

Trinity SONRISE News



Trinity Lutheran Church

on the Sunrise Side of Michigan

2021

A MESSAGE FROM PASTOR AZZAM

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

By the time you receive this letter, very likely you will have already put away your Easter decorations. But did you know that in the church year, Easter is a season lasting from the time of Jesus' resurrection to and including his ascension into heaven. There are 7 Sundays of Easter including Easter day, and each one has a name. The names are taken from the first word of the Introit, or entry verse historically assigned to each day. (In Latin of course)

The First Sunday after Easter is "Quasimodogeniti" which means "As newborn babies."

The Second Sunday after Easter is "Misericordias Domini," "The Goodness of the Lord."

The Third: "Jubilate" "Make a Joyful Noise"

The Fourth: "Cantate" "Sing ye"

The Fifth: "Rogate" "Declare ye this"

(This is often a Sunday dedicated to soil conservation and farming)

The Sixth: "Exaudi" or "Listen when I Cry out"

Since Ascension is 40 days after Easter, it does not fall on a Sunday, but in the Sixth week.

You may ask, I need to know this...why? Because even though the decorations get put away until next year, the celebration of Christ's resurrection continues, particularly from the time he rose from the dead until he ascended into heaven. So, we celebrate Easter every Sunday. This is why the Church worships on every first day of the week rather than on the seventh, or the Sabbath. Though the Sabbath falls on the seventh day, Jesus perfect life and obedience brought about the Sabbath's fulfillment. The children of Israel were to remember the Sabbath in order to remember how God created the world in six days and rested on the seventh. All the world was to rest on the seventh day to acknowledge who it was who created them and cares for them. The New Testament church, however, remembers the new creation. Christ is risen from the dead so that all who have been baptized into his name have put on his death and resurrection and are therefore new creatures. So, by worshipping on the first day of the week we remember that God also redeemed us and recreated us, that we might remain with him in the resurrection of all flesh.

Jesus' abolishing of the Sabbath did not put an end to our need to worship God, instead our worshipping on the first day of the week ties us to the first believers who broke bread on every week following Easter.

Additionally, the church, by Christ own definition is His Body, each of us a part in it. As such, it follows that the whole church should be at worship as a body, corporately. This is why the writer of Hebrews tells us we should not give up the habit of worshipping together as others have. The term, Corporate Worship, is simply another way of saying how the Body of Christ worships. Here is where the words of eternal life are spoken and celebrated. It is where infants are brought into the loving arms of Jesus through the waters of Holy Baptism and where Christ's very body and blood are given for the remission of sins. The words of our Lord's absolution and benediction are uttered here every service along with prayers, petitions, thanksgiving and supplications for any who desire them. If you have put away your Easter decorations, that is ok. The Season of Easter continues. Let the celebration continue!

Yours in His Service – Rev. Timothy Azzam

Coronavirus (COVID-19) Funeral Assistance

The COVID-19 pandemic has brought overwhelming grief to many families. At FEMA, our mission is to help people before, during and after disasters. We are dedicated to helping ease some of the financial stress and burden caused by the virus.

FEMA is providing financial assistance for COVID-19-related funeral expenses incurred after January 20, 2020.



To be eligible for funeral assistance, you must meet these conditions:

- The death must have occurred in the United States, including the U.S. territories, and the District of Columbia.
- The death certificate must indicate the death was attributed to or caused by COVID-19.
- The applicant must be a U.S. citizen, non-citizen national or qualified alien who incurred funeral expenses after January 20, 2020.
- There is no requirement for the deceased person to have been a U.S. citizen, non-citizen national or qualified alien.

Which expenses will qualify for reimbursement?

Examples of eligible expenses for funeral services and interment or cremation may include, but not limited to:

- Transportation for up to two people to identify the deceased individual
- The transfer of remains, a casket or urn
- A burial plot or cremation niche
- A marker or headstone
- Clergy or officiant services
- The arrangement of a funeral ceremony
- The use of funeral home equipment or staff
- Cremation or interment costs
- Costs associated with producing multiple death certificates

What information do I need to provide to FEMA?

Please have the following information before contacting FEMA to apply:

- Your name, social security number, date of birth, mailing address and contact phone numbers.
- The name, social security number and date of birth for each deceased individual.
- The location or address where the deceased individual passed away.
- Documentation and receipts for any assistance already received from other sources, including burial or funeral insurance, donations, voluntary agencies, other government programs or non-profit organizations.
- If you and another person both incurred funeral expenses for the same deceased individual(s), you can also provide that person as a co-applicant – include their name, social security number and date of birth on the application.

HOW DO I APPLY FOR THIS ASSISTANCE?

Call FEMA's COVID-19 Funeral Assistance Helpline at
1-844-684-6333
(TTY: 800-462-7585)
from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. ET,
Monday – Friday and begin the
application process.

For fastest service following your application, you can begin submitting documentation online through
[Disasterassistance.gov](https://disasterassistance.gov),
by fax 855-261-3452.

Documents may also be mailed to:
COVID-19 Funeral Assistance
P.O. Box 10001
Hyattsville, MD 20782

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

You can also visit us online at
[FEMA.gov/funeral-assistance/faq](https://fema.gov/funeral-assistance/faq).
Information is provided in several
languages both by telephone and
the website.



FEMA

STEWARDSHIP

Participants in Sharing God's Love

Isn't it wonderful and amazing that in spite of who we are God loves us! God doesn't just love us when we get our spiritual lives all tidied up. He doesn't just love us when we get things figured out. God brings us into His love. We may think that we are outside His boundary or that our sins are too big for God to handle. Not so! God loves us and meets us at our point of need, and He enables us to be part of His plan to bring love into this world.

Because God is love, we can love. God's Word tells us that we are not only to *"love in word or talk but in deed and in truth"* (1 John 3:18). The love that God has for us should prompt us to go out into this world to share love through our words and deeds. The Apostle John tells us that we are to love one another *"just as He has commanded us"* (1 John 3:23).

Loving others is challenging because some people seem impossible to love. We may ask, "Do I have to love him or her?" We should not be surprised that there are many moments and days when we ourselves are not so loveable. We can be hard to love.

In Genesis 1, we are told that God created man in His image. Even though that image was lost, God still seeks us. He knows that we are sinners and don't love as we should; that is why He sent His Son into this world. The love of God is found in Jesus. From the Apostle John we read, *"By this we know love, that He laid down His life for us, and we ought to lay down our lives for the brothers"* (1 John 3:16). God's love is revealed in the flesh and blood of Jesus. In the same way, Jesus wants us to use our lives—to lay down our lives—that our brothers and sisters might be blessed and saved. Through faith, we are able to love others because *"love is from God"* (1 John 4:7).

Filled with God's love, we are prompted to share our time and financial resources with others. With all the blessings that God gives to us, we have the opportunity to share with others. Our blessings are to be used to help our neighbors in need. In John's words, *"But, if anyone has the world's goods and sees his brother in need, yet closes his heart against him, how does God's love abide in him?"* (1 John 3:17). May God's love within us overflow through us to others.

--Bill Davis, Stewardship Chair

**FILLED WITH THE HOLY
SPIRIT, WE REFLECT GOD'S
LOVE TO OTHERS.**

"For this is the message that you have
Heard from the beginning, that we should
Love one another" (1 John 3:11).



May Mission of the Month P.O.B.L.O.

POBLO (People of the Book Lutheran Outreach) International Ministries is a mission movement which trains and sends ethnic missionaries to minister in partnership with congregations desiring to bring the Gospel of Jesus Christ to new Americans. POBLO has trained and sent over 100 ethnic missionaries to work in the U.S. and foreign mission fields since it began in 1993. POBLO workers are also gifted to share Christ with new Americans in their own language. All ministries are carried out through one-on-one relationships which are often begun through human care outreach. POBLO's human care outreach programs include English classes, citizenship classes, sewing classes, student tutoring, refugee resettlement, and clothing, food, and furniture distribution. Hospitality and friendship are powerful expressions of Christ's love which underlie the entire ministry. Love is the basis through which American and ethnic Christians develop relationships of trust so that they can share the Gospel naturally with their ethnic neighbors.

You can use a mission envelope that can be found in your envelope packet. If you already support a mission, please continue to do so by designating that particular mission by name on a Mission envelope.



In Our Prayers



Joan Abney, Eugene Azzam, Ella Jean Durfee,
Wayne Fortney, Shirley Frink, Chris Gresens,
Ron Keiser, Elmira Pruitt, and Bill Ruckel

Homebound:

Alice Dettmer – Medilodge
Richard Fitzgerald
(Oscoda Senior Condos)

Military:

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

happy
Birthday!

Pastor Azzam Turns 65 Years Old on May 20th

A few years after Pastor and Kathy accepted the call at Trinity, the congregation celebrated Pastor's 50th birthday with a surprise party. Pastor Azzam is reaching another milestone this year. On May 20th he will turn 65 years old. Due to Covid-19 restrictions, a party or a birthday cake is not possible. We thought about having an outdoor celebration, but if the weather did not cooperate, we could not move it inside.

We would like to suggest a congregational collection for Pastor's 65th birthday. If you wish to donate, please put your donation in a envelope labeled "Pastor's Birthday Gift" and place it in the offering box at the back of the church on or before Sunday, May 16th.

If you prefer to help Pastor celebrate this milestone in your own way, here are a few suggestions to show him you care and wish him god's blessings:

- A birthday card
- A handwritten note
- A phone call or text
- A gift card to a restaurant, coffee shop, etc.
- A homemade gift basket containing his favorite treats
- A prayer that God would bless him on his birthday and everyday



Thank you for helping to make Pastor's 65th birthday a memorable one during this pandemic!



**May 30th through
September 5th**

Worship Services Times
8:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.

Bible Study
9:15 a.m.

Bible Study Opportunities



- Sunday mornings at 9:15 a.m. – Please let us know if you plan to attend when you call in for worship.
- Tuesday Morning Men's Bible Study at Burger King 8:00 a.m.
- Tuesday Morning Women's Bible Study meets from 9:15-10:30 a.m. via Zoom – For more information contact Ruth Golm at (989) 724-5679.
- Thursday Morning Bible Study at 10:00 a.m. – In-person in Sunday School wing. Please use the side entrance.

BABY BOTTLE BONANZA FUND RAISER



Beginning on Mother's Day, May 9th, you will see a basket of empty baby bottles in the entry hall. Please take one home to fill with your loose change (or bills - or checks!) and return it by Father's Day on June 20th. The **Harbor Lights Pregnancy and Information Center** in East Tawas needs your help and will be grateful for any contribution you can make. All services of the Center are free to clients, both mothers and fathers. The Center is supported entirely by contributions from friends and supporters in the community. It is fitting that we use this time between two important holidays to assist Harbor Lights in providing education and supplies to young parents and families in our community.

Harbor Lights hopes to build a strong base of support through regular, pledged contributions so that it can make plans based on a known, projected budget. If you wish to be a regular supporter of the Center, you can do so by going to the website, <https://www.pregnancyhelpandsupport.org>. Click on "Donate" and follow the instructions. The mailing address is 310 Newman St., E. Tawas, MI, 48730. You can also contribute through Paypal. For more information on making your contribution automatic through your bank, call the Center at 989-305-6308. Hours are Wednesday 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and Thursday 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. You are welcome to stop in for a tour at 310 Newman St., just a few doors east of the Post Office. Thrivent members – remember that you can allocate your Choice Dollars to the Harbor Lights Pregnancy and Information Center.

Volunteers at the Center are also needed. If you can spare a few hours of your time once a week to help, please call the Center, stop in during the hours listed above, or speak to Miriam Kuhlmann. It's rewarding work saving babies!



Update on Kesny St. Louis and Mighty Grace Ministries

You may remember Kesny St. Louis, the boy from Haiti that fell into a cooking fire where he lost both of his arms. He was in the hospital in St. Nicholas for six months where he experienced conversion and accepted Jesus Christ as his personal Savior. That is where he met Ann Hume, who brought him to the U.S. for better medical treatment, adopted him and helped him with his education. Kesny attended Trinity Lutheran here in Oscoda on several occasions. Kesny graduated from Moody Bible Institute with a BA in Pastoral Studies and Theology, and from Wheaton College with an MA in Christian Formation and Theology. In 2012 Kesny founded Mighty Grace Ministries.

Kesny returned to Haiti where he has worked to bring people to Christ. Kesny, along with another pastor, work with three churches. Kesny preaches at the church in Lagrange, which is growing fast. Five people were recently baptized. Each week they hold a Bible study, two services, and one prayer night. In addition to Sundays, they meet with youth and children twice a week.

As their churches grow, they find they are in need of chairs, Bibles, hymnals, clothes – especially church clothing, aids in evangelism, and a microphone and speakers. They are also looking for a wedding dress that the church can loan to couples that cannot afford one.

Mighty Grace Ministries has not yet reached its main objective of opening a children's home. Fighting poverty and raising a godly generation can change Haiti and the world for Christ. They found a half-acre of land that the owner is willing to sell for \$30,000! Land is very expensive in Haiti. They prayed at the land, believing that God will provide.

Kesny asks for prayers

- * for their churches, that God would be glorified, and the people ministered to
- * for the converts, that God will keep them alive and well, and protect them from the evil one
- * for the members who want to get married that God will provide a way
- * for the leaders and me
- * that God will open a door to purchase the land

Mighty Grace Ministries is officially a 501(c)3 religious charity. Donations can be made online at mightygraceministries.org or mailed to: Mighty Grace Ministries, 26659 N. Main Street, Wauconda, IL 60084

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Kristin Bilbey	5/2
Joan Abney	5/4
Mabel Thomas	5/4
Gerald Abee	5/7
Dori Dopp	5/10
Kris Ounan	5/11
Robert Toner	5/14
Meil Malson	5/16
Joyce Davis	5/19
Timothy Azzam	5/20
Melvin spinney	5/20
Erica Wright	5/20
David Wright	5/24
Judy Hohf	5/25
Christopher Exnowski	5/30
Annette Dennis	5/31



Happy Anniversary

George & Pat Wright	5/15
Wayne & Henrietta Fortney	5/24

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
 Roger Tack - 989-293-8050
 Ron Weidenfeller - 724-7701



Tuesday, May 4, 2021
2:00 p.m.



Thursday, May 6, 2021
2:00 p.m.



MOTHER'S DAY AND GRADUATION CARDS



TLCW is selling Mother's Day cards and graduation cards for 50¢. You can find the cards on a table in the fellowship hall. Put your money in the metal box on the table.

CHURCH FUNDRAISER – SPARTAN NASH DIRECT YOUR DOLLARS PROGRAM



Through the Spartan Nash Direct Your Dollars Program our church can earn \$1,000 per year simply by collecting \$150,000 in eligible receipts from Family Fare or any of the more than 160 Spartan Nash owned retail stores or fuel centers in nine states. A container is provided in the fellowship hall for collecting your receipts.

QUIZ

1. How did Saul die?
2. What garden did Jesus go to when he prayed after the last supper?
3. In what land did Moses die?



There are approximately 2500 prophecies in the Bible, 2000 have already been fulfilled.

There is a total of 365 verses that tell us to fear not! One for every single day of the year!

Sea lions have rhythm. They are the only animal able to clap to a beat.

HUMOR



DEADLINE

The deadline to submit articles for the June Newsletter is May 16, 2021



- Answers to Quiz**
1. He fell on his own sword
 2. Garden of Gethsemane
 3. Moab