



The Trinity Tidings

Trinity Lutheran Church
217 Brackenridge SW, Sleepy Eye, MN

Web: www.trinitysleepyeye.org

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April 2024

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9am—3pm

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Pat Lowther

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“Meals that Matter” are
available downstairs.



Southwestern Minnesota Synod
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

Worship Schedule

Sunday Worship 9:00 am
Fellowship Hour 10:15 am
Trinity Church School 6:30 pm Wednesdays



Trinity's Mission Statement

*We are a community where Jesus is Lord: our mission is to invite, welcome,
nurture, and equip all people to be disciples in His name.*

Blessed be the
God and Father
of our
Lord Jesus Christ!

By his great mercy
he has given us a

new birth
into a
living hope

through the
resurrection
of Jesus Christ
from the dead.

1 Peter 1:3





From Interim Pastor Grant...

On Easter morning we proclaimed, “He is Risen! He is Risen indeed!” That is the what of Easter morning and the foundation of our faith, that Jesus the Christ is risen from the dead. But that is only one side of the coin, the other side is “So what?”

A congregation much like Trinity was seeking a new pastor. After a long search they found a young man who agreed to take the call. On the first Sunday after his installation, he preached a powerful sermon. The church council president slapped the call committee chair on the back and said, “You did a good job. We got a good one.” The following Sunday the young pastor preached the same sermon. It was as good as the Sunday before, and the council president and the call committee reasoned that not everyone had been there to hear it. The third Sunday rolled around. They heard the same sermon. There was some concern now that maybe the young pastor only had one sermon to preach. The council president and the call committee chair cornered the pastor after the service and asked, “Why did you preach the same sermon three Sundays in a row? Don’t you have a different sermon?” The Pastor replied, “I haven’t seen any result. I didn’t think anyone was listening.”

The “so what” of the good news of Jesus’ resurrection is meant to produce a transformation in us. He is alive and continues to bring life and life abundantly to all who hear the startling news of God’s grace and mercy for us. Death has been defeated and now life has the last word through Jesus’ resurrection.

The same is true for congregations that go through transitions. In some ways a death takes place, the familiar, the comfortable is replaced with the chaotic, the stressful and the unknown. The transition process if done well, with integrity, honesty, and mature diligence can produce new life.

Trinity’s Transition Team have been all these things. They have worked diligently to produce a Mission Site Profile that is both honest about Trinity’s history. That the history of Trinity’s recent past will only inform of where the congregation has traveled and will not define or limit Trinity’s future trajectory. That’s the good news. Yet it is only good news if it produces a transformation that lead to new life. One of the sad things that I’ve witnessed as an interim, is that as soon as a new pastor is installed the congregation begins to fall back into old habits and old ways of being or is sabotaged by individuals who are emotional immature who wish to maintain their positions of power or their pet agendas.

That’s not the message of the resurrection or the new life it brings. Transformation, resurrection means something new and alive comes forth. There is a change that is rendered that is not of the old, other than the history of what was that leads to the hope of what will be in Jesus name.



An Easter Message from Bishop Dee....

Bodies. They need a lot of care and attention each day. Nourishing, cleansing, moving, exercising, strengthening, healing, clothing them.

At the center of the most important story of the Christian faith is a body: the body of Jesus. Fully human, fully divine Jesus: God in the flesh. *“And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.”* (John 1:14.)

The earliest theologians spent a lot of time debating the nature of Jesus: was he only human and not divine, did he just appear to have a body that suffered, and was he really a spirit taking on human appearance? These questions were worked out finally in the third - fifth centuries in the creeds of the church that we continue to confess today - the Nicene and Apostles Creeds, and the Athanasian Creed.

Just before Jesus enters Jerusalem, Mary anoints his feet. In the story of Maundy Thursday, Jesus gathers with his friends to share one last Passover meal together. He washes the disciples' feet. And then in this meal, Jesus says that the bread he takes, gives thanks for, and breaks, is his body. He says that the cup of wine he takes is the new covenant in his blood, poured out for all. His friends are confused and disturbed by what that could mean.

The next day, they discover what Jesus' words in that meal truly meant. Their teacher and friend – his very body - is betrayed, handed over, beaten, denied, suffers. His feet walk the way of the cross. He cries out, *“I thirst!”* As he is dying, even then there are words of Scripture on his lips: Psalm 22, *“My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?”* Although John's Gospel reflects the scripture that not one of his bones would be broken, I wonder if he also prayed Psalm 51, *“Let me hear of joy and gladness; let the bones that you have broken rejoice.”*

The stories of Maundy Thursday and Good Friday draw our attention to the body of Jesus, God in flesh: body given, body betrayed, body suffering and thirsting and dying. In all this, he knew what it is for us to be betrayed or denied, to bear pain and trauma in our bodies, to suffer, and finally to die.

Early on the first day of the week, the women go to anoint the body of Jesus. His body is not there, but they are promised he is risen and is going ahead of them to Galilee and would meet them there. They have a physical reaction to that announcement: they are alarmed and go out with trembling and amazement. In fact, the good news is true: the death we fear so much is defeated, and resurrection life has the final word. But even then, the body of Jesus bears the marks of his suffering and death. The text of one of the Easter hymns puts it like this:

***“The risen Christ, who walks on wounded feet
from garden tomb through darkened city street,
unlocks the door of grief, despair, and fear,
and speaks a word of peace to all who hear.”*** (ELW 390)

The stories of this holy week will draw you in to accompany Jesus as he walks to the cross. They will draw you in to walk with others in their suffering today. They will send you to run with the story of the resurrection life and see Jesus present right where he promises to be.

This week, we also remember all those here and around the world, who long for food and drink and shelter and justice for their bodies, who long for peace for their hearts and minds. This year especially, I remember the people I met last year in the Holy land, who, every day, walk the stones that Jesus walked. They are ordinary people of all faiths. They are our Lutheran brothers and sisters- pastors and lay people. They are the living stones of Jesus today, proclaiming peace when there is no peace, and life in a place where it is hard to see it present.

This week you will walk your own paths with many people, in many places. You, too, walk with wounded feet and sometimes broken hearts. Your body bears the fear, the stress, the pain of all those moments and of all to whom you are connected. But the heart of our gracious God is so full of mercy, compassion, and love, that the Creator of the universe sent Jesus to walk with you. Jesus came so that every precious child of God might know God's presence, for Jesus is going before you now just as he promises yet today.

So, if there are days when we wonder where the love of God has gone, or long to know where there could be new life, the stories of Jesus, the Word made flesh, declare that God is present with us and all people as we experience life's sufferings. And not only that, in the story of the resurrection we will hear again promises that wounded feet can and will walk again. Joined to Jesus' death and resurrection, life has the final word for our bodies. We will live again. Alleluia!



Children, Youth and Family



Our Trinity Church School is on Wednesday evenings from 6:30-7:30! There will not be Church School on April 10th. Our Third graders will be painting their First Communion Chalice at Mark Thomas that night. First Communion Sunday is April 21st. Our students follow the Sunday School Curriculum at the evening classes. This change has helped with busy children's activities. Trinity Wednesday Church School Please join us! The last day of class is April 24th.

Confirmation students have finished classes for this year. The Confirmation Banquet is April 10th and Confirmation Sunday is April 14th. There will be cake and coffee following Worship that Sunday as well. Great thanks to Pastor Grant, Julia Coulson, Kate Nelson, and our table leaders for a successful year!



Confirmation

Faith Formation & Youth Ministry Coordinator
Trinity Lutheran Church
Sleepy Eye, MN
507 794-5051

Job Description

Trinity Lutheran Church is a welcoming church focused on evangelism and mission in the community of Sleepy Eye and beyond. As a welcoming and nurturing church, we are shaped by prayer, worship, scripture and the Holy Spirit, where everyone's gifts are valued, where people's spiritual needs are met, and God's love with the world is shared.

Position: Faith Formation Youth Ministry Coordinator (Part-time)

Summary of Position: Faith Formation Youth Ministry Coordinator oversees and directs Christian Education for the youth and children's ministries, and manages the development and growth of the Christian Education and Youth programs while building relationships with families and their children.

Supervision: Christian Education Board and Board of Young People's Work

Supported by: Senior Pastor, Personnel Committee other church staff and members of Trinity Lutheran Church

15 hours per week which are flexible to meet the needs of the church based on planned activities and evenings and weekends required as needed. Compensation: \$20/hr

Further information and Application are on our website www.trinitysleepyeye.org under About Us/ Employment or in the Church office.



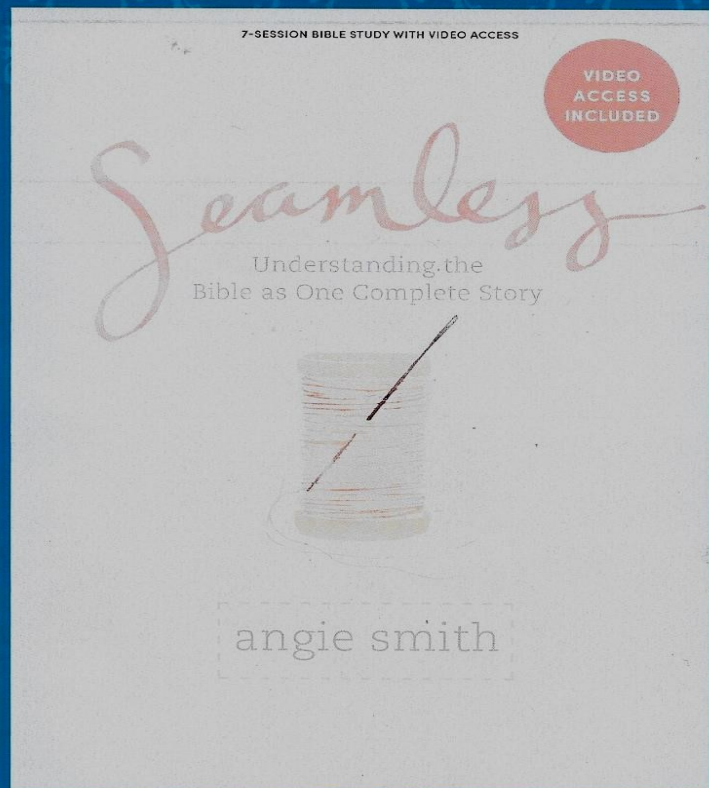
Let's Make Some **MUSIC**





The well loved Progressive Supper is happening again this year! Please mark your calendars for Sunday April 28th, to join in an evening filled with fellowship, fun, and great food. We are in need of 3 hosts to open their homes for this event. Please contact Ashley Fischer (507)766-2647 if you are willing to be a host. Watch for more details on time and cost in future publications. A sign-up sheet is in the church office.

*Wednesday
Morning
Bible Study*



For more information or to obtain a book, contact Darlene in the church office or Cheryl Neidt.

**Beginning January 3, 2024
9:00 –10:00 a.m.**

All are welcome!



GOOD STEWARDSHIP

Our budget needs for January 1st through the 3rd week in March were \$63,038.00, our contributions to the budget have been \$54,981.45, a shortfall of \$8,056.55. 2024 is slightly better compared to the same time period last year when our contributions were \$52,058.24, and our budget needs being the same as this year, left us a shortfall of \$10,979.76.

Last year about 50% of the total contributions for the year were received in the 4th quarter, and we are very thankful for that strong finish! However, it does create cash flow challenges in paying our obligations in the earlier quarters. Historically the negative gap between budget needs and contributions typically continues to widen until we get into the fall months. As we move towards spring, we will be urging members to help TLC *“bridge the summer”* to reduce the negative budget gap we typically see. This will be an awareness campaign urging members to avoid where possible catching up with contributions in the final quarter, through a more consistent giving approach through the entire year, kind of flattening the curve so to speak!

The “Simply Giving” online auto withdrawal program is something to consider, we have members who use this successfully and find it very convenient, check with the church office if you’re interested. Thanks for your cooperation in helping our congregation in your own way to *“bridge the summer”*!

As indicated by the Property Board, to obtain property insurance, all of the electrical panels need to be updated with new replacement panels – about an \$8,600 expense. The “building fund” which is a non-budget fund that many of you have contributed to for various projects over the years will again be used to fund this project. As of mid-March, the building fund had about \$6,900 in it. Any contributions to the building fund to fund this project and build it up again for others that may pop up would be greatly appreciated!

Thanks again for your faithful stewardship!

The Stewardship Board.



THIS & THAT

Read the
Bible
in a Year



Week of March 31

Su Mark 16:1-8
M 1 Corinthians 15:35-49
Tu 1 Corinthians 15:50-58
W Mark 16:1-8
Th Acts 2:42-47
F Acts 7:30-40
Sa Mark 9:2-8

Week of April 7

Su John 20:19-31
M 1 John 2:3-11
Tu 1 John 2:12-17
W Mark 12:18-27
Th 1 John 2:18-25
F 1 John 2:26-28
Sa Luke 22:24-30

Week of April 14

Su Luke 24:36b-48
M 1 John 3:10-16
Tu 2 John 1-6
W Mark 16:9-18
Th Acts 3:17-26
F Acts 4:1-4
Sa Mark 6:30-34

Week of April 21

Su John 10:11-18
M 1 Peter 5:1-5
Tu Revelation 7:13-17
W Mark 14:26-31
Th Acts 8:1b-8
F Acts 8:9-25
Sa Mark 4:30-32

Week of April 28

Su John 15:1-8
M Galatians 5:16-26
Tu James 3:17-18
W John 14:18-31
Th Acts 10:1-34



RELIEVE EDITORIAL STRESS:

**TURN IN
YOUR ARTICLES
EARLY!**

Please join us for Trinity's "Dining Out", following church services 4/21/2024. "Breaking Bread Together" is an opportunity to get to know each other better and share stories. We will meet at 11:00 AM at the Daug House for April. Our goal will be to "Dine Out" the 3rd Sunday of each month!



Our Services are broadcast on Channel 8 each Tuesday and Thursday at 9:00 a.m. or on our webpage anytime. Share the Good News with those who are unable to join us in person!



Newsletter Deadline: The next issue of *Tidings* will be emailed by the 1st of the Month. Please have items for the newsletter to Darlene by the 20th of each month. Thank you.

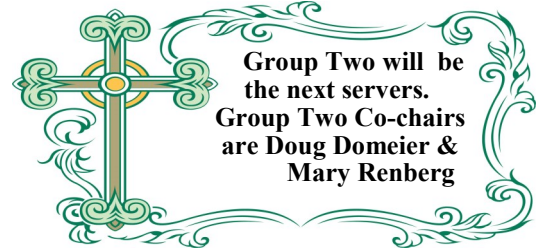
SEMC has the New Flu and the Bivalent COVID booster available. You have call SEMC at 794-3691 to schedule an appointment. Forms for the vaccine are available at the church in the narthex or on the SEMC website.

Boosters are also available at Randy's Drug. Please call ahead. Flu shots are available anytime.

10 Worship Assistants



April: Nicole Stevermer, Beth Klein
May: Mary Renberg



Sunday 9:00 a.m.

Acolytes

4/7 Carson Uecker
4/14 Davin Suess
4/21 Michael Pool
4/28 Davin Suess

Readers

4/7 Larry Baumgardt
4/14 Sandy Beito
4/21 Diane Evers
4/28 Phyllis Kleven

Communion Assistants

4/7 Lee Johnson-at the rail
4/14 Neil Neidt, Brian Polesky
4/21 Larry Baumgardt, Mark Miller

Sound Tech

Russ Sorensen

April Ushers

Larry Baumgardt, Dave Vosbeck

April Greeters

Larry & Diane Evers



Sunday 9:00 a.m.

Acolytes

5/5 Hayden Domeier
5/12 Anders Coulson
5/19 Audee Darnell
5/26 Kaylie Fulmer

Readers

5/5 Sarah Lendt
5/12 Neil Neidt
5/19 Cheryl Neidt
5/26 Terry Newgord

Communion Assistants

5/5 Lee Johnson at the rail
5/19 Larry Baumgardt, Mark Miller

Sound Tech

Russ Sorensen

May Ushers

Dennis Mangen, Mike Peterson

May Greeter

Shane Heiderscheidt

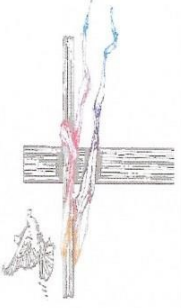
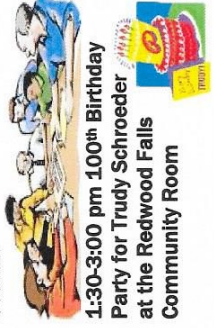

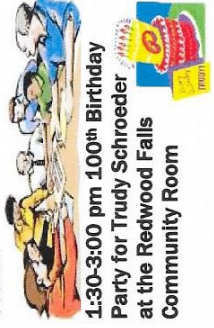





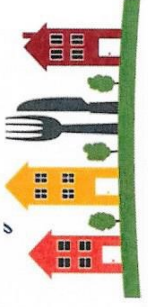
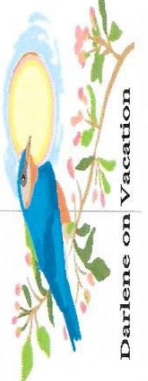



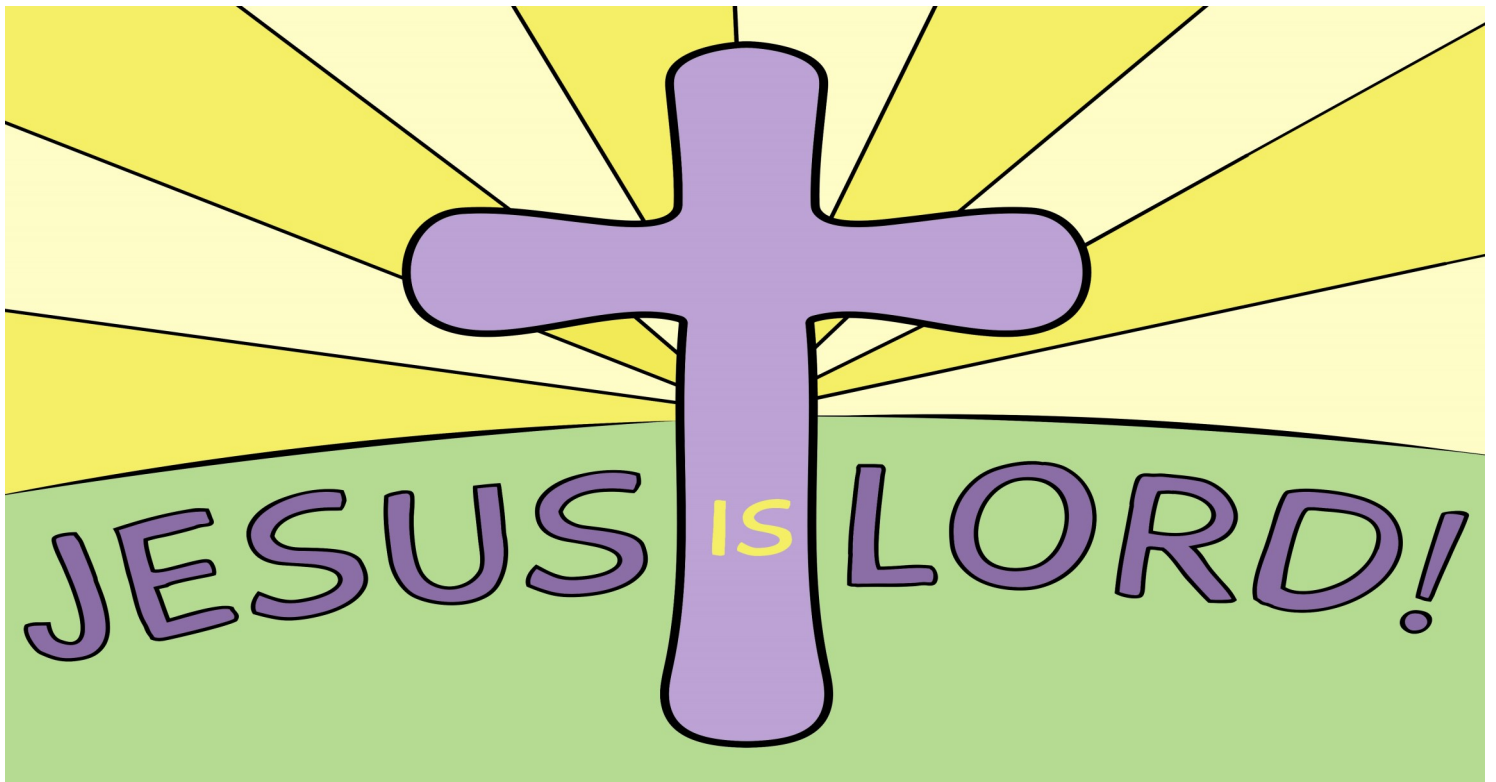
Pursue
righteousness, godliness,
FAITH, love, *steadfastness,*
gentleness.

1 Timothy 6:11



APRIL 2024

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|---|--|---|---|--|------------------|--|
| <p></p> <p>7 9 am-Holy Communion 10:00 am Fellowship Hour 10:00 am Parish Planning Council</p> <p> 1:30-3:00 pm 100th Birthday Party for Trudy Schroeder at the Redwood Falls Community Room</p> | <p>1 Office Closed 9 am Quilting & Bandage Making</p> <p>Darlene Gone</p> <p>8 9 am Quilting & Bandage Making</p> | <p>2 6:30 pm AA</p> <p>9 7am-3pm ACT Testing in the Fellowship Hall 6:30 pm AA</p> | <p>3 9 am-Women's Bible Study Noon WELCA 6 pm Bell Choir 6:30 pm Church School</p> <p> First Communion Class</p> | <p>4 7 am-Men's Bible Study</p> | <p>5</p> | <p>6</p> |
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| <p>14 9 am-Confirmation 10:00 am Fellowship Hour</p> <p> <i>Confirmation</i></p> | <p>15 9 am Quilting & Bandage Making</p> <p>REMEMBER: TAX DAY</p> | <p>16 6:30 pm AA</p> | <p>17 9 am Women's Bible Study 6 pm Bell Choir 6:30 pm Church School</p> <p> First Communion Class</p> | <p>18 7 am-Men's Bible Study</p> | <p>19</p> | <p>20 Tidings Articles Due</p> |
| <p>21 9 am-First Communion & Third Grade Bibles 10:00 am Fellowship Hour 11:00 am Breaking Bread Together</p> <p> First Communion</p> | <p>22 9 am Quilting & Bandage Making</p> | <p>23 6:30 pm AA</p> | <p>24 9 am-Women's Bible Study 1 pm Ross Park Bible Study 6 pm Bell Choir 6:30 pm Last Day of Church School</p> <p> First Communion Class</p> | <p>25 7 am-Men's Bible Study</p> | <p>26</p> | <p>27</p> |
| <p>28 9 am Worship 10:00 am Fellowship Hour</p> <p></p> | <p>29 Office Closed 9 am Quilting & Bandage Making</p> <p> Darlene on Vacation</p> | <p>30 Office Closed 6:30 pm AA</p> |  | | | |



SUNDAY MORNING 9:00 AM
Fellowship Hour 10:10 AM

WORSHIP ON LINE ANYTIME ON
TRINTYSLEEPYEYE.ORG

See the front cover for contact numbers.

Office hours are 9:00-3:00 PM
Monday-Thursday

May God bless and keep us all.



Trinity Wednesday Church School

Trinity Church School
Wednesdays at 6:30 pm

