

# Trinity **SONRISE** News



Trinity Lutheran Church

on the Sunrise Side of Michigan

2024

## STEWARDSHIP

### Stewardship Defined: “Therefore”

According to the King James Bible Dictionary, the word “therefore” is used 1,237 times in the Bible. The most prominent use of the word “therefore” in Scripture is a “reaction or a response to what has happened in the past.” It serves to connect a truth with a proper response. Understanding that “therefore” connects action or response to a truth, could we not use the single word “therefore” as a definition of stewardship? Is not stewardship faith in action! Stewardship is all we do after God enables us to say, “I believe.” Through faith, we know that God loves us so much that He sent His Son, Jesus, to the cross for the forgiveness of our sins, so we can enjoy the abundant life now and life eternal with Him. Through faith, we believe what Jesus has done for us; “therefore” we will serve and obey Him. “Therefore” is the link between knowing and doing. There are many wonderful definitions of stewardship, but, if we attempt to simplify our understanding of stewardship and define stewardship with just one word, the word “therefore” is as brief and concise as we can get.

In Romans 12:1, we find one of the hundreds of verses that uses the word “therefore”: *“I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God...”* In the chapters preceding this verse, Paul repeatedly references God’s abundant mercy to us. Using the word “therefore,” Paul directs us, in light of God’s mercy, to *“present [our] bodies as a living sacrifice.”* Having received God’s mercy, we are motivated to live as faithful stewards. God wants us completely and totally. Everything that we are and have should belong to Him. “Therefore,” God wants all of us.

In our daily routines, we tend not to take this notion of giving everything to God too seriously. However, God’s Word clearly wants us to think more about how we can use our lives and our bodies in service to Him. The question to consider is, “Do we use our bodies in ways that honor God?” Let’s consider our hands. Do we use them to serve only ourselves or do we use them in service to God? Do we use our eyes, ears, brains, mouths, etc. in service to God? God says every part of us is to be used as an act of worship. *“Therefore...by the mercies of God”* each of us should do whatever God puts before us and do it cheerfully.

May the word “therefore” remind of us of the importance of faithful stewardship, and, with the help of the Holy Spirit, we can be the stewards God has made us to be.



## February Mission of the Month LCMS Joint Seminary Fund



The LCMS supports two seminaries — Concordia Theological Seminary in Fort Wayne, IN, and Concordia Seminary in St. Louis, MO. Gifts to the LCMS Joint Seminary Fund are restricted exclusively to supporting both of our world-class seminaries.

Our LCMS seminaries have only three sources of operating revenue:

- Investment income from endowment
- Tuition paid by students after financial aid is awarded (often in the form of student loans)
- Financial gifts graciously supplied by God's people

The LCMS Joint Seminary Fund helps raise the last type, functioning as a line of defense against passing rising educational costs on to seminary students via higher tuition.

Those who designate gifts and bequests for LCMS Joint Seminary Fund combine vital financial resources, walking together in a way that supplies approximately \$2 million annually in supplemental unrestricted funding to help educate our future pastors and other theologically-trained leaders.

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



Wayne Fortney, Pastor Stephen Schilke

**Homebound:** Alice Dettmer – Medilodge,

**Military:** Alex Anderson  
Jason Cooper

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



- ➔ Sunday mornings at 10:45 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.



**Sunday Worship Time**  
**One Service**  
**Throughout the Year**  
**9:30 a.m.**

**Bible Study**  
**10:45 a.m.**



## Stewardship Committee Chair Needed

We are still in need of a chairperson for the Stewardship Committee. This is a position listed in the Constitution and is part of the Church Council. The Stewardship Committee is charged with the stimulation of the people to a proper stewardship of time, talents, and treasures. The church does subscribe to a monthly publication which is very helpful to this position. Please prayerfully consider serving God's church in this capacity. If you are willing, please speak with Pastor Steve.

## Greeters Needed

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, volunteer to be a greeter. This is something that everyone can do and it is a great way to meet members of the congregation. A sign-up sheet can be found on the table in back of the church.



## Constitution and By-Laws Revision Committee



Thank you to Ruth Golm, Ron Weidenfeller, Nancy Weidenfeller, Jonalee Engstrom, Karen White, Ted White, Sue Welther, Claudia Francis, and Bill Francis for serving on the Constitution and By-Laws Revision Committee. The Committee has finalized its recommendation for changes. These changes will be presented to the Church Council and then to the Congregation in the near future.



We would like to invite all women to our monthly meetings on the third Tuesday of each month at 11:00 a.m. The next meeting will be Tuesday, February 20th at 11:00 a.m. Because the January meeting was cancelled, we will be making plans for 2024 at this meeting – including deciding which missions to support and determining what fundraisers we will hold. We are sponsoring the Timberline Zone Spring Rally on May 4<sup>th</sup> here at Trinity (see flyer on next page.) We will have an ingathering of items listed in the flyer for the Haiti orphanage. Your input is welcome and appreciated!

### Mites

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



### Please Remember to Collect Items for the Annual TLCW Garage Sale

When you do your spring cleaning, remember to save any items you no longer use or need for the TLCW Annual Garage Sale. More information to come!

### Greeting Cards for Sale



TLCW sells greeting cards for 50¢ each. Cards are 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.

### 2024 Alter Schedule

January	Teri Westburg	July	Henrietta Fortney
February	Barb Neigh	August	Teri Westburg
March	Sue Welther	September	Annette Dennis
April	Henrietta Fortney	October	Barb Neigh
May	Teri Westburg	November	Sue Welther
June	Annette Dennis	December	Henrietta Fortney

## Trinity to Host Timberline Zone LWML 2024 Spring Rally



### TIMBERLINE ZONE SPRING RALLY AT TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

5625 US 23 OSCODA MICHIGAN

PHONE-989-739-9292

**MAY 4, 2024**  
**GOD'S CHILDREN**

**SPEAKER-ANNE HUME**

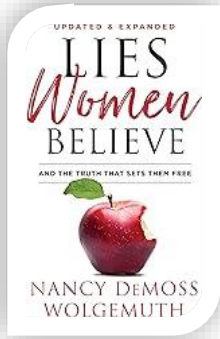
**INGATHERING: MEN SIZE SMALL & MEDIUM  
MUSCLE T-SHIRTS, BOXERS, BLACK & WHITE  
SOCKS**

**BOYS SIZE 8-18 MUSCLE T-SHIRTS, BOXERS,  
BOYS BLACK & WHITE SOCKS. BACKPACKS,  
TWIN SHEETS, THIN BATH TOWELS, WASH  
CLOTHES, & CLOTHESLINES.**

**FREE WILL DONATION WILL BE COLLECTED  
FOR ANNE'S CHILDREN IN THE ORPHANAGE.**

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT: HENRIETTA FORTNEY 248-563-2133





## New Ladies Bible Study Begins February 6<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 a.m.

All ladies are invited and encouraged to attend the new ladies Bible Study which begins on Tuesday, February 6<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 a.m. **“Lies Women Believe: and the Truth that Sets Them Free”** was written by Nancy DeMoss Wolgemuth. It is two-book study with one text being a workbook for your thoughts and answers. A Thrivent grant will cover the cost of all books.

Satan is the master deceiver; his lies are endless. And the lies Christian women believe are at the root of most of their struggles.

"Many women live under a cloud of personal guilt and condemnation," says Nancy DeMoss Wolgemuth. "Many are in bondage to their past. Others are gripped by fear of rejection and a longing for approval. Still others are emotional prisoners."

In this bestseller, *Lies Women Believe*, Nancy exposes those areas of deception most commonly believed by Christian women—lies about God, sin, priorities, marriage and family, emotions, and more. She then sheds light on how we can be delivered from bondage and set free to walk in God's grace, forgiveness, and abundant life. Nancy offers the most effective weapon to counter and overcome Satan's deceptions: God's truth!

If you have any questions, please feel free to call Ruth Golm at 586-770-2550.

## Thank You to all Who Volunteer

- Everyone who helped take down the Christmas decorations.
- Bruce Welther for replacing Velcor on the altar paraments and keeping the church running smoothly.
- Pastor Schilke, Pastor Neigh, and Dave Wagner for their dedication to the congregation.
- Karen White and the counters for the time they spend every week counting and depositing money.
- Members of the Altar Guild for making sure the paraments are in place and communion is ready.
- Henrie Fortney, Sue Pisarski and Jonalee Engstrom for all they do here at Trinity.
- Joyce Davis for keeping the pews filled with prayer request forms and envelopes.
- Lay readers for volunteering to read the scripture each week.
- Members of the congregation for your love and support of each other.

**We are truly blessed here at Trinity!**

**Lent Begins on Ash Wednesday  
February 14<sup>th</sup>**



**6:00 p.m. Worship Service**

**Midweek Lenten Worship Services**

**February 21 6:00 p.m.**  
**February 28 6:00 p.m.**  
**March 6 6:00 p.m.**  
**March 13 6:00 p.m.**  
**March 20 6:00 p.m.**



**Wednesday Soup Suppers  
February 21<sup>st</sup> through March 20<sup>th</sup>  
5:00 p.m.**

Everyone is invited to our Wednesday Soup Suppers during Lent which begin on February 21<sup>st</sup>. Thank you to Karen White who has agreed to make sure things go smoothly! However, we need you to bring the food. A sign-up sheet will be posted each week on the bulletin board on the side of the mailboxes in the fellowship hall. Sign up to bring you favorite soup, dessert, salad, or anything else you would like to share!

## What is the Significance of Lent?

Early in the Church's history, the major events in Christ's life were observed with special observances, such as His birth, baptism, death, resurrection and ascension. As these observances

developed, a period of time was set aside prior to the major events of Jesus' birth and resurrection as a time of preparation. During Lent, the Church's worship assumes a more penitential character. The color for the season is purple, a color often associated with penitence. The "Hymn of Praise" is omitted from the liturgy. The word "Alleluia" is usually omitted as well. By not using the alleluia — a joyful expression meaning "Praise the Lord" — until Easter, the Lenten season is clearly set apart as a distinct time from the rest of the year. Additionally, it forms a powerful contrast with the festive celebration of Jesus' resurrection when our alleluias ring loud and clear. Finally, the penitential character of Lent is not its sole purpose. In the ancient Church, the weeks leading up to Easter were a time of intensive preparation of the candidates who were to be baptized at the Easter vigil on Holy Saturday. This time in the Church's calendar was seen as an especially appropriate time for Baptism because of the relationship between Christ's death and resurrection and our own in Holy Baptism (see Rom. 6:1-11). This focus would suggest that the season of Lent serves not only as a time to meditate on the suffering that Christ endured on our behalf but also as an opportunity to reflect upon our own Baptism and what it means to live as a child of God.



**IT IS ONLY BY GOD'S GRACE THAT  
YOU ARE CALLED AND EQUIPPED  
TO BE IN HIS SERVICE.**

"You did not choose Me, but I chose you  
and appointed you that you should go  
and bear fruit..." (John 15:16).



## Trinity Bells of Glory

The Trinity Bells of Glory ringers are at it again. Practices started up on January 15<sup>th</sup> after a break for the holidays. We are practicing some new music and are anxious to play in church sometime in February.







2/28 Michael & Michele Marone

2/4 Barb Neigh  
2/5 Bob Slater  
2/10 Marc Alvarez  
2/10 Kevin Gresens  
2/10 Ted White  
2/12 Mike Seidel  
2/12 Cindy Slater  
2/22 George Moran  
2/23 Anna Roy  
2/24 Maxwell Schmitt  
2/25 Charles Krueger  
2/25 Michael Marone

### *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  
Ron Weidenfeller  
George Wright

### **2023 Contribution Statements**

Can be found in your mailbox  
in the Fellowship Hall.

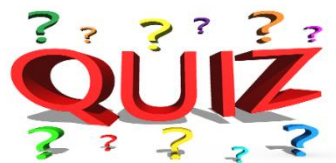


**Church  
Council Meeting**

**Thursday  
February 8, 2024  
2:00 p.m.**



**Thursday  
February 8, 2024  
1:00 p.m.**



1. Which prophet was fed by ravens in the wilderness?
2. In what land did Jacob ask his sons to bury him?
3. What did Jesus say cannot add one hour to your life?

- Lent doesn't actually end on Easter; it ends on Good Thursday, the day Jesus has The Last Supper.
- The oldest record of a valentine being sent, according to History.com, was a poem written by a French medieval duke named Charles to his wife in 1415. Charles penned this sweet note to his lover while he was imprisoned in the Tower of London at just 21 years old.

## HUMOR



## DEADLINE



The deadline to submit articles for the March Newsletter is February 18, 2024.

- Answers to Quiz**
1. Elijah
  2. Canaan
  3. Worry