

TRINITY ELCA LUTHERAN CHURCH

NEWSLETTER

**VOLUME 19, ISSUE 2** 

**FEBRUARY 2023** 

**Dark and cold.** These words seem synonymous with winter. At least they did from past experience. Yet this year seems to be lighter and warmer than usual.... at least as these words are being written. All this still may change.

For some people, dark and cold are also synonymous with life. All they can see is hate and war and struggle. But in this season of Epiphany, we Christians know that in the midst of dark and cold is always light and life and hope. We know that Christ enters the dark and cold and reveals the light, life, and love of God.

What are you looking for in the world around you? If you expect the world to be dark and cold—well then, that is what you will see. But if you expect that you will see the light of Christ at work in the world—then most likely that is what you will see. Seeing it is the first step to carrying and reflecting the light of Christ. It doesn't mean that it will always be easy. And it certainly doesn't mean that you will not experience darkness. Yet, darkness cannot overcome those with faith in Jesus the light.

A pastor was filling-in at a local college for their Wednesday night chapel service. When he arrived he realized that he had no idea how to turn on the lights in the chapel. It was pitch black and he was scared. In that way we are all scared of the dark. And then he saw it. A tiny little light in the hallway outside the chapel—a soda machine. By that small light, he made his way in the church, found the switches and the room was bathed in light. Suddenly he knew that there was no darkness that could extinguish the light of Christ.

We may not always perceive it, we may not appreciate it—yet even in the deepest darkness the light is there to show us the way.

We invite you to always look for the light, to enjoy the light, and to carry the light to those who need it.

Pastol Custy

In Love,

OF THE

DARKNESS

2 CORINTHIANS 4:6

Pastors Dave and Cristy



Thank you, Ruth

Long-time Trinity member, **Ruth McDonald** has also served Trinity
for a long time (17 YEARS!) as our
Parish Financial Clerk! In fact, she is
still serving in that capacity as she is
currently training Karen Sparks to take
over the reigns—but make no mistake,
Ruth is gleefully working her way toward
retirement.

She has, over nearly two decades, meticulously watched over Trinity's checks and balances with great care and concern . . . always looking out for the congregations best interests. Ruth says she is not going anywhere, still a member of Trinity and happy to be on call if Karen has any questions as she goes. We are thankful for Ruth in many ways—past and present.

Ruth and her husband, Ray raised two daughters, Sally and Amanda, and now are very excited to have two grandchildren! The blessing of being able to spend more time with them makes the anticipation of retirement for Ruth all the more joyful.

Please join us in thanking Ruth for all she has done and continues to do on behalf of Trinity —we have truly been blessed by her service.

God bless you, Ruth!



By the grace of God and the call of the church,

Micholas David Schools

will be ordained to the Ministry of Word and Sacrament in the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America Sunday, the 26th day of February, 2023 during worship at 9:30 in the morning at

Trivity Lutheran Church
140 N 7TH AVE | WEST BEND, WI 53095

Pastor Michelle Townsend de Lopez of Cross Lutheran Church, Milwaukee preaching, and Bishop Paul Erickson of the ELCA Greater Milwaukee Synod and Bishop Shelley Wickstrom of the ELCA Synod Alaska, presiding.

Your prayers and presence are requested.

All ordained clergy are invited to attend.

The color of the day is red.

Nick's spiritual growth and journey to ministry has been formed and nurtured at Trinity since age 3.

All Trinity Family and friends are invited to attend.

We hope you will all come and celebrate this milestone in Nick's life and the life of Trinity.

And so I am sure that

who began this —

in you,

will carry it on until it is finished

on the Day of Christ Jesus.

PHILIPPIANS 1:6



When we feel whole, we are better equipped to go and do the things God is calling each of us to do. God loves and accepts us just as we are—but, way too much to just leave us this way.



### **Joyful Yoga & Wellness**

PRESENTED BY: Lisa Westveer

THURSDAY | FEBRUARY 2 6:30 PM

Plan now to enjoy a one hour yoga class the first week of February with focus on movement for everyday living and breathing. Lisa will end the class with examples of relaxing love and kindness meditation.

COST \$15 PER PERSON | LIMITED TO 15 PARTICIPANTS
No experience needed; modifications will be offered WAIVER FORM
REQUIRED. Sign up in the Heritage Room or on SignUP Genius.



## The Art of Sourdough

PRESENTED BY: Julie Dierks

TUESDAY | FEBRUARY 28 6:00 - 8:00 PM

Each person will leave with either an active sourdough starter or dehydrated sourdough starter, whichever they prefer, and the know-how to be confident in making a sourdough loaf or other sourdough creations. Participants will learn how to have their sourdough starter go dormant. but not die (for times they might need a break from baking for a bit), and then how to reactivate it to get it going again. Also, each person will get printouts of Julie's basic, easy to follow sourdough recipe.

**COST \$25 PER PERSON** | LIMITED TO 30 PARTICIPANTS Sign up in the Heritage Room *or on* SignUP Genius.



You are invited to participate in Trinity's annual

SOUPER BOWL of CARING WEEKEND

**FEBRUARY 11 & 12** 

Proceeds will be divided between our local food pantry and the ELCA World Hunger Appeal.

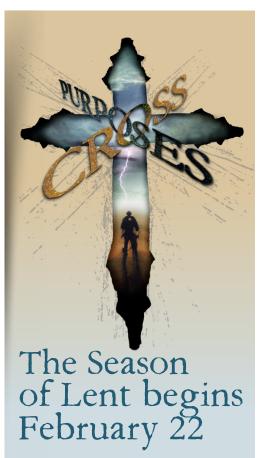
During "SOUPE" BOWL" weekend, soup kettles will be placed on a display in the Heritage room.

Each kettle will represent one of this year's Super Bowl teams. You can vote for your favorite team with your donation. Rumor has it there will be a "

Prayers for Packers" bowl as well. The soup kettle gathering the most donations WINS!

The truth is, it is the hungry who will win —through your generosity.





Currently, we are in the church season of **Epiphany**, which runs from January 6th until **Ash Wednesday**, **February 22nd**, *when the season of Lent begins*. *Lent continues through the celebration of Easter*, *April 9th*, *2023*.

#### **CROSS PURPOSES**

is our theme for Lent this year. Our weekend worship opportunities will be designed to be times to reflect on those places where the emphasis, goals, and values of our world may have "cross purposes" with the message and call of Jesus.

At Trinity there will be special worship opportunities on:

- Ash Wednesday | FEBRUARY 22
   Worship at NOON and 6:30 PM
- Palm/Passion Worship | APRIL 1/2 SATURDAY | 4:00 PM SUNDAY | 9:30 AM
- Maundy Thursday | APRIL 6 Worship at NOON and 6:30 PM
- Good Friday | APRIL 7 Worship at NOON and 7:30 PM



#### **First Communion WORKSHOP**

#### ATTENTION ALL 5th GRADE (or above) YOUTH AND PARENTS/GUARDIANS

As part of their **KEEPING THE PROMISE** rotation, all 5th Grade (or above) youth *and* their parents/guardians are invited to come to a special workshop that will prepare them to receive their First Communion during the 9:30 AM worship on Sunday, March 5th.

## FIRST COMMUNION WORKSHOP INVOLVES TWO SESSIONS:

- FRIDAY, FEB 10TH | 6:30 8:30 PM
- SATURDAY, FEB 11TH | 9:30 AM NOON

There will be a group meal following the Saturday morning session. *This workshop is for BOTH the youth AND their parent(s)/guardian(s)*.

We realize that this is a significant block of time but have found it to be a vital time of spiritual growth and sharing for the youth, their parents and their whole families. Parents/Guardians, please take seriously how important your own faith journey is to the spiritual development of your children! We will try to arrange additional childcare for younger siblings at the church if this would help you – PLEASE LET US KNOW ASAP!

#### **First Communion WORSHIP**

5th Grade youth who complete the workshops will receive their First Communion during Worship on:

· Sunday, MARCH 5th | 9:30 AM

As part of their "Keeping the Promise Rotation" they will also be leading this worship service.



## CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

SHARING THE LOVE AND PROMISE OF GOD WITH KIDS FROM AGE 3 UP TO 6TH GRADE!

SEEIT, MAKEIT, TASTEIT, MOVEIT, TELLIT — SHAREIT!

#### **SUNDAYS 9:30 AM - 10:45AM**

If you haven't registered your child yet, you still can—they are always welcome!

We will be finishing up our 'Called to be God's Saints' rotation on February 5th. This rotation was quite a lot of fun!

**FEBRUARY 12th** 

BRING-A-FRIEND SUNDAY!
3rd Grade BIBLE SUNDAY!
Keeping the Promise Rotation BEGINS!

within Trinity's Children's Ministry program every year. It is made up of six workshops designed to help each grade level develop a deeper understanding of one aspect of the promise their parents made for them at their baptisms.

This rotation is designed directly from the baptismal vows:

In Christian love you have presented this child for Holy Baptism. You should, therefore, faithfully bring him/her to the services of God's house, and teach him/her the Lord's Prayer, the Creed, and the Ten Commandments. As he/she grows in years, you should place in his/her hands the Holy Scriptures and provide for his/her instruction in the Christian faith, that, living in the covenant of their Baptism and in communion with the Church, he/she may lead a godly life until the day of Jesus Christ.

For four weeks each 3 year old-6th Grader will be exposed to different presentations of the baptismal focus for their grade level:

- 3 yo Kindergarten | Baptism/Prayer/The Church
- 1st 2nd Grade | The Ten Commandments
- 3rd Grade | The Books of the Bible
- 4th Grade | The Apostle's Creed
- 5th Grade | Worship and Communion
- 6th Grade | The Lord's Prayer

#### Parent/Guardian PARTICIPATION VITAL!

Dear Parents and Guardians,

To be fully successful, this rotation requires that each child's loved ones discuss their topics and work with them to learn the material. KEEPING THE PROMISE begins with the presentation of Bibles to the 3rd Graders on February 12th. For the 5th Graders, KEEPING THE PROMISE includes First Communion workshops with their parents (SEE INFO IN LEFT COLUMN).

Please make every attempt to have your children attend! Sharing God's love with Trinity's kids is guaranteed to positively impact your own life!

GET INVOLVED WITH TRINITY'S CHILDREN'S MINISTRY PROGRAM!

Thank you,

Alyssa Brockman trinitywestbendcm@gmail.com

# ALL ABOUT YOUTH SCHEDULES, EVENTS & OPPORTUNITIES



#### F.I.S.H. << Valentine's Day Party

#### 4TH - 6TH GRADE YOUTH GROUP SUNDAY | FEBRUARY 12 11 AM - 12:30 PM

All 4th - 6th graders are invited to join us for a Valentine's Day Party in Fellowship Hall—we'll have fun, food, games, and prizes! NO COST FOR THIS ACTIVITY.



## **UPCOMING F.I.S.H.**<< EVENTS *MARK YOUR CALENDARS!*

- St. Pat's Party | MARCH 12 | 10:45 AM 12:30 PM
- ReBirthday Party | **APRIL 16** | 10:45 AM 12:30 PM
- Spring Fling | MAY 7 | 10:45 AM 12:30 PM



#### SENIOR HIGH OVERNIGHT RETREAT FEBRUARY 3-4, 2023

**CEDAR VALLEY RETREAT CENTER** 

Trinity's Senior High Ministry invites ALL 9<sup>TH</sup>-12<sup>TH</sup> GRADE folks Interested in a winter get-away from life as usual to take this opportunity to have fun, re-center, and deepen your relationships with God and one another.

Because of the retreat, there will be no Senior High First Sunday in February.

HAVE YOU HEARD THE NEWS?

#### SENIOR HIGH 2023 SUMMER SERVANT TRIP

## NVC

NEW YORK, NEW YORK
JULY 20-29

**SPACE IS LIMITED** 

#### **DEADLINE | FEBRUARY 26**

All who plan to join us need to turn in the registration form sent to all High School Youth and a \$100.00 down payment by February 26th.

Registration forms are also available in the Trinity office. If there are any spots still open after February 26th, the trip will be open to 2022/2023 8th graders as well.



FEB 01 | 6th COMMANDMENT | SNACKS: Kaylin Kozlowski

FEB 01 | 6th COMMANDMENT | SNACKS: CJ Schiller

FEB 15 | 6th COMMANDMENT | SNACKS: Ellie Carlson

FEB 22 | ASH WEDNESDAY WORSHIP | 6:30 PM (NO CONFIRMATION)

MARCH 1 | 6th COMMANDMENT | SNACKS: TJ Abraham

#### **IMPORTANT DATES AND EVENTS**

Palm/Passion Worship | 3:30 PM Saturday | 9:30 AM Sunday | APRIL 1 -2



## **VALENTINE'S DAY CANDY**

**BAR SALE** Trinity's Senior High Youth will be selling Seroogy's candy bars throughout February and March. Delicious Assorted Flavors - \$1.50 each

Grochez Gring joy On Sunday, January 15th, Pastor Dave shared a gift from his dad with all the kids (and a few adults)! The hand-made **GNOMES were an immediate HIT** and the gesture of kindness from the small, soft, cuddly, cute and colorful little

characters will be long remembered by each and every one received!



Little Gnomes, each crochetted with TLC by Pastor Dave's dad, Herman Schoob, brought joy to many!

for spreading joy HERMAN SCHOOB!

## Happy Golden Birthday to Kaori

**Kaori Rosalina** Ramos Benito is the Trinity congregation's **Compassion International** sponsored child. Our Children's Ministry offerings are dedicated to help with this sponsorship, but your help is needed as well.

Born on February 10, 2013, Kaori lives in a very poor coastal community of Puéblo Joven Huascar-B (PERU) with her parents and 3 brothers. We are quite sure her golden birthday will not be anything like the birthday celebrations our kids experience here, but we also know Trinity's sponsorship makes a big difference for Kaori and her family thank you for your continued support.

Please keep Kaori and her family in your prayers.

On Sunday, January 22nd Trinity was blessed to welcome a wonderful group of new members to the Trinity family!















- **A Sonya** and Carter Sobush | SPONSORS the Hanvey Family!
- C Ron & Jo Hinzpeter | SPONSORS Mike & Cindy Tikusis
- Pat, Renee and Lucy Thacker SPONSORS John & Denise Kenworthy and Sadie!
- E Maureen O'Connell, Eduardo Del Campo, Elias, Lucca and Amaya
- Carly Boettcher, Jazlyn, Kendall, Davis and Berkley SPONSORS Craig Doede, Dick Doede & Delores Harder
- **G** Kristen, Jordan and Connor Robinson | SPONSORS Bill & Karen Dushek



















Following Immanuel, Serving Happily

Trinity's 4th-6th GRADE F.I.S.H.<< Youth Group meets once a month with events designed to grow both faith and friendships.

In January, they shared a fun time of snow tubing at Sunburst Ski Hill







## CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

#### **JANUARY ROTATION WORKSHOPS**

During January, Little Lambs made 'Funny Friends' to remind them that God Loves Everyone!

We made bracelets to remind us of the stories in the Bible. The YELLOW BEAD represents heaven. The 'DIRTY' BEAD shows that there is sin, but God loves us and wants us, so he forgives us! The RED **BEAD** represents Jesus' death on the cross. The WILLE BEAD reminds us that we can be made clean and the GREEN BEAD reminds us that we are always growing and we can trust in God.

We also made stained glass windows! LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE!

# THANK YOU

We are blessed to have a village of caring folks who make a big difference for Trinity's kids! THANK YOU TO MY **JANUARY VOLUNTEERS:** 

Jennifer Walth Lisa Clark Maureen O'Connell **Nancy Hanvey Abby Nelson Keri Davis Garrett Clark** Keri O'Shea April Kocinski Victoria Kenworthy Mitchel Doede **Alex Bergerud** Penny Bergerud Annie Wiedmeyer Pat & Renee Thacker

#### Can't do it without you!



If you would be interested in teaching a rotation, please sign up outside of Fellowship Hall or contact Alyssa—we promise it will be the highlight of your Sunday!



**Project RETURN** grew out of a volunteer base that believed men and women returning from incarceration deserved a second chance. It offers a variety of support for those returning from incarceration.

**Project RETURN** is looking for warm clothing. All ADULT SIZES (from Small to 5x) of the following are needed:

- Coats | New and gently used
- · Hats. Scarfs. Gloves.
- **Boots** | most needed are larger size boots—up to a size 13.
- · Sweatshirts. Sweatpants. Hoodies.
- Warm Socks.
- Warm blankets. Pillows.
- Sleepwear.
- House Shoes.
- Gift Cards | any stores. Gas cards. Bus cards.

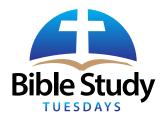
Cash and checks made out to **Project RETURN** also welcome to help support this ministry. No donation is too small and we appreciate all your support.

Nate Shubat | nateshubat@gmail.com



Thank you to Nicole Hull and Carrie Felix for the January 17th presentation of Myths, Labels & Healthy Eating.

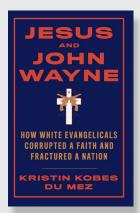
A ton of information was shared along with some tasty (and healthy!) snacks and breakfast oats! Seems everyone who attended walked away feeling aood about both the information shared as well as sharing the education and experience with each other!



#### **BIBLE STUDY TUESDAY RESUMES** TUESDAYS | 1 PM

In February we will finish our study of the book or **Deuteronomy.** On the border of the Promised Land Moses offers auidance to the people so that they might find light when they cross over. Maybe these words can offer us council for all the crossings in life that we must make. Come and join us All are welcome.

## FEBRUARY BOOK STUDY



#### 6:00 PM | TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 28TH

Our book study for FEBRUARY is the book: Jesus and John Wayne by Kristin Kobes Du Mez From the back of the book we find the description: Jesus and John Wayne is a sweeping account that reveals how some American Evangelicals have worked for decades to replace the Jesus of the Gospels with an image of rugged masculinity and Christian Nationalism.

Enjoy the read and plan to join Pastor Dave for a discussion on February 28th.

## LOOKING FOR A NIGHT OUT?

We have several Trinity members involved in a couple upcoming theater productions they'd like you to know about!

West Bend High School Anastasia: The Musical February 17 – 18 | 7 PM February 19 | 2 PM WBHS Silver Lining Arts Center

Tickets online or at the door



Anastasia: The Musical is about discovering who you are and defining who you're meant to be. The show transports the audience from the twilight of the Russian Empire to the euphoria of Paris in the 1920s as Anya and her companions embark on an epic adventure to help her find home, love and family.

Vocal direction by Darci Ketter. Hazel Griffin

is the rehearsal pianist as well as playing in the pit orchestra

Spotlight Production **FOUR OLD BROADS** 

March 2 – 4 | 7:30 PM March 5 | 1:30 PM UWM-Washington County's Theatre on the Hill.

Tickets online or at the door wbspotlight.com

FOUR OLD BROADS | The Story: Retired burlesque queen Beatrice Shelton needs a vacation, and a Sassy Seniors Cruise may be just the ticket. But things have been in an uproar at Magnolia Place Assisted Living since Nurse Pat was hired. Imagene is suddenly losing her memory. Maude is planning her own funeral. And Sam, a retired Elvis impersonator, keeps trying to seduce every woman in the building. What exactly is that mysterious pill? And what happened to Doctor Head? Fortunately, Imogene and the gals are on the case. The results are a rollicking good time!

Cast members connected to Trinity include: Wendy Johnson, Sherry McElhatton, Monica Mauney and Nichole Reno.

BLESSINGS

ON THE DAY YOU WERE BORN, GOD DANCED, ANGELS SANG AND THE STARS ALIGNED. WE HOPE THAT YOUR BIRTHDAY WILL BE A HAPPY CELEBRATION FILLED WITH BLESSINGS.

Maureen O'Connell	2   0	1	Erik Odness	2	08	Gini Thelen	2	17
Agnes Curry	2   0	2	Caitlin Shubat	2	1	Kristi Pretsch	2	18
Ronald Wicke	2 0	2	Lisa Clark	2		Paul Anderson	2	19
Cassie Langenecker	2 0	2	Zachary Omernick	2		Kelly Draves	2	20
Jonah Campbell	2   0	3	Delaney Younglove	2		Mark Foyse	2	21
Randall Cranney	2   0	3	Chris Chlupp	2	!	Jacob Kozlowski	2	22
Joann Poenitsch	2 0	3	Meghan Retzlaff Ralph Crass	2	!	Laurie Beth	2	23
Zachary Schicker	2 0	3	Jeff (Jay) Ellis	2		Ashton Bauer	2	24
Ánn Taylor	2 0	3	Andrea Ethier	2		Rich Nielsen	2 j	24
Amelia Walth	2 0	3	Logan Bonlender	2		Curt Pitzen	2	24
Seth Bergerud	2 0	4	Michael Schaller	2		Ronald Vore	2	24
Mari Borek	2 0	4	Kevin Schmitt	2	15	Nathan Wiedmeyer	2	24
Cullen Schmoldt	2 0	4	Calvin Anderson	2		Linda Amacher	2	25
Jake Vandehei	2 0		Denise Kenworthy	2		Kenneth Gauger	2	25
Eileen Ecker	2 0	5	Kevin Langenecker	2		James Wulff		25
Ruth Ruh	2 0	5	Elizabeth Spaeth	2		John Wilson	2	26
Garrett Clark	2 0	16	Cyrus Walth Kolbrin Walth	2		Caleb Corliss	2	27
Benjamin Hoppenjan	2 0	7	Joseph Jensen	2		Jill Enright	2	28
Peyton Johnson	2 0	7	Douglas Naumann	2		Kendall Shulka		28
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## 7 Ways Being Kind Is Good for Your Health and Well-Being



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You know that showing someone kindness can make you feel good inside. But you may not know that there's scientific research that suggests that those warm, fuzzy feelings are also good for your long-term health and well-being.

"Small acts of kindness are an essential and often overlooked component of *health,"* says Kelli Harding, MD, MPH, an assistant clinical professor of psychiatry at Columbia University Irving Medical Center in New York City and the author of The Rabbit Effect: Live Longer, Happier, and Healthier With the Groundbreaking Science of Kindness.

Kindness is when we do something to benefit someone else — and, as the American Psychological Association explains, it's usually thought of as motivated by truly wanting to help someone, not by fear of punishment or an attempt to get an explicit reward in exchange for your behavior. Kindness can also be practiced toward ourselves, which is self-kindness. Both kindness toward others and kindness toward yourself benefits your health and well-being. Here are some of the various ways.

- 1. Kindness Is an Antidote to Stress
- 2. Kindness Can Help With Anxiety and Depression
- 3. Kindness May Improve Heart Health
- 4. Kindness May Help With Diabetes Management
- 5. Kindness Can Help People With Cancer Feel Supported
- 6. Kindness Promotes Happiness
- 7. Kindness May Help You Live Longer



The ministry and mission of our church happens because of the spiritual and financial gifts our members and friends choose to share. Your continuous support encourages and empowers the mission and ministry that we do together.

Giving is where we find the true meaning and purpose for our lives. We want you to know every gift is very much appreciated.

As we begin the next 100 years, let us remember that we are not alone. We are a community of faith, in ministry together.

together in Christ



## Trivity | Contact Information

Trinity Lutheran Church | Reconciling in Christ | 140 N. 7<sup>TH</sup> AVE | WEST BEND, WI 53095 262-334-2125 | trinity@trinitywestbend.com | **trinitywestbend.com** 

Pastor Cristy Schoob

Pastor David Schoob 262-483-0791

262-483-0792 cschoob@trinitywestbend.com

dschoob@trinitywestbend.com

Trinity Office Hours	
MONDAY — THURSDAY	8 AM - 3:30 PM
FRIDAY	8 AM - NOON

**Sue Beekman**......*Parish Coordinator* sbeekman@trinitywestbend.com | 262-334-2125

**Sandy Poenitsch**......*Communication Coordinator* spoenitsch@trinitywestbend.com | 262-388-1616

Phil Wagner ...... Facilities Manager

#### **Congregation Council Members**

Anita McClain, PRESIDENT COMMUNITY BUILDING
Charlie Hillman, VICE-PRESIDENT TECHNOLOGY
Paul Bauman, TREASURER FINANCE TEAM, MS
Candy Sarauer, SECRETARY MINISTRY SUPPORT
Suzanne Barker STEWARDSHIP
Penny Bergerud FAITH DEVELOPMENT
Charlotte Butzler FAITH DEVELOPMENT
Todd Markgraf PROPERTY
Peter Nelson STEWARDSHIP
Jay Riederer OUTREACH
Alex Bergerud YOUTH REPRESENTATIVE