

Trinity **SONRISE** News



Trinity Lutheran Church

on the Sunrise Side of Michigan

2020

A MESSAGE FROM PASTOR AZZAM

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

If you pick up this newsletter on the 23rd, it will be just 3 days before Ash Wednesday the first day of Lent. We say OF Lent, because, unlike Advent, which counts Sundays before Christmas, the season of Lent excludes Sundays. Lasting 40 days before Easter (excluding Sundays), the first day of Lent falls on a Wednesday. It begins a 40 day fast that had been practiced since the early days of Christendom recognizing the 40 days Jesus spent in the wilderness being tempted by the devil. The Lenten observance was officially recognized by the Nicene Fathers in 325 AD and has been recognized throughout most of the Christian Church in various forms since.

The original fast allowed for only one meal a day and excluded the eating of any meat, fish, or eggs! During this fast the confirmed were to repent their sinfulness so as to greater appreciate the sacrifice of Jesus on the cross for their sins on Good Friday. New converts and the unbaptized were instructed in the faith and baptisms and confirmations took place after Easter. Since weddings were times of celebration, even the solemnization of marriage was postponed until after Lent was concluded. Who can feast during a fast?

Today, however, in the Lutheran Church, fasting is purely an optional practice. One can deny oneself some food, pastry, or pleasure and exchange it for reflection, prayer, or even service. I know someone who not only gives up something for Lent but takes on a challenge instead to serve others in one way or another. You see, Christ gave up being equal to the Father, and became a human being. While on earth, though tempted like us in every way, he did not sin. And then gave up his life for the sins of the whole world. He took on our sin. He took on our burdens, he took on our sorrow, so that we might receive his righteousness...the righteousness of God that is received by faith in Him, that we might gain heaven.

Whatever you choose to give up or take on, it is my prayer that you use this time to draw closer to God. For he promises, as you draw closer to him, he draws closer to you. With his Spirit, who calls you through the Word and Sacrament, he comes to you in order that you might live in him and with him forever. God bless you these 40 days and always.

Rev. Timothy Azzam

You are invited to attend Lenten worship services at 7:00 p.m.

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



STEWARDSHIP

Giving God Pleasing Gifts

Scripture provides us with many examples of faithful people, who by God's grace, made God-pleasing gifts. A short list of some of those givers is as follows: the Poor Widow, who gave her last two coins (Luke 21:1-4), Zacchaeus, who gave half of all his money to the poor (Luke 19:1-4), Mary, who anointed Jesus with an alabaster flask of pure nard, (Mark 14:3-9), and the Macedonians, who gave beyond their ability (2 Corinthians 8:1-5).

Stewardship Is...



Love in Action

We can also cite the faithful Philippians who gave gifts to the Apostle Paul. Paul had spent time with the people in Philippi sharing the Gospel. He loved them, and they loved him as a brother in the Lord. Paul's thank you for their gifts is found in his letter to the church in Philippi. Their financial gifts to him expressed their love and gratitude for him and his ministry among them. They had concern for his physical welfare and for his ongoing ministry of sharing the Gospel.

When Paul received the gift from the Philippians, he *"rejoice[d] greatly in the Lord..."* (Philippians 4:10 NIV). He was lavish in his thanks. The church in Philippi was the only congregation to send financial support for Paul. What a joyful surprise it must have been for Paul to receive their support especially during his time of need while he was in prison in Rome. Paul was deeply grateful for the Philippians for their compassion and for their gifts. He commended their desire *"to share"* his troubles. He knew that the Philippians who decided to give gifts were people who felt Paul's afflictions as if they were their own.

Even though the Philippians were poor because of economic distress caused by droughts, their personal compassion could not stop them from giving. They put Paul's needs ahead of their wants. Their giving demonstrated loving and giving hearts. We are told that the Philippians gave multiple gifts. As generous as their gifts to him were, Paul reminded the people in Philippi that the important thing about any gift is not the gift itself but the heart of the giver. The people in Philippi demonstrated compassionate hearts and generous giving spirits. Their gift was a *"fragrant offering, a sacrifice acceptable and pleasing to God"* (Philippians 4:18). May God grant us compassionate and generous spirits as well. Thanks be to God for giving us His grace, so we can be faithful givers.

--Bill Davis, Stewardship Chair



STEWARDSHIP - Mission Support March Mission of the Month Lutheran Hour – Local Broadcast

You can use a mission envelope that can be found in your envelope packet or pick one up from the ushers stand at the back of the sanctuary to support the "Mission of the Month". If you already support a mission, please continue to do so by designating that particular mission by name on a Mission envelope.

~ Bill Davis



- To all who helped with the Share Our Love Project – we collected over 300 food items to donate to F.I.S.H.
- To Sue Pisarski & Carol Wenzel for the yummy desserts
- To Pastor & Kathy for delivering the food to F.I.S.H. and for delivering the leftover food to the Mission
- To Rodger Wenzel for all his trustee work
- To Ron Weidenfeller for getting doors replaced
- To Chris Paul for volunteering to run Vacation Bible School
- To Dave Wagner for all his snacks for Bible study

Why Do We Do That?

Pastor's Vestments

The use of traditional vestments by Lutheran pastors helps to draw attention to their unique role in a service of worship rather than drawing attention to themselves as individuals. His expensive or cheap suit, flashy tie, etc., are covered over by the symbols of his office.



- **Dark shirt:** Part of a pastor's "uniform" is the dark shirt called a clerical. It reminds the pastor and those who see him that he is a sinner who needs Jesus too—just like everyone else.
- **White square:** The "backward collar" is called a clerical collar. The clerical collar that the pastor wears on his shirt shows a little square of white right over his throat, where his voice comes from. This shows that the words he shares are not his own sinful, human words, but the words of God from the Bible: clean and pure.

• **White robe:** When the pastor puts the white robe over his black shirt, it symbolizes that his sin is covered by the pure glory of God. The robe, which is called an *alb*, covers up the man so that we think about God's work when we see our pastor. It covers the black sin and shows the mercy and grace of Jesus. It is often worn with a rope belt called a cincture. Elders and acolytes might wear white robes when they help out in the service too. This helps us not to focus on the people themselves but the gifts of salvation and righteousness that God gives us all.



• **Colorful cloth:** The colored band of cloth a pastor wears around his shoulders is called a *stole*. It is usually the same color as the altar cloth and paraments in the church as the Church Year changes. This stole, placed on a pastor at his ordination, is a symbolic yoke – like that worn by oxen or other draft animals – to indicate that he carries the responsibility for the spiritual care of the congregation.

No matter which pastor is wearing the uniform, all LCMS pastors share the same true words of God. We can go to them to hear the comfort of our Lord.



Bands & Balance Program

The Bands & Balance class at the church on Monday and

Thursday mornings at 9:30 a.m. will continue through March. Everyone is welcome to attend. If you have any questions, please call Joann Pancost or Kathy Azzam.

Remember, 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.



Potluck and Games Sunday, March 15th after worship service

Stay after the worship service to enjoy a fun afternoon of food, fellowship, and games. Bring a dish to pass. Drinks and bread will be provided as well as cards and games.

If you have any questions, call Joann Pancost or Kathy Azzam.





Each year on Ash Wednesday, the first day of Lent, the liturgy of the Church calls us to begin “a holy season of prayerful and penitential reflection,” when “our attention is especially directed to the holy sufferings and death of our Lord Jesus Christ.”

The days and weeks of Lent call us to *keep the focus* of our lives of faith on Jesus, our Lord, and to learn more of Him and His loving plan of salvation for us. One of the classic hymn stanzas of the Lutheran church portrays that proper focus in this petition to the Lord:

*On my heart imprint Your image,
Blessed Jesus, King of grace,
That life's riches, cares, and pleasures
Never may Your work erase;
Let the clear inscription be:
Jesus, crucified for me,
Is my life, my hope's foundation,
And my glory and salvation!*

—LSB 422, LW 100, TLH 17

Lenten Series – Living among the Bible's Trees:

We invite you to attend our Lenten worship services at 7:00 p.m. on the following dates:



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 4th at 5:30 p.m. TLCW is sponsoring the first soup supper.



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

The April 1st Soup Supper will be sponsored by the Church Council.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR SERVING GOD'S CHURCH GATHERED AT TRINITY

The Constitution of our Trinity Lutheran in article 2 states the purpose of our congregation:



The purpose of this congregation shall be to seek the honor and Glory of God, to carry out His will, to show the unity of our faith in Jesus Christ as God and Savior, to spread the Kingdom of God, by the administration of the sacraments, and by the religious instructions of all its members according to the confessional standard of the Evangelical Lutheran Church.

Our Constitution and Bylaws provides a number of opportunities to carry out this purpose.

Auditing Committee –review the congregation's financial records for the fiscal year 2018-2019.

Nominating Committee – find people for the elective offices of our church for election at the congregational meeting in June.

Currently the following positions of our congregation and Church Council are open or up for election at the June meeting:

Vice-President – chair the Finance Committee for the preparation of the annual budget and serve in the absence of the President.

Secretary – take and maintain minutes from congregational and Church Council meetings.

Treasurer – take care of the financial records of the congregation. Our current treasurer, Bradd Chisholm, has served several terms and is ready to hand off to the next treasurer. We would like to get a replacement in place for training in the months ahead.

Financial Secretary – responsible for the recording of gifts and offerings to the congregation

Chairperson of Parish Education – responsible for our growth and nurture as Christians through various educational opportunities.

Chairperson of Social Ministry – responsible to find ways to help those in need in our congregation and community.

There are also many opportunities to serve as board or task force members.

Please consider serving God and His Church. If you have any questions, please speak with Dave Wagner, Pastor Azzam, or a member of the Church Council.

Dave Wagner, President

Bradd Chisholm, Treasurer

Mitch Davis, Chairperson – Board of Elders

Ron Weidenfeller, Chairperson – Board of Evangelism

Pastor Azzam

Henrietta Fortney, Secretary

Joan Chisholm, Financial Secretary

Rodger Wenzel, Chairperson – Board of Trustees

Bill Davis, Chairperson – Board of Stewardship



We are in need of ushers starting in April. Please see Henrie or Wayne to sign up. It is not difficult, and you would serve approximately every six weeks.

We also need greeters to help welcome worshipers on Sunday mornings. It is a great way to get to know your fellow worshipers! There is a sign-up sheet posted on the bulletin board in the fellowship hall.

PLEASE PRAYERFULLY CONSIDER SERVING YOUR CHURCH

TLCW

Trinity Lutheran Church Women 2019 Financial Report

In 2019, TLCW was again blessed with a financially successful garage sale in June and a successful bazaar in November. Below is the percentage division of the profits from these two events, as well as distribution to 2020 missions and Trinity local missions.

Total funds collected in 2019 to be disbursed			\$5,365.10
Missions	\$2,682.55	(50%)	
Trinity Local Missions	2,146.04	(40%)	
Convention	536.51	(10%)	

It was recommended and voted that we take \$1,000 from the Funeral Fund and put it to missions.

The following donations were approved at the January 2020 meeting of Trinity Lutheran Church Women.

2020 Missions - \$3,726.33

(\$2,682.55 + \$43.78 + \$1,000.00)

2020 Trinity Local Missions - \$2,146.04

Lutheran Bible Translators	\$ 500.00	Harbor Lights Pregnancy Center	\$ 400.00
Heifer International	500.00	Oscoda BackPack Program (\$100 per quarter)	400.00
Global Health Ministries	100.00	Alcona BackPack Program	400.00
Lamp	300.00	Hope Shores Alliance Women's Shelter	200.00
Lutheran Heritage Found.	300.00	Homeless Shelter	300.00
Orphan Grain Train (MI)	300.00	F.I.S.H. Oscoda	<u>300.00</u>
POBLO (Campus Ministry)	200.00		
Wellspring (NE MI)	400.00		
Lutheran World Relief	<u>300.00</u>		
TOTAL	\$2,900.00		\$2,000.00

All women are invited to attend our meeting held the third Tuesday of each month. For the March 17th meeting you are asked to bring a green food item to share for our potluck. We will be discussing bazaar plans and setting up for the Prayer Service Trinity is hosting on March 19th.

LWML TIMBERLINE ZONE Prayer Service

March 19, 2020
Trinity Lutheran Church



9:00 – 10:00 a.m. – Breakfast
10:00-11:00 – Prayer Service

Thursday, March 19th 2020 LWML Prayer Service Living in Love, Bearing Fruit

Authored by The Rev. Dr. Gregory S. Walton, President of the LCMS Florida-Georgia District.

Christians are saved to serve. We are chosen and called to bear fruit for Jesus. We do this as we live in His love, not only in our home or church, but in the world, where it is often more difficult to love others. We are empowered by the love that Jesus showed us in His sacrificial death on the cross so that we would have life. Now we are blessed to live in His love, bearing much fruit for His sake. May this prayer service help us take time to reflect on His love for us, our love for Him, and how the fruit we bear is a result of living in His love.

You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit and that your fruit should abide, so that whatever you ask the Father in my name, he may give it to you. (John 15:16)

LWML

March 2020 Michigan District Mission Grant Bulletin Bytes

#9 – Lutheran Books for Missionaries around the World (Lutheran Heritage Foundation) \$15,000

Each year in the fall we celebrate the Reformation, at which time the Bible was made available to all Christians. The invention of the printing press and the translation of the Bible into everyday language was the gift enabling all to read about His Word and learn about eh Lord, and books are critical support for missionary efforts. During March, national reading month, we focus on the opportunity to support the Great Commission through this grant that provides Lutheran books for missionaries around the world. For information on all grants, go to www.lwmlmichigan.org/. Under Missions, select Grants.

Prayer: Dear Lord, please bless the efforts of those supporting the Great Commission by serving as missionaries and translators, and bless our mite offerings that they may enable their work. In Jesus name, Amen



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

Homebound:

Alice Dettmer – Medilodge
Richard & Phyllis Fitzgerald

Military:

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



It pleased the Lord to call to her eternal rest the soul of Vonne Lee Kreuzwieser on Tuesday, February 18, 2020. A memorial service was held at Trinity on Friday, February 21, 2020. Please keep Arnie, Nancy, and the rest of her family in your prayers.

Thrivent Action Team Share the Love Luncheon - February 9, 2020

Thanks to the Thrivent Action Team and Henrietta Fortney's cooking, we enjoyed a delicious meal and wonderful fellowship on Sunday, February 9th. All the food on the tables in the pictures below was collected and packed for delivery to F.I.S.H. Thank you to everyone who made this project such a success! The leftover food from the luncheon was taken to the homeless shelter – Sharing even more love!



Let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.

MATTHEW 5:16





- 3/2 Jerry Agtergaele
- 3/4 Kristen Krahnke
- 3/8 Melissa Ludeña
- 3/9 Sylvester Peca
- 3/10 Nancy Kerentoff
- 3/11 Alycia Dettmer
- 3/12 Margaret Davis
- 3/12 Hunter Gerow
- 3/12 Joan Peacock
- 3/15 Charles Urquhart
- 3/17 Randy Rourke
- 3/18 Bradley Curley
- 3/18 Susan Jones
- 3/20 Karen Dettmer
- 3/23 Dick Audritsh
- 3/23 Tristan Cooper
- 3/26 Karen Abee
- 3/27 Janet Kreuger
- 3/28 Evan Agtergaele
- 3/29 Jason Ogden
- 3/30 Stacey Curley
- 3/30 Evan Dennis



Funeral Committee
January – February - March
 Carol Wenzel, Chair - 724-6800
 Joann Pancost
 Carol Jones
 Joyce Davis

Greeters	
March 1	Jonalee Engstrom
March 8	Joyce Davis
March 15	Susan Barnhart
March 22	Kathy Azzam
March 29	Bill Davis



- 3/8 Lee & Ann Dawley
- 3/10 Tim & Kathy Azzam
- 3/16 Dick & Judy Audritsh
- 3/17 Robert & Cynthia Slater
- 3/20 Theodore & Karen White
- 3/26 Jerry & Jennifer Agtergaele

Elders		
March 1		Ron Weidenfeller
March 8	Communion	Roger Tack
March 15		Charlie Rainey
March 22	Communion	Rodger Wenzel
March 29	Communion	Mitch Davis

Ushers	
March 1	Fred Rogel Bill Davis
March 8	Lou Kuhlmann Miriam Kuhlmann
March 15	Greg Pancost Kathy Azzam
March 22	Henrietta Fortney Bruce Welther
March 29	Ann Dawley Lee Dawley

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

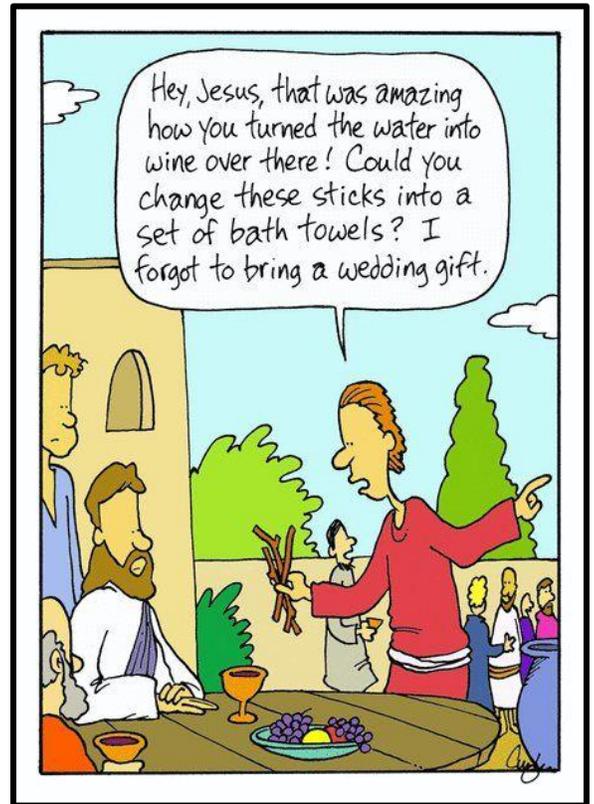


HUMOR

→ Jesus' final supper was so important, Leonardo da Vinci depicted the scene in his famous painting titled "The Last Supper." The painting itself is huge – 15 feet by 29 feet.

→ The word Lent is derived from the Anglo-Saxon word *lencten*, meaning "Spring".

→ Unless food is mixed with saliva you can't taste it.



1. Where do the ashes used on Ash Wednesday come from?
2. How many actual days are in Lent?
3. How much did Judas Iscariot receive for betraying Jesus Christ?



NewsLetter DEADLINE

The deadline to submit articles for the April Newsletter is March 15, 2020.

Daylight Savings Time Begins March 8th
Remember to set your clocks **AHEAD** one hour

- Winter Worship Schedule In Effect Through March 29th**
- 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 5th with Worship services at 8:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.

- Answers to Quiz:
1. The burning of last year's palms.
 2. Forty-six – Sundays are not counted.
 3. 30 pieces of silver.