

# Trinity SONRISE News



Trinity Lutheran Church

on the Sunrise Side of Michigan

2023

## STEWARDSHIP

### We Are Stewards

Many individuals, groups, and organizations have defined stewardship in different meaningful ways over decades and generations. The following definition, out of possibly thousands, is focused on for this article because it captures the primary purpose of stewardship which is to use all that God entrusts to us for His purposes to care for both man and creation:

"A steward is more than a servant, slave, or trustee. A steward is one who, having received a trust from God, is in partnership with God through Christ for the working out of God's purposes for man and the world" (Joseph F. Jones).

To deepen our understanding of stewardship, we will expand on the meaning of a few key words in the above definition. God's Word tells us that one of the first responsibilities He gave Adam and Eve was to be His stewards (Genesis 1:26; 2:15). As stewards, they were to protect and take care of God's creation. Adam and Eve heard directly from God as to how they were to care for all that He had created out of nothing. As stewards today, we receive our direction from God's Word found in Scripture.

In this definition, the word trust is used to reference all the gifts and blessings that come from God's loving hands. The first stanza from the hymn "We Give Thee But Thine Own" helps us understand what is meant by trust. "We give thee but thine own, Whate'er the gift may be; For all we have is thine alone, A trust, O Lord, from Thee."

In Philippians 1:3-5, we find one of the three times that Scripture uses the word partnership. *"I thank my God in all my remembrance of you, always in every prayer of mine for you all making my prayer with joy, because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now."* God not only wants us to receive and believe His gospel, but He expects us to share the life-saving gospel with others.

In our stewardship definition, we are called to be about God's purposes. God's Word is very clear about His purpose. In Luke 19:10 we read, *"For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost."* The Apostle Paul wrote, *"This is good, and it is pleasing in the sight of God our Savior, Who desires all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth"* (1 Timothy 2:3-4). God invites us to use our God-given time, talents, and money in ways that help others come to know and believe in Jesus.

God honors us with the privilege and responsibility to be His stewards. Through our faithful stewardship, God receives the honor and glory that He deserves.

-Bill Davis, Stewardship Chair



## June Mission of the Month Wellspring Lutheran Services

**Wellspring Lutheran Services** is June's Mission of the Month. Their vision is: ***Changed lives. Strong families. Transformed communities.*** Well spring is an abundant source of hope, flowing to people in need. Christ is at the core of who we are. We seek to release and be a channel of the love that Jesus, by his example, poured out in abundance. It's a love that places the good of neighbor above personal interests and engages those on the "outside," as he did with a woman he met at a well. Because of this meeting, her life, her family and community were transformed.

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



**Military:** Alex Anderson  
Jason Cooper

Wayne Fortney,

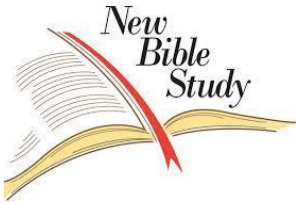
**Homebound:** Alice Dettmer – Medilodge

Courtney Pierce (Army) Stationed in Germany  
Karina Pierce (Army)



**Sundays**  
**8:00 a.m.**  
**&**  
**10:30 a.m.**

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



## New Bible Study Program Offered this June

### KNOW YOUR BIBLE

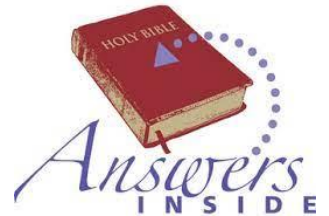
#### Basic Information Before Leaving Earth

Begins Sunday, June 4, 2023

9:15 a.m.

in the Sunday School Wing  
Sarah and Abraham Rooms

- ⇒ If you have trouble finding the way through your Bible, this class will guide you to a better understanding.
- ⇒ If you just cannot seem to get excited about Bible study, come and let us excite you.
- ⇒ If you already are quite familiar with your Bible, this class will give you a renewed desire for deeper study.



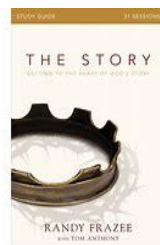
#### **Why Take Part in Bible Study?**

For the past few weeks you have been hearing from different members of the congregation about their very positive experiences with Bible study. By participating in Bible study, you can get closer to God by becoming familiar with His Word, actions, and message. Bible Study provides an opportunity to gain insight into your religion. The wisdom and understanding you receive may give you confidence to spread the Word. Bible study also provides an opportunity to build closer relationship with other members of the congregation.

Why not give one of Bible study groups offered by Trinity a try . . . it might be the answer you are looking for!



- Sunday mornings at 9:15 a.m.
- Tuesday Morning Women's Bible Study at 9:15 a.m. meets in the Fellowship Hall.
- Tuesday Morning Men's Bible Study at 8:30 a.m. in the Sunday School wing.
- Thursday Morning Bible Study at 10:00 a.m. – in the Sunday School wing.



#### **The Story A Bible Study**

**Coming August 6<sup>th</sup>**

We want to use **The Story** to help everyone gain a better understanding of the big picture of the Bible and to better understand God's redemptive plan for us today.

**We will discover together how our story  
is found in God's story!**

**More Information will be coming  
in the near future.**

**EVERYONE IS WELCOME**

## Coming Events at Trinity

### Coffee Hour

At its meeting on May 11, 2023, the Church Council voted to reinstate coffee/fellowship hour between services. This will give everyone an opportunity to meet and greet each other. Get to know those who attend a different worship service.

Coffee will be provided. You are invited and encouraged to bring snacks to share.



### Cookout – Everyone is Welcome

Trinity Lutheran Church is sponsoring a cookout on Sunday, July 16<sup>th</sup> to bring people into our congregation and let them know what Trinity is about. Please invite your friends and neighbors. We will serve hot dogs, chips, ice cream, and a beverage. There will be crafts for the children to enjoy. We would like to have music at this event. We are looking for an individual or a group to play music. Please let Henrietta Fortney or Ruth Golm know if you have any ideas for music.



### You are Invited to a Potluck Sunday – June 11<sup>th</sup> After the 10:30 a.m. Service

Bring your favorite dish to pass.  
A sign-up sheet is posted on the bulletin board  
by the mailboxes in the fellowship hall.



### Art on the Beach

Trinity plans to have a booth at Art on the Beach on June 24<sup>th</sup> and June 25<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 am. until 4:00 p.m. each day. Volunteers are needed to man the booth. Talk about our church and invite people to attend. There will be a craft for children to enjoy. If you would like more information, or if you are willing to help, please contact Ron Weidenfeller, Stewardship Chair.



## Voters' Meeting - Sunday, July 9, 2023

9:00 a.m.



Agenda Items Include:

- Budget for 2023-2024
- Election of Officers
- Call Process
- Church Rolls

Please let one of the elders or officers know if you would like to volunteer for a leadership position.

### Interim Ministry and Transition Team

The Transition Team met on May 21<sup>st</sup>. The Team is in the process of finalizing the Congregational Mission and Ministry Inventory to share with the Michigan District. The survey of people attending worship services wrapped up on May 21<sup>st</sup>. The Church Council and the Transition Team will meet with Pastor Mark Brandt, the District Pastor in charge of Trinity's call process on June 1<sup>st</sup> at 4:00 p.m. A pre-call meeting will be scheduled for the entire congregation in the future. The Transition Team will wrap up its work at a meeting on June 4<sup>th</sup> at 12:15 p.m. Thank you to all members of the Team! If you have any questions about the process, please feel free to talk to any member of the Transition Team or to Pastor Schilke.

The Transition Team consists of the following members:

Karen White	Janet Ovcjak
Ron Weidenfeller	Sue Welther
Sue Barnhart	Donna David
Jonalee Engstrom	Ed Pisarski
Greg Pancost	Ruth Golm
Dennis Neigh	Mitch Davis
Pat Wright	

### Greeters Needed



One of the recommendations of the Transition Team is that we reinstate the Greeter Program. We NEED volunteers to meet and greet people as they enter the church on Sunday mornings. If you have been looking for an opportunity to serve, why not volunteer to be a greeter. This is something that everyone can do, and it is a great way to get to know the members of the congregation. A sign-up sheet with dates and times can be found on the table in back of the church near the lay reader sign-up sheet. Please prayerfully consider signing up to be a greeter!



## TLCW

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 June meeting will be held on Tuesday, June 20<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 a.m. We hope to see you there!

## Mites

Remember to bring your loose change for Mite box donation the first Sunday of each month.



## Sheets Needed for Quilters

Thank you for the sheets that were brought in for our Orphan Grain Train quilt making. Most of those sheets have already been sewn into quilts!

We have an on-going need of sheets – any size, any color, any condition. Instead of throwing out the old sheets you no longer use or need, bring them in for the quilters to use. They are used for quilt backs, centers, and cut into squares for quilt tops. You can drop off your sheets in the quilting room (Sarah Room in the Sunday School wing.)



## TLCW Community Garage Sale

TLCW plans to hold its annual garage sale on Friday, June 30<sup>th</sup> and Saturday, July 1<sup>st</sup> from 9:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. both days. We will need lots of help with the sale. We would greatly appreciate it if you would think about reserving these dates to help with the sale!

We need donations for the garage sale. While you are doing your spring cleaning, please consider what household, items you wish to part with and SAVE them for Trinity's annual community garage sale. If you have any sports items you wish to part with, we will take that, as well as toys, games, etc. Please no clothing. You may bring items to the church on Tuesdays from 10:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. beginning June 6<sup>th</sup>. All proceeds go to Missions and our adopted seminary student.



## Quilt Raffle to Benefit Missions



TLCW is holding a raffle for a beautiful handmade and hand quilted queen size quilt made and donated by a member of our congregation, Teri Westburg. Tickets are \$5 each or 6 for \$25. Proceeds will go to local missions – to feed children of the Backpack Program, the Baby Pantry, F.I.S.H., etc. Thank you, Teri for all of your hard work! Picture is not the actual quilt.

## Greeting Cards for Sale

TLCW is selling greeting cards for 50¢ each. You will find graduation cards, confirmation cards, birthday cards, and others available for purchase on a table in the fellowship hall and more in a rack on the display case. Just drop your money into the cash box provided. There is also a table of free items in the fellowship hall.





## Evangelism

### What Christian “Witnessing” Could Do

One day a Christian approached Gary and said, “This is for you, a brand-new copy of God’s Word.” After a few comments on what that Word of God had done in his life, he gave it to Gary as a “gift”. Gary did not read it immediately but placed it in the top drawer of the desk in his bedroom.

Sometime later when he was feeling down and out, he remembered that copy of God’s Word that he received. He retrieved it from the desk and began to read it. “I needed something to help me with all the guilt and shame that was weighing so heavy upon me for past drug and alcohol use. Because of that person who thought enough to give me a copy of God’s Word some years ago, I ultimately had somewhere to turn during a very dark time in my wayward life,” said Gary. That evening, he wound up on his knees beside his bed and asked Jesus Christ to be Lord of His life.

After he made this decision, the very first thing he wanted to do was start going to church. The following Sunday morning, he got up and went to church. He arrived at church between Sunday school and the morning worship service, when people were milling around outside. Gary went in and sat down, and no one said anything to him. No one even acknowledged he was in the church.

Gary was getting ready to leave because he felt out of place, and no one wanted him there. While getting ready to go back to his car, a man came over and put his arm around Gary’s shoulder. He told Gary, “Son, you’re going to love our church. I’m so glad you came today. Come on in.”

Instead of leaving discouraged, Gary stayed and remained seated in a back pew. Still, no one sat to his right or left. No one even greeted him during the welcome portion of the service. Gary was looking around for the man who’d so kindly welcomed him earlier. When it was time for the message, that man walked up to preach. This pastor became Gary’s best friend. Gary has never forgotten how that pastor made him feel and the Scripture that he pulled out late one evening from his bedroom dresser drawer.

God would use Gary in the coming days and years for His glory. He received degrees in Pastoral Theology from Florida Baptist College in Lakeland and Hyles-Anderson College in Crown Point, Indiana. After 25 years of bi-vocational pastoring, he left the banking industry to become a full-time pastor. He currently pastors Seminole Baptist Church in Tallahassee, Florida, and leads his congregation to “continue to grow deeper so that it can continue to reach farther.” Pastor Gary is married to his wife, Sharon, and they have three daughters and four grandchildren.

Evangelism Question and food for thought:

What would have happened if Gary had visited our church that morning?

--Ron Weidenfeller, Evangelism Chair



### Trinity Bells of Glory

The Trinity Bells of Glory will play prelude music before the 10:30 a.m. worship service on May 28<sup>th</sup>. Selections included *Steal Away* and *Just As I Am*. The ringers enjoy playing in church and want to thank you for your support!

## **What is F.I.S.H. Friends Instantly Sharing Help**

F.I.S.H. is a group of people from the Christian churches in Oscoda sharing, out of love, our concern and help for our neighbors in need. It is named after the ancient fish symbol used by the Christians to identify themselves during the time the Roman government was persecuting the Christians.

### **What is the F.I.S.H. Hotline?**

The F.I.S.H. hotline is a dedicated local phone number (989) 254-9187 answered Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. by a trained volunteer. The volunteer will listen, ask questions of the caller and arrange for help and/or refer to other local organizations expert in meeting certain needs. Callers ask for help with food, shelter, clothing, transportation, utility bills, etc.

### **What Can Trinity Members Do?**

1. Volunteer to be trained for the Hotline one or two days a month.
2. Fill Trinity's F.I.S.H. box with canned food, dried food, and boxed food products – be sure to check expiration dates – outdated food is NOT accepted.
3. VOLUNTEER at Trinity to check our F.I.S.H. box – check “use by dates,” box or bag the items, and take them to Sacred Heart F.I.S.H. food pantry.

We want to be a blessing to others. These are some ways we can help those in need.

**If you know of someone who needs the help of F.I.S.H., please call their hotline at (989) 254-9187  
Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.**



- Thank You Mitch Davis our head elder for all the time you put in to serve the members of Trinity Lutheran church.
- Thank You Sue Pisarski for making the beautiful centerpieces for the Fellowship Hall and the Church. Thank You Ed for taking her to buy the flowers and delivering them.
- Thank You TLCW and Pisarski's for purchasing the flowers for Sue to make.
- Thank you, Carolyn Jones for weeding the memory garden.
- Thank you, members for cleaning the church and grounds.

## **Church Directory**

Some members of the Transition Team are looking over Trinity's membership list. There are people listed as members that have not attended in many years. They plan to prepare a list of non-active people and bring it the Elders and the congregation to act upon.

We are going to wait to print a copy of the Church Directory for every member until this has been acted upon. In the meantime, if you would like to supply an updated photograph of your family, that would be very much appreciated! Some of photos we have are very outdated.





6/1 Jim Dennis  
6/3 Chris Hock  
6/3 Scott Phillips  
6/3 Barb Weiss  
6/5 Zachary Abee  
6/7 Alyssa Phillips  
6/9 Samantha Travis  
6/13 Mary Wehrman  
6/14 James Kuerbitz  
6/18 Bill Davis  
6/18 Beth Roy



6/5 Fred & Christine Rogel  
6/8 David & Lori Schmidt

### *Know the Elders*

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

Their phone numbers can be found in your church directory.

Mitch Davis, Jr.  
David Golm  
Roger Tack  
Ron Weidenfeller



Thursday  
June 8, 2023  
2:00 p.m.



Thursday,  
June 8, 2023  
1:00 p.m.

**WE ARE GOD'S MASTERPIECES  
EQUIPED TO DO GOOD WORKS.**

"For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them" (Ephesians 2:10).



# QUIZ

1. Which disciple of Jesus used to be a disciple of John the Baptist?
2. Who is the stone the builders rejected?
3. Which 2 Bible books start with "in the beginning?"



- American flags left on the moon will eventually get bleached white by the sun.
- Being compassionate to others – as well as oneself – leads to greater happiness
- Reading rewires your brain for higher intelligence and empathy.

## HUMOR



## DEADLINE



The deadline to submit articles for the July Newsletter is June 18, 2023.

- Answers to Quiz
1. Andrew
  2. Jesus
  3. Genesis and John