

The monthly newsletter of Trinity Lutheran Church & School in Fergus Falls, MN

Dear friends in Christ,

Alleluia! The Lord is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia! I write this on Easter Wednesday, and I am reflecting on the past week. Holy Week and Easter are always such wonderful remembrances of all that Christ has accomplished for us, and they give the faithful a chance to step away from numerous other distractions, and contemplate the mystery that the Son of God came to die for our sakes, and to put death to death in His resurrection.

A number of our church members, over the course of Holy Week, encouraged me in the midst of the busy-ness of the week. I am immensely grateful for the care that the members of our congregation have shown and continue to show for me. It is true that Holy Week can wear a pastor out. But it is a good "worn out," if that makes any sense. Those services are some of the most meaningful services of the year, and I appreciate the chance to celebrate them with you. I would hate to ever sound like one who is complaining about being worn out. A better way to say it is that I rejoice in being worn out!

My prayer is that you also were able to watch and wait, to rest with the Lord, to behold the life-giving cross, and to sing your alleluias that the tomb is empty and the Lord is risen. By Monday morning, the local stores were marking down their Easter merchandise and moving on to the next thing. But Easter has just begun! The 50-day Easter season continues with six more Sundays, leading all the way up to the day of Pentecost, and so we continue in "Easter Triumph, Easter Joy!" We hear of the Easter evening appearance of the Lord to the disciples, and a week later to Thomas. We hear the Lord's reminder that He is indeed our Good Shepherd. We will hear much of the Lord's teaching from the night before His crucifixion as recorded in John 16. And we will celebrate the Ascension of the Lord.

The whole season reminds us that our victorious, risen Lord Jesus ascends to the right hand of the Father, where He intercedes for us, preparing us also to recognize and rejoice that He sends the Holy Spirit upon all flesh at Pentecost. It is this pouring out of the Spirit that enables those who are dead to be made alive in Christ, that joined to Jesus by faith, they be reconciled to the Father.

The bunnies and the baskets may have gone away, but Easter continues. Alleluia! The Lord is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

> Peace in Christ, Pastor Lieske



Preschool Garage Sale May 9th 10:00-6:00 & May 10th 8:00-2:00

Please bring your donations at the following times:

Friday, May 2nd from 8:30-2:00 Sunday, May 4th until 6:00 May 5th, 6th, 7th, & 8th from 8:30-4:00

NO ELECTRONICS WILL BE ACCEPTED. Furniture can be brought into the gym and lined up under the windows. Everything else can be dropped off outside the gym doors.

Please bring high value items May 2nd-5th so that we can try to sell them on Marketplace in advance of the garage sale. Contact Adrianne Bolland with questions 218-770-7558



Enrollment is open now for the Trinity Preschool 2025-26 school year!

Mission Statement: Trinity Lutheran School seeks to nurture children in their relationship with Jesus Christ while providing a strong academic foundation.

There are half-day and full-day options for 3-4 year-olds and 5 year-old Pre-Kindergarteners.

Please help to spread the word to your family, friends and neighbors about our amazing Preschool! For more information, stop by the office for a packet, check out the Preschool website: <u>www.preschoolattrinity.org</u>, or email Stacy Larsen at info@preschoolattrinity.org There is also a Preschool at Trinity page on Facebook. Here is a link to a promotional video that you can watch and share with prospective parents as well. <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jN4SMqw-lx0&t=3s</u>

"MSL North" Programs for May 2025:

<u>May 4:</u> Rev. Scott Johnson, Immanuel Lutheran Church, Fargo, ND, presents the message: "God's Samurai" based on Acts 9:15. *This Is The Life Program: "The Day we Lost Ella Mae" - Social responsibility and Christian witness.*

<u>May 11:</u> Rev. Bernie Worral, Immanuel Lutheran Church, Fargo, ND, presents the message: "I and the Father are One" based on John 10:31-33. *This Is The Life program: "Out* of Bondage" - The Christian approach to alcoholism.

May 18: Rev. Christopher Lieske, Trinity Lutheran Church, Fergus Falls, MN, presents the message: "God Has Gifts to Give" based on Acts 11:1-18. This Is The Life program: "Man Adrift" - A Fisher Family episode that discusses the relationship of faith and works.

<u>May 25</u>: Rev. Steven Hokana, Assistant Director of Ministry to the Armed Forces in St. Louis, MO, presents a message titled "Faith and the Warrior", based on Isaiah 6:7. This program is interpreted and closed captioned for the deaf and hard of hearing. For more information visit: www.mainstreetliving.com . *This Is The Life*

visit: <u>www.mainstreetliving.com</u>. This Is The Life program: **"Time Out for Bill" -** What is proper when Christians face adversity?

"MAIN STREET LIVING" is a locally produced TV program that includes a 30-minute worship service led by participating pastors of the Minnesota North and North Dakota Districts of our LCMS, along with a 30-minute Lutheran Hour program (normally "*This Is the Life*," along with occasional church-season specials).

Programs are broadcast starting <u>at 9:00am Central time on Fargo-</u> Moorhead: KVRR Channel 15.1

MSLN programs are also <u>archived</u> for one year and can be viewed at any time on <u>www.mainstreetliving.com</u> then click on "(Fargo)".

Meet the Trinity Family



Hebrew Study Group is for people interested in learning or brushing up on Biblical Hebrew. Michele Lieske and Brenda Olson have previously studied Biblical Hebrew. They lead the group and help to answer questions. Utilizing free videos from Concordia Seminary, along with the textbook by Dr. Andrew Bartelt, each member of the study group progresses at his or her own pace. We meet each Friday to encourage one another as well as to check exercise answers and to ask questions. All are welcome. If you have an interest or just a curiosity about Biblical Hebrew, you are welcome to drop in any Friday from 9am-11am when Hebrew Club meets.

Class members were asked to answer a few questions about themselves and their experience in the group. What made you decide to join Hebrew Group Study? What have you found challenging about learning Hebrew? Have you been surprised by anything that you have learned? Have you studied any other languages? Family, interests, activities, favorite Bible verse or hymn?

Bobby J. Emerine had been self studying for over a year. Finding that there was a group study that he could join was a blessing. Challenges have come with syntax, grammar, connecting to the rich history of the Hebrew language, and Israel as a people group and a country. He is constantly surprised! Only 3 consonants can literally create so many words, thoughts, and feelings. He has never studied any other languages. He is 74 years old and of Norwegian and Shoshone heritage. He retired from law enforcement and is a Navy veteran who served in Vietnam. He has 4 adult children, 12 grandchildren, and 12 great-grandchildren. Favorite verses Ecclesiastes 5:2 & Micah 6:8

Michele Lieske said that she and Brenda decided that it would be fun to refresh their Hebrew together and started meeting weekly. This is a refresher for her, but she had to pass a Hebrew exam for her Master's degree in 2006. This time around, the most challenging aspect is working it around real-life. She has been surprised by how quickly it comes back. Dr. Bartelt's Hebrew Dad jokes have been a pleasant surprise. Other languages - Perisian French in H.S., Latin, Canadian French was her first language, but she learned English starting at age 5. She is married to Pastor Lieske and has four kids. They have homeschooled since Ana was in kindergarten. Interests - Biblical languages, Tae Kwon Do, homeschooling, reading, writing, and sewing. Current favorite verse - John 16:33

Darby Bowyer joined because she wanted to gain a better understanding of the Old Testament in its original context. She has found reading and writing from right to left to be challenging. She has been surprised to find that she already knew some Hebrew words. She has studied Spanish in the past. She is married and has 3 little girls. She enjoys baking and is a novice gardener. Her favorite hymn is What a Friend We Have in Jesus.

Jeremy Wayne Elshaug was asking questions of Pastor Domke as a youngster and in Confirmation when he talked and taught about Biblical languages. Learning the different parts of the language hasn't been too difficult, but bringing it all together has been. The fact that the rules are the rules except when they are not boggles his mind. He has also studied Spanish and French. His family is his brothers and sisters and their spouses. His other interests are Tae Kwon Do, writing, photography, and ceramics. His favorite verse is Romans 1:16.

Brenda Olson took Hebrew in college and wanted a refresher. Her grandma was Jewish and she has always loved the Old Testament. Learning the alphabet is the hardest part because it is pure memorization! Surprising has been to realizing that learning the language adds a depth to reading the Bible, because you notice deeper meaning in how the words relate to each other. She majored in Spanish in college and knows a little Japanese from traveling. She is married and her parents live in AZ. Siblings are also in MN. She loves animals, camping, and running. Hymn - Be Still, My Soul.



The Trinity online apparel store is now open! If you need assistance in ordering, see Sarah Goerdt or Kristi Auck on Sunday, or see JoAnn Orpen in the office Tues -Fri. There are a lot of new items since last year, so be sure to check it out!



Hello! My name is JoAnn Orpen and I have been the Trinity secretary since September. I was asked to introduce myself in the newsletter, so here goes. -- I grew up on a small dairy farm near Grygla, MN as the youngest of 6 kids. I had the best, loving, Christian parents that you could ask for. I went to college in Bemidji and then worked as a band director and music teacher for 35 years; 1 year in Plummer, 12 in Silver Bay, and 22 in Battle Lake. I am married to a car guy named John and we live between

Battle Lake and Ashby. We have 3 grown and married children and 3 grandchildren. I enjoy music, reading, kayaking, visits with our kids, and traveling; which is a recent discovery! My favorite hymn is How Great Thou Art.

I am enjoying my work at Trinity very much, as well as meeting and getting to know many of the members. I attend Alexandria Covenant Church, so I am not here on Sundays, but if you are ever able to stop by the church on a weekday, be sure to swing into the office to say Hi!

GOD'S PEOPLE PRAY

Ongoing Concern: Janet Maack, Brian Fitzner, Jeremy Elshaug, Elaine Culp, Ned Stueve, Gene True, Loretta Derke, Jennifer Wood (Jerald & Tami Gerhardson's daughter), Jim Anderson (Cal & Helen Johansen's friend), Jon Jastram (Phyllis Jastram's son), Dylan Maack (Bob & Janet Maack's grandson), Robin Roberts (Austin & Elaine Culp's daughter), Stephen Hauser (David Hauser's brother), Brenda Keilen (Lois Fitzner's daughter), Tara Reynolds (Sarah Goerdt's friend), Micah Sebek (Bobbie Adam's grandson), James Hohenstein (Karl Hohenstein's brother) Kate Matter (prior pre-school parent), Bridget Jackson (June Knopp's granddaughter), Jasmin Torvinen (great-granddaughter of Pastor & Ginny Lange), Brett Pixton (friend of Calvin & Helen Johansen), Eldon Anhorn (brother of Shirley Pribbernow), Robert Schmidt (brother of Gary Schmidt), Nicole Reseburg (granddaughter of Barb Peloquin), Dora O'Brien (friend of Calvin & Helen Johansen)

Expectant Mother: Jordan Heil, grand-daughter of Helen & Calvin Johansen

Homebound: Gary Froehlich, Dick Anderson, Lois Helm, Wally Lubben, Marlys Lueders, Ron Schulz, Lorraine Drews, Lois Fitzner, Beverly Hess, Norma Bradow, Marilyn A. Boese

Military: Callen Mouritsen, MN National Guard; Lt. Col. Dennis Gerold, U.S.A.F. Reserves (Lori & Leon Dawkins' son-in-law), Tech Sargent Isaac Christopher, U.S.A.F., Andrews Air Force Base, Washington D.C. (Donna Christopher's grandson); Lt. Col. George Hauser, DDS U.S. Army, Ft. Bliss, El Paso, TX; (David & Mary Hauser's son); Gabe Johnson, MN National Guard, (Ken & Toni Erlandson's son); Major Dinsmore, MD MN National Guard (Al & Marcie Koennicke's grandson)

Missionaries: Rev. Dan & Joan Jastram, Japan; Deaconess Kim Bueltmann, Germany (TIM Missionary); Delano & Linda Meyer, Africa; Jacque Breman, Africa; Ashley Lehr, Puerto Rico

Call the church office or the Pastor with prayer requests.

Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other, so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous man is powerful and effective. James 5:16

May 2025

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|--|--------------------------|---|---|--|---|--|
| | On-Call Pastor Phone | A live, up-to-date calendar | | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| LUTHERAN CHURCH Fergus Falls, MN | Number (218) 321-0993 | is available on our church website: <u>Trinity Website</u> | | 12:00 pm Crafters 12:30 pm Quilters 6:30 Evening Circle | 9 am Hebrew Study Group | 9:30 LWML Prayer Service Lutheran Island Camp Spring Clean Up |
| 4 9 am Divine Service | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
| 10:30 Bible Study & Sunday School 11:30 Elders Mites collection 3:00 Homeschool Co-op Program | 9:10 am Chapel | 8 am Men's Bible Study 9:10 am Chapel 12:30 School Board Mtg. 2:00 Women's Bible Study 7:00 Trustees Mtg. | 1 pm Lydia Circle 4 pm Confirmation | 12:00 pm Crafters 12:30 pm Quilters Gym set up for Rummage sale | 9 am Hebrew Study Group 10:00-6:00 Pre-school rummage sale | 8:00-2:00 Pre-school rummage sale |
| 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 |
| 9 am Divine Service 10:30 Bible Study & Sunday School Rummage sale clean up | 9:10 am Chapel | 8 am Men's Bible Study | 1 pm Knitting & crocheting 4:00 Confirmation | 10:00 Divine Service @ Broen Home 12 pm Crafters 12:30 Quilters | 9 am Hebrew Study Group | 8 am Men's Network |
| 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 |
| 9:00 Divine Service 10:30 Bible Study & Sunday School | 9:10 am Chapel | 8 am Men's Bible Study 9:10 am Chapel 2:00 Women's Bible Study | 4:00 pm Confirmation | 12:00 Crafters 12:30 pm Quilters | 9 am Hebrew Study Group | |
| 11:30 Voters Assembly Budget Mtg. followed by potluck meal | | 2:00 women's bible Study | | | Newsletter items due | |
| 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 |
| 9 am Divine Service 10:30 Bible Study & Sunday School Food Shelf Sunday | | 8 am Men's Bible Study 2:00 Women's Bible Study | 1:00 pm Knitting & crocheting 4 pm Confirmation | 11am Ascension Service12:00 Crafters12:30 pm Quilters6 pm Ascension Service | 9 am Hebrew Study Group | |

CELEBRATIONS!

May Birthdays

| | | • | |
|---|-------------------|------------------------------|--|
| i | May 2 | Gary Schmidt | |
| | May 3 | Joyce Hitchcock | |
| j | May 9 | Jaelynn Schneeberger | |
| | May 10 | Joe Auck | |
| į | May 13 | Jay Olson | |
| į | May 18 | Mary Grim | |
| ŝ | May 20 | Rachael Larson | |
| ŝ | May 20 | Sammy Lieske | |
| ŝ | May 21 | Timothy King | |
| į | May 22 | Sandy King | |
| į | May 26 | Blaine Rasmussen | |
| ŝ | May 26 | Jerry Schmidt | |
| į | May 28 | Roger Lange | |
| ŝ | May Anniversaries | | |
| į | May 2 | Karl & Kathy Hohenstein | |
| ŝ | May 18 | Asher & Anna Mort | |
| į | May 25 | Donald & Darlene Reiter | |
| ŝ | May 27 | Christopher & Holly Beighley | |
| | May 29 | Ross & Tina Eberle | |
| | | | |

Mav 1 Julia Larson May 3 Shannon Phillips May 5 Callen Mouritsen May 9 Timothy King Wayne Schoening May 10 May 14 Isaac Longoria May 15 Sarah Goerdt June Knopp May 16 May 18 Bonita Norman May 19 Anika Phillips May 22 Sandy King May 24 Patrick Krog Benjamin Phillips May 30 May 31 Marilyn Boese May 31 Gary Schmidt

May Baptismal Birthdays

SERVING IN THE LORD'S HOUSE

Ushers for May

May 4 Cal & Helen Johansen & Wayne Schoening Mav 11 Ross & Tina Eberle & David Schneeberger May 18 Rodney, Dale & Jerry Schmidt May 25 Gene Lindblom, Larry Stein & Arnold Bolland May 29 - 11:00 am Jon Schoening, Jeff Johnson & Tim King May 29 - 6:00 pm Blaine & Margie Rasmussen May 25 & Bobbie Adam



<u>Greeters for May</u> <u>May 4</u> Ken & Sue Heidorn <u>May 11</u> Cal & Helen Johansen <u>May 18</u> Donna U. & Tami G. <u>May 25</u> Dale & Sharlene Schmidt

Eders for May

May 4 Gary Schmidt May 11 Ross Eberle May 18 Aaron Schultz May 25 Eric Schneeberger May 29 - 11:00 am Wayne Schoening May 29 - 6:00 pm Wayne Goerdt Altar Guild for May May 4 David Hauser May 11 Sharlene S. & Tami G May 18 Cal & Halen Johansen May 25 Margie Rasmussen May 29 - 11:00 am Brenda J & Bobbie A May 29 - 6:00 pm Ken & Sue Heidorn

Acolytes for May

May 4 Isabella & Samuel May 11 Tucker & Adrian May 18 Analicia & Austin May 25 Jackson & Kourtney



Members of Trinity, their friends, family, relatives, adults and children are invited to a attend the Prayer Service on May 3 at 9:30 AM. It will be based on the Beatitudes found in Matthew 5:1-12. It is sponsored by Trinity Lutheran Women's Missionary League (LWML). This is an opportunity to pray for people in various stages of life that

are not always easy to endure, and be blessed and encouraged in your life of faith. As you pray for these people may your mind be drawn to the work of Christ, His life, and His death and resurrection which bless you each day until He brings you home to the kingdom of heaven forever.

The following is another example of LWML mites at work: Camp Restore, a Recognized Service Organization (RSO) of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS), is located in what was the most violent area of Detroit, the 9th Precinct. Looking at the physical appearance of the area, it may look at like a lost cause. However, there is a strong resilience in this community and strong community leaders. They have the goal of uplifting one another by investing in the people and the places in the neighborhood.

The goal of this LWML Mission Grant is to work in partnership with families and community leaders to break the cycle of poverty by providing a Christcentered atmosphere full of God's love and grace where families can learn and grow, with access to the needed education and resources. Through education and God's love, the cycle of generational poverty can be broken. Thank you for your support. You can place your offering in the mite box in the narthex of the church, in the freewill offering basket the first Sunday of the month at Sunday Fellowship or give to any LWML member.

<u>The Voter's Assembly Budget Meeting will take place on</u> <u>Sunday, May 18, 2025 at 11:30 am followed by a potluck meal.</u>

Parking lot update:

Gifts, donations, pledges, endowed fund grants, and other contributions have resulted in the full funding of the parking lot project without incurring any debt. A full report of the project will be presented at the annual voters' assembly budget meeting on May 18, 2025. Those who have remaining pledges are encouraged to prayerfully complete their commitments. No new donations and/or pledges are

necessary for this project. Thanks be to God!



Preschool News: Rejoicing in God's Beautiful Spring!

What a wonderful spring God has given us! At Trinity Preschool, we are filled with gratitude as we enjoy the beauty of His creation all around us. The warm sunshine, budding trees, and chirping birds have invited us into a season full of joy, exploration, and wonder.



Our days have been filled with hands-on discoveries and laughter as we play and learn in the great outdoors. We've been taking the time to slow down and truly notice the world around us—marveling at the way a worm wiggles, cheering as a tire races to the bottom of the hill, and watching in awe as ants work together with purpose. These small moments bring big smiles and even bigger lessons about God's world.





Discovering ↑ duck eggs!



One of the highlights of our month was preparing and serving the **Lenten lunch for the church**. The children were so proud to be part of this special event, helping with joyful hearts. What a blessing it is to see them learning the value of service at such a young age. **What a joy it is to serve the Lord!**



As we continue into the season, we thank God for the gift of spring—full of fresh air, growing things, and the laughter of children. We are so blessed to share this time together, learning and growing in the beauty of His creation.

"Let everything that has breath praise the Lord!" - Psalm 150:6



Trinity Homeschool Co-op in April



April has just flown by. Sylvia is still doing amazing things in the music class. It's fun to watch them learn hymns with motions, mostly derived from American Sign Language. The

kids are also learning about tempo in music and Sylvia is teaching the older ones how to play chimes.





The art project was painting terra cotta pots. The kids were all so creative! Some of the younger kids had to be reminded that the inside won't be seen once there is dirt and plants in the pot. The kids all had a blast and are now ready for spring planting!

We visited Nature's Garden World, here in Fergus Falls, for our field trip this month. We were shown around the greenhouses and got to learn how they work. Not only do they absorb heat through a plastic ceiling, but they are also

equipped with heaters for those Minnesota winter nights that just get too cold. There is also a vent system to let out the heat when the greenhouse gets too hot for the plants. We also had the opportunity to try some herbs fresh off the plants (mint was a favorite of many), and got to learn all sorts of things about growing plants in Minnesota.





Our speaker for April was Trinity's own Steve Brutlag. He came and spoke to the kids about working in IT (Information Technology). Steve explained the different paths a person can take to work in the field. The most exciting part of his talk was when he showed the physical

components to a computer. The kids got to see the difference in physical size between a laptop hard drive and a desktop hard drive. They also got to see how small a processor is, the fan that keeps a desktop computer cool, and all the components inside a desktop tower.

Mark your calendars for May! Trinity Homeschool Co-op has our end of year program on Sunday, May 4th beginning at 3pm. Everyone is invited! You will get to hear some music, presentations about various field trips and speakers,

and see examples of some of our art projects from the year.

Thank you all for your amazing support. This co-op is a blessing to many families and children who want to raise their families with a Biblical worldview all day long. A special thank you to Leon Dawkins who has accompanied us throughout the year with his musical talents, playing guitar for chapel each week as well as our Christmas caroling back in December.



If you know anyone who would like to join the Homeschool Co-op, please contact Michele Lieske: <u>MicheleLieske@gmail.com</u> or direct them to our website, linked at the top of Trinity's website.

+ CHURCH & PRESCHOOL CONTACT INFORMATION +

Church Website Preschool Website **On-Call Pastor Number** Rev. Christopher Lieske, Pastor Church Office /JoAnn Orpen

Preschool at Trinity, Stacy Larsen

Church Office Hours Church Office E-mail Preschool at Trinity E-mail

Cemetery Sexton Cal Johansen

www.trinityff.org www.preschoolattrinity.org (218) 321-0993 (cell) (612) 554-5411 pastorl@trinityff.org (218) 736-4869 secretary@trinityff.org (cell) (507) 430-9644 slarsen@preschoolattrinity.org Tues-Thurs 8:30-4:00, Fri 8:30-2:00 info@trinityff.org info@preschoolattrinity.org (218) 671-0383

MAY SERVICE PLANS

| May 4 - Divine Service 1 Misericordias Domini | May 25 - Divine Service 1 <i>Rogate</i> |
|--|--|
| Hymns 482, 709, 710, 711, 735, 740 | Hymns 463, 766, 526, 724, 686, 691 |
| May 11 - Divine Service 1 Jubilate | May 29 - Divine Service 1 Ascension Day |
| Hymns 461, 483, 756, 629, 733, 920 | Hymns 492, 493, 491, 494, 495 |
| May 18 - Divine Service 1 | |
| Cantate | |
| Hymns 556, 795, 729, 790, 633 | |

SERVING THE LORD AND YOU

Trinity Congregational Officers Board Contact Persons

Schan Sorkness Chairman Vice-Chairman Jon Schoening Cindy Schmidt Treasurer Financial Secretary Sandy King

Elders Wayne Goerdt Christian Ed. Esther Schlicker Margie Rasmussen Trustees Stewardship Larry Stein Dave Schneeberger Outreach Dave Schlicker School