

LUNCH BUNCH

The next Trinity Lunch Bunch is at noon Tuesday, March 15th at Arbuckles Eatery & Pub 1320 Strongs Avenue Stevens Point, WI. To help us determine a number for the reservation, RSVP anytime either by email or phone that you will be attending.

Jane Flanagan flanagan55@charter.net or 715-341-4989

Jane Goudreau

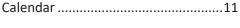
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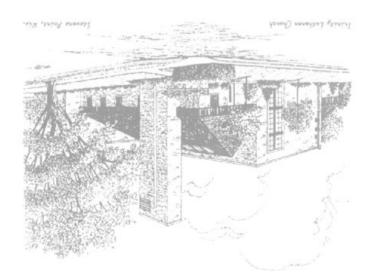
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MARCH 2022



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PASTOR CLAY'S COLUMN



In Praise of Gifted Teachers

I suppose we all remember fondly a teacher from our past. As a first grader, I fell in love with Mrs. Sosinski, I was so smitten that on

one non-school occasion, I saw her with her husband and my little six year-old heart was broken with my first tinge of jealousy. But, she was a great teacher and ignited in me the desire to read, do arithmetic, and learn about science and art.

Here at Trinity, we are gifted with many great teachers. Some are still in classrooms and others are retired. I keep hearing stories of how effective and beloved they are or have been. Some of our teachers are very much hard at work. I am thinking especially of those in our Trinity Learning Center and Preschool.

As you know by now, we are engaged in a special fundraising appeal in support of our school. With that in mind, I want to tell you about (actually, I want to brag a bit) about our TLC & P teaching staff. We have 22 teachers and staff who work with our community children from age 6 weeks through 4 year old Kindergarten. Some of them are fairly new. Others have been with us as many as 18 years. Most have been with us 4-5 years. Our teachers not only do child care, they also teach the children many things: cooperation, kindness, helpfulness, and exercise. The older children are also learning to sing, the rudiments of reading, and the joys of working together. The teachers are also trained to keep the children safe, provide emotional support, and help families deal with challenging behaviors. All of our teachers have gone through rigorous mandated training and some have college degrees.

As you may have heard, Wisconsin Child Care Centers are monitored by a state organization called YoungStar. They visit schools and centers, giving advice on best practices and evaluating how the centers are doing. They have a five -tier rating system. For a very long time, our school was rated as a Four Star learning center. Recently, even in the face of the pandemic, our teachers have worked together to achieve a Five Star rating. This is the highest rating they can achieve. What's more, among the Five Star centers in the state, YoungStar assesses even more carefully. We are

proud to say that the Trinity Learning Center is deemed to be one of the finest learning centers in the entire state. That is an astonishing accomplishment. You can see why I am so proud of our team.

I want to thank our team here today. Amy Kurkowski has been doing an outstanding job as our school director, ably assisted by Miss Melissa (I'll use the names that the children know them by). Our kitchen staff is Miss Kris and Miss Deb. Our infant care is handled by Miss Kelly and Miss Corinne. One-year-olds are cared for by Miss Tiffany and Miss Bobbi. Miss Amanda and Miss Hannah work with our two-year-olds. Three-year-old children are shepherded by Miss Millissa and Miss Christina. And, our four-year-old Kindergarten teachers are Miss Taylor and Miss Katrina.

Additionally we have several teachers that help out in several areas, depending on daily needs: Miss Amy, Miss Britny, Miss Grace, Miss Laine, Miss Caelyn, Miss Sarena, and Miss Heather. I hope you will join me in praying for our wonderful teachers and the children they care for, and in supporting our special



fund-raising appeal which will support their work.

~Pastor Clay Schmit



2022-2023 Applications

Scholarship

are available in the church office or on the Trinity Website under the Member Resources link and then click on Forms. Ottem and Rasmussen forms must be returned by April 30th. To qualify for Ottem, you must be a Trinity member attending a Lutheran college or seminary full time. For the Rasmussen, you must be a full time student at a public or private college or technical college, and a member of Trinity.

> Endowment and Memorial Gifts Committee

Trinity Membership Adjustments for 2021 not included in the Annual Report:

Billie Andersen- Moved Roger Buckaloo- Removed by choice No Transfer Jordan and Samantha Hahn- Moved David, Judy, and Jodi Johnson- Removed by choice No Transfer Cody Kropidlowski- Moved Charles McKee- Transfer to non-Lutheran Don & Danielle Rosene- Moved David Smith and Mary Werger- Moved Emily Smith- Removed by choice No Transfer Samuel Smith-Moved Mary Ann Stevens-Transfer to other Lutheran Church Don & Melissa Thompson-Moved Carol Walther- Transfer to other Lutheran Church Michael & Kristin Wessell- Removed by choice No Transfer



The children are getting very excited for spring to come. They are ready to pack up the snow gear, and are looking forward to sunshine and being able to just run and play outside. With spring coming the children have started their wish list for items they can use outside. Here is their list if you would like to donate.

- Bubbles
- Sidewalk Chalk
- Basketballs or Playground balls
- Gardening playsets
- Portable Basketball Hoop
- Ring toss games
- Bean Bag Toss Games
- Hula Hoops
- Lawn Mower toys
- Toss and Catch Velcro ball set
- Outdoor science/bug kits



Thank you. Amy Kurkowski, Learning Center





You may sign up for 2022 Altar Flowers on the chart in the narthex, calling 715-344-2869 or by emailing trinity@trinitysp.com. Bev's

Altar Flowers

Floral designs the beautiful floral arrangements each Sunday. The rate is \$40.00 per week.

EASTER DECORATIONS

.....

One of the most meaningful symbols of Christ's resurrection is the lily. If you would like to contribute to the flowers and decorations for Easter morning, please return this form to the church office by Monday, April 11th.

NAME_____

#_____plant(s) at \$19 each = \$_____

Given in Memory of:

Given in Celebration of:

- Please deliver my plant to a shut-in.
- □ I will pick up my plant immediately following the 10:45 a.m. service Easter Sunday.

□ I will help with flower delivery.







Dear friends,

Warm greetings from Johannesburg. Schools, businesses and church activities are starting up again after a month-long summer break over Christmas and New Year.

The fourth wave of the COVID-19 pandemic caused by the Omicron variant seems to have peaked in the region as the number of cases declines and vaccination rates increase. However, the loss of life due to COVID complications, the effects on the economy, and people's jobs and income is still very dire. We are also seeing famine due to climate-change in parts of Angola and Madagascar as well as heavy rains and floods, in the central parts of Southern Africa, damaging homes and crops. Companion churches are assessing the needs and applying to the ELCA for Lutheran Disaster Response funds to assist affected communities.

We give thanks to God for the life and bold witness of Anglican Archbishop-emeritus Desmond Tutu who passed away on the 26th of December 2021 at the age of 90. His memoir, "No Future Without Forgiveness" (Random House:1999), which focuses on his work as chair of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission and the struggle against apartheid and for human rights everywhere, continues to inspire and challenge me and many others.

I remember many meetings, starting in the early 1980's, when Tutu was serving then as the general secretary of the South African Council of Churches. In July of 2016 Rev. Malpica Padilla (Global Mission Executive Director), Ms. Padilla, Ms. Norman and I visited St. George's Cathedral in Cape Town when the Archbishop was presiding at the Eucharist.



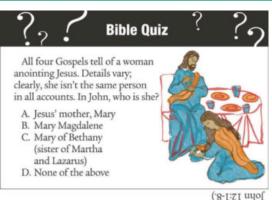
The ELCA is committed to accompanying companion churches as they faithfully engage in proclamation of the Gospel, mission outreach and work to mitigate the impact of poverty, HIV&AIDS, climate change, Gender-based violence, conflict and the COVID-19 pandemic in the communities they serve.

Thank you for your prayers, support and your participation in God's mission locally and globally.

Yours faithfully, Rev. Dr. Philip Knutson ELCA Regional Representative - Southern Africa / Johannesburg, January 25, 2022

My blog page address is: <u>https://southernafricanconnections.wordpress.com/</u> Please visit my <u>fundraising page</u>. (Note: This fundraising page is set up for individuals' gifts only.) If you are donating on behalf of a congregation or organization, please visit <u>ELCA.org/MissionaryGiving</u> for online giving.





Answer: C (See Matthew 26:6-13; Mark 14:3-9; Luke 7:36-39;

LOOSE CHANGE SPARE-A-DIME



Combined Appeals for Loose Change and Lenten Coins—Trinity Learning Center and Preschool

As you may know, the Global and Local Outreach (GLO) Committee coordinates monthly and Easter season congregational appeals, which are identified as Loose Change and the Lenten Coins. These various appeals are intended to support, on a rotational basis, local, regional, national and international agencies that serve their respective community needs. For the months of March and April, both of the GLO appeals will benefit an agency that is closer to home.

The Trinity Learning Center and Preschool has provided outstanding services to families and children since 1987. Unfortunately, COVID-related service disruptions have been devastating financially for this Trinity-sponsored program. As such, GLO is joining in on the church council's special appeal to support the Learning Center and Preschool.

The special appeal seeks to raise \$60,000 needed to keep the school strong as it navigates the continued challenges of the pandemic. Our congregational members have always been firmly committed to supporting agencies in need. We appreciate the continued and ongoing support of this valuable ministry.

To contribute, bring to worship or mail a check payable to Trinity Lutheran Church with Learning Center and Preschool in the memo. You may drop your loose change into the collection plate! Please also refer to the special appeal letter sent to your home. There are online donation options included in the letter for your convenience. Thank you for your generosity!

Anne Hoffmann, Global Local Outreach Committee

Don't forget to direct Choice Dollars®

Eligible Thrivent Financial members who have Choice Dollars available have until **March 31, 2022,** to direct any remaining 2021 Choice Dollars. Help support Trinity Lutheran Church. Go to Thrivent.com/thriventchoice to learn more. Or call 800-847-4836 and say "Thrivent Choice" after the prompt.



Our cash grocery donations during March will go to Interfaith Food Pantry. Located in Plover, Interfaith Food Pantry (IFP) distributes food on the second and fourth Tuesdays each month.

They tailor the amount of food given out to the size of the family receiving it. On February 8, 161 families received an average of 60 pounds of food. That amount varies depending on the size and average age of the family receiving the food.

Right now they have enough nonperishable food on their shelves. But a high need is for milk. Mel Dow, the coordinator of IFP, spends about \$400 for milk for each distribution day. He also purchases about 200 dozen eggs for each "pantry." Finally, your donations can help pay for utilities for the IFP building. Thank you for your ongoing contributions to help feed our neighbors in Portage County.

To contribute write the amount of your donation on your offering envelope, or the memo line of your check, or make an online donation through GIVEPLUS^T on Trinity's website.



Last month you contributed \$136 to ELCA World Hunger. Over the years your gifts have helped people fleeing war conditions throughout the world. Scholastica is one of those people. She spent 30 years living in refugee camps in Africa where she met her husband, and together, they are raising five children.

Her dream was to own her own farm. Through a project partially supported by ELCA World Hunger, Scholastica and her family were able to resettle in Iowa in 2015. She has been able to grow a variety of vegetables on a small plot of land close to Des Moines, Iowa. She sells her produce at a farmers' market and her family has access to fresh, healthy food.

Thank you for your continued donations to ELCA World Hunger. Scholastica's story shows how your support can help a struggling family grow and prosper.

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2022 Synod Assembly Service Project



This year's Synod Assembly service project will be partnering with Sleep in Heavenly Peace, a non-profit committed to making sure no child has to sleep on the floor by building twin-sized bunk beds. East Central Synod of Wisconsin will be partnering with SHP in hosting a build day for twenty beds (or more) to be given to local children in need of a proper place to sleep. Each bed costs approximately \$250 to build, including building materials, tools, storage and delivery, and training volunteers. These are solidly built bunk beds meant to last for years. St. Andrew's in Oshkosh will be hosting the build–date tbd.

How can the congregations in our synod help out?

We need help in three different ways:

- Donations to fund a build day. We need \$5,000 (or more) to host a build day for this great cause. (\$250/ bed x 20= \$5,000). If you would like to donate a monetary gift please designate that it is for the Synod Assembly Service Project on your donation to Trinity Lutheran Church. Please get your donation to Trinity by Sunday, May 8th.
- 2. We also need volunteers! It would be great to have volunteers from all over the synod gather for the actual build day (to be scheduled) ahead of this year's Assembly. We're also hoping at least one person from each conference can join our service project planning committee to share information and build excitement in your area.
- 3. A bed isn't really fit for sleep without bedding! We're hoping to collect twin-sized sheets and comforters, as well as pillows, to make these beds comfy and cozy for the children who will receive them. Items will then be gathered for the assembly and given to SHP for the beds.

Any additional questions? Please contact Rev. Paul Johnson at (715) 201-9090 or PaulAndrewJohnson101@gmail.com for more info or to volunteer for the committee!



B&G soars into Spring with the following updates:

The northwest lower landing stairwell has a new ceiling light.

The ceiling in the hallway by the Coke machine and the northwest lower landing stairwell have been washed, primed and painted.

The heater in the hallway outside of the TLC&P office had a new actuator (zone valve) installed.

The main church office door handle has been changed to the lever style.

A sink mount support flange was replaced in the garbage disposal in the food prep sink in the kitchen.

> There are new entry mats in the west entry. The rubber mats that were there have been repurposed. They are in the TLC&P entry.

The temperature control on the baseboard heater in the Pastor's office was adjusted.

 Due to the elevator buttons working sporadically the technician adjusted the car controller PC board processor.

Happy Spring from the B& G Committee



Normally all of our quilts go to Lutheran World Relief. However, with this cold weather we are having, there has been a call for quilts at Operation Bootstrap. So a few days ago we gave eight quilts to them. They were very grateful.

It's always nice to have new people join us on Quilting Day and in February Nancy joined us for the morning. She will be a new member at Trinity and we are happy to welcome her to our group. Also, Lindie has volunteered to sew quilt tops at home. Would you like to sew at home? Let me know, and I'll get you all the fabric squares you need.

Our quilting days in March are: Tuesday, March 8th and Thursday, March 24th from

9-3 pm. Coffee & treats at 10:30 and bag lunch at 12:30. Join us in the Chapel Area as we work together making quilts that bring comfort to those in need around the world.



Interesting Titles

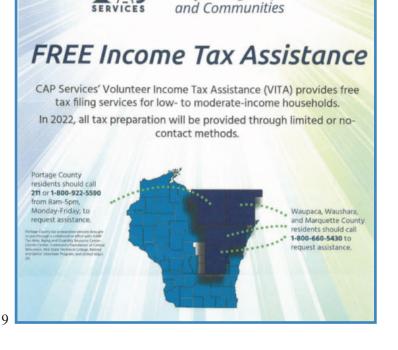
Are you ever drawn to a book because of its title?Here's one I couldn't pass up: <u>How Did I Get to be 70 When I'm</u> <u>35 Inside? Spiritual Surprises of Later Life</u> by Linda Doughty (248.8 Dou). I expected a chuckle on every page, which would've gotten tiresome, fast. Instead, I had my thoughts and questions validated, in its talking about "how you actually feel, not what you're supposed to feel." I thought this was a great book to read; especially the second half.

Here are some more interesting titles from your Trinity Library:

- "Keeping Alive...and Other Lessons Worth Learning" (248.4 McK)
- "Hurry Less, Worry Less...10 Strategies for Living the Life You Long For" (248.4 Chr)
- "Having a Mary Heart in a Martha World" (248.8 Wea)
- "God is in the Small Stuff...and it all Matters" (242 Bic)
- "Wonderful Wacky Words God Wants You to Remember (Int Tor)
- "Do Plastic Surgeons Take VISA?" (248.8 Pee)
- "Is There Life After High School?" (248.83 Swa)
- "Ordinary Joy...Finding Fresh Promise in Routine Moments" (242 Cam)

Sharon Rothman, for the Trinity Library Committee

3 We facilitate We create We lifelong and support encourage one-to-one learning and support opportunities Partner participation friendships to the within the Partners community between adults with provided by to disabilities local experience volunteers, and mentor inclusion at artists. local events volunteers teachers, and and from the leaders. gatherings. community. Become a **Community Partner Today**



Transforming People



Dear Trinity Groups and all the sweet kind people sending such nice birthday cards. You made my day with all the pretty cards. I remember you folks when I

came to church. The names I remember but not all the faces, so hope I can get to see you all again. Stop in and see me. I love to have some to visit with. Love, Ellie Bjorge

Better Together

Community Partners of Portage County

FROM OUR CHURCH RECORDS THROUGH THE MONTH OF **JANUARY 2022**

	12-MONTH BUDGET	ACTUAL	
Envelope Offering	506,117.80	47,232.18	
Loose Offering	2,500.00	549.00	
Miscellaneous	2,500.00	0.00	
World Hunger	0.00	136.00	
Seasonal Offering	7,750.00	0.00	
Receipts (YTD)	521,367.80	47,781.18	
Disbursements	549,472.00	41,409.17	
Net (+/-)	(28,104.20)	6,372.01	
Receipts (Month)		47,781.18	
Disbursements		41,409.17	
Net (+/-)		6,372.01	
		12/31/	20 12/31/21
Baptized Membership		10	64 1020
Confirmed Membership		7	83 745



amazonsmile

Another way to support Trinity's ongoing Youth and Family programs. Are you an Amazon.com shopper? When placing orders visit your www.smile.amazon.com instead and select Trinity Lutheran as the charity you support. It's quick and easy and 0.5% of the purchase price of eligible items will be donated back to our ministry. AmazonSmile features the same selection of products, low prices and convenience as the regular site with the added benefit of supporting community organizations. Happy shopping!

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

1410 ROGERS STREET ~ STEVENS POINT, WI 54481

CHURCH OFFICE

Phone	(715) 344-2869
Hours	. Weekdays 8:00 a.m4:00 p.m.
Answering Machine	(715) 344-2869
Fax	(715) 344-9123
Sunday Worship	9:00 a.m. and 10:45 a.m.
Wednesday Worship	5:00 p.m.
All Committee Night	. Tuesday, March 2 at 7:00 p.m.
Trinity Website	www.trinitysp.com

CONTACT

CHURCH STAFF

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Heidi Corcoran, Coordinator of Worship and Arts592-3594
Kelly Nielsen, Conductor of Choirs and Praise Band
Barb Towey, Organist Emerita341-1825
Amy Kurkowski, TLC&P Director
East Central Synod website/e-mailecsw.org

CHURCH COUNCIL	HOME
Tina Peters, President	341-6570
Jeff Martin, Past President	341-9619
Edye Ray, Vice President	592-6607
Donna Watson, Secretary	341-7424
Sue Acaley, Treasurer and Finance	345-9935
Kristi Bean, Building & Grounds	340-5438
DeeAnn Donahue, Christian Education	342-4830
Roberta Holthusen, Christian Life & Gr-owth	341-0807
Megan Espe, Communication	830-9434
David Blado, Global/Local Outreach	341-8308
Jeff Martin, Personnel	341-9619
Joel Lemke, Stewardship	572-0259
Amy Kurkowski, TLC&P	344-2227
Randy Olson, Worship	344-5376
Vacant, Youth & Family Ministry	

TOWER STAFF

Editor: Tammy Koch, clerk@trinitysp.com

Tower Helpers:

Roberta Holthusen, Betty Scheppa, Shari Willer, Diane & Ralph Lavin, Bea Berg, Judy Spilde, Laurie Graboski-Bauer, Lois Hagen, Barb Taugner and Pat Gerbitz

TOWER DEADLINE: March 15, 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
THE SECOND	Sos	1 10:00 am Whispering Pines Service 10:00 am Worship Committee 1:00 pm Service Broadcast 95/984 5:30 pm Pack 9293 7:00 pm All Committee Night 7:00 pm GLO Committee	2 11:00 am Willow Brooke Service 5:45 pm Bell Choir 6:30 pm Ash Wednesday Live & In-Person 2:15 pm Trinity Choir 7:15 pm Trinity Choir 8:00 pm Service Broadcast 95/984	3 8:00 am Men's Bible Study 10:00 am Riverview Lodge Service 11:00 am Northcrest Service 1:00 pm Dimensions Living Service 1:00 pm Wellington Place Service 5:30 pm Stephen Ministry 6:00 pm Stephen Ministry	_	9:00 am Al-Anon Meeting
6 1st Sunday of Lent 9:00 am Online Worship- Facebook Live and Website 9:00 am Worship 10:45 am Worship	7 1:00 pm Service Broadcast 95/984 6:30 pm Charity Circle 95/984 6:45 pm Troop 293 6:30 pr 6:30 pr	8 9:00 am Quilters 9:00 pm Service Broadcast 95/984 6:30 pm B & G Committee 6:30 pm Pack 9293	 9 5:45 pm Bell Choir 5:30 pm Confirmation 6:30 pm Lenten Worship Live and In-Person 7:15 pm Trinity Choir 8:00 pm Service Broadcast 95/984 	10 8:00 am Men's Bible Study 11:00 am Northcrest Service 1:00 pm Wellington Service	1	12 9:00 am Al-Anon Meeting
13 2nd Sunday of Lent 9:00 am Online Worship- Facebook Live and Website 9:00 am Worship 10:45 am Worship	14 1:00 pm Service Broadcast 95/984 6:45 pm Troop 293	 TOWER DEADLINE TOWER DEADLINE 9:45 am Stevens Point Health Services 10:45 am Portage County Healthcare Center Services 12:00 pm Lunch Bunch at Arbuckles Eatery & Pub 1:00 pm Service Broadcast 95/984 1:30 pm Library Committee 6:30 pm Pack 9293 	16 5:45 pm Bell Choir 6:30 pm Confirmation 6:30 pm Lenten Worship Live and In-Person 7:15 pm Trinity Choir 8:00 pm Service Broadcast 95/984	17 8:00 am Men's Bible Study 11:00 am Northcrest Service 1:00 pm Dimensions Living Service 3:00 pm Wedding	18	19 9:00 am Al-Anon Meeting
20 3rd Sunday of Lent 9:00 am Online Worship- Facebook Live and Website 9:00 am Worship 10:45 am Worship	21 1.00 pm Joy Circle 1.00 pm Service Broadcast 95/984 6:30 pm Executive Committee 6:45 pm Troop 293	22 9:45 am Stevens Point Health Services 10:45 am Portage County Healthcare Center Services 1:00 pm Service Broadcast 95/984 6:30 pm Pack 9293	 23 5:45 pm Bell Choir 5:45 pm Confirmation 6:30 pm Confirmation 6:30 pm Lenten Worship Live and In-Person 7:15 pm Trinity Choir 8:00 pm Service Broadcast 95/984 	24 8:00 am Men's Bible Study 9:00 am Quilters	25	26 9:00 am Al-Anon Meeting
27 4th Sunday of Lent 9:00 am Online Worship- Facebook Live and Website 9:00 am Worship 10:45 am Worship	28 Broadcast 95/984 6:45 pm Troop 293	29 1:00 pm Service Broadcast 95/984 6:30 pm Pack 9293	30 5:45 pm Bell Choir 6:30 pm Confirmation 6:30 pm Lenten Worship Live and In-Person 7:15 pm Trinity Choir 8:00 pm Service Broadcast 95/984	31 8:00 am Men's Bible Study	24 17 24 17	April 2022 M T W T F S 4 5 6 7 8 9 11 12 13 14 15 16 18 19 20 21 22 23 25 26 27 28 29 30



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