

THE MESSENGER

A PUBLICATION OF TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH (ELCA)

~Welcome to Trinity Lutheran...Warm Hearts and Willing Hands~



Greeting in the name of
Christ Jesus!

There are two months of our calendar year that are not my favorites: November (except for Thanksgiving!) and March.

November is a month that I connect with brown and barren. The leaves have turned brown, or have altogether disappeared; grasses are dry and beige or brown or wilted. The soil is turned and lays black/brown under the November skies. There may be a big snow or just a whiff that creates a dramatic scene of a deeper darkness. If there is a big wind, the snow turns black. March is usually a month of wet, heavy snow; following three prior months of snow and cold, when most folks are just plan ready for it (weather) to be done. Although not my favorites, *I have come to appreciate them as necessary in the rhythm of our seasons and in life—and in the rhythm of the Church year.*

November ends the lectionary cycle with Christ the King Sunday and the beginning of Advent and the Christmas season when the much anticipated Messiah is born humbly in a stable. March generally holds a part of Lent, and even Holy Week and Easter on occasion. The last days of Jesus' life, opens the path to the celebration of The Resurrection!

November begins the longer darker days, and in March we experience the return of more light and shorter days. Each month holds promise of transition and celebration. We learn how important light is in our lives. We, as Christians experience both darkness and light in our lives. But as Christians we know that the light we know as Jesus Christ, is with us always and in all ways. The Light we have in and through Christ isn't dependent on the calendar months or cycles. It is ever present and ever promised to

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us in the life, suffering, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. God loves us. No matter what month, or day, or week it is this is a steadfast promise to us: God is love. God came to us in Jesus Christ, and through Jesus we are gifted (graced) with forgiveness of sins, eternal life and salvation. That is GOOD NEWS. Lent is a time to stop and ponder this Good News; listening to the stories of Jesus

and walking through the season of Lent.

I have come to appreciate the season of Lent as necessary in the rhythm of our church year seasons. I find I grow more deeply in my relationship with God as I move through the more penitent nature of Lent as it opens to the light of the Resurrection. May you come to know the same.

Pastor Carol Mapa

COUNCIL MINUTES

COUNCIL MEMBERS

President: Dan Klassen
Vice President: Josh Tonkin
Secretary: Kathy Wilkening
Financial Admin: Brenda H.
Christian Ed: Nikki Smith
Ch Properties: Mark Durkee
Stewardship: Margaret Durkee
Lay Ministry: Judy Doble
Worship: Cathy Sorenson
Youth: Caitlyn Carlson



**Trinity Lutheran Church
 Council Meeting 7:00 pm
 Wednesday- February 8, 2023**

Members Present: Yvonne Noorlun Kathy Wilkening Dan Klassen Cathy Sorenson Nikki Smith Mark Durkee Margaret Durkee Josh Tonkin Laurie Wille

Secretary Report- Kathy Wilkening - with correction about Pastor Penny's last day, it will be February 12 not February 5th.

Treasures Report- was accepted as read.

Stewardship- Margaret Durkee None

Lay Ministry/Evangelism- Laurie Wille - Postcard/letters will be mailed or handed to all members of congregation on the updates of the new pastor plus times and schedule for Lenten services.

Properties-Mark Durkee Will remove Christmas decorations under the snow.

Christian Ed- Nikki Smith- Christmas program went well and was posted on Facebook. The spaghetti supper served about 80 and was well attended. GIFT had about 35 students and learned about "Love" the theme of GIFT. The kids made bookmarks for themselves plus cards and sun catchers for the nursing home. Dan brought in a mother rabbit to show that mothers like Mary, did not really know what was going to happen but trusted God.

Youth- Cathy Sorenson - Caitlyn is planning the Lenten service meals.

Worship-Cathy Sorenson Lenten services will be at 6:30 following the meal served by the youth. The meal will begin at 5:15 to 6:15. February 12th is Pastor Penny's last sermon at Trinity. We have a surprise seating arrangement. Tanner has a new job and will not be able to play at all services. He will record the music if he is not able to attend. Something to think about. Next year will be Trinity's 75 year celebration.

OLD BUSINESS:

Yvonne talked about the funeral service policy for outside Pastor and or Lay Ministers. It was decided to charge \$500 for use of the church plus custodial fee and extra requested services.

NEW BUSINESS: Motion carried to accept membership transfer of JoDee Lewis and family members from Trinity Lutheran Church in St. Peter MN. Deloris Bau tentative funeral date will be April 20 with Pastor Penny officiating. It

was decided to hire a Youth Director for approximately \$833.34 a month or \$10,000 a year starting in June 2023 for one year.

Motion accepted to have the Maundy Thursday service and it will be at 9:30 am on April 6th with rolls and coffee afterwards.

Submitted by Secretary
 Kathy Wilkening

THRIVENT CHOICE DOLLARS



Through Thrivent Choice, eligible members can recommend where Thrivent Financial distributes some of its charitable outreach grant dollars among thousands of participating nonprofit organizations and congregations.

\$117.00 deposit



Treasurer's Summary Report As of January 31, 2023

Checking Account Bal.	\$69,652
Savings Account Bal.	\$53,025

JANUARY:

General Fund Income	\$ 7,600
General Fund Expenses	\$ 5,632
Net long	\$ 1,968

FEBRUARY:

Cash Available	\$ 69,652
Bills to pay	\$ 5,552
Cash long	\$64,100

WE WORSHIP TOGETHER

SCRIPTURE READINGS

DATE/ CALENDAR YEAR	FIRST READING	SECOND READING	GOSPEL
March 5—2 Lent	Genesis 12:1-4a	Romans 4:1-5, 13-17	John 3:1-17
March 12—3 Lent	Exodus 17:1-7	Romans 5:1-11	John 4:5-42
March 19—4 Lent	1 Samuel 16:1-13	Ephesians 5:8-14	John 9:1-41
March 26—5 Lent	Ezekiel 37:1-14	Romans 8:6-11	John 11:1-45

The GIFT kids made bookmarks for themselves plus cards and sun catchers for the nursing home



Valentines ❤️



Bookmarks & Cards





WELCA News

Do you have used baby items in good condition that you no longer need? This year we are collecting new and used items for baby kits. This is our Lutheran World Relief Project.

WE WOULD LIKE EVERYONE TO CONTRIBUTE ITEMS FOR THIS PROJECT.

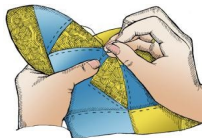
Needed are:

cotton t-shirts,
sleepers without feet,
receiving blankets,
cloth diapers, diaper pins,
socks, and jackets,
sweaters, or sweatshirts with hoods.

Sizes should be 6 to 24 months.

Please have these items to the church by May 1st.

Twenty quilts were finished at our January quilting days and 7 more are done except to be sewn around the edges. One day some of us met (after Tuesday morning coffee) to cut quilt blocks. In March, we will meet one week earlier than stated in the handbook. We decided to have coffee before the church service starting March 1. Our hope is that many of you will join us for this time of fellowship.



QUILTERS

Thanks to all who helped in anyway with the lunch at the funeral for James Rode.

Barb Shoen



Dear Trinity Friends & Family,
Thank you so much for all the kindnesses and support shown to me during my time as your pulpit supply pastor. Thank you for your encouragement and acceptance of my ministry to and with you. I would also extend a big thank you for the farewell party, to those who prepared it and to all who were able to attend it. It was great seeing so many of you there. Thank you for the beautiful quilt made by Kathy Wilkening, for the plaque about being a pastor (it made my cousin cry!) for the lovely and extremely fragile pitcher, as well as for the many cards and personal notes and individual gifts. They are all special to me and I will treasure them. Please know that I have counted it all joy to be able to serve you, even during very difficult times, and I do pray that some of that joy will continue for you and in you all...You will remain in my prayers as you all work together to serve the Lord with gladness.

~Pastor Penny Ritter

UPDATE ON THE GROCERY RECEIPTS:



Fareway-\$69,510.96

Hy-Vee-\$144,668.73

Keep those receipts coming!!

***Please make sure the receipts are not getting cut off -- this makes them useless.*



March

April 2023						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

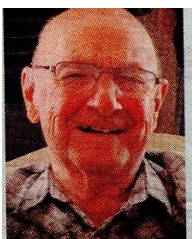
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
WORSHIP SCHEDULE Service at 10 am on Sunday's & streaming live on FB	CHURCH OFFICE HOURS Mon-8:00-11:00 Wed-8-11, 1-4 Fri-8:00-11:00	Coffee Time Will happen before services every Sunday	1 Gift Class 2:15-5:15 5:15-6:15 Lenten Meal 6:30 Lenten Worship	2	3 	4
5 Communion 	6	7	8 5:15-6:15 Lenten Meal 6:30 Lenten Worship 7:30 pm Council mtg.	9	10	11
12 	13	14	15 5:15-6:15 Lenten Meal 6:30 Lenten Worship	16	17 Newsletter 	18 Bridal Shower for Kim Breamer at Church of Christ from 10-12 pm
19 Communion 	20 	21	22 Confirmation Class-4-5:30 5:15-6:15 Lenten Meal 6:30 Lenten Worship	23	24	25 Bridal Shower for Madison Wiederhoeft at Truman Comm. Bldg 11-2 pm
26 	27	28	29 Confirmation Class-4-5:30 5:15-6:15 Lenten Meal 6:30 Lenten Worship	30 Coming Up: New Member Sunday is <u>April 23rd</u> If you would like to join Trinity, let the church office know	31 UPCOMING EVENTS IN APRIL April 2-Palm Sunday April 6-Maundy Thursday - 9:30 April 7-Good Friday -6:30 April 9-Easter-10 am	

NEWS FROM OUR PARISH

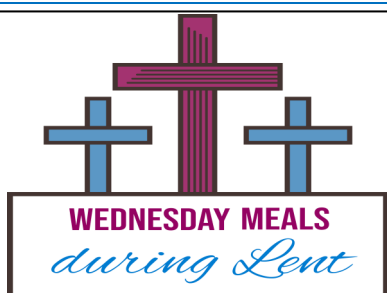


A great big thank you for all the cards, greetings, calls, and help for my 90th birthday! Have a memorable year and Gods Blessings to all.

Marlene Ratike



.Chuck Nord celebrated his 94th birthday on February 16th, 2023. Cards can reach him at:
850 Goldfinch St., #322,
Fairmont, MN 56031



LENTEN MEAL SCHEDULE:

Youth Group hosts meals

Wednesday's in Lent

5:15-6:15 pm

(free will offering)

March 1—Cheesy Chicken



March 8—Baked Potato Bar



March 15—GIFT hosts - Taco's

March 22—Hot dogs



March 29—Tator-tot Hot dish



Trinity's President Report

It has been a busy month of change in our church. We had to say good bye to an awesome Pastor, Penny and welcome Pastor Carol to our congregation with open arms. As we experience these changes, we know one of the most important things that doesn't change, and this is "Jesus". He is the same yesterday, today and tomorrow; so as we go forth towards the future we can be confident that with Jesus anything is possible.

In case of Inclement weather, announcements about Trinity's worship service cancellations will be texted to you and also be announced on our website, Facebook page and on the KEYC television station out of Mankato, MN.



Our sympathy to the Dennis & Pam Rode family at the death of their son, James, who passed away on February 6th. Funeral services were held at Trinity on February 10th. Burial was held at Ridgelawn in rural Truman.



Thank you for all the cards, memorials, your love, support and friendship for James during this difficult time. We want to especially thank Pastor Penny for all her help and leading such a wonderful service.

Roz & boys and Dennis & Pam Rode



We remember in our prayers...all who face catastrophic illness, surgery, and bindings of all kinds as well as the homebound:

Prayers

Larry Miller, Rosalie Heckman, Jerry Teig, Marilyn Anderson, Linnea Huss, Alan Ratike, Kent Hyndman and the Dennis & Pam Rode family . Be present with your Spirit, Lord, and lead us to be your presence to all. Amen.



MARCH BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES



Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

			1	2 Carter Werner	3  World Day of Prayer	4 Dan & Nikki Smith (17 years)
5 Kim Hastad Luke Kester	6	7 Brytni Drevlow	8	9 Tallin Cook	10 Tom Dodge	11 Sandy Meyer
12 Tom Kneeland 	13 Mike & Paula Heckman (3 years)	14 Justin Kelley Muriel Druck (93 years) 	15	16	17 Ashlyn Cook Chris Hyndman	18
19	20 Colby Bruderie Geri Halbert Jerry Teig (87 years) 	21 Julie Bruderie Jerome & Laurie Wille (42 years)	22 Carson Hastad Karen Nickerson	23	24	25 Don & Kathy Wilkening (56 years) 
26 Darrell Buhmann MiKayla Carlson	27	28 Dan & Denise Janssen (25 years) 	29 Donna Kotewa	30 Darin Carlson Don & Sandy Meyer (38 years)	31 <i>The Promise of Easter</i> 	

TRINITY LUTHERAN PARISH (ELCA)
102 NORTH 7TH AVENUE EAST
PO BOX 38
TRUMAN MN 56088
www.trinity-truman.org



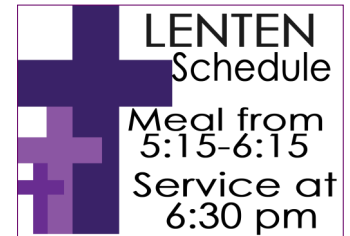
U.S. POSTAGE
REQUIRED
FOR
DELIVERY

WHAT'S INSIDE



- 1 Pastor's Letter
- 2 Council Minutes
- 3 Worship/GIFT pics
- 4 WELCA News/Pr Penny
- 5 March Calendar
- 6 Parish News
- 7 March Birthdays/Anniv.

Address Service Requested




THE MESSENGER

March 2023

Lent:
A Season of Preparation

 **Trinity Lutheran Church**

CONTACT

 507-776-4781

 trinitytruman4781@gmail.com

 WWW.trinity-truman.org

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS:
MON 8-11, WED 8-11 & 1-4, FRI 8-11

Office Administrator: Brenda Hansen

Council Pres. - Dan Klassen

 [Pres. Email-danielklassen254@gmail.com](mailto:Pres.Email-danielklassen254@gmail.com)

 Pastoral Care Team— 507-776-8555

 Pastor Carol Mapa—605-391-1086

Pastor email: carolmapa605@gmail.com

SOCIAL

 Facebook.com/
trinitylutherantruman

 Instagram.com/trinitytrumanmn