

TRINITY CONNECTION

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH, ELCA • 735 2nd St. SE • P.O. Box 249 • MILACA, MN • 56353
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well hello,
march

March is Food Shelf Month

Throughout Minnesota churches, schools, businesses and others consider the hungry by making donations of money and goods to area food shelves.

The Milaca Area Pantry needs volunteers to unload trucks on Wednesdays (call 320-982-3773 for times) and to distribute food on Thursdays. **March is Trinity's month to help with distributing food at the Milaca Pantry.** Two or three volunteers are needed each Thursday from 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM and 3:00 PM to 6:00 PM. Please sign-up in church narthex.



During March envelopes for donations will be in the pews throughout the month and Trinity will be collecting paper products (Toilet Paper, Facial Tissue, Paper Towels). Thank you.

Sunday School

We need Sunday School leaders during second service (second service starts at 10:15 AM - Sunday School at 10:30 and on the last Sunday of the month the single service starts at 9:30 AM - Sunday School at 9:45). We are again asking for volunteers to sign up to teach. There are sign-up sheets in the narthex of the church. Sign up with friends or family to teach together! If you forget to sign up while at church, you can also let Christine know which Sunday you'd like to teach and she can add you to the list (e-mail her at trinitymilaca@gmail.com or call 320-983-6420).

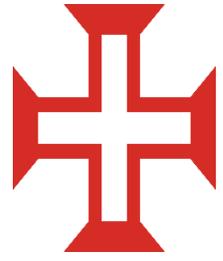


Altar Guild

What is that? If you're thinking it sounds like a fun way to be active in the church without having to be active during the service, you're right! It's more of a behind the scenes setup of the altar and sanctuary. We ask that you commit to one month each year with a group of people; by doing it this way, it is very low pressure and you end up only committing to a weekend or two each month - REALLY! Come and join us at our annual Altar Guild meeting / breakfast brunch on Saturday, March 7th at 9:00 AM in the fellowship hall. We are excited to meet you and answer any questions you have - there is no pressure to join, just come and find out how to be a part of this fantastic group!



Pastor Bauer, servant of Jesus Christ at Trinity Lutheran Church;
grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.



I have been talking a lot about the cross in Church lately. You will hear more during Lent. It is the theme I have chosen to reflect on during the six weeks of Lenten services. Prior to each service there will be a Soup Supper served from 5:45-6:30. The format for worship will be Holden Evening Prayer.

The cross is Christianity's logo. It is the most recognizable symbol of our identity. The Gospels tell the story of Jesus but through many stories, including the story of Christmas, the point is to remind the followers of Jesus about the event of the cross. The story of Jesus and the cross is among the only stories told by all four Gospel writers and is also well known to the Apostle Paul. Perhaps the most certain thing we can be sure about the life of Jesus is that Jesus was crucified.

So how did this happen? Through scripture, history, culture, music/poetry, and art we will consider this during Lent, Wednesday nights and Sunday during the Adult Faith Study. There are far more themes than one could possibly address in 6 weeks, but it will go like this:

Ash Wednesday, February 26th – The Cross: Unlikely Logo

Lent 1, March 4th – The Cross: Protective Charm

Lent 2, March 11th – The Cross: Signed and Sealed

Lent 3, March 18th – The Cross: Empty or Crucifix

Lent 4, March 25th – The Cross: Tree Stories

Lent 5: April 1st – The Cross: End of Death and Violence, The End of the Cross

One thing I say and believe about the cross is that it is the event and symbol that drive me to love and live for others, my neighbor, my friends and families, and strangers who I meet or may never meet. Jesus bore the cross on love for the world and called his followers to take up the cross and follow him. For me Jesus did not die on the cross so I do not have to, Jesus died on the cross so that I might have faith to give my life for others, to risk my life for love, and live grace and forgiveness, stretching my arms open to welcome the world with the reign of God. The cross is salvation and victory over death for me, but while I live it is my identity and purpose to be borne for you and everyone I meet along the way. The cross is not only and primarily about the end of my life, it is about the daily living of my life as Jesus disciple.

This is what informs and guides the Lenten Journey we make this year to Holy Week, Holy Communion, and the Holy Cross that ends the power of sin, death and the devil, and begins the reign of God for faith, hope and love.

Keep the faith. Say your prayers. Love like Jesus. Pastor Tim Bauer

Holy Week begins April 5th and Easter is April 12th with service times at 7:30 AM and 9:30 AM (note time change). Our Youth Denver Mission Trip kids will be hosting Easter breakfast from 8:30-9:30 AM with a free-will offering. Thank you.



Stewardship: God's Love Through Us to the Neighbor

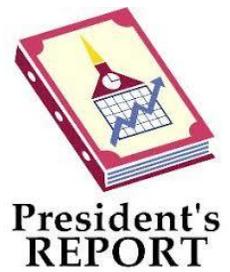
Church Council Lent designation: ½ to Snack Pack Program and ½ to Pew Cushion Fund. The first is a vital program that serves the children of the community by providing food for the weekend. It is a cooperative program with the Milaca Public Schools that we have participated in for five years. The second hopefully will help jump start a desire for more comfortable seating during worship. We have some money set aside and are looking at manufacturers who can do the work. Thank you.



Council President

Hello Trinity Lutheran, my name is Kerri Steinbrecher. I was recently elected as the Church Council President and am looking forward to serving this wonderful church. My husband Shawn and I live on a small hobby farm just south of Milaca with our two children Cyan and Rollie.

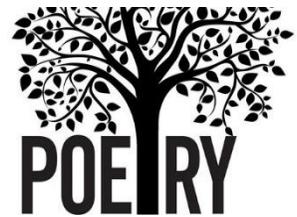
I have served on the Church Council here at Trinity for the past two years as secretary as well as helping with the education program and being a member of the altar guild. During this time, I have watched and listened to so many acts of service to our Lord, our church, our community, and our world. It is truly humbling. Not only from our adult members, but from our youth as well. A few weeks ago in Pastor Tim's sermon he talked about salt and light, "let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven" Mathew 5:16. While I can always find purpose in my life in Pastor Tim's messages, this particular one struck me as it helped me to realize not only how important it is to make my light shine, but also how blessed we are as a congregation in keeping our own lights shining by all the work that is done by all the groups, committees, volunteering, and giving. I am grateful to serve this congregation and hope together we can bring more light to the world through all that we do in the coming year. I am always available if you have any questions or have something you would like to be brought to the Church Council.



Let your light shine, Kerri Steinbrecher

Adult Faith Study: Poetry/Hymns of the Cross

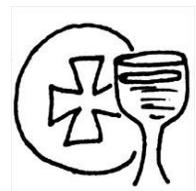
In between services the Adult Faith Study continues with conversations on hymns/songs of the cross. We have four weeks to look at *Beneath the Cross of Jesus*, *In the Cross of Christ I Glory*, *O Sacred Head, Now Wounded*, and *Lift High the Cross*. We sing these together, but hearing them without music provides the opportunity to reflect on words, lyrics, and may refresh these songs for worship.



Grab a cup of coffee and be ready for a conversation from 9:45-10:15.

Pre-Communion for 5th Graders

The schedule for pre-communion classes is:



Wednesday, March 18th, 6:00 PM – Introduction and Planning (Parents and Students)
Wednesday, March 25th, 3:30 PM – Lesson One: What is Holy Communion (Students)
Wednesday, April 1st, 3:30 PM – Lesson Two: How do we do this? (Students)
Wednesday, April 8th, 7:00 PM – Prepare for Maundy Thursday (Parents and Students)
Thursday, April 9th, 7:00 PM – Maundy Thursday First Communion

If you have any questions please contact Pastor Bauer. This is a significant time in instruction and faith development as we guide our children in discipleship and worship.

Introduction to the Bible for 4th Graders

Plans are being made to offer this opportunity again this year in preparation for our 4th grade members to receive a Bible in fulfillment of the promises we made to them at baptism.



UNBOUNDED: ELCA National Youth Gathering 2021 Minneapolis

June 29-July 3, 2021 34,000 youth of the ELCA will serve the Twin Cities, gather for worship at US Bank Stadium, and let Minnesota know the Boundless God beyond Measure.



Sunday, March 29th at 4:00 PM we will have our first interest meeting, introducing the journey and beginning to plan. This is not connected to the Denver Youthworks trip this summer. This is open to all youth in 8th-11th grade. Parents and youth interested are invited. Official registration will take place later this summer, but now is the time to think about saying, "I'M IN ... terested."

Mark Your Calendar – Mystery BINGO and Chili Night!

Date: Sunday, March 29th

Time: 5:00 PM

Location: Trinity Lutheran Church, Milaca



It's Bingo with a Twist! If you win a game, you get to come up and select one of the Mystery envelopes as your prize. What's inside is the mystery, but the value of the prize will be over \$10.00. We will be serving some of Pastor Tim delicious Chili as well. And if you have some little one's we will be offering childcare for those kids. We are just asking for a free will donation to the youth.

\$10.00 to eat chili and play nine games of regular bingo and one game of black out (pay at the door).



This is a Fundraiser for the Youth Denver Mission Trip that Trinity and Zion will be going on this summer.

Please come and support them and have some Family Bingo Fun! This event is for all ages. Hope to see you there! If you have any questions please call Nikki Tellefson at 320-828-2863 or Michelle Anderson 320-224-7356.

Thrivent Financial



Direct Your Thrivent Choice Dollars by March 31st - Eligible Thrivent Financial members who have available Choice Dollars have until **March 31, 2020**, to direct them. Don't miss this opportunity to recommend that Thrivent Financial provide outreach funding to Trinity Lutheran.

Trinity received \$2,326 in charitable funding in 2019. With this funding we paid Camp Onomia Association Dues and the remaining balance was applied to our Roof Loan Principal. Thank you for choosing Trinity!

Questions or if you need help with directing yours, please contact Chris Ehlen from Thrivent at 320-983-6685.

Thrivent Action Teams – If you are a Thrivent Financial member, you can lead a Thrivent Action Team to bring people together for a one-time project to help others by conducting a service activity, coordinating an educational event or organizing a fundraiser. Thrivent provides resources to help you plan the event, promotional items, and a Community Impact Card with \$250 of seed money. Learn more at Thrivent.com/actionteam and apply online.

TLCW Tidbits

March is Penny month, save your pennies. Collection container will be out the whole month and located in the back of the sanctuary. If you have been collecting pennies throughout the year, please label your bag as Penny Collection and leave in the church office. Thanks!



Heartland Conference Spring Gathering is Saturday, April 4th at Our Savior's Lutheran Church (30985 Front St, Pequot Lakes). Registration with coffee begins at 8:30 AM. Cost \$8. Sign-up in narthex.

Syttende Mai Luncheon has been set for Friday, May 15th, save the date!

Becky Romosz, President of TLCW

Trinity News & Notes

End-of-the-year financial (giving) statements are located on the table in narthex.

Quilters meet Thursday, March 5th and Thursday, March 19th at 9:00 AM.

Dorcas Circle meets Wednesday, March 11th at 9:30 AM. **TLCW** at 11:30 AM.

Trinity Men's Coffee Fellowship on Thursday, March 12th and Thursday, March 26th at 10:00 AM. Join us in the Trinity Room!

Please remember our Milaca Wolves Snack Pack Program - All items must be non-perishable and pre-packaged for individual use. Items include: Fruit cups, instant oatmeal, multigrain bars, cereal bars, granola bars and microwave popcorn. Food and/or monetary donations can be brought to the church office and will be distributed through the School. Thank you!



Mark your Calendars!
Trinity at the Twins Game 2020
vs. Kansas City Royals
Tuesday, July 7th
Game Time 7:10 PM
Sign-up sheets will be out soon!
GO TWINS!!

Community News

This Side of Heaven will have its next country gospel sing-along on Sunday, March 1st at 3:00 PM at the Milaca Alliance Church. Free will offering.

Women's Connection on Tuesday, March 10th from 10:00-11:45 AM at Milaca United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall. Cost of brunch is \$7. Music provided by Dale Clifton of Milaca. Special feature provided by Bonnie Anderson of Princeton entitled "*Connecting Connections*." Feature speaker is Karen Anderson of Minnetonka, whose speech is entitled "*From Darkness to Light*." Reservations call Alice at 320-294-5713.

Camp Onomia Announcements



- **Summer Camp registration brochures are available at the Church. Early registration needs to be done by Sunday, March 15th.** The congregation offers \$50 camperships for each camper (campership form below). A Camp Onomia staff person will be with us for services on March 8th. Registration and further details are online at: <http://www.camponomia.org/retreats.htm>

- **Bible and Brew with the Bishop March 20-21** – It is what it says it is. Pastor Dean Oelfke will be leading a faith study on Orthodox Icons and there is an opportunity to talk brewing skills following the retreat. Friday 5:00 PM to Saturday 1:00 PM. Cost about \$75. Registration and further details are online at <http://www.camponomia.org/retreats.htm>
Whoever drinks beer, he is quick to sleep; whoever sleeps long, does not sin; whoever does not sin, enters heaven! Thus, let us drink beer – Martin Luther.



Trinity Lutheran Camp Onomia Campership Form

Trinity will give \$50 for each Trinity camper registered at Bible Camp. In order to qualify for the amount, the camper must be registered at camp **and this form must be turned into the Trinity's office by June 7th.**



Camper Name(s): _____

Parent/Trinity Member Name: _____

Phone Number: _____

Week registered to attend Camp Onomia: _____

Please check one of the following:

_____ **Already paid in full at Camp**

_____ **Partially paid at Camp**



***Form must be turned into Trinity's office by Sunday, June 7th to get \$50.**

Sunday Morning Worship

March and April Worship Task Sheets are posted on the bulletin board in the narthex. PLEASE sign-up!

On-line Volunteer Sign-Up go to trinitymilaca.org and click on Sign Up Genius. It will take you to our online sign-up sheet for usher/greeters, lector, communion or nursery assistant or to serve coffee fellowship. We also need people to bake cupcakes and serve for Elim Home Hospitality hour on the third Monday of each month. Check it out!

March

Group Leader: Geri Wild

Audrey Batty
Merle & Shirley Brink
Mary Broshofske
Laurie Claffy
Dennis & Glenda Closson
Mike & Melissa Elbert
Gary & Mary Fehring
Ben Hagman
Mike & Denise Helmen
Lori Kuether
John & Sarah Marte
Blayne & Lisa Parkos
Jr. & Judy Sonnek
Brad & Jennifer Tolzman
Adam & Amy VanDonsel
Roger & Nancy Wagner
Bruce & Cheryl Warner
Scott & Geri Wild



April

Group Leader: John & Jackie Youngberg

June Ames
Ralph & Jennifer Biniek
Joey & Coryann Bockoven
David & Cindy Brovold
Chad & Melissa Christensen
Matt & Brenda Follmuth
Cliff & Kathy Gillund
Amy Hagman
Jason & Katie Heacock
Todd & Marie Hendrickson
Beverly Henrichs
Nathan & Missy Johnson
Duane & Cheryl Krotzer
Maria Marudas
Basil & Michelle Meixell
Peg Monroe
Jake & Christina Moscho
Dick & Jan Nord
Tim & Sue Nystrom
Marian Peterson
Greg & Vicki Smith
Cade & Becky Steffenson
John & Barb Steffenson
Craig & Cassandra Wredberg