



# The Messenger



## *Holy Week & Easter Sunday*

Holy Week worship begins with a palm procession commemorating Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem. We are reminded how those gathered wanted him to become an authoritarian king and how Jesus came to draw us back to God through love. We proclaim that though Jesus is obedient even unto death on the cross, he is exalted by God. We gather to remember his offering for the life of the world, and to be fed by his life-giving mercy. This Holy Week will culminate in the celebration of the Three Days of Jesus' suffering, death, and resurrection. **See [page 10](#) of this newsletter for Holy Week and Easter worship details. Be with us in our gatherings!**



### **Children's Ministry Job Openings**

- Great work environment!
- Flexible hours to fit your family's schedule
- Work from home or in the children's office
- Rotating Sunday attendance schedule
- Interviews during the week of March 17

**Interested candidates should contact current staff:**

Rachele Battreall [rachele.battreall@tlcgr.org](mailto:rachele.battreall@tlcgr.org)

Sheri Mason [sheri.mason@tlcgr.org](mailto:sheri.mason@tlcgr.org)

Amy Stephan [amy.stephan@tlcgr.org](mailto:amy.stephan@tlcgr.org)

#### **Children's Ministry Administrator: 10 hrs/wk**

- Program planning and coordination
- Write monthly articles for *The Messenger*
- Write weekly eBlast articles as needed
- Budgeting
- Supply ordering
- Signage and advertising
- Create and manage events using SignUp Genius
- Attend bi-weekly staff meetings
- Attend bi-monthly Children's Ministry Committee meetings

#### **Sunday School Lesson Coordinator: 5 hrs/wk**

- Plan and prepare weekly lessons using Spark curriculum
- Weekly emails to teachers
- Plan and lead Large Group on Sunday mornings: Bible lesson, collect offering, announcements

#### **Sunday School Registrar & Volunteer Coordinator: 5 hrs/wk**

- Schedule teachers and helpers for each Sunday
- Track registration and participation using web-based software
- Greet and check-in children for Sunday School

# What's Happening at Trinity in March?

## Weekly at a Glance

### **Sundays**

Traditional Worship, 8 a.m.  
Rejoice Worship, 9:15 a.m.  
Livestreaming of Worship, 9:15 a.m.  
Lenten Grace Group, 9:15 a.m.  
Lenten Grace Group, 10:30 a.m.  
*Does not meet Easter Sunday*  
Sunday School, 9:30 a.m.  
*Does not meet Easter Sunday*  
Traditional Worship, 10:45 a.m.  
Livestreaming of Worship, 10:45 a.m.

### **Mondays**

Stroller Barre, 9 a.m.  
Lenten Grace Group, 10:30 a.m.  
Band Rehearsal, 6 p.m.

### **Tuesdays**

Women's Bible Study/Lenten Grace Grp, 9:30 a.m.  
GriefShare, 3:30 p.m.  
Fit4Baby, 7 p.m.  
Lenten Grace Group Zoom, 7 p.m.

### **Wednesdays**

Fitness Class, 10 a.m.  
Lenten Grace Group, 5 p.m.  
Lenten Soup Supper, 5:30 p.m.  
Lenten Midweek Worship, 6:30 p.m.  
*Supper & Worship offered through March 20*  
Fit4Baby, 7 p.m.

### **Thursdays**

Choosing Peace & Serenity AFG, 7 p.m.  
*Does not meet on Maundy Thursday*  
Trinity Choir Rehearsal, 7:15 p.m.  
*Meeting at 8 p.m. on Maundy Thursday*



*All are welcome here.*

### **Friday, March 1**

Women's Bible Study, 9:30 a.m.

### **Saturday, March 2**

*Celebration of Music* Rehearsal, 10 a.m.  
Blood Drive, 10:30 a.m.-3 p.m.  
Baby Shower, 2 p.m.

### **Sunday, March 3**

High School Bible Study, 9:15 a.m.  
MS Youth Group, 2 p.m.  
Christophe's Children Update, 3 p.m.  
Confirmation Class, 3 p.m.  
*Celebration of Music* Concert, 3 p.m.  
HS Youth Group, 6:30 p.m.

### **Monday, March 4**

In The Image Volunteering, 1 p.m.  
Stephen Leaders Mtg, 1:30 p.m.  
Property Comm Mtg, 6 p.m.

### **Tuesday, March 5**

LWR Quilters, 9:30 a.m.  
Executive Comm Mtg, 7 p.m.  
Children's Ministry Comm Mtg, 8 p.m.

### **Wednesday, March 6**

Outreach Comm Mtg, noon  
Odyssey of the Mind, 6 p.m.

### **Thursday, March 7**

*Life Begins at 60* Dinner, 5:30 p.m.  
Resound Bell Rehearsal, 6 p.m.

### **Friday, March 8**

Women's Book Club, 9:30 a.m.  
30-Hour Famine, 5 p.m.-Sat, 7 p.m.

### **Sunday, March 10**

SM Continuing Ed, 12:30 p.m.  
SM Peer Supt Grp 1, 1:30 p.m.  
SM Peer Supt Grp 2, 1:30 p.m.  
MS Youth Group, 2 p.m.  
Confirmation Class, 3 p.m.  
HS Youth Group, 6:30 p.m.

### **Monday, March 11**

*The Messenger* Deadline  
Schubert Male Chorus Bd Mtg, 5:30 p.m.  
Congregation Council Mtg, 6:30 p.m.  
Oasis Board Mtg, 6:30 p.m.

### **Wednesday, March 13**

Odyssey of the Mind, 6 p.m.

### **Thursday, March 14**

Resound Bell Rehearsal, 6 p.m.

### **Friday, March 15**

Women's Bible Study, 9:30 a.m.

### **Sunday, March 17**

*Fifth Grade Presentation of Bibles*  
MS Service Projects, 3-5 p.m.  
HS Youth Group, 6:30 p.m.

### **Monday, March 18**

Health Ministries Comm Mtg, 6:30 p.m.

### **Tuesday, March 19**

Care & Share, 10:30 a.m.  
Tuesday Evening Book Club, 7 p.m.

### **Thursday, March 21**

In The Image Volunteering, 1 p.m.  
Bridge, 1 p.m.  
Resound Bell Rehearsal, 6 p.m.

### **Saturday, March 23**

Euchre Night & Potluck, 5 p.m.

### **Sunday, March 24**

*Palm Sunday*  
Confirmation Class, 3 p.m.  
HS Youth Group, 6:30 p.m.

### **Monday, March 25**

Schubert Male Chorus Rehearsal, 6 p.m.

### **Tuesday, March 26**

Council on Aging, 8 a.m.  
SM Continuing Ed, 6:30 p.m.  
SM Peer Supt Grp 1, 7:30 p.m.  
SM Peer Supt Grp 2, 7:30 p.m.

### **Wednesday, March 27**

Pack 3015 Comm Mtg, 6:30 p.m.

### **Thursday, March 28**

Maundy Thursday Worship, 7 p.m.

### **Friday, March 29**

*Good Friday*  
Good Friday Worship, 7 p.m.

### **Saturday, March 30**

Easter Brass Rehearsal, 8 a.m.  
Resound Bell Rehearsal, 11 a.m.

### **Sunday, March 31**

*Easter Sunday*  
Easter Breakfast, 8 a.m.-1 p.m.  
Easter Egg Hunt, 10:15 a.m.

#### **Trinity's Inclement Weather Policy**

When the Forest Hills Public Schools close during the day, all Trinity daytime activities are canceled and the church office is closed. When the schools announce a morning delay, morning programming at Trinity will be canceled. After 3 p.m. and on weekends, check WOOD TV8, WZZM TV13, or FOX17 about the status of our evening or weekend activities.

# A Message from Pastor Dennis Smith

## What is Lent?

Lent is a forty-day season that precedes and prepares us for the most sacred part of the Christian year. Lent begins on Ash Wednesday (February 14, this year) and concludes on the Easter Vigil, the Saturday before Easter Sunday (March 31). Sundays are not included in the forty-day count because every Sunday is a mini-Easter, a joyful celebration of our Lord's resurrection. The word Lent is derived from the Old English *lencten*, which means "lengthen." It refers to the lengthening of the daylight hours that occurs in the northern hemisphere as spring approaches.

The duration of the season of Lent is based on the ancient church custom of requiring catechumens to undergo a forty-day period of religious instruction and fasting before being baptized on the evening before Easter (the Easter Vigil). This probationary period was called the *quarantine* (from the Latin word for forty). The number forty occurs frequently in both testaments of the Bible. It signifies the time that is required for discipline, testing, and separation prior to achieving a goal or new beginning. In the Old Testament, Moses communed with God on Mount Sinai for forty days before receiving the Ten Commandments. In the New Testament, Christ's ordeal of fasting, praying, and being tempted by the devil lasted for 40 days.

Ash Wednesday (from the Latin *Dies Cinerum*, meaning "Day of Ashes") is the first day of Lent. Ashes, a sign of repentance and mortality, are traditionally made by burning palm fronds used on Palm Sunday of the previous year. They are mixed with a small amount of olive oil or water and applied to the forehead of each worshiper. The fact that the ashes are placed on our foreheads in the sign of the cross reminds us that Jesus Christ is the source of our forgiveness, salvation, and eternal life.

Because Lent is a season of reflection and prayer, worship is generally more solemn and restrained. The somber colors of purple and black replace the brighter white and green of the Epiphany season. Songs of praise like *Gloria in Excelsis* ("Glory in the Highest") and expressions of joy like *Alleluia* ("Praise the Lord") are removed from the liturgy until Easter. Many churches hold special midweek worship services. At Trinity, these services occur on Wednesday evenings, beginning with a soup supper at 5:30 p.m. At 6:30 p.m. we will be worshipping with a sung liturgy from Marty Haugen called *That You May Have Life*. The homily and scriptural focus each week will be on a portion of our Ash Wednesday reading, Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21. Pastor Kari's focus will be, "What makes you come alive? Finding joy and peace, while deepening lives of faith and action."

The last week of Lent is known as Holy Week during which the church commemorates the final week of Jesus' earthly life. The high points of this week are Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and the Vigil of Easter or Holy Saturday. On Easter Sunday, the alleluias and glorias are unpacked and sung with gusto in celebration of Christ's resurrection.

For many Christians, the season of Lent typically includes some kind of fasting. In place of a food fast, some Christians commit to give up a pleasurable activity or dedicate themselves to charitable giving. Focus on prayer and devotions are also especially emphasized during Lent. Ultimately, Lent is about what God gives over for us and our salvation. As John 3:16-17 reminds us, *For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.*

May the peace of Christ be with you in all seasons.

Pastor Dennis Smith



If you attended Pastor Smith's Lutheranism forum and would like a copy of his PowerPoint, you can request one by emailing him at [thedennisbsmith@yahoo.com](mailto:thedennisbsmith@yahoo.com).

## Trinity Congregation Council Members 2024-2025

*Standing committees of the Congregation Council coordinate the mission and ministry of Trinity and provide their leadership in developing new programming. Committees have a Council person who acts as the liaison between the Council and committee. If you are interested in contacting a Congregation Council member, please refer to information in the Trinity directory or call the church office.*

**Chris Becker**  
**Bill Bush**  
**Dan Butler**  
**John Derbin**  
**Michelle Feutz**  
**Steve Heacock**  
**Sarah Huckstep**  
**Brad Kessel**  
**Erick Kind**  
**Susan Knoll**  
**Jamie Kuntzman**  
**David Marquardt**  
**Julie McLeod**  
**Dakota Morin**  
**Michelle Morin**  
**Jacquie Murray**  
**Chris Norton**  
**Kelly Wittry**



## A Message from Council Member Dan Butler

You are familiar with the first and greatest commandment of Jesus from Mathew 22: 36-40: “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul, and with all your mind.” And the second is like it: “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” In Luke 10:29-37 Jesus makes clear that our neighbor is anyone around us, regardless of ethnic, religious, or socio-economic status. There it is. The core of the Christian life.

Carol and I have moved to a new city several times. Finding a new church congregation has been a primary and major endeavor. When we moved from Plano, TX some years ago our pastor suggested we search for a congregation with vision and giving outside the church doors. Which brought us to Trinity. Trinity’s mission says: “Trinity Lutheran Church is a dynamic family called by God to nurture each other in our daily journeys of faith and to joyfully increase our response to all people in need, sharing God’s gifts of love and grace.” Trinity is the most generous, giving congregation we know.

Our Outreach Committee purpose states: “God calls us to address our neighbor’s most urgent and unmet needs. The Outreach Committee works to support selected local and global ministries. The Outreach Committee encourages congregation members to reach out to their neighbors with God’s love and compassion. The committee is continually reviewing and engaging with different nonprofits to make the greatest difference.” We have budgeted amounts built into our overall giving plan, and outside organizations depend on the generosity of Trinity to fulfill their missions. In 2023, we included more than \$150,000 for benevolence. In addition, we organize seven special giving campaigns throughout each year so we can voluntarily provide needed support and supplies for those with special challenges. These campaigns often call for products in addition to funding.

The Outreach Committee recommends Council support from our Endowment funds each year, and for 2023 the committee recommended distribution of \$27,000 for use by nonprofits we support. We have special appeals for outreach events like Kids Coalition Against Hunger for which we raised more than \$14,000 to fund the packing of more than 40,000 meals for use locally and around the world. We are also a very active support organization for the Interfaith Hospitality Network (IHN), providing care, food, and support

to needy local individuals. We summarize our giving in this issue of *The Messenger*, following the end of our fiscal year. During 2023 Trinity provided more than \$368,000 to needy individuals and organizations. Please see [page 6](#) for a breakdown of our organization benevolence and our gifts-in-kind.

It is a pleasure to serve this congregation on Council and a special privilege to be a liaison to Trinity’s Outreach Committee.



## Trinity Lutheran Church Budget vs. Actuals Month of January 2024

	Budget	Actual	Variance Favorable/ (Unfavorable)	
Total Income	119,941	74,281	(45,660)	-38.1%
Total Expenses	103,272	83,749	19,523	18.9%
Net Income (Loss)	16,669	(9,468)	(26,137)	

## 2023 Fiscal Year-to-Date Through January 2024

	Budget	Actual	Variance Favorable/ (Unfavorable)	
Total Income	1,262,686	1,269,803	7,117	0.6%
Total Expenses	1,198,399	1,133,648	64,751	5.4%
Net Income (Loss)	64,287	136,155	71,868	

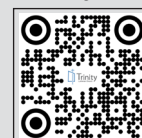
## Please Don't Forget Your Offering!

At Trinity, you have many options for giving:

**1. Direct bill pay from your bank**  
{free to set up with your bank}

**2. Online giving via Tithe.ly**

<https://get.tithe.ly>  
{member or church incurs fee}



**3. Offering plate on Sunday morning**

**4. Mail in your offering**

We thank you for your generosity. Please contact Trinity's Finance Administrator [Joanna Waite](#) in the church office if you need assistance.

## Livestreaming Services at Trinity

We are streaming our **9:15 & 10:45 a.m.** services on YouTube. The 10:45 a.m. service is streamed for **indoor** services only. To find virtual services:

- (1) Go to the Trinity website ([www.tlcgr.org](http://www.tlcgr.org)) and click on **Virtual Worship**.
- (2) Clicking the **Virtual Worship** button will take you to our YouTube page.
- (3) If the service is currently streaming live (from about 9:10 to 10:20 a.m. and 10:40 to 11:50 a.m. on Sunday mornings), **you will see a video with a red box with the word "LIVE" in it. Click on that video.** *Note: If you go to YouTube early, you may have to wait a few minutes or refresh the page to get this "LIVE" option.*

You can also go directly to [www.youtube.com](http://www.youtube.com) and search **Trinity Lutheran Church Grand Rapids**.

**We are on GRTV!** Our Sunday services are being broadcast on GRTV channel 25! Our services air on Sundays from 11 a.m. to noon. *Please note the broadcast is more than a week behind.*

### Please Note:

If live services are unavailable due to internet issues at Trinity, please check YouTube later in the day to watch a recorded version of that day's service. Most Sundays, services will be available by 2 p.m.

# 2023 Benevolence Giving by Trinity Lutheran Church

Access of West Michigan	\$7,784
Baxter Community Center	\$1,634
Christophe's Children	\$85,133
Dégagé Ministries	\$3,193
Diapers & Undies Drive	\$209
Easter Hams	\$2,692
ELCA Disaster Response	\$21,483
ELCA World Hunger	\$18,433
ELCA Youth Gathering Fund	\$5,000
Exalta Health	\$2,508
Family Promise (IHN)	\$15,016
God's Work Our Hands	\$2,857
Habitat for Humanity	\$2,387
Heartside Gleaning	\$9,250
Home Repair Services	\$1,634
ICCF	\$1,634
In The Image	\$5,069
Kids Coalition Against Hunger	\$14,000
Living Water Ministries	\$1,634
MI Interfaith Power & Light	\$980
Mission in India - Neerekshe	\$11,000
MomsBloom	\$980
National Charter Schools Inst.	\$117
New City Neighbors	\$1,634
N/W Lower MI Synod	\$111,600
Pastor's Discretionary Fund	\$14,304
Pr. Karen Niemeyer Scholarship	\$15,000
Safe Haven Ministries	\$5,009
Samaritas Resettlement MI	\$2,509
SECOM	\$1,693
The Green Apple (The Pantry)	\$1,726
<b>TOTAL BENEVOLENCE</b>	<b>\$368,099</b>

Trinity's fiscal year runs from February 1 to January 31. Due to this, we are unable to provide a final report of Trinity's Benevolence Giving at the Annual Meeting in January. Following are the final Fiscal Year 2023 numbers and information. ***A huge thank you to all who contributed to Trinity Benevolence in 2023! Trinity's gifts to support our local and global community have always been an integral part of our mission to serve joyfully in response to all people in need, sharing God's gifts of love and grace.***

## 2023 Gifts-in-Kind

*Through the generosity of Trinity's membership, we have been able to support special projects and collections of items which are distributed to our local community and around the world.*

**Blood Drives at Trinity** – In partnership with Versiti Blood, Trinity hosted four blood drives. We collected 122 units of whole blood and 42 units of double red cells, potentially impacting the lives of 400 people.

**Collections at Trinity** – The people of Trinity continue to generously donate to the seasonal monthly collections such as cleaning supplies, personal care items, diapers and underwear, coats and blankets, and Angel Tree presents that are donated to organizations such as Family Promise, In The Image, Samaritas, Exodus Place, Dégagé and more. We continuously collect food items for local food pantries. In addition to our monthly collections, Trinity donated 165 Easter hams to SECOM and 159 basketballs to Kent County Juvenile Detention Center, Grand Rapids Police Department, and Grand Rapids Boys and Girls Club.

**Congress Elementary School** – Donations from Trinity members included many school supply items as well as disinfecting supplies.

**Family Promise/Interfaith Hospitality Network (IHN)** – Thanks to many amazing volunteers, Trinity hosted 33 homeless families in our church providing them with a welcome place to stay, warm food, and fellowship (see [page 16](#) for more details).

**Kids Coalition Against Hunger (KCAH)** – Trinity members raised enough money to pack 40,000 meals! These simple and nutritious meals are distributed locally and globally.

**Lutheran World Relief Quilters** – LWRQ created and shipped 115 quilts and 10 school kits for International Relief. The quilters made

120 drawstring bags for Congress Elementary filled with donated personal care items. Countless undergarments were sent to Christophe's Children. Donated sewing items were also collected and sent to Christophe's Children.

**TLC Quilters** – TLC quilters made 20 baptism quilts, 12 quilts for members who lost a loved one or are homebound, and 10 small prayer quilts for members who had a significant illness.

## A Message from Associate Pastor Dan Schewe

*This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light and in him there is no darkness at all. If we say that we have fellowship with him while we are walking in darkness, we lie and do not do what is true; but if we walk in the light as he himself is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us. 1 John 1:5-10*



It seems to me that we live in a time that is allergic to confession; our culture encourages us to avoid responsibility at all costs. We have been taught to never accept responsibility so that we never have to confess that we did something wrong. Excuses are made, actions are justified, influence is abused, and every effort is made so we don't feel guilty for our actions.

Yet, we hurt each other all the time. Our lives are filled with the pain we cause, and the pain caused to us.

Introspection is a counter-cultural practice and a very important part of the Lenten journey. In this season we are invited to honestly look at our lives; not through the filters and blinders our culture encourages us to use, but through the lens of how Christ calls us to live with each other and all of creation. We are invited to compare how God calls us to live with our lived experience. In that process we quickly realize that we are not living how we are called to live. In that conviction, God does not seek to emotionally abuse us. God does not want us to beat ourselves up over this. God wants us to confess how we have failed.

We do this every Sunday. We confess how we have sinned (not lived according to God's plan) by what we have done and left undone. We have not loved ourselves and our neighbors. We have hurt instead of healed. We all have.

This confession unites us. It reminds us that we have all messed up, we have all made mistakes. None of us are better than anyone else. In God's eyes we are all the same.

We are all called to confess, to admit our sins to one another and God, and as we do we are met by a God who loves us and forgives us. A God who encourages us to love as we are loved and forgive as we forgive. Each and every one of us. And when we don't love, we are encouraged to confess again and be met again by love – again and again.

Shalom,

Pastor Dan Schewe

*Save the Date for  
Fellowship!*

**March 23**

Euchre & Potluck Night

**March 31 - Easter**

Easter Breakfast/Festival  
Worship/Egg Hunt

**April 10**

JOYful Days Begin

**April 27**

Trivia & Potluck Night

## A Message from Associate Pastor Kari Fast

Dear Trinity Family and Friends,

Please join us for the remaining 6:30 p.m. Lenten Wednesday services. This year we are worshiping with a sung liturgy, composed by Marty Haugen, entitled *That You May Have Life*. Haugen is also the composer of Trinity's beloved Advent liturgy, Holden Evening Prayer. The weekly homily and scriptural focus features a portion of our Ash Wednesday reading, Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21. This year's Lenten theme is: **What makes you come alive? Finding joy and peace, while deepening our lives of faith and action.** In the Ash Wednesday service we heard Jesus invite us, in the gospel of Matthew, to the spiritual practices of fasting, almsgiving, and prayer. During the remaining midweek services we will look at these spiritual practices and explore how they might inform and invite us to lives of justice and love. Before Lenten worship, you can also join us for a soup supper at 5:30 p.m. (see [next page](#) for more information).



In March, please consider attending or inviting someone to attend our GriefShare grief support group. Everyone is welcome – both those with and without a connection to Trinity. It is never too late to join! GriefShare meets at Trinity on Tuesdays from 3:30 to 5 p.m. Be welcome to arrive at 3:15 p.m. for refreshments. There is a \$20 fee to cover the cost of your GriefShare workbook. Scholarships are available. Please direct questions to Carol Butler ([caroljb43@me.com](mailto:caroljb43@me.com)) or to me.



GriefShare Registration: <http://tinyurl.com/4ys6248e>

As we journey together through another Lent, may this season bless, encourage, and refresh us as we prepare to celebrate the joys of Easter morning on Sunday, March 31!

God's Deepest Blessings now and always!

Pastor Kari Associate Pastor for Pastoral Care

## New Members Celebration Being Planned for the Spring of 2024

Are you finding a home at Trinity? Are you back among the people of Trinity after a time away? Are you curious about these Lutheran-flavored folks and hoping to learn more, even if you are not sure that you are ready to become a member of Trinity Lutheran Church?

Individual meetings and Pastor's Classes for prospective members are being offered this winter and spring for those who are ready to dig into this tradition of ours more deeply. Others may wish to affiliate as members of Trinity by a simple letter of transfer or by Affirmation of Faith. **A New Members Sunday will be celebrated on Sunday, May 19.** Even if you are not a "joiner," or if you are unsure that membership with Trinity is the right thing for you, please know that you are welcome to explore what it would mean to affirm membership with the people of Trinity in mission and ministry.

All are welcome – contact Office Coordinator [Kris Baker](#) or one of the pastors for more information.





## Mark Your Calendars as We Journey From Ashes to Easter

- Wednesdays in Lent: March 6, 13, and 20 — Lenten Soup Supper at 5:30 p.m. and Midweek Lenten Worship at 6:30 p.m.
- Palm Sunday: March 24
- Maundy Thursday: March 28 — Worship at 7 p.m.
- Good Friday: March 29 — Worship at 7 p.m.
- Easter Sunday, the Resurrection of Our Lord: March 31 — Three festival worship services, the annual Easter Breakfast, and a children's Easter Egg Hunt

## Midweek Soup Suppers

Lenten Soup Suppers continue through March 20. Please join us for a delicious supper on Wednesdays at 5:30 p.m. in the Courtyard. Come and enjoy delicious soups & breads while enjoying fellowship before attending the midweek worship service at 6:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary. Lenten Soup Suppers are free! Please pitch in by signing up for one or more of the following:



**Bring Soup.** You may drop off the day before or the day of our soup supper and we will heat it and have it ready to serve. Or, bring your ready-to-serve soup with you when you arrive. If bringing with you, please come 10 minutes early so we can be ready to pray and begin supper right at 5:30 p.m. The best practice is to bring your soup in a crockpot so we can keep it hot for everyone. Please provide 12-15 servings.

**Bring Bread.** Provide bread that is yummy with soup such as sourdough, Italian, baguettes, etc. Bread should be sliced and ready to serve if you bring it with you. If you drop it off early we can slice it for you.

**Help with set-up** (4:30 to 5:30 p.m.) or **clean-up** (6 to 6:30 p.m.)

Look for our signup link in the Friday eBlast. Contact [Tess Lundgren](#) for more information.

## Midweek Lenten Worship

Following Wednesday soup suppers, our Lenten Midweek Worship service will be offered at 6:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary. We will be worshipping with a sung liturgy composed by Marty Haugen called *That You May Have Life*. Haugen is also the composer of Trinity's beloved Advent liturgy, Holden Evening Prayer. The homily and scriptural focus each week will be on a portion of our Ash Wednesday reading, Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21. Pastor Kari's focus will be: *What makes you come alive? Finding joy and peace, while deepening lives of faith and action.* Join us for a discipline of fellowship and reflective worship at midweek in Lent of 2024.



# Lent & Easter at Trinity (cont.)

## Lenten Grace Groups 2024

Grace Groups are Trinity's short-term, small group Bible studies that take place during the six weeks of Lent, between Ash Wednesday and Holy Week (February 14 to March 24). Grace Groups use the booklet *Gathered into One: Devotions for Lent 2024* published by Augsburg Fortress. Copies may be purchased on Amazon at <https://a.co/d/3v9qdsn>.

You can still sign up for the 10:30 a.m. Sunday meeting or the 10:30 a.m. Monday group at <http://tinyurl.com/3hwjnmdbp>. Both groups meet in Centennial Hall. If joining a group is not your thing, the devotion is also well-suited for individual study.

## gathered into one

DEVOTIONS FOR LENT 2024



*Gathered into One* provides daily devotions for each day from Ash Wednesday to the Resurrection of Our Lord/Vigil of Easter (traditionally known as Holy Saturday). Devotions begin with an evocative image and a brief passage from First Corinthians. The writers then bring their diverse voices and pastoral wisdom to the texts with quotations to ponder, reflections, and prayers.

ISBN: 978-1-5064-9659-7

## Holy Week & Easter at Trinity

### Palm Sunday – March 24

All three worship services will include the Blessing of the Palms.

### Maundy Thursday – March 28

Maundy Thursday Worship at 7 p.m. with Confession and Forgiveness, a Washing of Hands, Holy Communion and the Solemn Stripping of the Altar

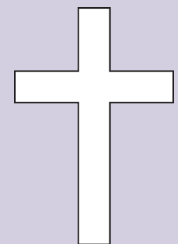
### Good Friday – March 29

Good Friday Worship at 7 p.m., the Adoration of the Crucified, a service of Passion and Prayer that concludes in silence

### Easter Sunday, the Resurrection of Our Lord – March 31

Festival Liturgies at 8, 9:15 and 10:45 a.m. — be with us in a festival of praise and our glad alleluias!

All Easter services will be in the Sanctuary as the annual Easter Breakfast is offered in the Courtyard and Centennial Hall (see below). *Only the 9:15 a.m. service will be livestreamed/recorded.* Don't miss the Easter Egg Hunt for Trinity's children after the 9:15 a.m. worship service!



## Easter Breakfast

Trinity youth and their families will be serving Easter breakfast from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Easter morning. **This service project is a free "thank you" to our parish for supporting our youth and their projects.** However, we will have jars out for a free-will offering and proceeds will go toward the High School Mission Trip this summer.

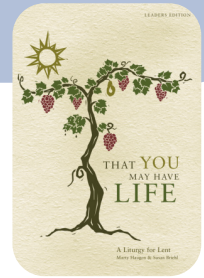
Watch for a link in the weekly eBlast to donate food items to help make this year's Easter Breakfast a success. Donated items should be dropped off at church by Friday afternoon or Saturday morning. Please join us for this beautiful Easter tradition and allow us to pamper you a little bit!



# Music & The Arts at Trinity

## ***That You May Have Life: Midweek Lenten Worship Services***

During Lent, we gather on Wednesday evenings for a simple meal and a contemplative evening worship. Come sing songs and prayers that are a part of Marty Haugen's Lenten liturgy entitled *That You May Have Life*. The music in this liturgy is similar to the beloved *Holden Evening Prayer*. Enjoy a Lenten soup supper at 5:30 p.m. followed by this 30-minute service beginning at 6:30 p.m. For more details, please see [page 9](#).

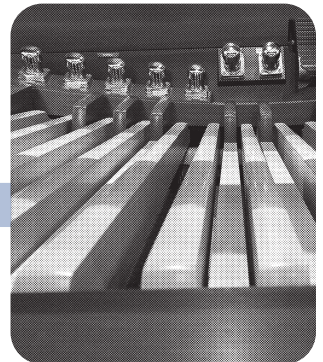


## **Chamber Music Performance**

**Karen Krummel, cello • Robert Edwards, piano • Adam Liebert, violin**  
**Sunday, March 3 • 3 p.m.**

Trinity member Karen Krummel is a frequent performer for worship services and concerts. She was a cellist with the Grand Rapids Symphony for many years and is a freelance performer with an active musical presence in the community. Karen has created a collaborative concert with two of her musical colleagues for the *Celebration of Music Concert Series*.

In this concert, listeners will enjoy a Gamba Sonata composed by J. S. Bach. The gamba is a Baroque string instrument which is a precursor to the cello. The virtuosic *Archduke Piano Trio, Opus 97* by Beethoven features dazzling writing for the piano. The trio includes cello and violin. In this work, one hears the power and poignance that characterizes much of Beethoven's compositional style. Lighthearted compositions will also be heard in a tapestry of sounds and colors for strings and piano. Karen will be joined by pianist Robert Edwards and violinist Adam Liebert.



## **Annamae Rotman Young Organist Competition**

**Monday, April 15 • 7 p.m.**

This local competition is sponsored by the Grand Rapids Chapter of the American Guild of Organists in collaboration with Trinity's concert series. The 2023 competition was held at the Basilica of St. Adalbert, and Trinity will host the 2024 competition which features the 3-manual Letourneau pipe organ in the Sanctuary. Enjoy the performance of young organists (ages 24 and under) as they compete for generous prizes given by Dr. Richard Rotman.



## **Art of the Keyboards: A Mosaic of Trinity's Keyboard Instruments**

**Dr. Darlene Kuperus, organ, piano and harpsichord**  
**Joined by guest instrumentalists & VoxGR chamber singers**  
**Sunday, April 28 • 3 p.m.**

Violins, cello, djembe, French horn, and singers create a mosaic of musical sounds as they join the pipe organ, piano and harpsichord. Music of Buxtehude, Bach, Ewazen, Basler, and Dvorak are just some of the composers featured in this fast-moving program.

## **New Artwork in Trinity's Overlook Gallery** [SEE PAGE 17](#)



# Children's Ministry

## Sunday School Schedule

Connect with us in Sunday School! Ages three years through grade five. Classes meet weekly at 9:15 a.m. No class on Easter Sunday, March 31.

## Diaper Drive for Family Promise

Sunday School is sponsoring a Diaper Drive for Family Promise. Families are encouraged to bring in boxes of diapers of all sizes. Especially needed are sizes 3 to 7. The children's offering will also go towards purchasing diapers.



## Easter Egg Hunt on Sunday, March 31!

Children grade 5 and younger are invited to take part in an Easter Egg Hunt on the West Lawn following the 9:15 a.m. worship service, weather-permitting. If conditions are cold, rainy, or muddy, the Egg Hunt will be in the children's wing.



## Save the Date for SCUBA VBS!

**June 24 to 27, 9 a.m. to noon**

We are seeking adult volunteers to help plan and lead this undersea Bible adventure! Registration is open to children aged 3 years through grade 5 and starts on May 1.

Contact Director of Family Ministry [Rachele Battreal](#) for more information.

## Snow Much Fun!

Kids had SNOW much fun at Super Snow Games on February 11. Thank you to Trinity member Doree Burnside for organizing this fun event for our preschool and elementary kids. Everyone enjoyed eating snowman snacks, playing silly games, and making snowflake crafts.





## **Middle School**

### **March & April Confirmation Schedule:**

March 3 & 10 – Youth Group, 2 p.m.; Class, 3 p.m.  
March 17 – Service projects, 3 to 5 p.m.  
March 24 – Confirmation Class, 3 p.m.  
March 31 – No class – Happy Easter!

April 7 – No class – Spring Break  
April 14 & 21 – Youth Group, 2 p.m.; Class, 3 p.m.  
April 28 – Class, 3 p.m.; Family meal following class  
May 5 – Confirmation Sunday

*Stay connected with our middle school ministries via Remind: Text @7kkdg2 to the number 81010.*

## **High School**

### **Youth Group – Sunday Nights from 6:30 to 8 p.m.**

All high schoolers and their friends are invited to join us for youth group on Sunday nights from 6:30 until 8 p.m. We will not be meeting March 31 or April 7 due to Easter and spring break.

### **First Sunday of the Month Bible Study with Pastor Dan – March 3 at 9:15 a.m.**

All high schoolers and their friends are invited to join Pastor Dan in the Youth Room for Bible study during the 9:15 a.m. service. Come for donuts, juice, and conversation. See you there!

### **Summer Trips Meeting – March 3 at 6:30 p.m. in the Youth Room**

Our next meeting for our trips to New Orleans, LA and Lincoln, IL will be Sunday, March 3 at 6:30 p.m. in the Youth Room. There is still space to join us on our Mission Trip to Lincoln, IL for an amazing week of community and service. If you have any questions reach out to [Pastor Dan](#).

### **High Schoolers: Plan for This Summer!**

This summer we have three amazing experiences for our high schoolers to plug into:

**Mission Trip to Lincoln, Illinois:** June 15 to 22

**ELCA Youth Gathering in New Orleans:** July 15 to 20

**Stony Lake Camp:** July 22 to 27

*Stay connected with our high school ministries via Remind: For Mission Trip information text @dcaeebg to 81010; For general High School Ministry information text @fag2c7 to 81010*

## **Camp at Stony Lake: July 22 to 27**

Young people going into first grade through current seniors in high school and their friends are invited to join us for an amazing week of community and faith formation! Trinity makes camp very affordable for families. Each camper is asked to pay a \$100 deposit and Trinity will cover the rest. If you have questions, reach out to [Pastor Dan](#).

Registration is open now, so head to [elcalivingwater.com](http://elcalivingwater.com). For more information consult your email from Pastor Dan, or if you did not receive an email, please send him a message.



**Living Water Ministries**  
Faith Formation, Service, Leadership, and Community

### **30-Hour Famine Friday, March 8, 6 p.m. to Saturday, March 9, 7 p.m.**

All high schoolers and their friends are invited to join our 30-Hour Famine lock-in March 8 to March 9. We will spend 24 hours together learning about world hunger, delving into the scriptures, playing hunger related games, and volunteering. Check your email for a link to the registration form and for more information. Contact [Pastor Dan](#) if you have any questions.

# Health Ministries

## Spring Blood Drive

We're kicking the month off with a Saturday blood drive! If school or work has limited your ability to donate in the past, this is your chance.

Versiti Blood will be at Trinity **SATURDAY, March 2 from 9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.** There is still time for you to join us by donating or helping out.

Secure your spot at <http://tinyurl.com/32cznkyv> or connect with Faith Community Nurse [Kristin Bradley](#).

Check <http://tinyurl.com/5h9v6bz7> for other ways to support this drive.

Our community counts on us. Let's keep showing up for those who need blood. Give the gift of life!

**Saturday, March 2  
9:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.**

**BLOOD  
DRIVE**



## Fitness at Trinity

*Power Bend and Stretch,  
Reach for the Sky!*

**Join us Wednesday mornings at 10 a.m. in  
the Commons.**

Trinity member Debra Freeberg leads this class which is geared toward anyone who wants to strengthen their core and increase flexibility.

Bring your own mat, or borrow one of ours.  
Recommended donation - \$3/class.

***Please note: Tai Chi classes are on hiatus  
until after Easter.***



## Care & Share

Caregivers – let's get together! We meet on the third Tuesdays of the month at 10:30 a.m. in the Youth Room and would love to have your presence among us!

On March 19 we'll be learning more from Teepa Snow, a nationally renowned brain health specialist who created the Positive Approach to Care (PAC). Positive Approach to Care® enhances life and relationships of those living with brain change by fostering an inclusive global community.

Connect Faith Community Nurse [Kristin Bradley](#) with questions.

## Is God Calling You to Become a Stephen Minister?

Stephen Ministry is one tool we use to realize the mission of Trinity Lutheran Church. Consider these words from our mission statement: "...to nurture each other in our daily journeys of faith...to increase our response to all people in need...". In the past 25 years, Stephen Ministry has touched hundreds of lives in our congregation, fostering healing, friendship, and faith.



In Stephen Ministry, members of our congregation are trained and equipped to meet once a week, one to one, with someone going through a difficult time. Stephen Ministers provide a caring presence, a listening ear, and comforting words—supporting care receivers throughout their journey. There are many reasons people become Stephen Ministers. **As a Stephen Minister, you will...**

- **Make a real difference in the lives of people who are hurting.** Stephen Ministers walk alongside people going through life challenges like grief, divorce, a medical crisis, job loss, and more. They offer care, support, and encouragement, connecting hurting people with Christ's healing love during some of the hardest times in their lives.
- **Help our congregation ensure that no one suffers alone.** Caring for one another is a hallmark of the Christian faith. As a Stephen Minister, you will play a crucial role in helping our congregation carry out that mission. Even if we can't take away pain, those who are suffering know our church truly cares.
- **Learn what to and what not to say and do to care effectively for the suffering.** Stephen Minister training teaches highly practical care-giving and relational skills that equip and empower you to effectively care for others. In addition to preparing you for caring ministry, these skills can help you deepen and enhance relationships in all facets of your life—with family, friends, coworkers, and others.
- **Be involved in meaningful ministry that uses your spiritual gifts.** Serving as a Stephen Minister offers an opportunity to put their spiritual gifts — such as faith, mercy, compassion, and encouragement — into action. Ministry that draws on your gifts is personally fulfilling and touches lives in powerful ways.
- **Deepen your faith as you see God at work through your ministry.** Providing care while trusting in God is at the core of Stephen Ministry. Stephen Ministers often say how their faith is strengthened as they witness God at work in the lives of care receivers.
- **Be part of a group of caring Christians who support each other as they help the hurting.** As a Stephen Minister you will be part of a community of people who care, all of whom lift one another up. The strong relationships formed are both rewarding and a great source of support.



We will train a new class of Stephen Ministers this fall. Please prayerfully consider if Stephen Ministry is the right place for you to serve. Contact Beth Vanderwall at [jvander005@gmail.com](mailto:jvander005@gmail.com) for more details.



# Opportunities to Support Church & Community

## Donate Personal Care Items

The members of Trinity's Outreach Committee would like to encourage everyone to consider donating personal care items during the months of March and April. These will be donated to area social service agencies for distribution to their patrons. Many go without the simple things we take for granted. **The following NEW items are most appreciated:** bar soap, body wash, deodorant, Q-tips, nail files/clippers, toothbrush, toothpaste, dental floss, mouth wash, comb, brush, shampoo, conditioner, hand or body lotion, and lip balm.



While sample sizes are useful, it would be wonderful if we could provide items in **standard sizes** that will last longer. Please drop off your donations in the labeled black bin located in the entryway of the main entrance on the west side of the building or in the Narthex by **Sunday, April 28**.

## Volunteer for IHN

### Update & Thank You for Trinity's Commitment to Our IHN Ministry

Every year Family Promise sends out an Annual IHN Impact Report that directly correlates to Trinity's giving and Trinity's dedicated volunteers over the past year. I know at times volunteers do not feel appreciated or hear "thanks" from the families, but the report includes quotes from some of the families about their time at Trinity (see right). So, thank you from me and Interfaith Hospitality Network for your amazing commitment to the families we serve. We are encouraged by 2 Corinthians 9:8: *And God will generously provide all you need. Then you will always have everything you need and plenty left over to share with others.*

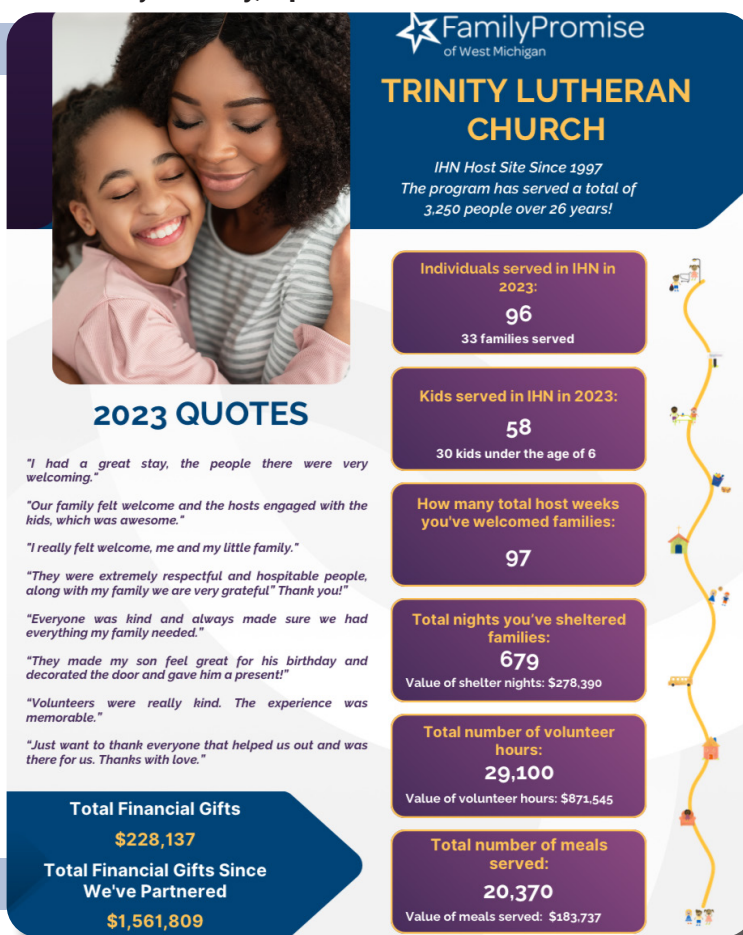
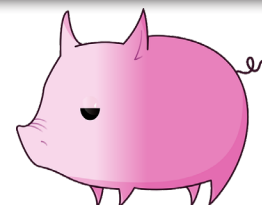
Thank you for all the support you, the people of Trinity, provide within this important ministry.

Kathy Bush, IHN Coordinator

**Next Host Week:**  
**May 12-19**

## Donate Easter Hams

Please help us break the (piggy!) bank by donating a ham for low-income children and families. **We will be collecting hams before each service on March 10, 17, and 24 (Palm Sunday).** They will be taken to SECOM Resource Center for distribution to their clients. Any size ham will be appreciated for an Easter celebration that so many would typically go without. If you are unable to carry a ham, will be out of town, or just prefer to contribute monetarily, we will have envelopes available for donations so we can do the shopping. Please contact Helping Hands Coordinator [Jeanne Becker](#) with questions.





### Seeking Discipleship & Outreach Coordinator

A part-time staff position, 15 to 20 hours weekly, that seeks to lead our efforts at outreach in the wider community with our benevolent community service partners, coordinating Trinity members to serve through:

- coordinating efforts to activate volunteers for other community outreach such as Habitat for Humanity builds, serving meals at agencies like Dégagé and God's Kitchen, supporting Congress Elementary School partnerships, and other volunteer initiatives
- supporting Trinity's ongoing refugee resettlement efforts
- supporting Trinity's many financial appeals for local ministries and for church-wide efforts like the World Hunger Appeal and Disaster Response, special offerings during Advent and Lent, etc.
- working with Trinity's Outreach Committee to provide oversight to our many outreach ministries and to establish and administer our outreach financial support
- supporting other congregational outreach efforts including backpack/school supply appeals, Kids Coalition Against Hunger (KCAH) meal packing, Family Promise and Access fundraisers, LWR quilting, etc.
- helping facilitate our activation of members based on Time and Talent surveys
- providing for communications with the congregation to grow support outreach and discipleship ministries



These are position descriptions that will evolve as candidates interview for and step into these roles in our life together. Please contact [Pastor Dan Schewe](#) if interested or for more information.

*Trinity's Children's Ministry is Hiring* [SEE COVER](#)

### New Artwork in Trinity's Overlook Gallery

Kimberly Johnson is a local artist who created a series of expressive drawings and paintings focused on the theme of health care providers. In addition to her art, this exhibit will include a short video about her inspiration for the series. Visit the Overlook Gallery starting in March to see Johnson's work and check the next issue of *The Messenger* for more details about her life and art.



## News Briefs (cont.)

### Kids Coalition Against Hunger Food-Packing Success!

Trinity families and friends of all ages gathered after worship on January 28 to pack food for KCAH. Over \$14,000 was raised and used to meet our goal of providing 40,000 meals. Surplus contributions will go towards next year's meal pack. We thank everyone who contributed to this cause!



*Thank you*



### **Congratulations to Trinity's January Bunco Winners!**

In January, Trinity held another Bunco Night & Potluck. Forty-nine people participated and it was a great night all around. A big congratulations to the lucky winners pictured below!



**Bunco winners Mary Smoes, Chris Waite, Ellie Buggeln, Carol Welz-Gustafson, and Diane Field**



**Grace Gohl, Linda Taffs, Tracy Gohl, and Tim Lundgren playing Bunco**

## Mark Your Calendar



### Let's Gather at Cascade Roadhouse!

If you're over 60, you're invited to join us for dinner at Cascade Roadhouse, 6817 Cascade Rd. SE, on Thursday, March 7, at 5:30 p.m. Contact hosts Carol and Dan Butler (616.540.1660 or [caroljb43@gmail.com](mailto:caroljb43@gmail.com)) to make your reservation. *Space is limited to the first 25 people. See you there!*



### BJ's Restaurant & Brewhouse

If you're over 60, please join us for dinner at BJ's Restaurant & Brewhouse, 3445 28th St. SE (28th Street near Beltline, former site of Toys R Us) on Wednesday, April 10, at 5:30 pm. Contact hosts Joyce and Dick McKenzie ([Joycem6@comcast.net](mailto:Joycem6@comcast.net)) to make your reservation. *Space is limited to the first 30 people. See you there!*



### Euchre & Potluck Night: Saturday, March 23

We're having a potluck and euchre night at Trinity on Saturday, March 23. Grab a partner or come on your own, and be ready to play Michigan's favorite card game. Prizes will be given out to the top players. **Sign-ups** will take place via a link in the weekly eBlasts. Please indicate in the sign-up if you will need child care.

Our potluck will start at 5:30 p.m. Teams will form and directions will be given at 6 p.m., and play will begin thereafter in the Courtyard. Please contact [Tess Lundgren](#) if you have any questions. Come enjoy a fun evening of friendly competition!

### JOYful Days 2023 Spring Series

The Spring JOYful Days series is just around the corner. Registration will be linked in the weekly eBlast starting in March. It is very important for us to have registrations as soon as possible so that we have enough food to serve everyone. Food is purchased on Monday, so registrations must be received by Sunday night for the following Wednesday. Checks or cash should be submitted to Tess Lundgren either via her mailbox, the church office, or by dropping an envelope with the money and a note in the offering plate at church.

Due to an early Easter, spring break, and our early May rummage sale this spring we will have a shortened series of three sessions. The dates are April 10, 17, and 24.

The cost is \$30 for the entire 3-Wednesday series, which includes a catered lunch provided by Steve Stephan and the speaker presentation. If you cannot attend the entire series, the cost is \$10 per session. Please contact [Tess Lundgren](#) with questions or for more information.





## Mark Your Calendar



### Men's Breakfast: Saturday, April 13

The Men's Breakfast group is planning a gathering on Saturday, April 13. This group gathers once every quarter for food, study, and fellowship. The breakfast will run from 8 to 9:30 a.m. and we will gather for a fresh, full breakfast, a brief Bible study led by Pastor Dan, and our guest speaker (stay tuned for more details). Men of Trinity, watch your email and the eBlast for your invitation to sign up for our breakfast on April 13.



### Trivia & Potluck Night: Saturday, April 27

Mark your calendar, bring a dish to share, and join us on Saturday, April 27 at 5:30 p.m. for a family potluck! At 6:30 p.m., younger kids will go to the Commons to watch a movie. Everyone aged 12 and up is invited to stay in the Courtyard for a friendly-competitive game of trivia. Teams will compete against each other to see who has the most random information on the tip of their tongue.

You will be amazed at the random information you have tucked away for just this very occasion. Prizes will be awarded to the top team!

Watch for a **sign-up link** in the mid-March and April eBlasts. You can sign up as an entire team of 8, or sign up as an individual, as a couple, or as a family. Tess will put teams of 8 together as needed. Don't be shy – if you love trivia but don't have a team yet, please sign up and then we'll create a team and you'll get to meet new friends while having a great time!

Childcare will be provided for infants up to 11 years old. Please let Tess know if you need childcare so we can be sure to have enough personnel. Please contact [Tess Lundgren](#) with questions.

### In The Image Volunteering:

In The Image provides gently used clothing, housewares, furniture, and appliances to families in need. Please come volunteer on the first Monday and/or the third Thursday of the month from 1 to 3 p.m. to help sort, organize, and help in the community. Meet in the Trinity west parking lot at 12:30 p.m. to caravan or you can meet at In The Image (4255 Kalamazoo Ave SE, GR, MI 49508) at 1 p.m. Contact [Jeanne Becker](#) with questions.



### The Rummage Sale is Coming: May 2, 3, & 4

Spring is coming and so is our Rummage Sale! We need your stuff! **We will begin accepting donations in late April to prepare for the sale on May 2, 3, and 4.** If you need help transporting large items or have questions about donations please reach out to [Pastor Dan](#). Thank you!



# March Birthday & Anniversary Celebrations

## March 1

Beth Krueger  
Jeff Packard  
Sam Schewe

## March 2

Stellan Bowman  
Connor Fetting  
Allie Idema  
Kristen Selleck

## March 3

Joshua Anderson  
Melanie Glenn  
John Keller  
Mandy Kettel  
Lauren Krug  
Owen Spalding  
Phillip Youngman

## March 4

Jeff Fischer  
Xristina Kuhlmann  
Casey Mester  
Joel Spoelhof  
John Walls  
Gary Watson

## March 5

Grant Ferguson  
Maria Heldt  
Heather Kimble  
Avery Missman  
Lillian Scalabrino  
Lisa Tesch  
Sydney Waite

## March 6

Judy Carlson  
Dean Juth  
Travis McMillan II  
Jo Murphy  
Hannah Perez  
Debbie Shumaker

## March 7

Megan Brackmann  
Sharon Brandner  
Kevin Conway  
Leslie Gallagher  
Kenneth Lown  
Ruby Peterman  
Brian Talsma

## March 8

Angel Bonjour  
Mike Danielski  
Linda Hallman  
Jim Hudson  
Ashley Perkins  
Jessica Scalabrino

## March 9

William Becker  
Katie Brigger  
Avery Hungerford  
Carol Huttenga  
Gayl Kessel  
Joanna Kutschinski  
Kali Mochel  
Kate Vander Woude

## March 10

Audrey Basher  
Mary Beth Mencarelli  
Carol Welz-Gustafson  
Aidan Zarou

## March 11

Linnea Fox  
David Greiner  
Ella Kroll  
Chad Saum

## March 12

Nicholas Claus  
Grant Juth  
Samantha Smith

## March 13

Diane Barnes  
Heather Loepp  
Sarah Pfeiffle  
Zoey Zupin

## March 14

Gwyneth Hoeksema  
Torie Lynn  
Ethan Schaefer  
Mike Siminski  
Kate Wolfe  
Audrey Zollman

## March 15

Amanda Brondyke  
Dan Lynn  
*Bill & Kathy Bush*

## March 16

Lydia Albaitis  
Harris Frecka  
Julie McLeod  
Charlotte Worsfold

## March 17

Joyce Bonbrake  
Brenna Havard  
Denny Helzer  
Joan Start  
Steven Triesenberg  
Tim Vander Woude

## March 18

Daniel Gutierrez  
Kristine Lang  
Marian Schaible  
Ashley Zollman  
*Bill & Erin Childers*  
*Dave & Sheila Talsma*

## March 19

Dana Brouse  
Morgan Cole  
Ray Engle  
*Darrell & Natalie Yeager*

## March 20

Emily Albaitis  
Lindsey Czerew  
Kaori Schau  
Benji Worsfold  
Tom Worsfold  
Kathy Young  
*Shauna & Jeff Allchin*  
*James & Janet Genow*

## March 21

Bill Bailey  
Bob Guigue  
Sally Reinke  
John Schuen  
Brittney Zielinski

## March 22

Olivia Black  
Maggie Coles  
Chris Engle  
Paul Getzin  
Rayeann Lackey  
Eric Larson  
Kathryn Larson  
Elizabeth Panzer  
*Kelly Smith & Edward Gauthier*

## March 23

Jack Cole

## March 24

Olivier Bouwman  
Bob Hamilton  
Ashlie Johnson  
Tate King  
Meredith Kubicek  
Katarina Lundgren  
Tim Lundgren  
Andy Nikolajuk  
John Ruble

## March 25

Megan Ahrens  
Brandon Basher  
Bev Block  
Cora Dudley  
Julie Earhart  
Gail Mester  
Patti Patton

## March 26

Tricia Diener  
Richard Gehl  
Megan Glass  
Richard Mencarelli  
Michael Rubenstahl  
Jennifer Sommers

## March 27

Mason Childers  
Dave Ezell  
Weston Lackey  
Christopher Posthumus  
Sammye Zollman

## March 28

Jim Donahue  
Stacey Phillips  
Denny Rosen  
Bruce Schlanderer  
Kevin Tague  
Franny Turnage

## March 29

Evie Brang  
Brian Rieth  
Nate Scurfield  
Lillian Wollen

## March 30

Lee Baribeau  
Ben Hall  
Emma Hall  
Jesse Hall  
Aubrey Loepp  
Scarlett Meleca  
Mary Minich-Carwell  
Kristy Rieger  
Luke Sommers  
Patrick Tyrrell

## March 31

Kathy Coles  
Donald Kishman  
Mark Mattison  
Rochelle Roskam  
Linsey Tague  
*Rob Peters & Amy Parshall-Peters*

*\*If you have a milestone birthday / anniversary, please contact [the office](#) at Trinity to let us know!*

## Easter Flower Contribution Form

On Easter morning the Sanctuary will be a beautiful floral garden!

Please use this form to make an Easter flower gift in honor or in memory of a loved one. **Forms are due by Sunday, March 17, 2024.** You may drop the form with your payment in the offering plate, contact the church office, or mail to:

Trinity Lutheran Church, 2700 Fulton St. E, Grand Rapids, MI 49506.



First Name

Last Name

Address (Number/Street/City/State/ZIP)

Home Phone

Cell Phone

Email

☐ Yes! I'd like to make an Easter Flower donation in honor of or in memory of a loved one.

\_\_\_\_ Number of 6" tulip plants (\$10 each)

\_\_\_\_ Number of 6" daffodil plants (\$10 each)

\_\_\_\_ Number of 6" hyacinth plants (\$10 each)

\_\_\_\_ Number of 6" hydrangea plants (\$25 each)

\_\_\_\_ Number of 6.5" azalea plants (\$25 each)

**Total Due:** \_\_\_\_\_

My contribution is given by: (list how you would like your name to appear in the bulletin): \_\_\_\_\_

in honor of: \_\_\_\_\_

in memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to Trinity Lutheran Church  
(write "Easter Flowers" in the memo line)

\* Please take your flowers home after the 10:45 Easter service or by Sunday, April 7. \*

*Flowers not picked up by the deadline will be donated or disposed of. Thank you!*



# Name Tags

*"I have called you by name..."*

The moment you know a person's name you feel closer and more connected to them. In the simplest way, a name tag reduces the distance between people. Wearing name tags reminds us all to be more open to each other.

Everyone is invited to write and wear a name tag for worship and other group events at Trinity. There will be areas at all entrances to fill out a tag and join in connecting with each other in this small and meaningful way!



## Trinity Bracket Challenge

Let's have some fun together with March Madness! Join the Trinity Bracket Challenge and put your guessing skills to the test! Watch the weekly eBlast for a sign-up link.



2700 Fulton Street East  
Grand Rapids, MI 49506  
616.949.2510 [tlcgr.org](http://tlcgr.org)



Evangelical  
Lutheran Church  
in America

Office Hours: 7:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. (M-F)

**Mission:** *Trinity Lutheran Church is a dynamic family called by God to nurture each other in our daily journeys of faith and to joyfully increase our response to all people in need, sharing God's gifts of love and grace.*

## Staff

### Direct Dial:

616.949.2510  
(then dial extension #)



Contact Trinity



Instagram: [tlc.gr](https://www.instagram.com/tlc.gr)  
[facebook.com/tlcgr](https://www.facebook.com/tlcgr)



[YouTube.com](https://www.youtube.com)

Search: Trinity Lutheran  
Church Grand Rapids

Rev. Dr. Dennis B. Smith, Contracted Consultant Pastor  
[dennis.smith@tlcgr.org](mailto:dennis.smith@tlcgr.org)

Rev. Dan Schewe, Associate Pastor (ext.124)

[dan.schewe@tlcgr.org](mailto:dan.schewe@tlcgr.org)

Rev. Kari Fast, Associate Pastor for Pastoral Care  
(ext.112), [kari.fast@tlcgr.org](mailto:kari.fast@tlcgr.org)

Brooks Alder, Sound Board Operator, 616.949.2510

Kris Baker, Office Coordinator (ext.110)

[kris.baker@tlcgr.org](mailto:kris.baker@tlcgr.org)

Rachele Battreall, Director of Family Ministry

[rachele.battreall@tlcgr.org](mailto:rachele.battreall@tlcgr.org)

Jeanne Becker, Helping Hands Coordinator and  
Co-Wedding Coordinator

(ext. 129), [jeanne.becker@tlcgr.org](mailto:jeanne.becker@tlcgr.org)

Kristin Bradley, Faith Community Nurse (ext.119)

[kristin.bradley@tlcgr.org](mailto:kristin.bradley@tlcgr.org)

Kathy Bush, IHN Coordinator

616.485.0031, [kathy.bush@tlcgr.org](mailto:kathy.bush@tlcgr.org)

Dr. Debora DeWitt, Rejoice Music Coordinator/  
Accompanist, 616.949.2510

[debora.dewitt@tlcgr.org](mailto:debora.dewitt@tlcgr.org)

Awilda Diaz, Nursery Coordinator

616.427.2261, [awilda.diaz@tlcgr.org](mailto:awilda.diaz@tlcgr.org)

Grace Gohl, Sexton (ext.117), [grace.gohl@tlcgr.org](mailto:grace.gohl@tlcgr.org)

Sidney Hoeksema, Trinity Choir Director (ext.118)

616.540.7190, [sidney.hoeksema@tlcgr.org](mailto:sidney.hoeksema@tlcgr.org)

Dr. Darlene Kuperus, Director of Music & Organist  
(ext. 118), [darlene.kuperus@tlcgr.org](mailto:darlene.kuperus@tlcgr.org)

Carrie Lamb, Communications Coordinator

(ext.121), [carrie.lamb@tlcgr.org](mailto:carrie.lamb@tlcgr.org)

Tess Lundgren, Fellowship & Hospitality Coordinator

(ext.121), [tess.lundgren@tlcgr.org](mailto:tess.lundgren@tlcgr.org)

Sheri Mason, Sunday School Coordinator

[kids@tlcgr.org](mailto:kids@tlcgr.org)

Peter McKinney, IT Coordinator (ext.200)

[peter.mckinney@tlcgr.org](mailto:peter.mckinney@tlcgr.org)

James Morin, Family Activity Coordinator

[james.morin@tlcgr.org](mailto:james.morin@tlcgr.org)

Laura Norton, Co-Wedding Coordinator (ext. 128)

[laura.norton@tlcgr.org](mailto:laura.norton@tlcgr.org)

Amy Stephan, Interim Sunday School Coordinator

[kids@tlcgr.org](mailto:kids@tlcgr.org)

Joanna Waite, Finance Administrator (ext. 111)

[joanna.waite@tlcgr.org](mailto:joanna.waite@tlcgr.org)