



ARE THERE TWO TREES BLOOMING??

THE TRINITARIAN



THE NEWSLETTER OF
TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod
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Divine Service 10:15 AM



APRIL 2023 -- VOLUME 61 No. 4

FROM THE PASTOR

Matt. 28:5-6 But the angel said to the women, “Do not be afraid, for I know that you seek Jesus who was crucified. He is not here, for He has risen, as He said. Come, see the place where He lay.

We have just passed the Sundays in the church year called the Sundays **in** Lent. They are labeled as “in” lent as the Sundays in Lent are not a part of lent even as lent is for 40 days (7 doesn’t go into 40 evenly) though we do take portions of the liturgy out for the services in Lent.

After the Sundays in Lent, we celebrate as those who saw Jesus on the way to Jerusalem with Palm Sunday. After Palm Sunday we have Holy Week, where we look at what went on in the upper room the night before Jesus went to the cross (Thursday), Good Friday, good for us and yes, willingly suffered by Jesus for us.

We will then celebrate again His rising from the grave on Easter. We have the Sundays after Easter as Sundays **of** Easter. They are “of” Easter as we continue to celebrate what Jesus has done for weekly as we come together again.

The Sundays of Easter lead to 40 days later when Jesus ascended bodily to heaven as the crowd looked on. After Pentecost we move into the church year with Sundays after Pentecost until the Fall where we will begin the church year all over again. This is just a little overview of what lies ahead.

If you don’t go to Bible Study during the week, now may be a good time to get started as we will begin a study on Genesis. Genesis is the beginning of the Bible and it should be interesting to once again get to know what went on in the beginning and why it is Jesus needed to come to the earth as well as looking at why we do some of the things we do in the way that we do them which is based on the first 11 chapters of Genesis.

Pastor

PRESIDENT OF THE CONGREGATION

A FEW GOOD MEN... We are not the Marine Corps, but we are looking for a few good youthful men who are willing to work approximately one Saturday every quarter on the list of projects that the Trustee has lined up. Our current volunteers are in many cases octogenarians (or older) and some of the tasks are physically difficult or dangerous for those folks to tackle (climbing ladders for example).

Anyone interested in volunteering for this effort should contact our Trustee, Allen Burmeister, to permit him to plan ahead in scheduling the necessary work.

LUTHERAN SEMINARY, NOVOSIBIRSK, SIBERIA. Since the fall of the Soviet Union the opportunity of the Russian people to worship the Lord has been reestablished. At the Rocky Mountain District convention last year financial aid to the one of two Lutheran seminaries operating in Russia, this one in Siberia, was voted. The district goal is to raise \$150,000 by 2025, and an appeal has been made to each congregation for support in line with the number of communicant members. Trinity will establish a special fund with a dollar goal based on our membership. We will set up a thermometer chart to show our progress toward meeting the set goal. Please show your support for this most important mission to advance God’s word.

ELDER MESSAGE

Revival

With all the chaos in the world, what is GOD telling us?

I believe, as Pastor Cramm teaches us in the Monday evening study of Isaiah, GOD is in control of everything. All things happen according to HIS plan for all humanity.

While it seems all we hear about and see in the media are the horrible events, GOD's plan includes miraculous bright spots in our world.

Asbury College in Kentucky has started a revival movement last month that has spread to numerous other colleges and universities across the country. The most recent is Baylor University, where they held 72 hours of continuous prayer and worship for its students leading to 20 baptisms. Charles Ramsey, the director of Baptist Student Ministries at Baylor stated "The goal is to stir a passion for JESUS CHRIST in the Baylor community and in the world by taking inventory of one's own journey, to linger in prayer and to recalibrate towards what is most important: our shared faith in JESUS CHRIST."

We at Trinity can have our own revival by bringing our friends to CHRIST during this Easter celebration of HIS glorious resurrection. Let this be the beginning of witnessing about CHRIST by our words, deeds and prayers to those in need of spiritual assistance.

GOD'S plan for us is to spread HIS love to everyone.

JOHN 3:16

James R. Wilkes, Elder

EVANGELISM

Tract of the Month: "The Biblical Response series offers easy-to-read summaries of important cultural topics for people who want to know what God's Holy Word says about cultural issues that touch our lives." The booklet for April is "**A Biblical Response to Homosexuality**". "When it comes to homosexuality, many sincere Christians believe that Jesus was silent on the topic. Or that times change, and Scripture doesn't apply. Or even that the Bible has been misinterpreted. Has it?" Several people have asked if we have a book on this topic. Here it is. Find out the answers to your questions, and by all means feel free to send or give one to someone you may know. If we run out, I can get more. Next month we will have a response to transgenderism.

National Day of Prayer – This years National Day of Prayer will be Thursday May 4th. Trinity will again this year commemorate the day with 24 hours of prayer. There is a sign-up sheet posted on the board in the narthex. Please pick the hour you would like to pray and sign up. If you don't think you can do an hour, pray with a friend (each would take half of the same hour.) We will have prayer suggestions available prior to that day to help you with your prayers.

The mission for March and April is Lutheran Hispanic Missionary Institute. The mission of the LHMI is preparing workers to multiply healthy Hispanic Ministries. The Institute trains men and women as missionaries, lay leaders, and leaders who will go on to serve as called church workers to sow the seed of the Gospel among Hispanics.

Potluck Luncheon!!! On April 16th, Pastor Schlak will be here to preach. Following the service, we will have a potluck luncheon, and Pastor Schlak will give us an update on the **Lutheran Hispanic Missionary Institute**. Please plan to join us!

“The Chosen”: Since Easter is on the second Sunday of April, the next showing of **“The Chosen”** will be on April 23rd. Please plan to join us after the church service, in the Bible Study room.

The Next Evangelism Committee meeting will be Monday April 10th at 5:30pm. We welcome anyone that may wish to attend!

In closing I would like to quote Isaiah 42:6-7 (ESV) – “I am the Lord; I have called you in righteousness; I will take you by the hand and keep you; I will give you as a covenant for the people, a light for the nations, to open the eyes that are blind, to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon, from the prison those who sit in darkness.””

Yours in Christ,
Cheryl Sandenaw, Evangelism Chairman

EDUCATION

The Education committee met on Monday, 3/13/23 at 5:30 pm.

Old Business

- 1) Two people have signed-up so far to teach Sunday School for the months of March and April. Only one more person is needed to teach for the month of May before we stop for summer.
- 2) Vacation Bible School will be held this year from June 12th-16th in the morning.

New Business

- 1) The times for Vacation Bible School will be 9:00-11:30 AM, Monday through Friday. More information to come at the next meeting.
- 2) We are looking into doing an extended summer activity program for two days each week during the two weeks following VBS. It will be open to all those children who attend our VBS and we would encourage them to invite a friend or two. We are hoping to have one or two of the teenage youth help the adult in charge. More details to come later.
- 3) It was suggested that we look into sending some kind of lesson or activity sheet out to the child who misses coming to Sunday School. It would be addressed to the child and sent in the mail the Monday after they missed. More information to come at the next meeting.
- 4) It was decided we would try creating our own prayers, songs, lessons, and crafts for the Sundays left in March, April, and May (as a trial period) to see if that would work better for our children attending Sunday School.
- 5) It was also suggested we try doing a short version of Children’s Church during the months of June and July, 2 Sundays a month, as a trial to see if it is something we would like to consider doing throughout the year. The children would be taken out during the sermon hymn and would return at the end of the sermon. The committee liked the idea and were excited for us to try it. More details to come later.

The next meeting will be held on Saturday, April 1st in order for the committee to put together new Sunday School lessons for the Sundays through the end of May.

Susan Kelly, Education Chair

EASTER BREAKFAST

The youth will be hosting an Easter breakfast, Sunday, April 9th.
Breakfast will be served after the Sunrise Service until 9:45 a.m.

Donations of muffins and breakfast casseroles would be greatly appreciated.

Also

The youth would like some candy donations for the Easter egg hunt after the 10:15 a.m. service.
Please don't bring chocolate as it melts. Place your donations in the Sunday School office. All
candy need to be turned in by Saturday, April 8th.

Thank You!

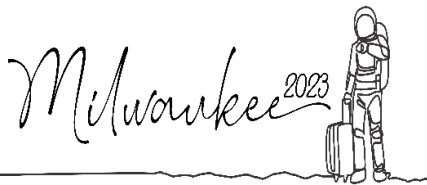
LWML

Trinity LWML had their monthly meeting on Saturday, March 11th at 10 am. After a devotion led by Sandra Klose there was a regular business meeting. Hostesses were Bev Van Duyn and Cheryl Richey. It was decided that our April meeting would be moved to **April 15th** due to the 8th being during Holy Week. During the April meeting elections will be held for the position of Vice President and Secretary. Installation of officers will follow in May. Several of the altar cloths will be replaced due to age/ and or staining. Hannah Keeler and Nora Sotak will be taking charge of this project.

On Saturday March 25th, 10 of our women (41 participants total) along with Pastor Heithold and the Trinity Ringers went to Zion Lutheran Church in El Paso for our Spring Rally. Pastor Heithold opened with a devotion and Jill Sotak led a Bible study about The Women at the Cross and at the Tomb. We were doubly blessed with an opening song from the Zion Bell Choir and our Trinity Ringers who played two songs that correlated very well with the Bible study theme. After lunch, everyone bagged rice and beans for Ysleta. It was a beautiful day filled with great fellowship.

Dates to look forward to:

Saturday, May 15th – One Day Retreat here at Trinity hosted by Yvonne Steeby and Nora Sotak (More to come).



LWML 40th Biennial Convention -

Celebrate the Lord of the Nations June 22-25, 2023 (Belinda Burmeister will be a voting delegate.

Information on the Mission Grant Proposals can be found on the RMD LWML Website or in the Tidings. If you have any input please let Belinda know.)

Second Biennial LWML RMD Retreat – Glorieta, NM (September 8-10th, 2023) - Registration begins April 1 and ends on August 1. Registrations will be processed in the order received. The Registration form can be found on our website at www.lwmlrmd.org. or on our LWML Bulletin Board Registrations will be made through Belinda Burmeister, Retreat Chairman. (See Tidings for complete information). **Donna Snow**, author of Joseph, Meant for Good, will serve as our retreat leader.

(Following is an excerpt from the Tidings – March 2023) **GO AND SHARE The JOY!**

But the angel said to the women, “Do not be afraid, for I know that you seek Jesus who was crucified. He is not here, for He has risen, as He said. Come, see the place where He lay. Then go quickly and tell His disciples that He has risen from the dead, and behold, He is going before you to Galilee; there you will see Him. See, I have told you.” So they departed quickly from the tomb with FEAR and great JOY, and ran to tell His disciples. And behold, Jesus met them and said, “Greetings!” And they came up and took hold of His feet and worshiped Him. Then Jesus said to them, “Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee, and there they will see Me.” Matthew 28:5 – 10

Many of us will hear these words on Easter this year in one of the most JOYous days of the year. This is the joy of Jesus’ Resurrection and this is the first appearance of Jesus after He had died on the cross and was buried in a borrowed grave. The women who had the privilege of being the first to see Jesus after His resurrection were Joanna, Mary the mother of James and others with them. They had gone to the tomb with Mary Magdalene in the early hour of the morning to put spices upon His dead body in honor of Him as their Messiah.

So often the greatest JOY comes after a great fear. During these two months we will experience the fear of our sins as we watch Jesus set His face on the Cross and all that entails. It is the fear of sin that brought Jesus into this world. Not that He committed any sins but we have. Jesus came to take all our sins upon Himself and to give us His perfect righteousness so that we can Live in the JOY of God’s Glory forever in the Heavenly Home that God has prepared for us. The women and all the disciples had experienced many people who were filled with JOY because Jesus had come into their lives and they had experienced the horror and the fear of the crowd that had called for Jesus to be crucified even though Pilot could find no reason for Jesus to be hung on a cross until He died.

Death is not a JOYous time for those who have no faith in Jesus Christ as their Savior. It is often a time of fear and JOY even for those who believe in Jesus Christ because we are going into a situation that we have never experienced. Yet that is what this Lenten and Easter Season of the Church year helps us to be prepared for. The Joy of seeing Jesus face to face just as the women of that first Easter did. Though they had heard Him tell them that He would rise again they had never experienced anything like this. Oh, the JOY of telling others the good news of Jesus’ Resurrection even if they think that it sounds like words of nonsense. That’s how the disciples responded to the women when they told them that they had seen Jesus alive and touched Him. What a great day of JOY it will be when we all are awakened from our sleep when Jesus comes to take us to be with Him forever. That is the JOY we are called to tell others so that they too can know the JOY of a savior who will take all their fears away and give them the perfect JOY of life with Him forever. Go and Share the JOY!

Have a Blessed Easter!

Vicki

FINANCIAL STATUS REPORT
OUR MONTHLY RESPONSE TO GOD'S GRACE
February 2023

General Fund	\$18,995.80
Expenses	<u>(\$15,634.30)</u>
Profit/Loss	\$ 3,361.50

YEAR-TO-DATE January, 2023

Giving (Actual)	\$47,855.26
Expenses (Actual)	<u>\$29,685.40</u>
Profit/Loss	\$18,169.86

Bob Klose, Vice-President

STEWARDSHIP

Psalm 51: 10 – 12 KJV “¹⁰ Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. ¹¹Cast me not away from thy presence; and take not thy holy spirit from me, ¹²Restore unto me the joy of thy salvation and uphold me with thy free spirit.”

We all know the background for David writing this prayer. He had sinned by committing adultery with Bathsheba. David had experienced God's love and power. It was God who gave him victory over Goliath, and made David a mighty king over Israel. Yet, David still sinned, just like we sin every day.

Holy week is near. The week we remember all Christ did for us, so we could have forgiveness of our sins. In Christ we have forgiveness of our sins, our hearts are made clean. He renews a right spirit within us. He does not cast us away from His presence or take the Holy Spirit from us. He gives us joy for our salvation and upholds us daily with His free spirit.

As we prepare our hearts and minds for Easter let's take time out daily to pray this prayer from David.

Psalm 51: 10 – 12 KJV “¹⁰ Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. ¹¹Cast me not away from thy presence; and take not thy holy spirit from me, ¹²Restore unto me the joy of thy salvation and uphold me with thy free spirit.”

Sandy Klose, Stewardship Chair

JESUS ANSWERS OUR UNCERTAINTIES

Thomas didn't believe the other disciples when they said Jesus had risen. The two travelers to Emmaus despaired over Jesus' death, uncertain what might come next.

During our life of faith, we all face questions, doubts and despair. In *Fearless*, Max Lucado says Jesus' responses to us echo his responses to the disciples. His answer to our doubt is the same as with Thomas: "Touch my body" — which we do every time we connect with the church (the body of Christ), wounds and all. As with the Emmaus disciples, Jesus urges us to ponder his story found in Scripture — which we do through Bible reading and study. Today, just as long ago, Jesus meets his followers — in his body, in his Word — and strengthens our faith.

THE WINDOW

OUR PLEDGE OF ETERNAL LIFE

By Herman W. Gockel, "This Day Magazine", April 1959

Men of all ages have sought for pledges of immortality – for proofs of a life beyond the grave. In our day it has become fashionable to point, for instance, to the dying leaves of autumn and to the tender shoots of springtime as pictures of human death and resurrection – and as pledges of a life beyond the tomb.

But when the cold fingers of icy death come tapping on our shoulder, there will be no comfort in the fact that October is the time of falling leaves and that springtime is the season when the lilacs and the lilies bloom!

At that moment nothing less will comfort our turbulent souls than the vision of our Savior, triumphant in the skies, with the seal of victory over death in His nail-pierced hands and the shout of assurance on His lips: "Because I live, you shall live also!"

For us death holds no terror. Our mighty Champion has gone before us through the valley of the shadow, preparing the way that we might follow. He has lifted the veiling cloud which hung heavily over what seemed to be the journey's end – and at the top of the road that winds up the far side of the valley we see our Father's house with all its many mansions!

His glorious resurrection on that first Eastern morning is our pledge of life eternal!

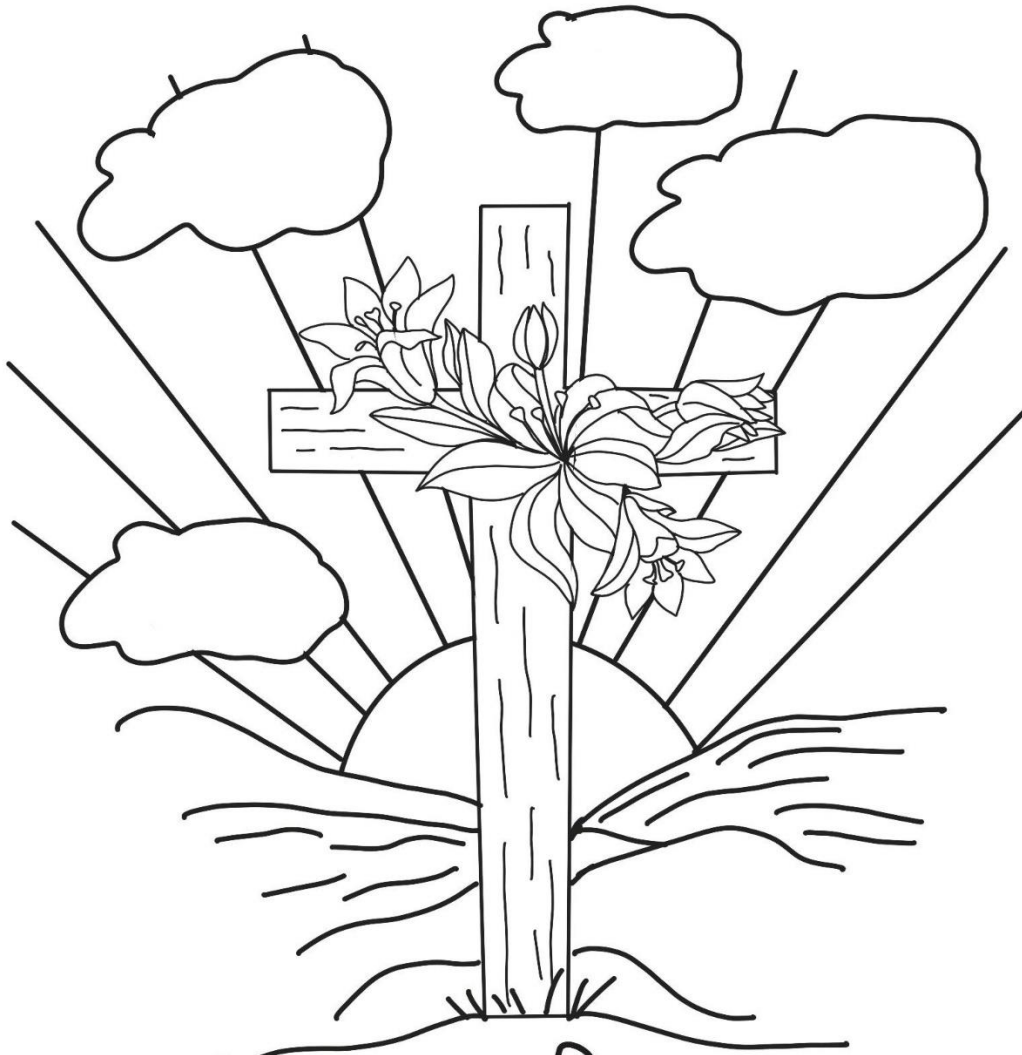
He lives and grants me daily breath;

He lives, and I shall conquer death;

He lives my mansion to prepare'

He lives to bring me safely there!

CHILDREN'S COLORING PAGE



He is Risen

APRIL 2023 STEWARDS FOR CHRIST

ELDERS

April 2 Matt Anderson
April 6 Jim Wilkes (Maundy Thursday)
April 7 Glen Schlehuser (Good Friday)
April 9 Matt Anderson (Easter Sunday)
April 16 Jim Wilkes
April 23 Robert Rentschler
April 30 Jim Wilkes

READERS

April 2 Shirley Enyeart & Ruth Wilkes
April 6 Dick Dommers & Hannah Keeler
(Maundy Thursday)
April 7 George & Marianne Schweers
(Good Friday)
April 9 Dick Dommers & Susan Kelly
(Easter Sunday)
April 16 Ruth Wilkes & Shirley Enyeart
April 23 Hannah Keeler & Shirley Enyeart
April 30 Cheryl Sandenaw & Ruth Wilkes

TELLERS

April 2 Cheryl Sandenaw & Linde Van Cleave
April 6 Lola Ableidinger & Nora Sotak
(Maundy Thursday)
April 7 Sandy Klose & Susan Kelly
(Good Friday)
April 9 Bob Klose & Joyce Macon
(Easter Sunday)
April 16 Yvonne Steeby & Beck Worley
April 23 Shirley Enyeart & Vicki Leonard
April 30 Dick Dommers & Megan Bowman

APRIL ALTAR COMMITTEE

Stacy Johnson
Sandra Krueger

APRIL ATTENDANCE

MaryLeslie Schmitt

Alleluia!
HE IS ALIVE!

USHERS

April 2 Tom Blackmon, Jim Fladhammer
Larry & Bev Van Duyn
April 9 Marvin Bunker, Susan Kelly
Glen & Christine Schlehuser
April 16 Robert Johnson, Trey Johnson
Ray Krueger, Bob Thede,
April 23 Gerald Moore, Bob & Sandy Klose
Irvin Torres
April 30

HOSTS

April 2 Lisa & Miriam Collins
April 9 Dick & Jan Dommers
April 16 Pastor & Lisa Cramm
April 23 Jim & Verna Fladhammer
April 30 Tom & Darlene Gilmore

SOUND TECH

April 2 Ben Clark
April 6 Ben Clark (Maundy Thursday)
April 7 Bob Klose (Good Friday)
April 9 Bob Klose (Easter Sunday)
April 16 Matt Anderson
April 23 Jim Kline
April 30 Bob Klose

APRIL FLOWERS

April 2 Pastor Kevin & Lisa Cramm
April 9 Marvin & Joyce Bunker
April 16 Charles & Kristi Humphrey
April 23 Rick & Nora Sotak
April 30 Gerald & Gayan Moore

MUSIC

April 2 Lisa Cramm
April 6 Cyndi Heithold (Maundy Thursday)
April 7 Lisa Cramm (Good Friday)
April 9 Lisa Cramm (Easter Service-early)
Lola Ableidinger (Easter service-late)
April 16 Lola Ableidinger
April 23 Cyndi Heithold
April 30 Lisa Cramm