Trinity's Weekly Connection

Sunday, February 5, 2023 — Fifth Sunday after Epiphany

This Week at Trinity Lutheran Church

Sunday, February 5
Sponsor a Mile Youth Campaign
Traditional Worship, 8 a.m.
Rejoice Worship (Beyond Belief), 9:15 a.m.
Live Streaming of Worship, 9:15 and 10:45 a.m.
High School Bible Study, 9:15 a.m.
Sunday School, 9:20 a.m.
Traditional Worship, 10:45 a.m.
Trinity Choir Retreat, noon
LWR Quilters, noon
MS Youth Group, 2 p.m.
Confirmation Class, 3 p.m.
HS Youth Group, 6:30 p.m.

Monday, February 6
Stroller Barre, 9 a.m.
Stephen Ministry Leaders Meeting, 1 p.m.
Rejoice Band Rehearsal, 6 p.m.
Property Committee Meeting, 6 p.m.
Schubert Male Chorus Rehearsal, 7 p.m.

Tuesday, February 7
LWR Quilters, 9:30 a.m.
Fitness Classes, 10 a.m.
Called to Care IHN Training, 6 p.m.
Executive Committee Meeting, 7 p.m.

Wednesday, February 8
Donuts & Coffee, 10 a.m.
"Embracing a Life of Meaning" Adult Forum, 10:30 a.m.
Helping Hands Committee Meeting, 6 p.m.
Fit4Baby, 7 p.m.
Youth and Family Committee, 8 p.m.

Thursday, February 9
Fitness Classes, 10 a.m.
Resound Bell Rehearsal, 6 p.m.
Trinity Choir Rehearsal, 7:15 p.m.

Friday, February 10
Women's Book Club, 9:30 a.m.
Women's Retreat, 5:30 p.m.

Saturday, February 11
Women's Retreat all day

Sunday, February 12
Sponsor a Mile Youth Campaign
Traditional Worship, 8 a.m.
Rejoice Worship (Rejoice band), 9:15 a.m.
Live Streaming of Worship, 9:15 and 10:45 a.m.
Sunday School, 9:20 a.m.
Traditional Worship, 10:45 a.m.
Stephen Ministry Continuing Education, 12:30 p.m.
Stephen Ministry Peer Support Group, 1:30 p.m.
MS Youth Group, 2 p.m.
Confirmation Class, 3 p.m.
HS Youth Group, 6:30 p.m.

Assisting in Worship This Morning

8:00 a.m.
Sacristans: Vince Schumacher
Lector: Steve Heacock
Communion Assistants: Sue Wait
Gloria Von der Heide
Ushers: Bill Bailey, John Potter, Dave Wait

9:15 a.m.
Beyond Belief band leading worship
Sacristans: Lisa Mead
Lector: Brad Burkle
Communion Assistants: Chris & Kim Engle
Ushers: Todd Brandstadt, Morrie & Cindy Fongers, Ethan Guis, Lisa Mead

10:45 a.m.
Cantor: John Fox
Sacristans: John & Elizabeth Derbin
Lector: Bryan Bredwell
Communion Assistants: Chris & Joanna Kutschinski
Ushers: Carol Hendricks, Joe & Marybeth Iaria, Brad Kessel, Dorothy Postema, Scott Stoll

Bread Baker: Julie Williams

Trinity Members in Our Prayers

We pray for **Trinity members in times of illness, hospitalization, rehabilitation and recovery**: Sue Bailey, Mark Baker, Lisa Barkema, Don Barsema, Bob Beaudry, Krysta Billock, Jim and Sue Boyse, Bill Brock, Pat Bruin, Ellie Buggeln, Cheryl Bushman, Mike Danielski, Donna Erickson, Ruth Ann Evans, Diane Field, Mark Hahn, Beth Hall, Bob Heine, Callan Hughes, Carol Huttenga, Patricia Johnson, Janet Konen, Roy Lamprich, Marilyn Leese, Jane Legault, Matthew Lohr, Judy Mallen, Tom Mannisto, Rebecca Mattison, Carolyn McCready, Jill McKinney, Stephanie McLeod, Marilyn Mellema, Christophe Muganza, Charmayne Mulligan, Jo Murphy, Craig Mutch, Bertie Nelson, Jesse Platt, Jacqueline Riegling, Denny Rosen, Marian Schaible, Chas Schaner, Chris Schomberg, Lee Schomberg, Luanna Seyffert, Michael Smith, Patricia Stevens, Gale Volkerding, John Walls, Fred Wilcox, Robert Williams, Lisa Wiseman, Rick and Michelle Wolner, David Young, Kay Zeaman, Kathryn Zielinski and Cindy Zientarski.

We also lift up **Trinity families mourning the loss of loved ones**: Kelli and John Basher, George Bauer, Jennifer Brown, Bill and Patricia Bruin, Jim and Sue Coates, Morgan and Jaci Cole, Jack Danielson, David and Pastor Kari Fast, Diane Field, Sharon Fourcha, Eric Gohlke, Keith Gohlke, Bob and Nanci Guigue, Carol Hendricks, Linda Holm, Brad and Gayl Kessel, Mike and Molly King, Terry and Susan Knoll, Beth Krueger, Mark and Rebecca Mattison, Matt and Lisa Mead, Craig and Patti Mutch, Tammy Parat, Kris Racek, Bruce and Joyce Schlanderer, Lee and Ann Schomberg, Doug and Joan Start, Linda Taffs, Julie Williams, Phillip Youngman, and John and Missy Ziech.

We also lift up in prayer this week the Pastor Christopher Laughlin and people of Immanuel Lutheran Church in Allegan, partners with us in mission and ministry in the North/West Lower Michigan Synod, ELCA.

Readings & Hymns for February 5

Isaiah 58:1-9a
Psalm 112:1-9
1 Corinthians 2:1-12
Matthew 5:13-20

#665 Rise, Shine, You People! (red book)
#815 I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light (red book)
#688 Lord of Light (red book)

FEBRUARY 5, 2023
FIFTH SUNDAY
AFTER EPIPHANY

taking faith home

The power of knowing Christ crucified.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

These passages are related to the Lectionary texts for this Sunday.

Sunday	**Matthew 5:13-20**	**Salt and light**
Monday	**Isaiah 58:1-12**	**False and true worship**
Tuesday	**1 Corinthians 2:1-16**	**True wisdom of God**
Wednesday	**Isaiah 40:27-31**	**The Lord gives strength**
Thursday	**1 Peter 4:12-16**	**Suffering as a Christian**
Friday	**James 1:2-8**	**Faith and wisdom**
Saturday	**Psalm 112**	**Blessings of the righteous**
Sunday	**Matthew 5:21-37**	**Teachings of Jesus**

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

When I [Paul] came to you, brothers and sisters, I did not come proclaiming the mystery of God to you in lofty words or wisdom. For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ, and him crucified. **1 Corinthians 2:1-2 (NRSV)**

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:
Loving God, give us your wisdom to see in the cross of Christ the path of love, humility, and service to others above all else. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:
Dear God, with this food give us strength to care for the needs of others as you care for us each and every day. In the name of Jesus, our crucified Savior and Lord. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:
May you take delight in the wisdom of God through our crucified Lord Jesus Christ.

MILESTONES

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FEBRUARY 5, 2023

HYMN OF THE WEEK

Lift High the Cross

taking faith home

WEEKLY MILESTONES

Take a moment to tell or think about a recent mountain high and/or valley low in your life.

CARING CONVERSATIONS

Discuss in your home, small group, or use for personal reflections:

- What motivates people to show they are more powerful than others?
- How does God show wisdom and power through the crucifixion of Jesus Christ?

DEVOTIONS

Read: 1 Corinthians 2:1-16.
The Corinthian church was a divided church. Some thought they had superior wisdom or superior spiritual gifts. Paul rejects such claims by focusing on God's wisdom revealed through Jesus Christ. Jesus was crucified and died a criminal's death at the hands of earthly powers. Those who believe they have superior wisdom and gifts totally miss the point and rely on human standards—human wisdom—not God's. Paul's own ministry demonstrates the wisdom of God that seems like foolishness to the world. Paul did not use impressive speech. He used the message of Christ crucified, a message made powerful by the Holy Spirit, not human rhetoric. To be truly "spiritual," and therefore a blessing to the church, one needs to be grounded in spiritual wisdom that understands the power of the cross. This power can look like weakness. The very standards the arrogant use to feel superior shows their dependence on the powers and wisdom of the current age, not the power and wisdom of God through Christ crucified.
Discuss: Being forgiven can look like weakness. How can it be a powerful gift to the life of the church?
Pray: **Almighty God, help us to see that in the death of Jesus your power is present to guide our daily lives and bring faith, hope, and love to all the world. Amen.**

SERVICE

Jesus calls us to serve our neighbor in love. Based on the Daily Bible Readings for this week, how might you help people who feel put down by others?

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

Where Christ is present in faith, the home is church, too! God is present in our daily lives. The home is where people are connected in intimate daily settings. Where we call home can be diverse. Matthew 5:15-16 reminds us that we don't hide the light of a lamp under a basket. We place it where "it gives light to all in the house." Jesus tells us we are the light of the world and invites us to shine our light so that others may see our good works and give glory to God. Light a candle each day this week. While you gaze at the light, think or talk about what *"good works"* (v. 16) you have done that day and how what you did gives glory to God.

MILESTONES

In addition to *Taking Faith Home*, celebrate milestones in your daily life as an