



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
1314 E Lexington Blvd • Eau Claire WI 54701-6434
2022, March Newsletter—Vol. LXVIII No. 3



Lent 2022 "You Are Here"

We typically talk about Lent being a journey. We write “God bless your Lenten journey!” in our newsletters, and we sing “Bless now, O God, the journey that all your people make.” And it's true: there is movement in Lent. Jesus moves from the mountain on Transfiguration to the desert temptation, then into Jerusalem and onto the cross and up from the grave. We hope that our Lenten journey will mirror Jesus' and help us conform our lives to Christ's life, death, and resurrection.



But what if Lent isn't only about journey? What if Lent is also about a stationary place? The scripture readings for Lent this year present a unique, sustained focus on location and place. Of all the liturgical seasons, Lent is the one that best proclaims how no matter where you are—death included—God can find you. Any location—including wherever you are right now—can become a place for resurrection. Join us on Wednesdays for worship at 12:15 P.M. or 6:00 P.M. beginning March 2.

- March 2 • Ash Wednesday
- March 9 • You Are Here: "The Promised Land"
- March 16 • You Are Here: "Under the Sky"
- March 23 • You Are Here: "Sanctuary"
- March 30 • You Are Here: "At the Table"
- April 6 • You Are Here: "Before the Funeral"

Lent in a Bag

This year we offer "Lent in a Bag" for our members in addition to weekly in-person and online worship. Each bag contains printed items following our series "You Are Here" including a devotion booklet, recipes, children's crafts, as well as a SPRING SURPRISE. If you didn't reserve a bag there are a limited number of bags available for those who would like to “grab” one before they are all gone.

Time Change!

Adjust your clocks on Saturday night, March 12! Daylight Saving Time begins on Sunday, March 13, at 2:00 A.M. At this time, we “spring forward” one hour!

Now Hiring Digital Communications Ministry Coordinator

People depend on communication in digital forms, and the church is no different. Trinity Lutheran Church is seeking a person who knows how to communicate on multiple digital platforms to help fulfill God's mission for us in *Serving in Christ's Love and Sharing the Good News*. We recognize the need and potential for this expanding area of ministry and are looking for the right candidate to help grow us into this new future.

The ideal candidate will have a strong communications background with experience in a variety of digital platforms. Direct experience with WordPress web operations is highly desired, along with a working knowledge of Facebook, YouTube, Twitter, and other social media channels. Experience with digital streaming production will be useful as we transition our focus from solely in-person worship to a growing reliance on streaming. A cheerful and friendly spirit, flexibility, creativity, innovation, and adaptive skills are needed in this role.

If interested in a full job description or learning more about this position, please send your resume and cover letter to Pastor Patrick at patrick@trinity-ec.org or call him at 715.832.6601 ext. 216.



Readers

We are reestablishing the use of readers for our 8:15 A.M. and 9:45 A.M. Sunday morning worship services beginning March 6. If you are interested, please sign-up sign up online at trinity-ec.org "Register or call the church office at 715.832.6601.



Memorials & Gifts

Food Pantry Fund

- In memory of Lamoine Stone: Susan Schaefer, Kurt & Kristine Lauer, Lori Helwig, Paul & Sharon Engstrom, Victoria Kohlepp, James Zimay, Joan Sather Larson, Family & Friends, Jeanine Helwig, Diane Peterson
- In memory of Robert Manz: Family & Friends
- In memory of Ray Fawcett: Ron & Marilyn Thompson
- In memory of George Dingman: Ron & Marilyn Thompson

Trinity Choir

- In memory of Robert Manz: Ron & Yvonne Nixdorf
- In memory of Don Laabs: Gary & Mary Rambo

Library Fund

- In memory of Robert Manz: Mary Dixon

Memorial Fund

- In memory of Robert Manz: Family & Friends, Clarice Gardow, James & Kathleen Bartl, Joe & Joy Motto and Family, Char Finseth, James & Anne Walker, Kirsten Alvarez & Dean Van Amber
- In memory of Sue Hesketh: Lisa Tepsa, Steve & Anne Josephson, Allan & Ann Berg
- In memory of Donald Timm: Marjorie Timm

Endowment Trust Fund

- In memory of Robert Manz: Carl & Diane Manz, John & Cleo Young, Martha McMahan, Paul & Jodea Green
- In memory of Lamoine Stone: Leatrice Solberg

Quilters

- In memory of Dimitri Yannakopoulos: Roger & Marilyn Engen
- In memory of Lamoine Stone: Doris Hennig, Miriam Circle

Prayer Shawls

- In memory of Dimitri Yannakopoulos: Jack & Sheila Running

Habitat for Humanity

- In memory of Sue Hesketh: Rick & Helen Mateski

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 online at trinity-ec.org or call 715.832.6601.

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 the next three months:** March 6, 13, 20; April 3, 17.

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 or call Phyllis Grohn at 715.836.7055.

Circle Meetings

- Miriam • Wednesday, March 16, 9:30 A.M. Trinity
- Ruth • Tuesday, March 15, 1:30 P.M. Trinity



Spring Into Reading!

Another season, another list of fresh books to start reading! Stop by the church library.

Children's Books

- *Words to Make a Friend* by Donna Jo Napoli and Naoko Stoop. A joyful ode to friendship between new neighbors, and it captures the energy of a budding bond and a swirling snow day, extolling the fun of exploring cultural differences. (++) FIC NAP)
- *Friendship is Forever* by Patricia Hegarty. Learning the importance of friendship is easy with this sweet board book that fosters social-emotional development within young children. (++) FIC HEG)

Fiction—Youth

- *We Are Family* by LeBron James and Andrea Williams. When Jayden and his teammates find out there's not going to be a Hoop Group this year, and maybe ever again, they have to learn to lean on each other if they want to save their basketball season in this inspiring middle grade novel from NBA superstar LeBron James. (+ FIC JAM)
- *The Curse of the Mummy* by Candance Fleming. This is the true story about the search for Tutankhamun's tomb, the Western public's belief that the dig was cursed, and the battle for ownership of the treasures within. (+ FIC FLE)
- *Sunny Rolls the Dice* by Jennifer L. Holm and Matthew Holm. This is the third novel of the Sunny Series. It is full of heart, laughter, and adventure as Sunny starts seventh grade. (+ FIC HOL)
- *Sunny Makes a Splash* by Jennifer L. Holm and Matthew Holm. This is the latest in the graphic novel Sunny series. It is summer, and Sunny is bored because most of her friends are out of town. The place that is cool is the community pool where she is working in the snack shack and meets a very sweet boy who works with her. (+ FIC HOL)
- *Spy School Revolution* by Stuart Gibbs. This is a sequel to *Spy School British Invasion*. Benjamin Ripley is hoping for some peace at spy school but when the CIA conference room is blown up, suspicion falls on fellow trainee Erica. (+ FIC GIB)



Fiction—Adult

- *The Last Bookshop in London* by Madeline Martin. Inspired by the true World War II history of the few bookshops to survive the Blitz, *The Last Bookshop in London* is a timeless story of wartime loss, love, and the enduring power of literature. (FIC MAR)
- *The Seed Keeper* by Diane Wilson. A haunting novel spanning several generations, *The Seed Keeper* follows a Dakota family's struggle to preserve their way of life and their sacrifices to protect what matters most. (FIC WIL)

- *Miss Eliza's English Kitchen* by Annabel Abbs. Before Mrs. Beeton and well before Julia Child, there was Eliza Acton who changed the course of cookery writing forever. This novel is the real-life story of Eliza Acton and her assistant as they revolutionized British cooking and cookbooks around the world. (FIC ABB)
- *Wish You Were Here* by Jodi Picoult. From the #1 New York Times bestselling author comes a deeply moving and current novel about the resilience of the human spirit in a moment of crisis. (FIC PIC)
- *The Paris Bookseller* by Kerri Maher. This historical fiction novel tells the story of how Shakespeare and Company came to be of the famed bookstore founded by Sylvia Beach in 1919. (FIC MAH)

Book Review

Apples Never Fall by Liane Moriarty

Reviewed by Sonnie Jacobson, Trinity Library Committee

When four siblings meet in an Australian coffee shop to discuss their mothers' disappearance, we are introduced to the Delaneys. Should they tell the police even if the most obvious suspect is their father? There begins this well-plotted, interesting novel about a "tennis family" with more and more flashback information about Stan and Joy and their children and their successful lives as owners of a tennis academy. They just retired, but why are they so miserable? The Delaney siblings think differently about their father's part in Joy's going missing—they must rethink their shared family history.

Trinity Book Club

The Trinity Book Club invites you to join them on Tuesday, March 15, in the Trinity Lobby at 6:30 P.M. to discuss *Mrs. Everything* by Jennifer Weiner.

Growing up in 1950s Detroit, Jo and Bethie live in a perfect "Dick and Jane" house where their roles in the family are clearly defined. Jo is the tomboy, the bookish rebel with a passion to make the world more fair; Bethie is the pretty, feminine good girl, a would-be star who enjoys the power her beauty confers and dreams of a traditional life. But the truth ends up looking different from what the sisters imagined.

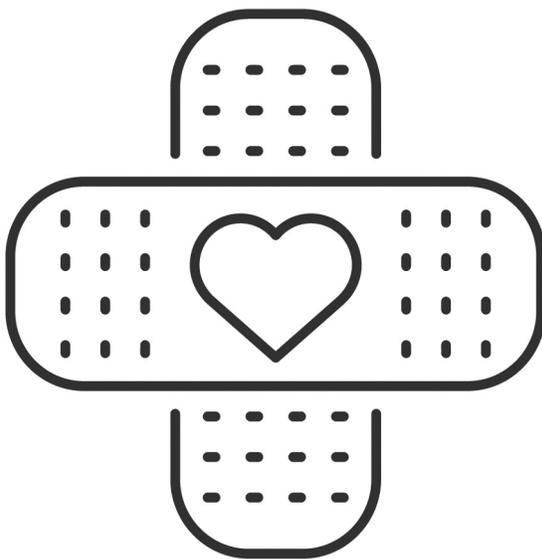


CARE & CONCERN

Dear Trinity Members,

The theme for Lent this year is “You Are Here.” I have two thoughts in mind when I read these words. In the first I'm picturing myself lost in The Mall of America, and then finding that mall map that clearly marks “You Are Here.” It is hard to know where you are going if you don't know where you are. The second is “Bloom where you are planted.” Thrive and grow no matter where life has taken you. Look around church for the paper whites beginning to sprout and bloom. This Lenten season, no matter where your “location,” remember how much God loves you, how grace abounds, and how you are richly blessed, no matter where “You Are Here” is.

Vicki Dueringer
Parish Nurse



Caregiver Ministry

Volunteers are needed to be on a committee with Parish Nurse, Vicki Dueringer to begin as new caregiver ministry. Many of us have been caregivers or know someone who is caring for a family member, friend, or neighbor. We often think of caregivers as spouses or adult children caring for a loved ones with dementia. However, caregivers come in all ages, backgrounds, and gender. It may be the young husband caring for his wife with breast cancer, a wife caring for a spouse with MS, a parent caring for a child with special needs.

The committee will begin by partnering with Allison Breininger, thenegativespace.life, who is a caregiver herself and has developed a number of opportunities that we can utilize to develop our caregiver ministry. She is working with other churches also, so she will give us a strong foundation to build this ministry. Go to thenegativespace.life to see the amazing work Allison is doing.

The goal of this committee is to develop a ministry at Trinity that focuses on the needs of the caregiver and finds practical, tangible ways to help who are typically unprepared, untrained, and unpaid to feel seen, encouraged, and supported.

Please contact Vicki Dueringer by March 8 at vickid@trinity-ec.org or 715.832.6601, ext 214 to volunteer.

Healing Service

Parish Nurse Vicki Dueringer offers a healing service on the third Sunday of each month in the chapel we have a Healing Service, beginning at 9:15 A.M. This short service is intentionally devoted to prayer and comfort for those in need of healing or who wish to pray for family/friends in need.

Oncology Resource

We are blessed at Trinity to have a member who is a retired oncologist. He is offering his knowledge/services to members who have questions regarding cancer, its treatment, and expectations. If you wish to speak with him, please contact Parish Nurse Vicki Dueringer at 715.832.6601 ext 214 or Pastor Patrick ext 216 or reach them by email at vickid@trinity-ec.org or patrick@trinity-ec.org. All information will be kept confidential.

Get Your Blood Pressure Checked

One in three American adults has high blood pressure. High blood pressure increases your risk for serious health problems including stroke and heart attack. Get your blood pressure checked regularly starting at age 18—and do your best to keep track of your blood pressure numbers. Trinity's Health Ministry offers free blood pressure screenings in the lobby on the second Sunday of every month.

Help Them Feel Included Ways to Care For Caregivers

It is easy for caregivers to feel isolated. Set up a virtual "happy hour," book club meeting, or a time to just visit with the caregiver and friends. Even if the caregiver can't attend, they will appreciate the thought. Make sure the invitation comes without pressure.



Save the Date

The Academy of Lifelong Learning (Formerly Senior American's Day) is Tuesday, June 7, at UW-EC. The keynote speaker is Dr. Zorba Paster, a family practice doctor who has a program every Saturday called "Zorba Paster On Your Health" on Wisconsin Public Radio. Watch for more information.

The Community Table

We are forming a new Trinity team to volunteer at The Community Table. The Community Table serves the Eau Claire Community by providing one meal each day, 365 days a year on a no-questions asked basis. Anyone can join the table during meal time. Our first serving day is Thursday, March 24, for lunch. We need six volunteers to prepare the meal from 9:00 A.M.–11:30 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.

The Eau Claire Warming Center

The Eau Claire Warming Center is a community-run organization that is possible because of community volunteers that want to assist with operating a safe and warm space for individuals experiencing homelessness. Tasks might include screening for COVID-19 symptoms, stocking supplies, conversations with guests, and staffing stations throughout the shift. Shifts range from 1–5 hours both day and overnight. Sign up at signupgenius.com/go/10c0f44adaf2ea5f9c16-warming. If you have any questions, please contact ecwarmingcenter@gmail.com

Friends of Flynn

Thank you to the many people who have supported the Friends of Flynn ministry through the years. Your generosity has allowed us to provide snacks, laundry support, clothing, books, and Weekend Meals to the students at Flynn Elementary School.

Our annual fund drive to continue this support is this month. We invite you to make a donation anytime during March to the Friends of Flynn Committee so support for Flynn student students can continue. We invite you to become a Friend of Flynn on their Facebook page (Flynn Elementary School) where you can see all the wonderful learning and events that are happening at "Our School." Often there is a special shout out to Trinity Lutheran Church in appreciation of all that is given to support the learning and student joy at Flynn.

Thank you in advance from the students and staff at Flynn and Friends of Flynn Committee members for your donations.

PS: If you would like to join the Friends of Flynn Committee, please contact the church office.

Got Bags?

If you have extra paper or plastic grocery type bags taking up space in your closet, garage, pantry, etc., please consider bringing them to the Food Pantry. We use close to 300 bags per week so would love to help reuse/recycle for you. Just drop them off anytime inside door one or in the Food Pantry bin outside the Trinity Room. Thanks!

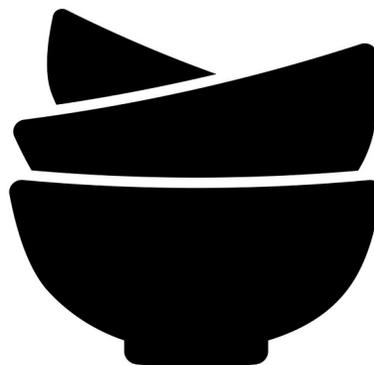
Prayer Ministry

You may make prayer requests for the Prayer Link by calling Lynn Gautsche at 715.832.6326, Tracy Adkins at 715.579.1197, Rebekah Krumrie 715.874.5567, or Peggy Munden 715.839.7799. You may also share prayer requests at trinity-ec.org by using the Prayer Request button. These requests go to our Prayer Link Team, and then they pray!

Empty Bowls

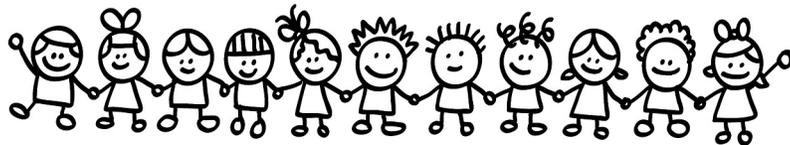
This year's Empty Bowls fundraiser will be March 1–3. Come to Feed My People and pick up a one-of-a-kind gift bag without ever leaving your vehicle. Each gift bag includes a handcrafted bowl, local recipes, and coupons to restaurants who typically supply the meal for Empty Bowls. A traditional Bowl Gift Box is \$20 and contains a randomly selected handcrafted bowl made by a local artist or student. An Anniversary Bowl Box is \$25 and features a specially commissioned bowl. There is also Choose Your Own Bowl Experience for \$40. Supporters also have the option of purchasing a Bowl with a Bow for \$10 that will go directly to someone in need as a gift.

Purchase tickets at give.fmpfoodbank.org/EmptyBowlsWeek. Pickup times will be emailed with your ticket receipt. Thank you for helping feed your neighbors in need.





CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILY MINISTRIES



● EARLY CHILDHOOD

Noah's Ark and ECE News

The school year is marching right along! We have been enjoying our days together with great kids who are loving their time with friends and really know all about school. We have had some outside play days when the weather has cooperated; otherwise, we've had great fun using the Trinity Room as our gym. The Come and Play classes have also enjoyed this space for lots of large muscle movement. Open Gym began on Wednesday mornings from 9:00 A.M.–10:20 A.M. in mid-February and will continue through March 16.

We've been happy to have a couple new kids start in our classes in the last month. It is fun to meet new friends and teach them about our school. Kids love telling about being peacemakers!

On Tuesday, March 1, we are gathering our Noah's Ark community together for a Family Night. We've missed our community events during Covid due to the cancellation of our suppers. We have kept health and safety in mind as we have planned this event. We will have multiple events spread throughout our Trinity spaces including our annual art stroll, a basket silent auction, arts and crafts, games and puzzles, music and movement, and gym play. We're excited to gather our Noah's Ark community together after two years without such opportunities!

We continue to register children for the 2022–2023 school year for Noah's Ark Preschool. Information and registration opportunities for fall Early Childhood Enrichment classes including Come and Play and Music and Movement will be coming up in the spring. Watch for more information!

Marlee Knickerbocker

Noah's Ark Preschool Director, Early Childhood Enrichment Coordinator

Open Gym

The Trinity Room is open for parents and their young children (toddlers–preschool) on Wednesday's, through March 16, from 9:00 A.M.–10:20 A.M. to come in and use our equipment in a large, safe space. The cost per session is \$3 for one child, \$2 for each additional child from the same family. Masks are required for all adults and children age 3 and older. An Early Childhood Enrichment Teacher will supervise the area, and a story time will be offered during the last twenty minutes. No pre-registration is required. Members, friends of members, and non-members are welcome to attend.

Noah's Ark 2022–2023

Registration continues for fall classes at Noah's Ark Preschool. Please contact Marlee Knickerbocker, Noah's Ark Preschool Director, at 715.832.6601 ext 205 or marlee@trinity-ec.org for more information.

Early Childhood Enrichment Class Opportunities Fall 2022

- **Music and Movement Class:** A parent & child class for 1–2 year olds.
- **Come and Play:** A drop-off class with the option of one or two days per week for children with birthdates between 9.1.19 and 5.31.20.

Specific class information including times, costs, and registration dates will be available early spring.

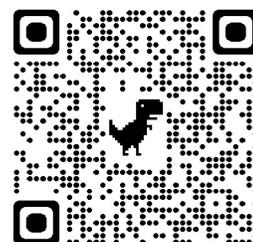
● CHILDREN

Holy Communion Instruction

Children in first grade are invited to come together during the Wednesday evening 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 and return the registration form (found outside the Children's Ministry office) to Heather Day by April 3. or
- complete the online registration form (scan the QR code or go to www.trinity-ec.org and click on the blue "Register Here" button)





What's the Purpose?

On February 11–14, Ashley Olson and I had the chance to attend (virtually) The Extravaganza, the annual gathering of children, youth, and family ministry leaders from across the ELCA. This gathering was inspiring, informative, exhausting, and renewing for both of us!

I attended several sessions titled "Reimagining Children's Ministry" led by Dr. Dave Csinos. Dr. Csinos encouraged us to consider the question "What is the purpose of children's ministry?" Is the purpose of children's ministry to encourage kids to have fun at church?

Is it to pass faith from adults to children? Is it to give parents a well-earned break for one hour per week?

Dr. Csinos suggests that perhaps the purpose of children's ministry is to help kids make theological meaning out of the things and events in their lives. To do this, we can encourage kids to ask questions and to wonder about their world. (I wonder why God made mosquitos? I wonder why snowflakes are all different?) We can listen to kids and take seriously their curiosity. We can acknowledge that while we don't have all the answers, there are some things that we know for sure. We can help them to know that while the world around them may be changing rapidly, God's love for them never changes.

The Spark Story Bible, which kids at Trinity receive when they are three, includes conversation prompts and questions at the end of each story. For example, "It was hard for Moses to do what God asked. What is the hardest thing you have ever had to do?" (Spark Story Bible, "Free from Slavery," page 77.) I encourage you to read a few Bible stories with the children in your life and ask questions together. As you talk, consider that not only are you helping your little one form their faith, but they are forming your faith as well.

Peace, Heather Day

Summertime at Trinity

Cold temperatures are still with us, but summer is coming soon! Trinity's summer opportunities for children, youth, and families will be announced in early March. Trinity families should watch their mailboxes for more information coming soon!

Frolic

Trinity's Children, Youth, and Family Team recently kicked off Frolic, a new ministry for families with very young children. As part of Frolic, parents will receive monthly newsletters that share age-specific developmental and faith milestones. These newsletters are provided at no cost to parents.

If you would like to receive a Frolic Newsletter and you have a little one who was born on September 1, 2019 or after, contact Heather Day at heatherd@trinity-ec.org or sign up online at www.trinity-ec.org and click on the blue "Register Here" button.

**We can listen
to kids and
take seriously
their curiosity**

● YOUTH

Luther Park Bible Camp

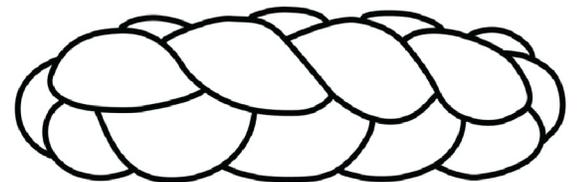
Children currently in grades 1–11 are invited to join us for a fun week at summer camp! Trinity's CYF Team encourages kids to spend a week at Luther Park Bible Camp in Chetek from June 26–July 1. Children in kindergarten–grade three are also encouraged to attend Luther Park Day Camp the week prior, June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

Learn more about Luther Park Summer Camps at www.lutherpark.org. Scholarships are available to Trinity kids. Ask Heather Day or Ashley Olson for more information!

Confirmation 6789 Bible Study Elective

The next Bible Study Elective will be offered on Sunday, March 6, from 8:50 A.M.–9:45 A.M. in the Youth Room. We will study prayer and actively engage in various types prayer.

Fundraiser



Youth Butter Braid Sale

"A slice of a Butter Braid pastry makes any day better—great for breakfast, desserts, appetizers, and special occasions." Orders will be taken for Butter Braids from March 1–16. Payment must be made at the time of order. Butter Braid pick-up for youth sellers and for members who placed their orders in the lobby will be on Thursday, March 31, from 5:30 P.M.–7:00 P.M. at door five. This fundraiser raises money for individual youth accounts which assist youth attend various Trinity and ELCA sponsored events.



Prayer Friend Event

All 7th grade youth and Prayer Friends will gather in the Trinity Room to meet each other on Wednesday, March 9, from 6:35 P.M.–7:00 P.M. Youth will find out who has been praying for them for the entire school year! It will be full of caring conversations and smiles!

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.

Confirmation Elective Opportunities

- Prayer Elective—Join us on Sunday, March 6, from 8:50 A.M.–9:45 A.M. in the Youth Room to study prayer and actively engage in various types of prayer.
- Confirmation Song Study Elective—Complete a challenging study requiring youth to dig deep into the meanings of words, find connections between the words and their faith, study scripture, and apply what they have learned to their lives. This is an at-home study that we encourage families to do together.
- 40 Ways to Keep Lent Holy—Complete an at-home daily faith practice for the season of Lent.

Email Ashley at ashley@trinity-ec.org if you need help accessing these opportunities.

Night Time Blessing Faith Formation At Home

In addition to (or instead of) evening prayers, a bedtime blessing from parents is a wonderful tradition. Not only can it be done with children who are too young to speak, but it frees a busy child from the need to do or say anything. The blessing is simply received. It is a gift from the parent and an expression of the child being loved by God. Consider using the same blessing night after night so your child begins to internalize and anticipate it.



Faithful Families

Designed for Newborn through School Age (As long as children are being tucked into bed by parents); time investment: 30

seconds—one minute.

How To:

1. At bedtime, after the child has finished his or her usual bedtime routine (teeth brushed, pajamas on, story read, etc.) say to your child, "Daddy (or Mommy) is going to say a night time blessing now!"
2. Place your hand on the child's head or shoulder and say a short blessing. Use one of the examples or write your own.
 - A. [Child's name], may God bless you and keep you. May God be kind and gracious to you. May God give you peace tonight and every night. Amen.
 - B. [Child's name], may the peace of God, which is bigger than anything we understand, fill your heart and your mind and may you know God's love always. Amen.
 - C. [Child's name], may the God of hope fill you with joy and peace, not only tonight, but tomorrow and the next day and all the days of your life. Amen.
 - D. God bless [child's name]. Amen.
3. At the end of the blessing, say "Amen," give the child a hug or kiss, and leave the room.

Notes

- The bedtime blessing can be shared by whichever parent or caregiver is putting the child to bed. The consistency in the blessing through a variety of different people provides a sense of security and safety to children.
- There is no age too small for this blessing. Begin to bless your children at bedtime from their very first day of life!

Variations

- Write the blessing or type it, and put it in a frame over the child's bed.
- Allow older children to say a blessing to parents as well
- Have a time of bedtime prayers and do the blessing at the end.

This practice excerpted from the book *Faithful Families: Simple Practices for Daily Family Life* by Traci Smith, pg. 14-15. Published by Chalice Press, 2017. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<h1>March 2022</h1>						
		1 9:15 AM Come & Play-Nursery 9:15 AM Staff Meeting-Lobby 1:30 PM Food Pantry Open 4:30 PM Food Pantry Open, Noah's Ark Shrove Tuesday Family Night 5:00 PM Executive Committee-Lobby 6:15 PM Trinity Trollers-Worship Center	2 9:00 AM Exercise Class-Zoom Meeting, Open Gym-Trinity Room 10:00 AM Heatherwood Worship-Offsite 10:30 AM Music & Movement-Chapel 12:15 PM Ash Wednesday Worship-Worship Center 5:00 PM Crossword Band Rehearsal-Worship Center 6:00 PM Ash Wednesday Holden Evening Worship-Worship Center 6:45 PM Trinity Choir Rehearsal-507	3 7:30 AM Text Study-Lobby 9:15 AM Come & Play-Nursery 10:00 AM Oakwood Hills Worship-Offsite 1:30 PM Food Pantry Open	4 9:00 AM Exercise Class-Zoom Meeting	5
6 8:15 AM Traditional Worship with communion-Worship Center 8:45 AM Praise Team Rehearsal-507 8:50 AM Confirmation Bible Study-Youth Room, Faith Formation Classes 9:45 AM Contemporary Worship with communion-Worship Center	7 9:00 AM Bulletin Meeting-Lobby 9:00 AM Exercise Class-Zoom Meeting 1:30 PM Food Pantry Open	8 9:00 AM Quilters-Lobby 9:15 AM Come & Play-Nursery 1:30 PM Food Pantry Open 4:30 PM Food Pantry Open 5:30 PM Council Meeting-Lobby 6:15 PM Trinity Trollers-Worship Center 7:00 PM Noah's Ark Committee Meeting-Trinity Room	9 9:00 AM Exercise Class-Zoom Meeting, Open Gym-Trinity Room 10:30 AM Music & Movement-Chapel 12:15 PM Lenten Worship-Worship Center 5:00 PM Crossword Band Rehearsal-Worship Center, Faith Formation Classes, GLS/Jam-Chapel, TJC-507 6:00 PM Lenten Holden Evening Worship-Worship Center 6:35 PM High School Confirmation-Worship Center, Seventh Grade Prayer Friend Event-Trinity Room 6:45 PM Trinity Choir Rehearsal-507	10 7:30 AM Text Study-Lobby 9:15 AM Come & Play-Nursery 1:30 PM Food Pantry Open	11 9:00 AM Exercise Class-Zoom Meeting	12 Spring Forward: Turn your clocks ahead before you go to bed.
13 8:15 AM Traditional Worship - Worship Center 8:45 AM Praise Team Rehearsal-507 8:50 AM Faith Formation Classes 8:55 AM Blood Pressure Screening-Lobby 9:45 AM Contemporary Worship- Worship Center 10:30 AM Blood Pressure Screening-Lobby	14 9:00 AM Bulletin Meeting-Lobby 9:00 AM Exercise Class-Zoom Meeting 1:00 PM Library Committee - Library 1:30 PM Food Pantry Open	15 9:15 AM Come & Play-Nursery 9:15 AM Staff Meeting 1:30 PM Food Pantry Open 1:30 PM Ruth Circle-Lobby 4:30 PM Food Pantry Open 5:30 PM LEAD Meeting 6:15 PM Trinity Trollers-Worship Center 6:30 PM Trinity Book Club-Lobby	16 9:00 AM Exercise Class-Zoom Meeting, Open Gym-Trinity Room 9:30 AM Miriam Circle-Lobby 10:30 AM Music & Movement-Chapel 12:15 PM Lenten Worship-Worship Center 5:00 PM Crossword Band Rehearsal-Worship Center, Faith Formation Classes, GLS/Jam-Chapel, TJC-507 6:00 PM Lenten Holden Evening Worship-Worship Center 6:35 PM Middle School Confirmation-Worship Center 6:45 PM Trinity Choir Rehearsal-507	17 7:30 AM Text Study-Lobby 9:15 AM Come & Play-Nursery 1:30 PM Food Pantry Open	18 9:00 AM Exercise Class-Zoom Meeting	19
20 8:15 AM Traditional Worship with communion - Worship Center 8:45 AM Praise Team Rehearsal-507 9:15 AM Healing Service-Chapel 9:45 AM Contemporary Worship with communion-Worship Center	21 No Noah's Ark or Early Childhood Classes 9:00 AM Bulletin Meeting-Lobby, Exercise Class-Zoom Meeting 1:30 PM Food Pantry Open	22 No Noah's Ark or Early Childhood Classes 9:00 AM Quilters-Lobby 1:30 PM Food Pantry Open 4:30 PM Food Pantry Open 6:15 PM Trinity Trollers-Worship Center	23 No Noah's Ark or Early Childhood Classes 9:00 AM Exercise Class-Zoom Meeting 12:15 PM Lenten Worship-Worship Center 6:00 PM Lenten Holden Evening Worship-Worship Center 6:45 PM Trinity Choir Rehearsal-507	24 No Noah's Ark or Early Childhood Classes 7:30 AM Text Study-Lobby 1:30 PM Food Pantry Open	25 No Noah's Ark or Early Childhood Classes 9:00 AM Exercise Class-Zoom Meeting	26
27 8:15 AM Traditional Worship-Worship Center 8:45 AM Praise Team Rehearsal-507 9:45 AM Contemporary Worship-Worship Center	28 9:00 AM Bulletin Meeting-Lobby 9:00 AM Exercise Class-Zoom Meeting 1:00 PM Library Committee Work Session-Library 1:30 PM Food Pantry Open	29 9:15 AM Come & Play-Nursery 1:30 PM Food Pantry Open 4:30 PM Food Pantry Open 6:15 PM Trinity Trollers-Worship Center	30 9:00 AM Exercise Class-Zoom Meeting 10:30 AM Music & Movement-Chapel 12:15 PM Lenten Worship-Worship Center 5:00 PM Crossword Band Rehearsal-Worship Center, Faith Formation Classes, GLS/Jam-Chapel, TJC-507 6:00 PM Lenten Holden Evening Worship-Worship Center 6:35 PM High School Confirmation-Worship Center, Middle School Confirmation-Worship Center 6:45 PM Trinity Choir Rehearsal-507	31 7:30 AM Text Study-Lobby 9:15 AM Come & Play-Nursery 1:30 PM Food Pantry Open		

"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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Blantyre Lutheran Parish, Malawi, Africa
Jacqueline & Patrick Bencke, Japan

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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 April Newsletter is March 16.