

# Trinity **SONRISE** News



February

*Trinity Lutheran Church*

*on the Sunrise Side of Michigan*

*2022*

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## **A MESSAGE FROM PASTOR AZZAM**

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

“If it bleeds, it leads.” I don’t know who first said it, but the practice of putting the most shocking stories on the front page is still practiced in both print and digital media. The first news items always seem to be the worst. At this writing the most recent lead was, “ONE MILLION NEW CASES OF CORONAVIRUS WERE LOGGED ON A SINGLE DAY WITH THE OMICRON VARIANT NOW BELIEVED TO BE AS TRANSMISSIBLE AS THE MEASLES.” (BTW, the word is pronounced “Ah’-ma crahn,” The ð is short as in hot and pot”) As long as the COVID 19 mortality rate remains high, news of this plague will continue be the top story.

“If it bleeds, it leads.” That is also true with our Christian message. Christ was crucified for our sins; His blood was shed on a cross to put an end to the consequences of sin. The scriptures tell us that all who have been baptized into Christ have been baptized into His death so just as Christ was raised from the dead, we too might have new life. For Christians, the message of the Cross, the blood shed by Christ, always leads. Again, the scriptures tell us, “Scarcely for a righteous man might someone dare to die, but God demonstrated His love for us in this that while we were still helpless sinners, Christ died for the ungodly.” And again, the Scriptures tell us, “Consider Jesus who endured the Cross without any regard for the shame of it all in order that you might run your race and not grow weary.” And of course, when Christ leads, His sheep follow. He is our Shepherd, all who believe in Him are His sheep and His sheep find comfort in the places the Good Shepherd leads them.

Headlines of blood and suffering may sell more newspapers, but they also wreak havoc on the emotions of those who take them to heart. King David also wrote in the aforementioned Psalm (Psalm 23) that life is not always still waters and green pastures. He continues, “Yea though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil for thou art with me, thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.” Jesus, the Good Shepherd said with his own words, “Lo, I will be with you always even unto the end of the age.” He is the Alpha and the Omega, (long ð), the first and the last, the eternal God. The One who now sits at the right hand of the Father, intercedes on behalf of all who put their trust in him. No one can lay a charge against the ones who stand forgiven. The only one, in a position to condemn has instead promised to graciously give us all things. Anyone who would dare attempt to separate us from God’s love, whether from above, beneath, or on this earth will always fail. For Jesus, died, and rose again and will bring with him all who follow. The one whose blood stained the cross for us...leads.

In Christ’s Service,

Pastor Timothy Azzam

# STEWARDSHIP

## “Give Thanks in All Circumstances”

The Apostle Paul in his letter to the people in Thessalonica wrote, “...give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.” (1 Thessalonians 5:18). God wants us never to forget to thank Him for all of our blessings we receive daily. In the story of the Ten Lepers (Luke 17:11-19), Jesus expressed His disappointment at not being thanked. After Jesus cleansed ten people of their leprosy, only one person thanked Him for the healing that He had provided. Jesus asked, “Where are the nine?” (verse 17). Jesus wanted and expected to be thanked by all ten.

Being thankful is a prominent theme in God’s Word. Through the work of the Holy Spirit, we see God at work in our lives. We are thankful because God is worthy of our thanksgiving. God gives us “every good gift and every perfect gift” (James 1:17). In Psalm 136:1 King David wrote, “Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good, for His steadfast love endures forever.” We give thanks for both God’s goodness and His steadfast love.

Author William Arthur Ward wrote, “Gratitude can transform common days into thanksgiving, turn routine jobs into joy, and change ordinary opportunities into blessings.” How often we take the ordinary things for granted! Living with an attitude of gratitude, we appreciate and give thanks to God throughout the day for all things. Our thanksgiving is demonstrated when we use the faith God has given us to live in obedience to His Word. Our thankfulness can be expressed at every level and in every activity of life. “And whatever you do,” Paul wrote in Colossians 3:17, “in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through Him.”

Dr. Robert A. Emmons, a professor of psychology, wrote, “Gratitude is important not only because it helps us to feel good but also because it inspires us to do good.” Acknowledging that God has entrusted us with gifts of time, abilities, and money, we express our gratitude by sharing them with others in Christian love. Because we know that God is the provider of our lives and blessings, we hold onto our possessions lightly and with gratitude use them to help others and extend His kingdom.

In her book, *Attitudes of Gratitude*, M.J. Ryan wrote, “Whenever we are appreciative, we are filled with a sense of well-being and swept up by the feeling of joy.” May God help us all “give thanks in all circumstances.”

-Bill Davis, Stewardship Chair



### February Mission of the Month – LCMS Joint Seminary Fund

Excellent seminaries are important to everyone who needs the Gospel. Well-formed pastors, deaconesses, ordained missionaries and theological leaders are vital to our life together as they faithfully and accurately teach the Gospel. For our entire history as The Lutheran

Church—Missouri Synod, well-formed and compassionate pastors have been important because the Gospel, faithfully delivered in Word and sacraments, is essential to each of us.

The LCMS supports two seminaries — Concordia Theological Seminary in Fort Wayne, Ind., and Concordia Seminary in St. Louis — with Sunday-morning worship offerings set aside by congregations for district and national/international work.

If you already support a mission, please continue to do so by designating that particular mission by name on a Mission envelope.



Joan Abney, Dori Dopp, Wayne Fortney, Chris Gresens,  
 Ron Kaiser, Rev. Dean Muhle of Hale, Ed Pisarski,  
 Sue Pisarski, Nancy Weidenfeller



**Homebound:**

Alice Dettmer – Medilodge  
 Edna Rainey - Medilodge

**Military:**

Alex Anderson (Navy)  
 Jason Cooper  
 Courtney & Karina Pierce (Army)  
 Marc Stiller (U.S.A.F. – Sherman)



Barrett Douglas Travis, son of Adam and Samantha Travis, was brought into the loving arms of our Savior through the sacrament of Holy Baptism on Sunday, January 30, 2022. May God bless Barrett and keep him in his loving care.



**SERVICE TIME**

**One Service  
 at**

**10:30 a.m.**  
 (through March 2022)

**Bible Study  
 at 9:15 a.m.**

**Bible Study Opportunities**



- Sunday mornings at 9:15 a.m.
- Tuesday Morning Women’s Bible Study meets in-person at 9:30 a.m. in the Sunday school wing
- Tuesday Morning Men’s Bible Study at 8:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall of the church.
- Thursday Morning Bible Study at 10:00 a.m. – meets in-person in Sunday School wing. Please use the side entrance.



**Altar Guild Schedule for 2022**

January – Sue Welther  
 February – Jonalee Engstrom  
 March – Teri Westburg  
 April – Henrietta Fortney  
 May – Sue Welther  
 June – Carolyn Lindhorst

July – Teri Westburg  
 August – Jonalee Engstrom  
 September – Henrietta Fortney  
 October – Teri Westburg  
 November – Jonalee Engstrom  
 December – Sue Welther

## T.L. C.W. News



Trinity Lutheran Church Women (TLCW) meet the third Tuesday of each month at 11:00 a.m. All ladies are invited and encouraged to attend. The February meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 15, 2022 at 11:00 a.m.

TLCW is selling all occasion greeting cards for 50¢. Valentine Day cards are currently on display on the table in the fellowship hall. You can put your money in the cash box on the display case.

*Thank  
you*



### Thank You Carol Wenzel

Our Parish Nurse, Carol Wenzel, sold her house and has moved to Alpena. Carol will be leaving Trinity and transferring to a church in Alpena in the near future. Carol served as Parish Nurse here at Trinity for twenty-two years. We appreciate all of her hard work and her many years of service to the church and to members of the congregation. Carol will certainly be missed.

The position of Parish Nurse will be vacant until we can find a volunteer to perform the duties of parish nurse.

## Church Directory

We would like to update the church directory, and would appreciate a photo of you and/or your family for inclusion in the directory. You can email a photo to:

[churchoffice@trinityoscoda.org](mailto:churchoffice@trinityoscoda.org) or you can bring in a photo for us to scan.

Please check the list of names and phone numbers on the table next to the office door. Let us know if your information is incorrect. Your help is greatly appreciated. Thank you to members that have confirmed their information and submitted pictures!



## Bell Choir Notes



Trinity Bells of Glory resumed practice on Monday, January 17<sup>th</sup>. Director Donna David and the bell ringers are very happy to be back at it after a break for the holidays. We look forward to playing for the congregation in the near future!

# HAPPY BIRTHDAY

|                   |      |
|-------------------|------|
| Robert Slater     | 2/5  |
| Marc Alvarez      | 2/10 |
| Johnathan Douglas | 2/10 |
| Katie Douglas     | 2/10 |
| Kevin Gresens     | 2/10 |
| Theodore White    | 2/10 |
| Leslea Witter     | 2/10 |
| Mike Seidel       | 2/12 |
| Cynthia Slater    | 2/12 |
| Shawn Ogden       | 2/20 |
| George Moran      | 2/22 |
| Melinia Ludeña    | 2/23 |
| Anna Roy          | 2/23 |
| Mark Faught       | 2/24 |
| Kenneth Pierce    | 2/24 |
| Maxwell Schmitt   | 2/24 |
| Charles Krueger   | 2/25 |




Joshua & Amber Foote 2/24

## *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  
David Golm – 989-724-5679  
Roger Tack - 989-293-8050  
Ron Weidenfeller - 724-7701

 Church Council Meeting  
Thursday  
February 10, 2022  
2:00 p.m.



Tuesday  
February 1, 2022  
2:00 p.m.

## CHURCH FUNDRAISER – SPARTAN NASH DIRECT YOUR DOLLARS PROGRAM

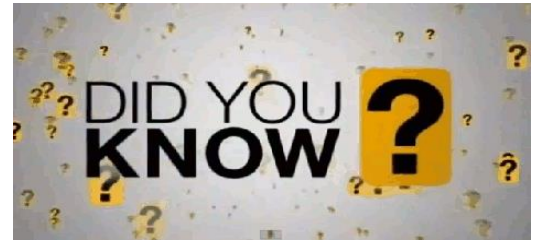


Through the Spartan Nash Direct Your Dollars Program our church can earn \$1,000 per year simply by collecting \$150,000 in eligible receipts from Family Fare or any of the more than 160 Spartan Nash owned retail stores or fuel centers in nine states. A container is provided in the fellowship hall for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



# QUIZ

1. Which book (KJV) begins, "Paul, an apostle of Jesus Christ by the will of God"?
2. How many righteous people did Sodom need to keep God from destroying the city?
3. What was the name of King David's first wife?



February is one of the most misspelled words in the English language. Even the White House has misprinted the word "February" before in a press release!

The name of February comes from the Latin word "februum" which means purification.

## HUMOR



## DEADLINE

The deadline to submit articles for the February Newsletter is February 20, 2022.



- Answers to Quiz
1. Ephesians
  2. 10
  3. Michal