maranatha* in Aramaic) is the last word of John in his Apocalypse or book of Revelation. It is also our prayer as we bear witness to Jesus through this February cold. With the same Holy Spirit, we will weather it whether it is 29 days or 4 whole weeks telling others of the great things He has done.

In His Service,

Pastor Timothy Azzam

# STEWARDSHIP

## Giving Is an Obligation

Does the title of this article cause you to pause? Isn't giving supposed to be the free and joyous response of God's people who express their gratitude and praise of God through their giving? Certainly, our primary reason for giving is a response to the Good News of the Gospel. Knowing what God has done for us in Jesus prompts us to give and keep on giving. God never stops giving to us, and we imitate His nature through our giving.

God's people in the Old Testament were under an obligation to give. God commanded them to give a tenth (tithe) of their incomes for the support of God's work. In fact, there was a second and third tithe, so the people were commanded to give much more than one-tenth of their incomes. However, as New Testament Christians who live under God's grace in Jesus, we are no longer obligated to tithe. As new covenant Christians, the motive for giving has changed from a command to give to giving cheerfully.

Are the Old Testament laws no longer relevant? Jesus said, *"Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them"* (Matthew 5:17). Jesus came to keep all of God's commandments perfectly. He paid the price for our forgiveness by taking the curse of the Law upon Himself, freeing us from the demands of the Law. In Jesus, we are free to serve God with pure hearts. Although we are free from the Law, we know that God wants the best for us, and His laws give us order and purpose.

As New Testament Christians, we live in God's grace. Secure in Christ's presence and love, we express our thanksgiving for who God is and what He has done for us through our giving. We also know that giving is God's will. Therefore, we have an obligation to give. The Apostle Paul wrote, *"So then, as we have opportunity, let us do good to everyone, and especially to those who are of the household of faith"* (Galatians 6:10). We willingly and freely embrace the Law to give knowing it is God's will for us that we serve Him by serving others and extend His kingdom through our generosity. We can conclude by saying that giving is a wonderful opportunity and also an obligation.

## Stewardship - Mission Support for 2020

As of January 1, 2020, Trinity will continue to designate a "Mission of the Month" for your prayers and financial support. Listed below are the 12 monthly missions selected. You can use a mission envelope that is in your envelope packet or pick one up from the pew racks or the usher stand at the back of the sanctuary to support the "Mission of the Month."

Each month we will support a different Mission as indicated below:

January	Gideon's
February	LCMS Joint Seminary Fund
March	Lutheran Hour — Local Radio Broadcast
April	Wellspring Lutheran Services
May	P.O.B.L.O. (People of the Book)
June	Here We Stand Campaign
July	Lutheran World Relief & Disaster Response (LCMS)
August	Adopt a Seminarian
September	Harbor Light Pregnancy & Information Center
October	Concordia University — Ann Arbor
November	F.I.S.H.
December	God's Children-Haiti (formerly Bon Samaritan) — Ann Hume

Stewardship Is...



Love in Action

If you are already supporting missions not listed, please continue to do so by clearly designating the name of that mission on the Mission Envelope.

--Bill Davis, Stewardship Chair

## TLCW NEWS

SHARE THE LOVE EVENT

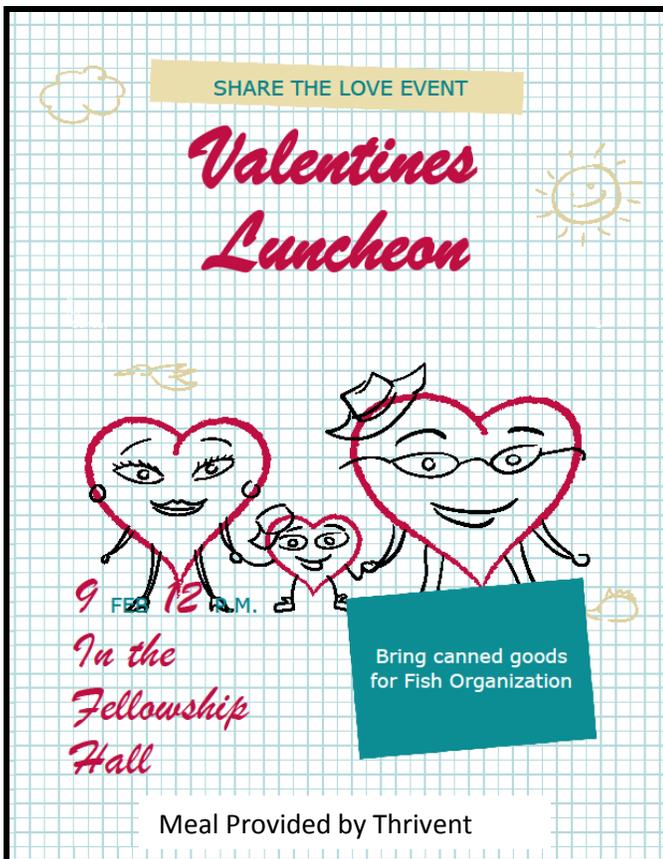
# Valentines Luncheon

9 FEB 12 11:00 A.M.

In the Fellowship Hall

Bring canned goods for Fish Organization

Meal Provided by Thrivent



### TLCW Make Pillowcase Dresses February 18<sup>th</sup> 11:00 a.m.

TLCW will be making pillowcase dresses for Lutheran World Relief. Sue Welther will have devotions.



All ladies are invited to attend TLCW monthly meetings which are normally held on the third Tuesday of each month at 11:00 a.m.

**Games – Games – Games** – the Fellowship Committee will be having board games and card games available to play after the Share the Love Event on Sunday, February 9<sup>th</sup> for those that wish to remain and play.



### Kitchen Clean-Up



A work bee to clean the kitchen and the fellowship hall will be set up soon. We need volunteers to clean cabinets, countertops, organize some cupboards, dust the fellowship hall cabinets, etc. If you can volunteer for any of these tasks, please call Henrietta Fortney at 739-5613.



- to all who helped take down Christmas decorations
- to Rodger Wenzel for cleaning and vacuuming church pews
- to all the Trustees for their efforts to keep our church clean
- to Chris Paul for teaching Sunday School
- to everyone that attended the Fun, Fellowship, Food, and Games event on January 18<sup>th</sup>
- to the counters who volunteer their time to count offerings and make bank deposits
- to our lay readers
- to the ladies that take care of the altar each week
- to anyone who helps out in any way at our church



## Lutheran Women's Missionary League

During the month of February, we encourage you to consider supporting a project that provides food to our future pastors and their families through the Food and Clothing Cooperative at Concordia Theological Seminary in Fort Wayne, Indiana. The goal is to raise \$10,000 for this project.

### **February 2020 Michigan District Mission Grant Bulletin Bytes #3 – Food for the Food and Clothing Cooperative of Concordia Theological Seminary, Ft Wayne, IN - \$10,000**

Our future pastors and church leaders are key to the future of the church. The Food and Clothing Cooperative provides critical support for these future leaders and their families as they prepare to serve God. The grant will allow the Cooperative to obtain perishable food supplies needed. For information on all grants, go to [www.lwmlmichigan.org/](http://www.lwmlmichigan.org/). Under Missions, select Grants.

The cost of an education for an individual attending one of our theological seminaries can range from \$50,000 - \$60,000 per year. While assistance is available and many students work, they need to focus on their studies to be the best leaders – and we want to support them in that! Many of them have families, and while it is common for a spouse to work it is not likely that they will be able to cover all their expenses in this way. The Fort Wayne Seminary may have 300 students in a school year, many with families who have given up a secure life. Families at the Fort Wayne location have an opportunity to go to the Food and Clothing Cooperative. Food and clothing donated to the cooperative allows for these families to access necessary supplies that they may not be able to obtain otherwise. For example, a wife may be entering the work force after time raising a family and need an appropriate wardrobe that is expensive to obtain. Families can also obtain food supplies, using their income to fund necessary expenses for housing and school.

Prayer: Dear Lord, please bless our future church leaders and bless our mite offerings that they may provide the support that enables them to serve. In Jesus name, Amen.



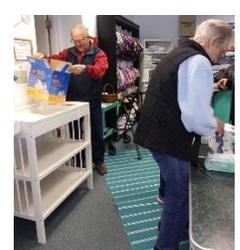
### **Bands & Balance Program**

We will be having a Bands & Balance Program here at the church on Monday and Thursday mornings at 9:30 a.m. during the month of February. The Program will continue through March if there is enough interest. If you have any questions, please call Joann Pancost or Kathy Azzam.

Balance exercises are a vital tool that often gets overlooked. Balance assists us in daily activities like picking something up off the floor, walking to meals, or even brushing our teeth.

### **Thrivent Action Team Community Service Project**

The Thrivent Action Team purchased diapers and delivered them to Harbor Light Pregnancy Center in East Tawas on January 20<sup>th</sup>. A wonderful community service project!





## Begins on Ash Wednesday – February 26<sup>th</sup>

Please plan on attending our Midweek Lenten Series beginning Ash Wednesday, February 26<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm  
Soup suppers will precede each Lenten Service beginning at 5:30 pm

### Lenten Series – Living among the Bible’s Trees:



February 26, 2020: Tree of the Knowledge of Good and Evil

March 4, 2020: Great Trees of Mamre near the Machpelah

March 11, 2020: Oak at Ophrah

March 18, 2020: Jesse’s Tree

March 25, 2020: Tree of the Lord’s Planting

April 1, 2020: Good Trees Bearing Good Fruit, Bad Trees Bearing Bad Fruit

### Lenten Soup Suppers

Lenten Soup Suppers will begin on Wednesday, March 4<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 p.m. TLCW is sponsoring the first soup supper.

The March 11<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup>, & 25<sup>th</sup> Soup Suppers will be congregation potlucks. Look for sign up sheets on the bulletin board in the fellowship hall.

The April 1<sup>st</sup> Soup Supper will be sponsored by the Trinity Church Council.



Chris Exnowski, Wayne Fortney, Dick Jones, Lou Kuhlmann,  
Bill Ruckel, David Thomas, Jr., and George Wright

#### Homebound:

Alice Dettmer – Medilodge  
Richard & Phyllis Fitzgerald  
Yvonne Kreuzwieser – Oscoda Fields

#### Military:

Jason Cooper  
Courtney & Karina Pierce (Army)  
Marc Stiller (U.S.A.F. – Sherman)  
Nathan Boettge (Marines – Fortney)



# Happy Anniversary

2/24 Joshua & Amber Foote

- 2/5 Robert Slater
- 2/10 Marc Alvarez
- 2/10 Johnathan Douglas
- 2/10 Katie Douglas
- 2/10 Kevin Gresens
- 2/10 Theodore White
- 2/10 Leslea Witter
- 2/12 Mike Seidel
- 2/12 Cynthia Slater
- 2/13 Lorraine Boike
- 2/13 Ron Dombrowski
- 2/17 Carolyn Lindhorst
- 2/18 Burt Rockwell
- 2/20 Shawn Ogden
- 2/22 George Moran
- 2/23 Melania Ludeña
- 2/23 Anna Roy
- 2/24 Mark Faught
- 2/24 Kenneth Pierce
- 2/25 Charles Krueger

Elders		
February 2		Ron Weidenfeller
February 9	Communion	Mitch Davis
February 16		Charlie Rainey
February 23	Communion	Roger Tack

Ushers	
February 2	Lou Kuhlmann Miriam Kuhlmann
February 9	Fred Rogel Bill Davis
February 16	Mike Hohf Kathy Azzam
February 23	Bruce Welther Mike Welther

### Funeral Committee January – February – March

Carol Wenzel, Chair – 724-6800  
 Joann Pancost  
 Carol Jones  
 Joyce Davis

Greeters	
February 2	Joyce & Bill Davis
February 9	Jonalee Engstrom
February 16	Susan Barnhart
February 23	Kathy Azzam

## Know the Elders

The Board of Elders concerns itself with the wellbeing and spiritual life of our congregation and pastor. Pastor Azzam and your Elders are happy and eager to hear from you!

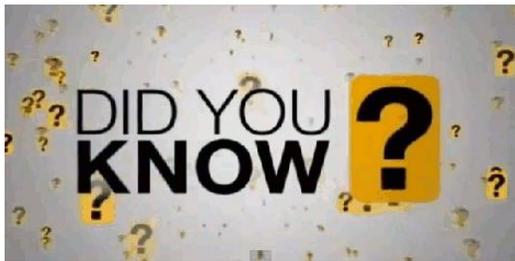
They may be reached at:

- Pastor Azzam - 739-4820
- Mitch Davis, Jr. - 989-820-1469
- Charlie Rainey - 724-6704
- Roger Tack - 989-293-8050
- Ron Weidenfeller - 724-7701
- Rodger Wenzel - 724-6800



### GREETERS NEEDED!

If you would be willing to serve as a greeter, there is a sign-up sheet posted on the bulletin board in the fellowship hall. There are only four names on the sign-up sheet. Please consider serving YOUR church this way.



# HUMOR

Every session of Congress begins with a prayer by a paid preacher, whose salary has been paid by the taxpayers since 1777.

The Book of Esther is the only book in the Bible that does not mention God's name.



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The whole church watched with nervous anticipation as the visitors sat where the Martins have sat for 42 years.

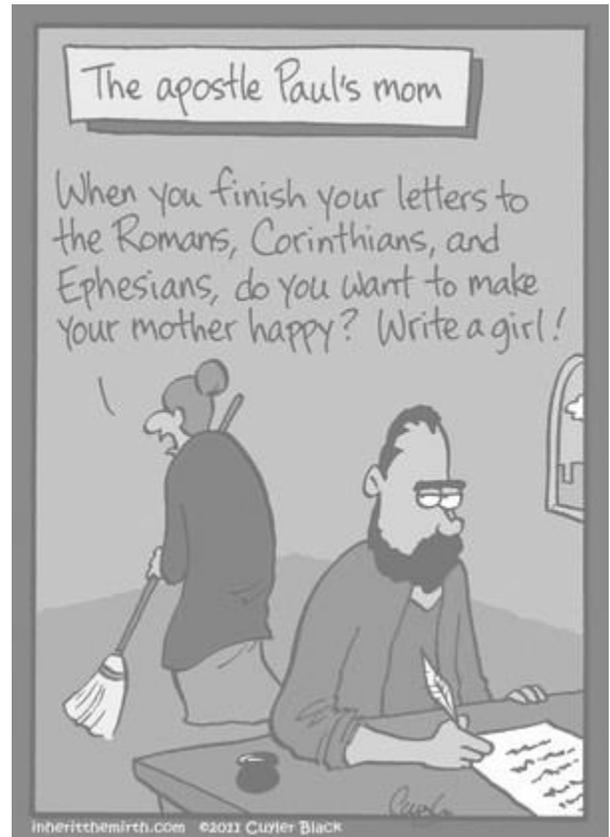
## QUIZ

1. What was the name of the first Christian stoned to death?
2. Who was the tax collector that climbed up a tree so he could see Jesus?
3. On what island was Paul shipwrecked as he made his way to Rome?

## DEADLINE



The deadline to submit articles for the March Newsletter is February 16, 2020



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### Winter Worship Schedule In Effect Through March 29<sup>th</sup>

- |            |                            |
|------------|----------------------------|
| 9:15 a.m.  | Bible Study                |
| 9:15 a.m.  | Sunday School              |
| 10:30 a.m. | Worship (one service only) |

Regular schedule will resume on April 5<sup>th</sup> with Worship services at 8:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.

- Answers to Quiz:
1. Stephen
  2. Zacchaeus
  3. Malta

# February 2020

## MITE CALENDAR

Michigan  
District



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26	27	28	29	30	31	1
<p><b>In February, consider the project to provide food to our future pastors and their families through the Food and Clothing Cooperative at Concordia Theological Seminary in Ft Wayne, IN - \$10,000. (#3)</b></p> <p><b>Dear Lord: Thank you for the blessing of the Word. In thanks for your blessings, we support them. Amen.</b></p>						
<b>2</b> Work with fellow Christians to build snowmen in front of church inviting the community to worship!	<b>3</b> Read I Tim 4:6 Mite box offering \$.50	<b>4</b> Learn about our synod's ministries for those in need. Mite box offering \$.50	<b>5</b> Pray for your pastor and his family. Mite box offering \$.50	<b>6</b> Spend time in Bible Study.	<b>7</b> Teach a youthful member of your family one trick of cooking. Mite box offering \$.50	<b>8</b> Make a treat for those in a homeless shelter. Include Mustard Seeds.
<b>9</b> Provide child care for date night for a fellow married couple with children.	<b>10</b> Read I Tim 4: 14-16 Mite box offering \$.50	<b>11</b> Make a list of careers in ministry for youth. Mite box offering \$.50	<b>12</b> Pray for churches in need of a pastor. Mite box offering \$.50	<b>13</b> Spend time in Bible Study.	<b>14</b> Make a dish you seldom serve to share Mite box offering \$.50	<b>15</b> Provide a gift of food to a Concordia student. Include a Mustard Seed.
<b>16</b> Make cards with texture for shut-ins with vision problems.	<b>17</b> <b>Presidents' Day</b> Read I Tim 6: 3-8 Mite box offering \$.50	<b>18</b> Learn about typical food allergies today. Mite box offering \$.50	<b>19</b> Pray for our Christian youth, that they consider God's plan for their lives. Mite box offering \$.50	<b>20</b> Spend time in Bible Study.	<b>21</b> Make a specialty beverage and share. Mite box offering \$.50	<b>22</b> Donate food to the Fort Wayne Coop.
<b>23</b> Make homemade fragrant tea or flavored hot chocolate packets for shut-ins.	<b>24</b> Read II Tim 4: 2-5 Mite box offering \$.50	<b>25</b> Celebrate Dental Health Month for Children; learn foods good for teeth Mite box offering \$.50	<b>26</b> Pray for teachers of future pastors and leaders, that wisdom from God is given. Mite box offering \$.50	<b>27</b> Spend time in Bible Study.	<b>28</b> Share a special recipe with a family member. Mite box offering \$.50	<b>29</b> Provide a gift of baby food for the families at Concordia through the Fort Wayne Coop.

# Trinity Lutheran Church Calendar

# February 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>2</b> 9:15 am - Adult Bible Class 9:15 am - Sunday School 10:30 am - Worship  1-3 p.m. - Bell Choir Practice	<b>3</b> 9:30 a.m. - Bands & Balance	<b>4</b> 8 am - Men's Bible Class 9:30 am - Ladies Bible Class 10-12 Noon - P.N. Office Hours 10:30 am - Crafts & Quilts	<b>5</b> 7 pm - Adult Bible Class	<b>6</b> 9:30 a.m. - Bands & Balance 10 am - Bible Class	<b>7</b> <i>Office Closed</i>	<b>8</b>
<b>Mite Box Sunday</b> <b>9</b> 9:15 am - Adult Bible Class 9:15 am - Sunday School 10:30 am - Worship & Communion 11:45 a.m. - Share the Love Luncheon Games following Luncheon 1-3 p.m. Bell Choir Practice	<b>10</b> 9:30 a.m. - Bands & Balance	<b>11</b> 8 am - Men's Bible Class 9:30 am - Ladies Bible Class 10:30 am - Crafts & Quilts	<b>12</b> 7 pm - Adult Bible Class	<b>13</b> 9:30 a.m. - Bands & Balance 10 am - Bible Class  7 pm - Church Council Meeting	<b>14</b> <i>Office Closed</i>	<b>15</b>
<b>16</b> 9:15 am - Adult Bible Class 9:15 am - Sunday School 10:30 am - Worship  Bell Choir plays prelude music	<b>17</b> 9:30 a.m. - Bands & Balance	<b>18</b> 8 am - Men's Bible Class 9:30 am - Ladies Bible Class 10 - 12 Noon - P.N. Office Hours 10:30 am - Crafts & Quilts 11 am - TL W meeting - make pillow dresses	<b>19</b> 7 pm - Adult Bible Class	<b>20</b> 9:30 a.m. - Bands & Balance 10 am - Bible Class	<b>21</b> <i>Office Closed</i>	<b>22</b>
<b>DEADLINE FOR MARCH NEWSLETTER</b> <b>23</b> 9:15 am - Adult Bible Class 9:15 am - Sunday School 10:30 am - Worship & Communion 1-3 p.m. - Bell Choir Practice	<b>24</b> 9:30 a.m. - Bands & Balance	<b>25</b> 8 am - Men's Bible Class 9:30 am - Ladies Bible Class 10:30 am - Crafts & Quilts  Pastor at Winkler Conference in Gladwin	<b>26</b> 7 pm - Ash Wednesday Service	<b>27</b> 9:30 a.m. - Bands & Balance 10 am - Bible Class	<b>28</b> <i>Office Closed</i>	<b>29</b>
<p>Secretary's Hours: Mondays &amp; Thurs. 9 am - 2 pm                      Pastor's Hours: Mon., Tues., Wed., Thur. 8:30 am - 12:30 pm                      Church Ph#: 739-9292                      Pastor's Home Ph#: 739-4820 (anytime, day or night)                      *P.N.(Parish Nurse) Ph#: 724-6800</p>						

