

# THE MESSENGER

A PUBLICATION OF TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH (ELCA)

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



Dear Family and Friends of  
Trinity,

I took advantage of the beautiful weather recently to play my annual spring game of “pick- up sticks”. Anyone who has old trees in their yard knows the “game”

well. During the winter, due to wind and the weight of ice and snow on trees, twigs, branches and limbs break off of the trees, and clutter the yard, creating quite a mess that has to be cleaned up. Of course along with the small dead forest that has accumulated on the yard, there are the plastic containers, soda bottles, and papers that have blown in from points unknown that also have to be picked up. (Once I found some old love letters, but I’ll never tell their story!!)

What was unusual about this particular outdoor project however was that the garage door suddenly began to go up and down, seemingly, at will. I ignored it at first, but as it continued to open and close, open and close, I began to get more concerned. I did mutter, “O God, what now?” (okay admit it-you have said that a time or two as well!). Of course I really didn’t believe God had anything to do with an erratic garage door opening and closing, but you have to start the blame game somewhere. As the door continued to open and close, sporadically, I then wondered if somehow it had been installed wrong several years ago, and was only now going wonkers, or perhaps there was a malfunction in its production; perhaps it was inferior right off of the assembly line. I even looked to see if there was someone hiding in the garage, playing a mind game with me.

This went on the entire time I worked outside-that door going up and down, up and down, with no apparent pattern or reason. Then of course I started to worry that it might come crashing down unexpectedly as I put the car in the garage, or that it might come down and stay down and I couldn’t get out for church. Now the curious mystery had also become a reason for wor-

ry about the future. It was not until I was putting my tools away and put my hand in my jacket pocket that I realized the reason for the busy garage door. I had put the automatic garage door opener in my jacket pocket, alone with some other junk and each time I bent to pick up twigs, or turned to move the trash cans, or reached for twigs with the rake, that movement caused the other item in my pocket to push against the garage door opener! The problem wasn’t God, or the manufacturers, or the installers, or the age of the door, or even a prankster. The problem was me!

Blame is a wonderful excuse for a lot of the things that go wrong in our lives. When confronted by God in the Garden of Eden, Adam first blamed Eve, and then had the audacity to suggest it was God’s fault because God had given Eve to him in the first place; then Eve blamed the serpent. “It’s not my fault” seemed to be their theme.

I would suggest we are often like that as well. Certainly there are many things in our lives that are not our fault. As far as I know, I have done nothing to invite cancer into my life three times; on the other hand some of the other health issues can be directly attributed to my preference for chocolate chip cookies over carrots, and for sitting in my recliner watching movies over exercise!

How often have you fallen into the blame game trap, instead of facing the possibility that YOU are/were the problem or at least were a contributing factor in it? It happens all the time in work situations, in marriages, in personal problems, financial difficulties, accidents, and more. “It’s not my fault”. Maybe it isn’t, or wasn’t. but maybe, just maybe it was or is. Pray about it this week.

Proverbs 19:3 says, “People ruin their lives by their own foolishness and then are angry at the Lord”.

Another proverb, not from the Scripture, but equally true goes, “Some people create their own storms and then get upset when it rains!”

Peace and Joy, Happy Spring!

*Pastor Penny*

# COUNCIL MINUTES

## COUNCIL MEMBERS

President: Yvonne Noorlun  
Vice President: Ron Kelley  
Secretary: Kathy Wilkening  
Treasurer: N/A  
Christian Ed: Nikki Smith  
Ch Properties: Dallas Wegner  
Stewardship: Rhonda Bonk  
Lay Ministry: Eloise Miller  
Worship: Jan Ringeisen  
Youth: Teresa Zaharia



**Trinity Lutheran  
 Council Meeting  
 March 10, 2021**

Call to order-

**Members Present:** Kathy Wilkening, Yvonne Noorlun, Dallas Wegner, Rhonda Bonk, Teresa Zaharia, Jan Ringeisen, Nikki Smith, Eloise Miller.

**Pastor Penny Report:** Pastor Penny has been sending post cards to all those new to attending in-person church. Made phone calls to some on the prayer list. Performed a funeral at the church for a member's father. Still having lunch with another member every Friday. Wrote letter for March Messenger.

## Board Reports:

**Secretary Report- Corrections:** The new cards for Holidays will begin in 2022

not 2021. Confirmation is from 4:30 to 6. Not 4:30 to 6:30.

Jan motioned to accept secretary's report as read and Nikki second with corrections.

**Treasures Report-** Total amount in checking and savings is \$49,962.72. The loan for roof has been paid with the account still open for a line of credit. The Building Fund pledges will need to be honored to rebuild the account. Teresa motioned to accept and Eloise second. The board authorized Yvonne Noorlun to be able to sign checks at Profinium Bank and take Clayton Duncan off the signature card.

**Stewardship-** Rhonda Bonk none  
**Lay Ministry/Evangelism-** Laurie Wille none

**Church Properties-** Dallas Wegner south parking lot might need to be staked.

**Christian Education-** Nikki Smith Confirmation is going good. A member of GIFT program Annica Sathoff's father past away. The Trinity family gave Annica a quilt, stuffed animal, and a book about heaven.

**Youth -** Teresa Zaharia None

**Worship-** Jan Ringesisen none

**Old Business:** BevComm will install new cables when the ground permits.

**New Business:** Holy week schedule -  
 No Maundy Thursday service.  
 Good Fri. Worship—4/2 at 7 pm  
 Easter - April 4 at 10:00 am

**Please register with the office for Easter service with number of attendees so that social distancing can be arranged.**

**There will be a change in time for the church service beginning on Palm Sunday March 28 to 10:00 am.**

The meeting was ended at 8:25 pm.

Submitted by Secretary  
 Kathy Wilkening



## Treasurer's Summary Report As of February 28, 2021

Checking Account Bal.	\$16,118
Savings Account Bal.	\$33,845
February:	
General Fund Income	\$10,292
General Fund Expenses	\$4,464
Net Gain	\$5,828
March:	
Cash Available	\$12,090
Bills to pay	\$ 5,627
Cash long	\$ 6,463

## WE WORSHIP TOGETHER

### SCRIPTURE READINGS

DATE/ CALENDAR YEAR	FIRST READING	2ND READING	GOSPEL
<b>April 4—Easter</b>	Acts 10:34-43	1 Cor. 15:1-11	Mark 16:1-8
<b>April 11—2nd Easter</b>	Acts 4:32-35	1 John 1:1-2:2	John 20:19-31
<b>April 18—3rd Easter</b>	Acts 3:12-19	1 John 3:1-7	Luke 24:36b-48
<b>April 25—4th Easter</b>	Acts 4:5-12	1 John 3:16-24	John 10:11-18

### REFLECTIONS

#### ABOUT EASTER/RESURRECTION SUNDAY—JESUS CHRIST HAS VICTORY OVER DEATH

I had a seminary professor who used to say that ‘the true symbol of the Christian faith is an empty tomb, not a cross’...and then with a twinkle in his eye he would add, “but it is hard to make pretty jewelry and lovely altar ware that resembles an empty tomb”.

However he was correct. The holy day, probably the most holy day, in Christendom, is not the day Jesus died on the cross, but the day celebrated as the day He rose from the dead! Had that event not occurred, the death of Jesus on a cross would have been, in the eyes of the world, just one more execution of a possibly deranged prophet/preacher. It is the resurrection of Jesus that sets Christianity apart from most other world religions. It is in the resurrection of Jesus that God completes His promises—and God always keeps His promises.

In doing some research and study about Easter I ran across this simple summary of Easter on the internet. It is NOT my original thought and I certainly would give appropriate credit IF I could find the article again.

The Empty Tomb reveals God is FAITHFUL. God keeps God’s promises.

The Empty Tomb reveals God is POWERFUL. God brought His Son back from the dead

The Empty Tomb reveals that God is LOVING. ..not that we love God but that God loves us

The Empty Tomb guarantees ETERNITY. Jesus said, “I am the resurrection and the life; those who believe in me will live, even though they die!”

The Empty Tomb guarantees DELIVERY..God will meet every need from now until you see Him face to face.

It is becoming more accepted to call Easter Sunday Resurrection Sunday in part because that really is what it is, and in part because the word “Easter” closely resembles the name of a cultic spring goddess “Eastre”.

Resurrection Sunday is celebrated with processions, with shouts of “Alleluia! Now Is Christ Risen From the Dead” and often with trumpet fanfares and even drums. Historically it was the day recent converts to the faith were baptized. It ushers in the Great Fifty Days,



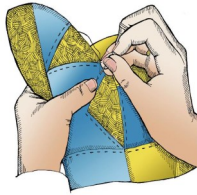


## WELCA News

I am writing this on March 17, remembering that one year ago today we had our last coffee at Trinity. That was the start of our staying home!

On Monday, April 19, we will have a WELCA meeting at 1:30. We will wear masks, socially distance, and have no lunch. It is not our regular month to meet but as we know the pandemic has brought a lot of changes.

The March snow caused us to postpone our quilting days. March 22nd and 23rd were the new dates. The 7 ladies tied 24 quilts and 2 graduate quilts. Our two graduates this year are Tallin Cook and Miah Krebs.



The Auxiliary of the Living Meadows of Madelia met March 9th for the first time since March of 2020. Ordinarily our meetings are at the home but because of the COVID restrictions we met at Faith Lutheran. There will be no Spring Festival but we are planning to have one September 28th.

The Watonwan WELCA conference spring gathering which is normally held in April is canceled.

Hopefully we will soon be able to do some of our normal activities.

Barb Shoen—WELCA President

### MEALS ON WHEELS DRIVERS NEEDED!

We have an urgent need for Meals on Wheels volunteer drivers in the City of Truman, Monday through Friday.

I am hoping you may be able to help promote our need for volunteers within the community!

Details:

1. We have delivery routes that usually start at 11AM and will take about 45 minutes to an hour long. There are about 20 meals to deliver each day.
2. We offer contact-less delivery (meaning you knock and leave the meal and then walk away to see if they pick up the meal).

We have gloves and masks available for volunteers.

People interested in volunteering can contact our Regional Manager, Sarah at 1-866-974-0283 or by email at [Sarah.Anderson@lssmn.org](mailto:Sarah.Anderson@lssmn.org).

### UPDATE ON THE GROCERY RECEIPTS:



**Fareway-\$52,955.45**

**Hy-Vee-\$38,200.61**

*Keep those receipts coming!!*

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





# APRIL 2021

May 2021						
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	31					

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>WORSHIP SCHEDULE</b>  <b>FB On-line streaming at 10:00 on Sunday's</b>	<b>CHURCH OFFICE HOURS</b>  Mon-8:00-11:00 Wed-8-11 & 1-4 Fri-7:00-11:00	<b>Please call the church office to make reservations to be at the services in-person</b>		1 <b>Maundy THURSDAY</b> NO SERVICE	<b>Good FRIDAY</b> 7 PM Service	3
4 10 AM On-line and (in-person-reservations) 	5	6	7 <b>BLOOD DRIVE</b> 11 am-4 pm at THS  Confirmation Class 4:30-6 pm	8	9	10
11	12	13	14  7:30 church Council mtg.	15 	16 Newsletter 	17
18 <u>Communion</u>	19  WELCA mtg at 1:30 no lunch	20	21 <b>Administrative Professionals Day</b>  Confirmation Class 4:30-6 pm	22 <b>EARTH DAY</b>	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	
The Trinity office is phasing out the Frontier.com email address and our new email address will be:  <b><u>trinitytruman4781@gmail.com</u></b>						

## NEWS FROM OUR PARISH



Our Sympathy to Pastor Lyly Rich and family at the death of his wife, Joan, who passed away on March 2nd.. Her funeral service was held on March 4th. Pastor Rich serviced as pastor of Trinity from 1964 to 1977. Cards can reach him at:

Eventide Care Center  
1405 7th St. S.  
Moorhead, MN 56560



Dear Friends of Trinity,

Thank you all for the cards, emails, and other best wishes, sent to me for my birthday.

Your kindness was appreciated.

Thank you~ Pastor Penny

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Thank you, Trinity Members:

During a time like this we realize how much our friends and relatives really mean to us. Your expression of sympathy will always be remembered.

With sincere thanks ~ The Ebert family

## PRESIDENT'S UPDATE:



1. Attendance has been good for services during Lent.

2. Advisory board/Call committee has been working on updates for our site profile, to be registered with the Synod. We have been in contact with the Synod and Trinity Madelia regarding possible leads for a Pastor. This will take time.

3. Grateful thank you to those helping with special music. Beautiful music adds so much to our worship. Tanner Mammenga, Mark Nass, Josh Tonkin, and Allison Klassen

4. Special thanks to Clayton Duncanson as he retires from the treasurers position.

Clayton has held the position off and on for 30 plus years.

5. Please take note: Due to issues with Frontier E-mail, Brenda is switching to our G-mail address. [trinitytruman4781@gmail.com](mailto:trinitytruman4781@gmail.com)

Easter Blessings to you all!



*Prayers*

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

**Ardene Miller, Larry Miller, Lowell Noorlun, and Pastor Lyly Rich family.** *Be present with your Spirit, Lord, and lead us to be your presence to all. Amen.*

# APRIL



| Sun                                                     | Mon                                                                 | Tue                                | Wed                                                   | Thu                                   | Fri                                      | Sat                                                                  |
|---------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                                                         | Remember your OFFERINGS<br>                                         |                                    |                                                       | 1<br><b>MAUNDY</b><br><b>THURSDAY</b> | 2<br><b>Good FRIDAY</b>                  | 3                                                                    |
| 4 <b>EASTER</b><br>Paula Heckman<br>CHRIST IS RISEN<br> | 5                                                                   | 6<br>Carolyn Drevlow<br>Cali Cross | 7 Amy Mowhinkel<br>Jared Steuber<br>Cindy Wiederhoeft | 8                                     | 9<br><b>JoAnn Knutson (85 years)</b><br> | 10                                                                   |
| 11                                                      | 12 Dan Janssen<br><b>Lowell &amp; Yvonne Noorlun (30 years)</b><br> | 13<br>Marianne Lang                | 14                                                    | 15                                    | 16<br>Chris Hiller                       | 17<br>Liam Werner                                                    |
| 18<br>Cory Pettersen                                    | 19<br>Lily Detloff                                                  | 20                                 | 21                                                    | 22<br>Mike Bonk<br>Jerome Wille       | 23                                       | 24 Jacob Worlds<br>Teresa Zaharia<br><b>Duane Heckman (83 years)</b> |
| 25                                                      | 26<br>Grant Hartman                                                 | 27<br>Kylee Harder                 | 28                                                    | 29<br>Dave Baarson                    | 30                                       |                                                                      |

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## The MESSENGER


April 2021

# Easter Blessings

## Trinity Lutheran Church CONTACT

 507-776-4781


 [trinitytruman4781@gmail.com](mailto:trinitytruman4781@gmail.com)


 [WWW.trinity-truman.org](http://WWW.trinity-truman.org)

**CHURCH OFFICE HOURS:**  
MON 8-11, WED 8-11, 1-4 &  
FRI 7-11

Office Administrator: Brenda Hansen


Council Pres. - Yvonne Noorlun

 [Pres.Email-Whittlers@frontiernet.net](mailto:Pres.Email-Whittlers@frontiernet.net)

 Pastoral Care Team— 507-776-8555

 Pastor Penny Ritter—507-776-6576

## SOCIAL

 Facebook.com  
/trinitylutherantruman

 Instagram.com/trinitytrumanmn