



Trinity Lutheran Church
605-498-2343
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www.teatrinity.org

TRINITY CONNECTION

MARCH 8, 2024

Dear Beloved of Trinity,

In Kyle Idleman's book, *Not A Fan*, he describes two types of Christians: one who is committed to follow Jesus and one who is just a fan of Jesus. A fan is an "enthusiastic admirer". A fan is someone who loves his favorite team. He knows stats about every player; they display bumper stickers on their cars and proudly wear jerseys. He cheers loudly in front of his tv but nothing is required of him. There is no commitment on his part. He is an enthusiastic admirer. He is a fan. A fan knows all about the team but doesn't really know the team.

In scripture this week, we will encounter a Pharisee by the name of Nicodemus. He used the religious ruler to measure his faith. He had studied hard as a youth; had passed many tests and moved up the ladder; was well respected in his hometown; followed all the rules to the point ad nauseam; he outwardly looked the part.

But Jesus knew his heart. Jesus knew that his heart wasn't in the right place. He was just a fan, not a fully committed follower.

This week in scripture we will hear the most quoted verse in the whole Bible. John 3:16, "for God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten son, that whoever believes in him, will not perish but have eternal life."

Nicodemus asks to meet with Jesus in the darkness of night. He didn't want to risk his reputation, yet he was curious and had so many questions. Jesus challenges Nicodemus and explains God's great love for him and for all the world. (Hence John 3:16)

I love the story of Nicodemus. He's a fascinating Biblical character. He's well educated yet learned a huge lesson and was able to make a 180-degree change in his life, to go from fan to fully committed believer.

We learn from Jesus as he uses ordinary and extra ordinary people throughout millennia. I think he's using you and it's pretty awesome.

Peace,
Deacon Christie

Church Calendar

Tuesday, March 12

6:30 pm: Men's Breakfast
8:30 am: Preschool (3 & 4 yr olds)
6:00 pm: Church Board Meetings
7:00 pm: Church Council Meeting

Wednesday, March 13

8:30 am: Preschool (Pre-K)
5:15 pm: Lenten Meal, Confirmation Mentoring
(meal and worship with mentor)
6:30 pm: Worship, Welcoming of New Members
7:15 pm: High School Youth, A New Norm
Presentation by Tom Roberts, Bells Choir Practice,
No KFC

Thursday, March 14

8:30 am: Preschool (3 & 4 yr olds)
11:15 am: Meals on Wheels Delivery
4:15 pm: Food to You, Mobile Food Pantry
5:30 pm: TOPS

Friday, March 15

8:30 am: Preschool (Pre-K)

Sunday, March 17

No Sunday School due to spring break
8:00 am: Worship
9:15 am: Coffee and Cookies; Adult Bible Study
10:30 am: Worship (online and in person)
6:30 pm: Financial Peace University
7:00 pm: National Youth Gathering Parent Meeting

Monday, March 18

8:30 am: Preschool (Pre-K)

Tuesday, March 19

6:30 pm: Men's Breakfast
8:30 am: Preschool (3 & 4 yr olds)

Upcoming Important Dates

March 24: Palm Sunday
March 28: Maundy Thursday Worship
March 29: Good Friday Worship
March 31: Easter Sunday Worship
(7:30 am, 9:00am, 10:30 am)

Attendance

Wednesday, Feb 28 Sunday, March 3

6:30 pm: 271 8:00 am: 75
10:30 am: 218

Church Finances

Week of March 3, 2024

Total Operating Cost: \$13,774

Actual Total Giving: \$ 17,548

Difference of: \$ 3,774

March Globe Offering \$ 208

Total operating cost represents all expenses including staff costs, benevolences, supplies, outreach, and our mortgage payment. If you have questions regarding the budget, please contact Margaret Larsen at 605-351-8561.

Ways to Give

Envelopes: In-person or Mail to the church

Online Giving: www.teatrinity.org/donate

Venmo: teatrinity

March Globe Offering

FOOD TO YOU, MOBILE FOOD PANTRY

Prayer Requests

- Bonnie Wolthuis ▪ Gordon Fritz ▪ Sharon Nelson
- Sonia Ensz ▪ Ken Kahl ▪ Greg Myrmoe ▪ Ray Kelly
- Debbie Jensen, Jacob Jensen's mother
- Melva Hilmoe's brother & Sarah Hilmoe's uncle Fred Tidemann
- Gordon & Dorothy Fritz's son Carl
- Delores Wells' brother-in-law, Jerry Boellaard
- Amy Kuhnert's family member, Jeremy Josephsont
- Melva and Sara Hilmoe's friend, Corey Stephens
- Sara Hilmoe's friend, Randi Van Der Sloot
- Doug Mette sister and brother-in-law, Gene and June Neises
- Dawn Arp's mother, Darlene Sheeler
- Rex and Clem Boyd's sister-in-law, Dodie
- Joe Holman's brother, Andrew

Holden Evening / Holy Week / Easter Sunday Services

Our theme throughout Wednesday evening Lenten services is “Holy Lament” and will look at how lament, both individual and communal, is a part of our life of faith. Each week we will look at scripture and an accompanying song and how it relates to the laments in our lives.

Family meal begins at 5:15 pm. You do not have to cook at all on Wednesday nights! Come enjoy a warm meal served until 6:15 pm.

Family worship begins at 6:30 pm. March 13 | March 20
We will be using the beautiful and popular Holden Evening Prayer.

Confirmation in Lent: Confirmation in Lent takes on a different format. Each confirmation student and their mentor will meet for the meal and discuss questions pertaining to the evening’s sermon. Then they will worship together at 6:30 pm. Afterwards, they are free to go home.

Palm Sunday
Sunday, March 24 at
8:00 or 10:30 am

Maunday Thursday
Thursday, March 28
6:30 pm

Good Friday
Friday, March 29
6:30 pm

Easter Worship Services
Sunday, March 31
7:30 am, 9:00 am and 10:30 am

“A New Norm” Presented by Tom Roberts

Wednesday, March 13
7:15 pm
in the Fellowship Hall

"A New Norm" presented by Tom Roberts is an engaging, interactive presentation that reflects the feelings of those who struggle with anxiety, depression, grief, anger, doubt, shame, fear and more, yet provides encouragement that difficulties such as these can be overcome. It expresses how routine thoughts of negativity can sometimes cloud our reality making it difficult to enjoy life, to appreciate what is truly good, to have positive relationships, or to develop to one’s full potential.

Today, our youth carry the weight of the world on their shoulders. This presentation will include storytelling, humor, and interactive activities that help them learn empathy, awareness, perception, hope, positive thinking, and a willingness to try.

Middle school and high school youth and parents are invited to attend this important message about mental health that affects each and every one of us.!



National Youth Gathering Parent Meeting

Sunday, March 17
7:00 pm
Gathering Space

This is an informational meeting for all parents and youth that have youth attending the National Youth Gathering in New Orleans. Please plan to attend as we continue to plan the details of the trip!

Easter Basket Fundraiser

Easter is right around the corner and you can get your Easter baskets here at Trinity! The high school youth will be selling Easter Baskets as a fundraiser for their upcoming National Youth Gathering trip in July to New Orleans! The youth will be selling the baskets in the Gathering Space between services on Sunday mornings and on Wednesday evenings. .

Dates available to purchase:

Sunday, March 10 | Wednesday, March 13

Sunday, March 17 | Wednesday, March 20

Sunday, March 24

Cost: \$20 per basket | **Gender specific:** Boy or Girl

Orders and payments due: Sunday, March 24

Pickup dates: Thursday, March 28 | Friday, March 29

During office hours (8:30 - 4:30 pm) or before and after worship

If you have questions, contact the church office by calling 605-498-23433



WELCA Bible Study

Thursday, March 21

1:30 pm

in the Fellowship Hall

Please join us for a faith filled bible study, a short meeting and refreshments! All are welcome!.

Tea Community Food Distribution

Thursday, March 21

5:00 - 6:00 pm

Trinity Lutheran Church

If you need help with food, or know someone who does, call the church office at 605-498-2343. Registration is required each month. Due to limited supply of food, we will only be accepting 140 registrations. Registration will then close and we will no longer take signups.

Bible Crash Course #2

Monday Evenings

April 8 | April 15 | April 22

7:00 - 8:15 pm

in the Fellowship Hall



If you've ever wondered if the Bible is true, this course is for you. If you've ever wondered how the Bible came to be, this course is for you. If you've ever wondered how they chose which books, this course is for you. Mark these three Mondays, April 8, 15 and 22 on your calendar. Call the church office to signup. If you have questions, contact Deacon Christie by calling 605-498-2343.

Trinity Lutheran Church Directory

* Mobile Version Now Available *

* Printed Version Arriving Soon*

Trinity Lutheran Church Directory is finally here! We are happy to announce that the mobile version is now available and the printed version will be arriving soon! We appreciate your patience with the delay in releasing it. We are now excited to have this available to you!

For more information about the mobile version please contact the church office at 605--498-2343



Trinity Lutheran Preschool registration available

3 & 4 year olds
Tuesday/Thursday
8:30 - 11:00 am

4 & 5 year olds (Pre-K)
Monday/Wednesday/Friday
8:30 - 11:30 am

Trinity Lutheran Preschool 2024-2025 registration is available. We are a Christ-centered preschool with play based learning program. Our themed lessons and virtue focus will enrich the whole child by incorporating all learning styles and senses. Learning outcomes will enhance a child's spiritual, social-emotional, physical and intellectual development. Call the church office for more information or to register.

March Food Pantry Donation: Pork and Beans

With the raising cost of food the Food Pantry has seen an increase in clients. Feel free to pick up an extra item or two when shopping to help those in need! In the month of March we will be collecting pork and beans. Donations can be dropped off in the Gathering Space. If you have questions or would like to make a monetary donation, please contact the church office or call Ruth at 605-321-7325.

Over 55 Group enjoyed an informative presentation by Pastor Chris from Church on the Street and fellowship. Join us the 4th Tuesday of the month

