

# Trinity

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America  
1314 E Lexington Blvd • Eau Claire WI 54701-6434  
2022, April Newsletter—Vol. LXVIII No. 4



## Holy Week Worship

Holy Week is the pinnacle time for Christians across the world as we follow the last days of Jesus' earthly life leading to his death and resurrection. To fully find your faith touched and led in these days, we offer worship with Holy Communion on Maundy Thursday, April 14, at 6:00 P.M. and worship on Good Friday, April 15 at 12:15 P.M. and 6:00 P.M. Find time in your life this week to worship and rediscover the incredible depth of God's love for you in Christ.



## Join Us for Easter

We invite you to celebrate Easter at Trinity on Sunday, April 17! Please note the additional worship time. For all the news about Holy Week and Easter at Trinity, visit [trinity-ec.org](http://trinity-ec.org)

- 8:15 A.M. Traditional Festival Worship with Communion, Trinity Choir, Trinity Tollers, Organ, and Brass
- 9:45 A.M. Traditional Festival Worship with Communion, Trinity Youth Choirs, Trinity Tollers, Organ, and Brass
- 11:00 A.M. Traditional Festival Worship with Communion, Trinity Choir, Organ, and Brass

## New Hymnals for Pews

The church council voted in March to order Evangelical Lutheran Worship hymnals for our pews. Also known as the "cranberry book," the ELW form of worship has been used at Trinity since 2019. The hymns, settings, and prayers offer more inclusive language for worship while adding several newer hymns, some with global origins. If you are interested in having a copy of the green LBW hymnal for your home, they will be provided at no cost. The funding for the ELWs was approved to come from unrestricted memorial gifts. However, if you would like to help cover some of the cost of the new hymnals, please just list "ELW" in the memo section of your contribution.

## Altar Flowers

There are still many weekends available in 2022 to sponsor altar flowers for worship to memorialize or honor some person or event in your life. Sign-up on the chart at Clipboard Central. Cost: \$45. Pick up the blue card with further instructions. Dates available for this month: April 3, 10.

## Musical "Judge Julie Truly"

Please join us on Sunday, April 24, at 8:15 A.M. or 9:45 A.M. when Trinity's children's choirs will lead worship with a musical! Order in the court! All rise for Her Honor, Judge Julie Truly, who will now hear The Case of the Holey Roof from the Gospel of Luke, chapter 5. Meet the Homeowner: he is pressing charges against the four friends. (They dug a hole in his roof—on purpose!) Meet our Defendants: "Four Famously Faithful Friends" who went over and above to bring their paralyzed friend to Jesus. The testimony will move you, the verdict will surprise you, and we will all learn how our LOVE IN ACTION can bring people right to the feet of our Savior.



## Serve On Sundays!

- **Communion:** We always need communion servers and volunteers to help prepare the elements on the first and third Sundays of each month. Sign-up online or email Dr. Frank Watkins at [frank@trinity-ec.org](mailto:frank@trinity-ec.org).
- **Coffee Servers:** Coffee is back! Sign-up to help behind the counter on Sunday mornings! Sign-up online or call Sarah Pederson at 715.456.1541.
- **Readers:** We invite you to read the scripture at 8:15 A.M. or 9:45 A.M. Sunday morning worship services. Sign-up online or call the church office at 715.832.6601.



To sign up online, go to [trinity-ec.org](http://trinity-ec.org) "Register."

## New Member Orientation

"Discover Trinity" is the one-time new member event designed to introduce new people to our congregation's mission and many ministries. If you're looking for a faith community to provide you support, guidance, and growth in faith as well as joyful fellowship and opportunities to serve with people who love God, please join us! "Discover Trinity" is available for you to learn more about our church and become a member. The next Discover Trinity will be held on Sunday, April 24, at 10:30 A.M. Please register by calling 715.832.6601 or email your contact information to Amber Moltzau at [amber@trinity-ec.org](mailto:amber@trinity-ec.org).

## When Your Address or Phone Changes

Whenever you're moving or changing to "temporarily away" with the United States Postal Service, any mail Trinity sends to you is returned at a cost per item. Please inform the church office when your address changes or you're going away and having your mail held.

And, if you are eliminating or have eliminated a land line and going exclusively to cell, please share your phone number with your church. Email new information to [amber@trinity-ec.org](mailto:amber@trinity-ec.org)

## Save the Date!

The Ladies Retreat at Luther Park Bible Camp in Chetek this summer is June 8 and 9! Come and listen to Sally Ankerfelt, a former ELCA pastor and an adoption coach! The discussion will be "All in the Modern Family." Learn, laugh, and love as we explore Christ's framework for creating a healthy space for families. The cost is \$75 for both days; \$40 for one day. The early bird rate is available until May 15. Registration forms will be available on the Women's Ministries bulletin board. Ask questions or request a form by emailing Jacki Johnson at [jackij7@gmail.com](mailto:jackij7@gmail.com) or call Phyllis Grohn at 715.836.7055.

## Circle Meetings

- Miriam • Wednesday, April 20, 9:30 A.M. Trinity
- Ruth • Tuesday, April 19, 1:30 P.M. Trinity

## Women's Giving Circle

Trinity's Women's Giving Circle is looking for members! In order to award grants, the Women's Giving Circle needs YOU to become a member. With an annual gift of \$250, you will help further our mission to build on the power of faith and work on societal solutions by connecting those in need to additional resources. You may make your gift at any time in 2022, but membership funds received by June 30 will determine available grant funds to be awarded this fall.

Members vote on which grants are awarded, meaning you have a voice in which causes your money will support. Information brochures and membership forms can be found in Trinity's lobby, office or at [www.trinity-ec.org](http://www.trinity-ec.org) under the Endowment tab. Online giving is available by going to the website, clicking on the blue "Give Now" icon, then clicking "Open the online gift form," and designate Women's Giving Circle under "other." The grant application form can also be found on the website and must be submitted between May 1 and September 1. Thank you!

## The Endowment Trust Fund

The Trinity Endowment Trust Fund exists so that your values and legacy of Christian faith will live on and further God's work for generations to come. Gifts now, or through a will bequest to the Endowment Trust Fund, become part of a perpetual fund with earnings used to advance Trinity's ministries and global missions.

Grant applications are welcomed semi-annually with submission deadlines of May 1 and November 1. A nine member Board oversees the Endowment and welcomes grant applications for individual or organizational endeavors that advance the Fund's mission: "Serving God's people in Christ's name by providing financial foundations to the ministries and missions of Trinity Lutheran Church for all generations."

You can read more about the Trust at [trinity-ec.org](http://trinity-ec.org). The grant application is online on the same page.



## Memorials & Gifts

Received in February

### Memorial Fund

- In memory of Richard Wendt: Mark & Cynthia Seyer, Brechler Family, Matt Prissel & Sara Denure, Mark & Barbara Connell, Timothy Forster, James & Roxanna Wendt, Judy Fadness
- In memory of David Haugan: Dennis & Norma Bohman
- In memory of Bob Manz: Eric & Donna Gilbertson

### Library

- In memory of Richard Wendt: Barbara Lee
- In memory of George Dingman: Bob & Mary Schoenknecht

### Food Pantry

- In memory of George Dingman: Sharon DeRusha
- In memory of Richard Wendt: Paul & Sharon Engstrom
- In memory of Dick Cable: Gary & Mary Rambo, Glen & Bev Tamke

### Trinity Choir

- In memory of Don Laabs: Ron & Yvonne Nixdorf, Carl & Diane Manz
- In memory of Judy Brinkmeyer: Gary & Mary Rambo

### Endowment Trust

- In memory of Dick Cable: Pam Burrows, Phyllis Burrows

### Endowment Trust—Dick & Marlene Cable Family Fund

- In memory of Dick Cable: Bob & Mary Schoenknecht, Warren & Mavis Hermodson

# CARE & CONCERN

Dear Trinity Members,

April 22 is Earth Day—a great day to celebrate spring, God's creation, and the blessings of green grass, budding leaves and colorful flowers. The theme for Earth Day this year is “Invest in Our Planet! What will YOU do?” It is important that we act boldly, innovate broadly, and implement equitably. So make a plan for you and your family to plan an earth day activity. It can be as simple as picking up trash or planting a tree. Go to [earthday.org](http://earthday.org) to find numerous suggestions. Remember, a healthy planet means healthy humans. God gave humans dominion over the earth. Genesis 1:31—God saw everything that God had made, and indeed, it was very good!

*Lord, grant us the wisdom to care for the earth and till it.*

*Help us to act now for the good of future generations and all your creatures.*

*Help us to become instruments of a new creation,  
Founded on the covenant of your love.*

Vicki Dueringer, Parish Nurse

## Caregiver Ministry Update

We have volunteers to serve on the committee. Our next step is to meet (date to be announced) and begin working on mission, goals, specific supportive actions both spiritual and practical, implementation, and man power needed. If you are a caregiver and have ideas/suggestions for this committee, please contact Vicki Dueringer at [vickid@trinity-ec.org](mailto:vickid@trinity-ec.org) or call 715.832.6601 ext 214.

## Caregiver Tip

Ask for Help. As a caregiver, you need to know your limits. Admitting that you are struggling and need help is not a weakness; caregiving is HARD. What you do for your loved one every day takes commitment, bravery, sacrifice, and most importantly love. With that also comes being physically exhausted and mentally drained. However, NO ONE expects you to take on a responsibility like this alone. You need to let people know what you need and then be ready to accept their help. Requests for help can be as simple as asking to let you vent or going for a walk with you. Harder requests could be something like asking for a few days off or adjusting your work schedule. Good communication with family, friends, your boss and co-workers will allow you to ask for what you need and express how you are feeling. People cannot help you when they don't know you need help in the first place.

## Red Cross Blood Drive

The next blood drive is Thursday, April 21, from 12:30 P.M.–6:30 P.M. Please sign up at [redcrossblood.org](http://redcrossblood.org). In February, we had 38 units of blood donated. Thank you to all who donated. We also need volunteers to check in donors. It is an easy process. Contact Vicki Dueringer at [vickid@trinity-ec.org](mailto:vickid@trinity-ec.org) or call 715.832.6601 ext 214 to volunteer. Advice from a 90+ year old donor: eat a tablespoon of molasses every day to increase your iron.





## Senior American Day

Academy for Lifelong Learners (formerly known as Senior American Day)

This event returns to in-person learning on June 7 at the UW-EC campus. Don't miss out on this great opportunity to learn about a wide range of topics. Dr. Zorba Pasteur is the guest speaker. He is a Family Practice physician who has a program on Wisconsin Public Radio every weekend. Google UW-EC lifelong learning to register.

## Spring Fling for Trinity Seniors

It's time for another Senior luncheon. Our last gathering was in August, and we had a delightful time. With Covid on the decline right now, we need to take advantage of this. So ... on Thursday, May 19, we will gather in the Trinity Room at noon. Additional details and menu will be in the May newsletter. Sign-up will be at Clipboard Central or call the Vicki Dueringer at 715.832.6601 ext 214.

## Community Table

Trinity will volunteer at The Community Table on Thursday, April 7, serving lunch. We need six volunteers to prepare the meal from 9:00 A.M.–11:00 A.M. and six volunteers to serve the meal and clean up from 11:15 A.M.–2:00 P.M. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Phyllis Grohn at 715.836.7055.

## Friends of Flynn

Thank you to all who donated to the March Friends of Flynn Fund Appeal—our goal this year was \$6,100. However, as of March 20, we have received just over \$1,000. Just a reminder, most of these funds, \$4,000, help support the weekend meal project through Feed My People. If you haven't had an opportunity to give to this ministry, you are invited to do so now. Checks should be made payable to Trinity Lutheran Church with a notation to Friends of Flynn.

Here are some of the ways that Friends of Flynn funds will be used for the remainder of this school year.

- **Healthy Snacks** ❖ Snacks were recently supplied for an after-school program called Club Invention. Snacks will also be purchased for the third and fourth grade classes during their testing days in April. We plan to provide snacks for the teachers in the lower grades to have on hand for those students who for various reasons are not bringing them. Please read this thank you note from Mary, Interim Partnership Coordinator ... *Dear Friends of Flynn, Thank you for the donation of snacks for Club Invention. Our students appreciate them as they are being challenged to save the homes of animals across the country! Peace, Mary*
- **Shoes** ❖ Funds will be used to purchase shoes for the classrooms that students can "lend for the day" when needed.
- **Books** ❖ A new book will be given to each child to take home during the summer. These books will be distributed at the Quest for Excellence Night on Thursday, May 19.

Again, thank you for your support of this ministry. If you would like to join the Friends of Flynn Committee, please contact the church office.

# LIBRARY

We love our library, and we think you will too. As budget minded readers, the library is a magical place where you can get your hands on so many (free!) books. Our library has books to please everyone, at any age. Stop by anytime, and SPRING into a new book!



### Fiction

- *The Magnolia Palace* by Fiona Davis. Fiona Davis, bestselling author of *The Lions of Fifth Avenue*, returns with a tantalizing novel about secrets, betrayal, and murder within one of New York City's most impressive Gilded Age mansions. (FIC DAV)
- *Black Cake* by Charmaine Wilkerson. Crossing continents and juggling lives, *Black Cake*, is a powerful story of love and loss, kinship and separation, heartache and hope, spanning sixty years in the life of one family. (FIC WIL)
- *Miller's Valley* by Anna Quindlen. This novel is a study of family, memory, loss, and, ultimately, discovery; of finding true identity and a new vision of home. (FIC QUI)
- *Rules of Civility* by Amor Towles. Set in New York City in 1938, *Rules of Civility* tells the story of a watershed year in the life of an uncompromising twenty-five-year-old Katey Kontent. (FIC TOW)
- *When We Were Vikings* by Andrew David MacDonald. Note review written in this newsletter. (YP FIC MAC)



## Biography

- *Up and Down* by Bubba Watson and Don Yaeger. Golf is what Bubba Watson does. But along the way, he learned that it will never be who he is. Through his story of growing to trust God with his gifts, his family, and his biggest dreams, Bubba reminds the reader what is most important, whether the course of life gives us victories or struggles. (B WAT)

## Picture Books

- *The Blessings of You* by Mark Batterson & Summer Batterson Dailey. Through engaging rhyme, these father and daughter authors encourage young children to discover the joys of both counting their blessings and being a blessing to others. (++) FIC BAT)
- *A Spoonful of Faith* by Jena Holliday. This picture book is a tender testament of the magical power of faith. When Layla wakes up nervous for her first day of school, Mama knows just the thing to make her feel better. (++) FIC HOL)
- *When We're Together* by Claire Freedman. Being together makes each day special— playing exploring or just doing nothing at all. This lyrical, joyful book celebrates those times spent with family and friends that bring magic to a child's world. (++) FIC FRE)
- *Great and Small Easter* by Pamela Kennedy. This interactive board book is filled with adorable pictures of animals and explores Spring and Easter themes. (++) 263 KEN)

## Books for Young Readers

I Can Read! Series; My First:

- *Going to the Sea Park* by Mercer Mayer. Little Critter and his classmates go on a trip to the Sea Park! Join them on their saltwater adventure as they learn about sea creatures big and small. (++) FIC MAY)
- *Pete the Cat and the Tip-Top Tree House* by James Dean. Build an awesome tree house with Pete the Cat and his groovy friends in this fun-filled story! (++) FIC DEA)
- *Baby Shark: Little Fish Lost* by Nickelodeon. Baby Shark helps a new friend find their way home. (++) FIC NIC)



Chapter Books from the *Fly Guy Series* by Tedd Arnold:

- *Hi! Fly Guy*. When Buzz captures a fly to enter in The Amazing Pet Show, his parents and the judges tell him that a fly cannot be a pet, but Fly Guy proves them wrong. (++) FIC ARN)
- *Fly Guy's Big Family*. Fly Guy misses his family, so when Fly Guy isn't looking, Buzz plans him a surprise party. (++) FIC ARN)
- *Fly Guy & Fly Girl: Night Fright*. Buzz and Liz go to the zoo with their pets, Fly Guy and Fly Girl. Little do they know that something scary is about to happen. (++) FIC ARN)

## Book Review

—from Mary Elworthy, member of Trinity's Library Committee

*When We Were Vikings* by Andrew David MacDonald

Main character Zelda, a 21-year-old Viking enthusiast born with fetal alcohol syndrome, lives with her older brother Gert who struggles to support them both, sometimes in shady ways. The novel by Canadian author MacDonald is an account of Zelda's desire to live a life bigger than the label of developmentally challenged.

Zelda lives with five basic rules:

1. A smile means "thank you for doing something small that I liked."
2. Fist bumps and dabs = respect.
3. Strange people are not appreciated in her home.
4. Tomatoes must go in the middle of the sandwich and not get the bread wet.
5. Sometimes the most important things don't fit on lists.

How Zelda using these rules to live her life and keep herself and her brother safe makes for a charming read: funny, humorous, edgy, settled, and ultimately, heartwarming.

## Trinity Book Club

The book club meets on Tuesday, April 19, at 6:30 P.M. to discuss *The Lost Girls of Paris* by Pam Jenoff.

One morning while passing through Grand Central Terminal on her way to work, Grace Healey finds an abandoned suitcase tucked beneath a bench. Grace soon learns that the suitcase belonged to a woman named Eleanor Trigg, leader of a network of female secret agents who were deployed out of London during the war. Twelve of these women were sent to Occupied Europe as couriers and radio operators to aid the resistance, but they never returned home, their fates a mystery. Setting out to learn the truth behind the women in the photographs, Grace finds herself drawn to a young mother turned agent named Marie whose daring mission overseas reveals a remarkable story of friendship, valor, and betrayal.

There are no special expectations to participate in this group. You should feel free to come whether you've finished the book or not. You can RSVP at Clipboard Central. For more information, email Cindy Beck at [cindy@trinity-ec.org](mailto:cindy@trinity-ec.org)



# CHILDREN, YOUTH, AND FAMILY

## ► CHILDREN

### Big Questions from Kids

What is prayer? What happens when we die? Where is God when bad things happen? Parents who want to share the Christian faith with the kids in their life can run into all sorts of sticky spots and weird ideas when we explore big questions. Join Pastor Tom on Sundays, April 3 and 10, in the Fireside Room between worship services to discuss how to approach these sorts of wonderings from youth.



### Noah's News

Greetings from Noah's Ark Preschool and the Early Childhood Enrichment Classes!

March was an awesome month to be a kid at Trinity. At Noah's Ark, we investigated building and construction throughout the month with play, discovery, books, and conversation. Painter's tools, hammers, tape measures, nuts, and bolts were some of the real tools we tried out. We give thanks for our homes that keep us warm and safe!

We look forward to celebrating Holy Week and Easter in Noah's Ark, Music and Movement, and Come and Play. While Easter is not understood by young children, telling the stories and celebrating God's love provides the foundation for their continued faith development.

Brochures for our fall Early Childhood Enrichment class offerings for our youngest kids (age 1–3) will be available soon. A call-in registration for the Come and Play and Music and Movement classes will begin Tuesday, May 17, at 8:00 A.M. Our registration process for the 2022–2023 Noah's Ark preschool year continues. We have openings still available in multi-age afternoon classes and the Tuesday/Thursday morning class for three year olds. We look forward to sharing God's love and word with more young children and their families next year.

April will bring the promise of spring, peacemaking, and growing in God's love! God has blessed us with our time together.

In peace,

Marlee Knickerbocker

## Fall Registration Approaching

Registration for Fall, 2022 Early Childhood Enrichment Classes including Come and Play (for children with birthdates between 9.1.2019–5.31.2020) and Music and Movement (a parent child class for children with birthdates between 9.1.2019 and 5.31.2021), will open on Tuesday, May 17, at 8:00 A.M. Watch for more information on our website and brochures soon. Contact Marlee Knickerbocker at 715.832.6601 ext 205 or [marlee@trinity-ec.org](mailto:marlee@trinity-ec.org) for more information.

## Holy Communion Instruction

Children in first grade are invited to come together during Faith Formation time on Wednesday, April 6, from 5:00 P.M.–5:50 P.M. Students will meet with Pastor Tom to learn together about God's love for us and the special gift of Holy Communion. Children are welcome to commune at any time, but there will be a special recognition of their participation in Holy Communion at the Maundy Thursday worship service on Thursday, April 14, at 6:00 P.M. To register, complete the online registration form (go to [www.trinity-ec.org](http://www.trinity-ec.org) and click on the blue "Register Here" button).

## Trinity Nursery

Trinity's nursery will be available on Sunday mornings, beginning Sunday, April 3 Open Sundays beginning April 3, from 8:10 A.M.–10:45 A.M. for children under age four. An employed nursery care provider, along with volunteers, provide a safe, nurturing, and enjoyable experience for the children.

Did you know that babies can learn faith starting at birth? In Trinity's Frolic-curriculum based nursery, babies and toddlers enjoy story time featuring a story from the Frolic First Bible or one of the Frolic books. Kids play and enjoy Frolic music while they are cared for in our bright, inviting nursery. Contact Heather Day at [heatherd@trinity-ec.org](mailto:heatherd@trinity-ec.org) if you are interested in volunteering in Trinity's nursery.



## Frolic Family Class

Young children and their parents/caregivers are invited to our first Frolic Family classes on Saturday, April 23, in the chapel! These classes will be an opportunity to develop faith with adults and children together as they learn Bible stories, prayers, songs, and blessings together. Frolic Family classes are also a way of creating a space for parents/caregivers to connect with other adults as they build faith together and with their children.

Our first Frolic Family classes will focus on the story "Jesus Blesses Children."

- 10:00 A.M.–10:45 A.M. ages 2 and under (born 9.1.2019 to present)
- 11:00 A.M.–11:45 A.M. ages 2½–3 (born 9.1.2018–9.1.2019)

To register, complete the online registration form (scan the QR code or go to [www.trinity-ec.org](http://www.trinity-ec.org) and click on the blue "Register Here" button) or email Heather Day at [heatherd@trinity-ec.org](mailto:heatherd@trinity-ec.org)



## Faith Formation Classes

Reminder—there are no faith formation classes on Wednesday, April 13 or Sunday, April 17.

## Summer 2022

All people are invited to participate in Trinity's summer programming. All programs (except Playground Playtimes) require pre-registration. To register for programs, go to Trinity's website ([www.trinity-ec.org](http://www.trinity-ec.org)) and click on the blue Register Here button. All grade levels are based on grade completed in 2021–2022.

## Camp Come and Play

- Session One • June 13–15 • 9:15 A.M.–11:15 A.M.
- Session Two • July 11–13 • 9:15 A.M.–11:15 A.M.

For children who turn three between 9.1.2021 and 8.31.2022 will have an opportunity to play with other children their age in a safe, caring environment. Registration for Camp Come and Play opens online on March 29 at 8:00 A.M. Children can register for one or both sessions. Cost is \$30 per session.

## Playground Playtime

Thursdays • June 16–August 11 • 10:00 A.M.–11:00 A.M.

Invite your friends and enjoy Trinity's fenced-in playground area together! The playground has a sandy surface, so there is plenty of opportunity for digging as well as exploring the playground equipment. This playground is best for ages six and under, but older siblings are also welcome. Trinity staff will provide a different activity each week (painting supplies, water play, etc.). No registration is needed! Caregivers must stay with and supervise children at all times.

## Wacky Wednesdays

Drop the kids off for fun and games in Trinity's backyard! We'll play water games, messy games, active games, silly games, and who knows what else! Suggested donation: \$5–10 per child.

- Ages 3½–5 (must be four by 9.1.2022) from 10:00 A.M.–11:00 A.M., June 15 and July 13
- Kindergarten–Grade 2 from 6:30 P.M.–7:30 P.M., June 15, 29, July 13
- Grades 3–5, from 6:30 P.M.–7:30 P.M., June 22, July 6, 27

## ▶ YOUTH

### Summer Stretch

Summer Stretch is a faith-centered approach to connecting community service learning and youth for grades 6–8. Each day, youth will gather to learn about God and one another, serve our community with our time and presence, and play together through activities and fun. The dates we meet are June 15, 16; July 20, 21 from 9:00 A.M.–3:00 P.M. The cost is \$75. Register online at [trinity-ec.org](http://trinity-ec.org).

### Thank You Prayer Friends

Thank you to all those who volunteered to be a Prayer Friend for our seventh grade youth. Thank you for lifting them up in prayer throughout the school year. YOU made a DIFFERENCE in their lives!

### Confirmation Elective



The final middle and high school Confirmation elective study will be on Thursday, April 14, from 7:00 P.M.–8:00 P.M. in Trinity's backyard following the Maundy Thursday service. We will have a Glow-In-The-Dark Easter Egg Hunt while learning about Holy Week and the Resurrection.



## Eighth Grade Retreat

Retreat offers youth a time to unplug and let go in order to focus on their relationship with God. This retreat will nurture faith, deepen relationships with God and each other, and allow youth to hear and proclaim the Good News of Christ. Each 8th grade confirmation youth needs to attend their 8th grade milestone retreat, so if you haven't attended yet, we need to see you there! The retreat will be on Saturday, April 2, from 9:00 A.M.–11:30 A.M.

## Confirmation Service Opportunities

- Reverse Lent Calendar • Youth and families will add one food item to the box for each of the 40 days of Lent. All donations will be given to Trinity's Food Pantry.
- Worship Reader • Sign-up online to read the Bible lesson in worship.

## ► FOR ALL!

### Luther Park Bible Camp

Children currently in grades 1–11 are invited to join us for a fun week at summer camp! Trinity's CYF Team encourages kids to spend a week at Luther Park Bible Camp in Chetek from June 26–July 1. Children in kindergarten–grade three are also encouraged to attend Luther Park Day Camp the week prior, June 20–24.

Learn more about Luther Park Summer Camps at [www.lutherpark.org](http://www.lutherpark.org). Scholarships are available to Trinity children—email Heather Day ([heatherd@trinity-ec.org](mailto:heatherd@trinity-ec.org)) or Ashley Olson ([ashley@trinity-ec.org](mailto:ashley@trinity-ec.org)) for more information!

### Please Join Us for a Noah's Ark Chipotle Night!

Please support Noah's Ark Preschool on Tuesday, April 26, from 4:00 P.M.–8:00 P.M. by ordering online from Chipotle Mexican Grill, 4738 Golf Rd, Eau Claire, WI (Golf Road location only). At the time of in-person ordering, tell the cashier you are supporting Noah's Ark Preschool OR order online and pick up at the Golf Road Chipotle by using the **Promo Code YW64TQA** on the Chipotle app or website. (Please note: delivery orders and gift cards do not qualify.) Noah's Ark will receive 33% of the proceeds at the restaurant during our fundraiser time frame.

### Noah's Ark Preschool Mother's Day Flower Sale

Noah's Ark Preschool will be having a fundraiser sale of summer flowers just in time for Mother's Day gift giving! If you buy summer flowers, why not order through Noah's Ark Preschool and help support our program at the same time?! We are working with Down To Earth Garden Center to offer 10" and 12" hanging baskets. If you prefer to do your own shopping at the garden center, we will also be selling gift cards in increments of \$25. Pre-orders are required and will be taken in the lobby during the weeks of April 3 and April 10. Orders may also be placed and paid online. Watch for the link on our website and in the Friday Enews beginning in April.

## Intergenerational Vacation Bible School

All Ages • July 18-21 • 6:00 P.M.–7:30 P.M. •  
Optional Picnic Dinner 5:00 P.M.–6:00 P.M.

All ages are invited to Trinity's newest holy experiment: Intergenerational Vacation Bible School! We'll gather, learn, play, and enjoy fellowship together. Activities are designed for participation by children, youth, and adults so that everyone is welcome on the journey. All children must be accompanied by an adult at VBS.

Bring the whole family to Vacation Bible School! Intergenerational VBS will combine much-loved traditions from past summers with many new activities. There is no cost to register for Vacation Bible School, but a donation of \$5–10

per person is suggested to help cover the cost of food and supplies. Pre-registration is required via Trinity's website. Nursery care will be provided for ages two and under.



### Why have an Intergenerational VBS?

Many summer programs have traditionally focused on one generation being the focus of faith formation events. Children go to VBS, families with children may go to family camp, youth serve on a mission trip, adults participate in a book study. Intergenerational ministry brings all the generations together to learn, build relationships, and grow in faith together. Intergenerational VBS provides a way to explore this way of being the body of Christ together.



## Affirmation of Baptism Sunday Celebration

Join our high school Confirmation youth as they publically affirm their baptism on Sunday, May 8, during the 8:15 A.M. and 9:45 A.M. worship services. We will celebrate as over 20 students affirm their baptism.

## Thank You

Thank you to all Trinity members and members of the community who supported Trinity's Youth Ministry by purchasing wreaths and butter braids this school year. Your support helps youth attend various Trinity and ELCA sponsored events. These events are important for the development and nurturing of faith in the lives of our youth. We appreciate you for making the faith journey of our youth a priority.

## Resurrection Biscuits

This recipe has been a tradition at Noah's Ark Preschool for many years! It gives kids the opportunity to tell the Easter story and enjoy a delicious treat. The biscuit represents the tomb. The marshmallow represents Jesus. Jesus is buried in the tomb. After three days (or baking a short time!), the tomb is EMPTY! Jesus is alive! We hope it may become a tradition at your house, too!

### Ingredients & Directions

- 1 can of biscuits
- Marshmallows, one per biscuit
- Melted butter
- Cinnamon and sugar
- Flatten each biscuit into a large circle. Place a marshmallow in the center and pull the edges of the dough up around the marshmallow. Pinch the dough together so it stays wrapped. Brush butter on the outside of the "tomb." Sprinkle with the cinnamon and sugar mixture. Bake 6–8 minutes at 375 degrees. The marshmallows should be melted...peek before taking them out of the oven.

## Faithful Families Spiritual Practice

The news of the resurrection is good news, and it is meant to be shared. It is important to share our faith in ways that are generous and kind and don't impose on other people. The good news of Easter is a gift. It is freely given and freely received. Here are some simple ways to share an Easter gift with a friend or neighbor.

- ✿ Give real or crafted flowers.
- ✿ Draw a picture of a butterfly or paint a wooden butterfly cutout.
- ✿ Make bread or cookies.
- ✿ Draw an Easter message on the sidewalk in chalk.
- ✿ Make a special card.

With each of your gifts, you might choose to attach a card that says "Happy Easter" or a note that says "For You!" If someone asks you about your faith, be ready to share a story about why Easter is important to you.

Excerpted from Faithful Families for Lent, Easter, and Resurrection by Traci Smith (Chalice Press: 2001, All Rights Reserved).

## From Pastor Tom

I am guessing that Easter was a special time of year when you were growing up. Nice weather, new clothing, a family gathering, worship, but most importantly...an Easter egg hunt! My cousins, siblings, and I would impatiently wait to run out into a relative's backyard and scour the landscape looking for every egg we could find. Some eggs had loose change, some had candy, a few would have a dollar bill or two, and some were empty. I'll let you guess which ones we were happiest to find! Now while I do not remember it, I would not be surprised if my grandfather, who was a pastor, made sure that some of those eggs were intentionally left empty.

The Easter egg and all of its traditions hold great importance in the Christian tradition. Painting Easter eggs is originally a tradition from the Orthodox and Eastern Catholic churches where the eggs are dyed red to represent the blood of Jesus Christ that was shed on the cross. Easter eggs were blessed by the priest at the end of the Paschal vigil and distributed to the congregants. The hard shell of the egg represents the sealed tomb of Christ, and cracking the shell represents Jesus' resurrection from the dead. Easter egg hunts and egg rolling are two more popular egg-related traditions. An egg hunt involves hiding eggs outside for children to run around and find on Easter morning to be like the women at the tomb. Eggs are rolled as a symbolic re-enactment of the rolling away of the stone from Christ's tomb.

But what about those empty Easter eggs?

In Matthew 28, an angel tells the women who had gone to the tomb to anoint Jesus' body, "Do not be afraid; I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. He is not here; for he has been raised..." As a little kid, I expected to find something in the egg, but instead I found nothing. But finding nothing is really the greatest news! Finding nothing should have reminded me of the resurrection of Jesus, the resurrection that conquers death, the resurrection that gives life to the world. May we all find the "empty" good news this Easter season.

Tom Westcott  
Associate Pastor

# "Serving in Christ's Love and Sharing the Good News"

A Reconciling in Christ Congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

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- Please submit all articles for the Tidings **electronically** in MS Word, Corel WP format, or in the body of an email. Submit to: cindy@trinity-ec.org
  - All submissions must be your own work. Any copyrighted material (code, images, or otherwise) must include written permission from the original source.
  - Deadline for the May Newsletter is April 14.