



TREE IN FRONT OF CHURCH ENTRANCE – MARCH 2021

# THE TRINITARIAN



THE NEWSLETTER OF  
TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH  
The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod  
*Pastor Donavon W. (Bill) Heithold, Jr.*  
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Bible Classes and Sunday School 9:00 AM

Divine Service 10:15 AM



**APRIL 2021 -- VOLUME 59 No. 4**

## FROM THE PASTOR

Jeremiah. 29:11 For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope.

This verse was from a letter Jeremiah sent to the exiles in Babylon. They probably wondered about their future. Did they have thoughts that God had abandoned them? Did they take time to think of how they maybe were responsible for their situation? Did they wonder if things would ever get back to what it once was?

Jeremiah wrote this letter to encourage them. He wanted to paint a picture of good things coming out of all this. I'm sure as they read this letter or it was read to them they couldn't imagine it happening and yet it would, a few years down the road but God came through as He always does with a deliverance greater than what they could have ever imagined.

We are now into spring. We are making plans to get a garden planted, to maybe this year, get to go on vacation, we might even get to take that mask off and not have to remember to have one with us everywhere we go.

Jeremiah wrote that God had plans for them. He has plans for you as He did them. He continually watches over us, day and night, preparing our way, always directing things around us not only for our good but also for all those He brings into our lives.

We can plan for the future but do we ask the Lord to reveal His plans for us? Are we open to what He is going to bring into our lives? Until He takes us to be with Him, we have a future and a sure hope, just as much hope as the thief on the cross next to Jesus had. Jesus said that he, a thief and some would even say a murderer was to be with Him, not just on that hill called Golgotha but in paradise.

How far from paradise did that cross feel? I imagine it felt so far away that to even think of paradise without the promise of Jesus, would not have happened. Yet, he heard the words of eternal life from the lips of one who was going through what he was going through. As he looked in faith to Jesus, he knew those words could be trusted and so he did.

We have the promise of Jesus too. He has plans for us and in the mean time we cling to Him and His promise to us, Matthew 6:25-26 "Therefore I tell you, do not be anxious about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, nor about your body, what you will put on. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? And then the writer to the Hebrews gives us another point: Hebrews 13:5 Keep your life free from love of money, and be content with what you have, for he has said, "I will never leave you nor forsake you."

He is going to be with us as we make plans and set our minds on the things we want to do in the days ahead. May He help us to always be open to His directing as we go to Him for guidance in our lives.

Pastor

## **ELDERS MESSAGE**

### **The Power of GOD**

Several years ago, Gerald Moore took a late afternoon photograph of the chapel at Christ Community Church during a thunderstorm. The chapel was bracketed by several bolts of lightning and it appeared as if a spotlight was aimed at the chapel.

It was one the most riveting photographs I have ever seen. Gerald titled it "The Power of God." We gave a framed copy of it to some friends as a going away present, when they returned to California after a two year stint as Mormon Missionaries in Alamogordo.

They correspond with us on occasion and never fail to relate the number of compliments and comments they received about "The Power of GOD" from their friends, who see it prominently displayed in their home. It is heartwarming to hear from them, especially with the references about "The Power of GOD."

This graphic photo displays one aspect of GOD's power. We experience GOD's power every day in the spring with the wind. The wind is GOD's reminder to us humans that HE is in control of our lives by the way we have to adapt to HIS will just as we adapt to the spring winds.

Another joyous display of GOD's power is the birth of a new baby into our lives. It is wonderful to hear James Thomas Elkjer voice his opinions in church on Sunday. We all smile to witness another Christian soul joining us in praising GOD. The sounds of children singing praises to OUR LORD portends well for our little world at Trinity Lutheran Church.

All our voices praising GOD is truly the "Sound of Freedom."

We are fortunate to witness the "Power of GOD" as we pray to HIM, thanking HIM for the many blessings HE has bestowed upon us.

Continue to Repent for your sins and believe in HIS SON, JESUS CHRIST, whose innocent suffering and death paid for your ETERNAL SALVATION.

JAMES R. WILKES, ELDER

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### **HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE**

<b>HOLY THURSDAY</b>	<b>7:00 P.M.</b>
<b>GOOD FRIDAY</b>	<b>7:00 P.M.</b>
<b>EASTER SONRISE</b>	<b>7:30 A.M.</b>
<b>EASTER SERVICE</b>	<b>10:15 A.M.</b>

**\*\*Easter breakfast will be served after the SonRise service and the children's Easter egg hunt will follow the 10:15 a.m. worship service.**

## **BOARD OF DIRECTORS AGENDA**

Members present: Bob Klose, Allen Burmeister, Pastor Heithold, Vicki Leonard, Cheryl Sandenaw, Dick Dommers, Jim Wilkes, Cindi Anderson, Robert Anderson

Members absent: Glen Schlehuser, Sandy Klose, Matt Clark, Robyn Luevano, Jesse Elkjer

**Call to order:** 7:02

**Bible Study:** I will not die but I cannot live.

**Minutes:** Approved

**Vice President:** See bellow

**Elders:** No meeting, no report.

**Financial Secretary:** Total Income: \$ 16,849.00; General Fund: \$ 15,546.00; Special Funds: \$ 1303.00

**Treasurer:** General Fund income as of February 28, 2021 was \$16,832.08 (envelopes & loose plate); expenses were \$13,615.38; profit of \$3,216.70

**Evangelism:** The Evangelism Committee met Tuesday March 9th @ 5:30pm. During the meeting we discussed the Trinity website. Members of the committee would like to see a monthly calendar and coming events added to the website, along with some changes like separating the About Us section. Cheryl will see about getting together with Matt Anderson in regards to the website. Also discussed was the fact that many Trinity members don't know all the members of the church and/or their names, so the possibility of having nice name tags produced for members to wear each Sunday was discussed. These name tags would enable all members to know the names of all members and also help us to recognize guests. We could even create temporary name tags for guests. Finally, we fine-tuned the planning for our March 31st movie night

**Trustee:** Working on a problem with the furnace filters. It may be from the candles. Still working on the youth room. The sink and the bathroom are proving to be difficult. The custodian has quit, we need to fill that position. The vent in the youth room bath room is leaking. We're either going to replace it or find the leak and fix it.

**Education:** The Youth Group would like to thank the congregation for the great turnout at the Potato Bar lunch last week. They will be holding the Easter Breakfast again this year.

**Stewardship:** We want to try and get the information on memorial funds so we can be more organized with this.

### **Unfinished Business:**

#### **Sound system final report:**

TOTAL COST OF OUR MEDIA UPGRADE

USING MEMORIAL FUNDS DONATED IN MEMORY OF Dr. OSCAR MARQUARDT

Initial Estimate: \$13,088.00

Initial Payment: \$ 7,852.80

Balance \$ 5,235.20

Final Cost Total: \$12,412.00

Final Payment: \$ 4,559.20

A total of \$13,088.00 was donated to the Oscar Marquardt memorial fund, leaving a balance of \$676.00. The plan is to investigate the possibility of adding a remote control to the video camera. If possible, the balance of the Marquardt memorial will be used for that purpose.

If the remote control is not an option, I will talk to John Marquardt to determine the use of the \$676.00.

Donation Electronic Deposit: This will be discussed with Robyn in the coming weeks.

**New Business:** Here I Stand” Sunday April 18: 500 years after Diet of Worms. We’ll watch the Martin Luther movie on the afternoon of the 18<sup>th</sup>. We’ll announce this in the bulletin. Make a Martin Luther coin.

**Correspondence:** RMD Pledge Acknowledgement and change of address: Jan Thede and Robyn Need the change of address notice.

**Meeting adjourned:** 7:55 with the Lord’s Prayer

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### **VICE PRESIDENT’S REPORT**

Our media upgrade, donated in memory of Oscar (Doc) Marquardt, has been completed. We are learning how to get the best output from the sound and camera but overall comments as to sound quality and hearing ability have been positive. Jose Lugo installed the network equipment the week of the first. We now have a firewall to prevent unwanted access to our data. Signal strength throughout the building is very good. Final cost was \$676.00 less than was estimated.

On Thursday, March 11<sup>th</sup>, Jan and Vicki reported problems with trying to print to the main printer (they would get a “blue screen of death” notice and their computers would shut down! We learned on Friday that the problem was caused by a Microsoft update! Jose and I worked on the problem and then I performed a restore point operation Monday afternoon. That seemed to solve the problem. However, on March 19<sup>th</sup> the problem reoccurred on Jan’s computer. I uninstalled the Microsoft update and restored the system to a previous point.

I am asking for volunteers to establish new usher teams.

Bob Klose, Vice-President

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### **LENTEN SERIES – 2021 “ A CALL TO RETURN”**

**HOLY THURSDAY:** In the book of Joel, the prophet paints a vivid picture of the coming judgment of God, the day of the Lord. But right in the middle of this frightening portent of judgement, we find a tender invitation from the Lord: “Return to the Lord your God for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love; and he relents over disaster” (Joel 2:13b). During this season of Lent, we will consider this “call to return,” and how it played out for those who walked alongside Christ during His Passion, and for us today. Jesus invites us to join Him once again at the Table. He repeats the invitation again and again because He feeds us in order to build us up and strengthen our faith. His invitation draws us into a place where we have fellowship with all believers. And yet, our fellowship is stained by sin: “Truly, I say to you, one of you will betray Me, one who is eating with Me” (Mark 14:18). We are not asked to root out the offender, not commanded to judge one another. That is God’s task, not ours. Instead, Jesus gives us His own body and blood, and with it a promise: “This is My blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many” (Mark 14:24). His invitation to return is accompanied by His promise to make all things new, when once again we will share the fruit of the vine with Christ Himself. © 2020 Concordia Publishing House. Scripture: ESV®.

**GOOD FRIDAY:** In the book of Joel, the prophet paints a vivid picture of the coming judgment of God, the day of the Lord. But right in the middle of this frightening portent of judgement, we find a tender invitation from the Lord: “Return to the Lord your God for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love; and he relents over disaster” (Joel 2:13b). During this season of Lent, we will consider this “call to return,” and how it played out for those who walked alongside Christ during His Passion, and for us today. The author of creation hangs on the cross, wracked with pain and writhing in agony. It is

almost unbearable to look on this scene, and yet without it we would be lost forever, still trapped in our sins. As we gather together tonight to remember the sacrifice that Jesus Christ made for each of us, may we focus on the One who is the way and the truth and the life, even Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. © 2020 Concordia Publishing House. Scripture: ESV®.

**EASTER SUNDAY:** Alleluia! Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia! Throughout this season of Lent, we have heard a drumbeat call from God to return to Him, and today we rejoice that this call was issued so that we might have life in abundance through the One who lived, died, and rose again to secure our salvation. Our journey has led us through some dark places, and we have grappled with the implications of our sin in many different forms, but today the call is especially personal; it is about what it all means for you. We are called to come and see the Christ; to see the salvation won for us; to see the life that He has secured; and to see the Word that we are to share with others. Our prayer is that others, too, would hear God's call and respond in trust and faith. © 2020 Concordia Publishing House. Scripture: ESV®.

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### **EASTER BREAKFAST**

Sunday, April 4<sup>th</sup>

Breakfast served after Sunrise Service until 9:45 a.m.

Breakfast casseroles, muffins, fruit, juice and coffee - -Hosted by the youth group.

(Donations are accepted)

**CANDY:** The youth also needs donations of candy to fill the plastic eggs for the children's Easter Egg hunt on the front lawn of the church after the service on Easter Sunday.

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### **STEWARDSHIP**

Mark 10:45 "For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give His life as a ransom for many."

Wow! What a wonderful example Jesus gave us for our lives. He gave everything for us even His own life.

What can we do to serve Him and others? Two ideas came to my mind. I know there are infinitely more, but these were my thoughts.

First, we can pray for others. One of my recent devotionals said the best gift you can give someone is to pray for them. I had not thought of prayer as a gift to the one I pray for, but I like that idea. We all take time out daily to pray for loved ones and friends. Jesus truly set the example of praying for others and encouraged his disciples to even pray for themselves. So, as we prepare for the end of this Lenten season and Easter, we can serve God and others by praying.

My other thought for serving others was to simply show kindness. "Kindness" seems to be a new popular movement. It really isn't anything new; most of us were taught (mostly by example) how to be kind to others. Paul tells us in Galatians 5:22 "But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, **kindness**, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. Against such things there is no law." Jesus tells his

disciples in the parable of the sheep and the goats; Matthew 25:40 NIV “I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me.”

Jesus gave His all for us, shouldn't we give our ALL in serving Him?

God's blessings as you serve Him.

Sandy Klose, Stewardship Chairperson

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## **EVANGELISM**

Greetings All

I hope many of you had the opportunity to watch the Virtual Concert on March 12<sup>th</sup>. I thought I'd share part of an email that was sent to me the day after the concert from Matt Thiel *Sheboygan Lutheran High School Music Director*:

“Last night's concert, "From Coast to Coast", peaked at 1,600 concurrent viewers. The really neat thing to think about however was the number of actual people watching could have very likely been well over 3,000 considering many churches, friends, and families gathered around what is counted as only one "stream view" to watch the concert. If you would like to watch the concert again or pass it along to someone else to view, the video can be found here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=neFxrR2Bxkk>.”

Seven people watch the concert at the church, I have no idea how many others from the church or community watched in their homes, but I hope Alamo had a good showing. Did you scroll down and see our church listed as one of the sponsors? Thanks to Bob Klose for getting the information out to Bob Flotte to get out the community.

**Don't forget about the movie “The Passion of the Christ” at 6:30 pm March 31<sup>st</sup> in the great room.** There is a signup sheet posted in the Narthex. Please let us know if you will be attending so we know how much food to purchase. The last day to sign up will be Palm Sunday. We hope to see you!

At our last Evangelism Committee meeting it was pointed out that all the members of the church don't know all the members of the church. Perhaps if we were to wear nametags, we would learn the names of members we recognize but don't know by name, and also members that we may not recognize and don't know are members. Name tags would also help us to recognize who our visitors are so that we can extend a gracious and hearty welcome. (it would also be good to get to know the members you don't know) If we want our church to grow, we must make people feel welcome. I would be interested to know what you think about this idea. Please feel free to either tell me or put a note in my box.

If anyone has an idea they would like to share or is interested in joining the Evangelism Committee, we welcome you to do so! We meet at the church at 5:30pm on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the month.

Finally, when you feel burdened by the world around you, I hope you will remember Psalm 27:1 “The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The Lord is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?”

Yours in Christ,

Cheryl Sandenaw, Evangelism Chairman

**OUR PLEDGE OF LIFE ETERNAL LIFE  
THE WINDOW BY HERMAN W. GOECKEL**

*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, ye 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 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!*

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**BE A CAREMONGERER**

At the start of the coronavirus pandemic, a mutual-aid movement dubbed as “caremongering” quickly spread throughout Canada. Within 72 hours, 35 Facebook groups were launched so people could request and offer assistance.

This altruistic effort is essentially the opposite of fearmongering. “We wanted to switch that around and get people to connect on the positive level,” says Mita Hans, who helped set up the first group. The movement, she adds “spread the opposite of panic in people, brought out the community and camaraderie, and allowed us to tackle the needs of those who are at-risk all the time—now more than ever.”

One disabled man in Halifax who received aid through a caremongering group said it felt “like a hug.” That’s intentional, says participant Valentina Harper. “I think it is really showing people there is still hope for the humanity.” When the pandemic is history, may we all continue to be caremongers in our communities.

*The NewsletterNewsletter, April 2021*

**“HERE I STAND” SUNDAY**  
**APRIL 28, 2021**

1.



April 18th will be celebrated as "Here I Stand" Sunday, the 500th anniversary (to the day) of Martin Luther's defense at the Diet of Worms. There will be additional information forthcoming. One item in the planning is the showing of the film "Martin Luther" that was produced for the 500th anniversary celebration of the start of the Reformation.

Join Lutherans across the nation in celebrating “Here I Stand” Sunday, a special 500th-anniversary observance endorsed by delegates to the 2019 convention of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS).

2019 Resolution 4-09 calls on God’s people and all LCMS congregations to “gather for worship celebrations ... spend time in prayer, asking the Lord to continue to bless the proclamation of the Gospel” and to receive thank offerings to be used toward the continued proclamation of the Gospel throughout the world.

Although this resolution was passed prior to the pandemic, the goal remains the same: to encourage continued comradery across the Synod.

Therefore, encouraged by the confession of Dr. Martin Luther, we gladly bring to mind the truth that to gather in the Lord’s name and around His Holy Word and Sacrament is to be joined always to the full number of saints — both around the world and in eternity.

### **GOD'S LOVE TO US**

As I walk out in the sunshine  
And all of earth's beauties I see,  
I stop and give thanks to my Savior  
For giving these things to me.

But more than ever I thank Him  
For the love He showed to me,  
By sending His only Son Jesus  
My Lord and my Savior to be.

He died on the cross to save me,  
To save me from my sin,  
To give me the life everlasting  
If I would believe in Him,  
A new and clean heart He will give you,

Then you will enjoy even better  
The things God has given to us,  
The birds and the trees and the flowers  
And even the bees that buzz.

---Bett Bechte, Gaya, Nigeria, French West Africa –  
"My Chum Magazine", April 1956



**"I'm afraid your church's name made us question your tax-exempt status."**

