

trinity
Lutheran Church

115 N. Fourth Street
Box 339
Stillwater, MN 55082
651-439-7400

March 2016
volume XXXVIII, issue III
www.trinitylc.org

love.transform.serve.

TRINITY TODAY



Go & Tell.





I N T E R I M P A S T O R
P A U L S V I N G E N

"Faith is the Substance...."

Dear friends in Christ....

I write this message to be received at the conclusion of Lent, in the midst of Holy Week, and focused on the Good News we'll celebrate together in the glory of yet another Easter Anniversary.

As I near the conclusion of the seventh month of my interim pastoral ministry here at Trinity, I do so with the awareness that many in the congregation have felt the grip of varied losses during the past twelve months. While we are working hard to prepare the soil for the next season of new planting, I must say that the emotional content of the difficult changes made has brought the responsibility of staff care to a level beyond what has been more normative in many congregations I have been privileged to serve. It goes without saying that 'care of staff' is a non-negotiable component of pastoral ministry in any size congregation. Surely grief, the consequence of any loss, has affected the gifted and faithful staff who serve their Lord here at Trinity. We are blessed with each one who has and yet serves this congregation in its overall ministry.

While every congregation deserves the gift of an intentional interim period between regularly-called pastors, it is especially important that when not only one, but two pastorates alongside additional directors and support staff have ended within a twelve-month period of time, that careful attention be given to the developmental work necessary to claim, to understand, and to come to terms with the history of that congregation's working relationship with its former staff and its lay leadership efforts as a whole. Here at Trinity the loss of these staff positions was not necessarily related to how these now-former staff persons functioned.

The circumstances go beyond what sometimes seems plausible, and these changes are related to the ministry of the entire congregation, some-times over a period of a number of years. It cannot be a matter of "who to blame" but rather, "How now do we claim our history as a gift to us and thus utilize what it has to teach us in crafting a new future." Herein rests the core of the charge given presently to our Transition Team. Thus far, many in the congregation have entered into our interim ministry dialogue. I thank you each for your participation thus far.

A living example of this need for transition "time and work" visits us all when we lose a loved one. Following the death of a spouse, the reclaiming of the surviving spouse's mission and ministry in life going forward occurs either well or poorly in relation to that person's willingness and ability to greet each new 'alone day' as one in which he/she welcomes the world from the perspective of a new and emerging individual identity. While the grieving spouse will understandably always see him/herself as the husband/wife of the dear departed, there is God's gift of acceptance, healing, and renewal that transforms that person's loss and emptiness into a new day of healing and hope. The result is the gift of a readiness to face life and the world and thus to be willing and able to enter into new relationships. We know that life teaches us that our acceptance and understanding of the past significantly informs and affects our acceptance of the shape of God's future for us.

The calling of a pastor is a signal that a congregation has accepted the change brought by its losses into a genuine willingness and ability to enter into a

new relationship with another pastor and his/her family. A congregation is an emotional system and in that human system where loss has occurred, the normal human transition emotions are unevenly distributed at best. Pastors observe this behavioral dynamic most regularly at funerals, and from time to time, at weddings..., those celebrations likewise carrying within them the element of 'loss'. Any two good friends, colleagues, or members of the same family may not experience the effects of a change in the same way. Most of us need only look as far as our extended families to see this phenomenon demonstrated ... sometimes to our joyful surprise and sometimes to our dismay. Yes, leadership in an emotional system, be it as a parent in a family or as a member of a congregation, calls for our best efforts in managing the emotional processes.... however complex or anxious they may appear.

The Season of Lent, soon history in 2016, is about expectation, self-examination, repentance, and hope. Holy Saturday is the one day of Holy Week most like the interim period, in an individual's life, or in a congregation's life. As I shared in my initial sermon, "God is rarely early, but God is never late." Altogether let's give God time to be our "God of the Gaps" (an expression of martyred Lutheran pastor Dietrich Bonhoeffer). Let's let God give us strength to claim the faith that is "the substance of things hoped for, the assurance of things not yet seen." (Hebrews 11:1)

Paul N. Svingen
Interim Lead Pastor

Connecting to the larger church

St. Paul Area Synod Assembly

May 20-21, 2016

Prince of Peace, Burnsville

The Synod Assembly will reflect on both our identity and our unique vocation as Lutherans. Members interested in serving as a voting member need to be appointed by the Congregational Council. Please indicate your interest by March 13. Contact Bob Eiselt at beiselt@trinitylc.org.

Calling all artists!



Synod Assembly Art Competition: Bold & Hopeful

Perhaps one of the best-known symbols of Lutheranism is the Luther Rose, or Luther Seal. The Rose both symbolizes and summarizes Martin Luther's theology, and has been associated with him as far back as 1520. As part of the 2016 Synod Assembly, and as we near the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation with boldness and hope, the Saint Paul Area Synod is calling for creative minds to reinterpret the Luther Rose.

Calling all painters, sculptors, quilters, graphic designers, and crafters! Artists of all kinds and all ages! What does your artistic interpretation of the Luther Rose look like? Be bold, be hopeful, be daringly creative!

The winning design(s) will be used in Synod Assembly print materials and promotions. Entries will be collected through **March 31, 2016**. For more details on entering, please email Chloe Ahlf at chloe.ahlf@spas-elca.org or call the synod office at 651.224.4313.

Martin Luther's explanation of the Rose's imagery:

"The first should be a **black cross in a heart**, which retains its natural color, so that I myself would be reminded that faith in the Crucified saves us, 'For one who believes from the heart will be justified' (Romans 10:10). Although it is indeed a black cross, which mortifies and which should also cause pain, it leaves the heart in its natural color. It does not corrupt nature, that is, it does not kill but keeps alive. 'The just shall live by faith' (Romans 1:17) but by faith in the crucified. Such a heart should stand in the middle of a **white rose**, to show that faith gives joy, comfort, and peace. In other words, it places the believer into a white, joyous rose, for this faith does not give peace and joy like the world gives (John 14:27). That is why the rose should be white and not red, for white is the color of the spirits and the angels (cf. Matthew 28:3; John 20:12). Such a rose should stand in a **sky-blue field**, symbolizing that such joy in spirit and faith is a beginning of the heavenly future joy, which begins already, but is grasped in hope, not yet revealed. And around this field is a **golden ring**, symbolizing that such blessedness in Heaven lasts forever and has no end. Such blessedness is exquisite, beyond all joy and goods, just as gold is the most valuable, most precious and best metal."

From the Congregational Council

He has told you, O mortal, what is good; and what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?
—Micah 6:8

As the Transition Team continues its work, we look to a new day and the promise of finding a lead pastor equipped to help us fulfill God's future mission at and through Trinity Lutheran Church. Our conversations about the direction of our congregation will be continuing through the coming weeks. These conversations are critical to understanding who we believe we are and where we believe we should go. The conversations are significant: they will also say something about how we work together and our willingness to be open to new vision.

We have faced a number of difficult issues over the past year and even while we consider the future, we know that our work is never completed. Indeed, if we are doing our job as Christians, we will always be challenged to do new and more and better. We know that there are widely divergent views about what direction our congregation should take: those that seek to reclaim the comfort and familiarity of longstanding conventions and traditions, those that seek to find new language and new ways to relate to our faith, those that want to take a more blended approach. As we consider the truth about societal trends

away from organized religion (or any religion at all), we are called to newly consider what the role of the church should be and how we can best share the message of the Gospel. It may require that each of us make changes that we are not yet ready to embrace. The direction that Trinity chooses cannot be only to satisfy those of us already dedicated to its mission, already attuned to the rhythm of our worship, already steeped in Biblical knowledge: we must be able to reach into our community in new ways, to welcome those who yearn for deeper meaning in their lives but who may not have the language or the appetite for our familiar way of being "church." How will we translate the Gospel message so that others can really hear it and feel welcomed into their journey of faith at Trinity?

And while we consider these questions, how does our faith help shape the way in which these conversations take place? These discussions strike at our very core. We often have visceral reactions to change—or the lack of change, to opinions different from our own. Our faith, whatever shape it takes, is one of the most elemental facets of our being. Perhaps the depth of these beliefs and feelings blinds us at times to the valid beliefs and feelings of others and makes us impatient--or worse--in our interactions with them. It is critical that we do our loving best to have these conversations in a way that is respectful, patient, humble, and kind, without

rancor, backbiting or rumor mongering, with openness to learning from others who understand the matter differently, and with forgiveness for ourselves and others.

Most of us experience Trinity Lutheran Church as a loving congregation, ready to help and serve. It's up to all of us to make sure we continue and grow that experience for all. We strongly encourage you to participate in the upcoming conversations and share your best thinking about how we move forward in the future. Thanks for being part of this journey!

NOTE UPCOMING OPPORTUNITY: The annual assembly of the Saint Paul Area Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America will be held May 20-21 at Prince of Peace in Burnsville. The Synod Assembly is a great opportunity for meeting and comparing notes with folks from other congregations, learning, participating in great Bible studies with fantastic speakers and preachers, experiencing wonderful worship, and more. Trinity is able to send nine voting members to the assembly. If you are interested, please contact Bob Eiselt, Parish Administrator at beiselt@trinitylc.org by March 13. As in the past, the Council was authorized at the last Annual Meeting to appoint the voting members.

Council Forming Real Estate Assets Task Force

The Council is forming a Real Estate Assets Task Force to assist in evaluating how Trinity's real properties relate to our mission and vision, based on input received through the Transition Team process and from the congregation. The task force also will consider the current value, liquidity, advantages and any challenges associated with each of the real estate assets. Task Force members will be appointed by the Congregational Council. It is expected the group will meet on an "as needed basis," but most likely monthly culminating with a recommendation and report at the Annual Meeting in November. If you are interested in participating on the Task Force, please see our web site for more information. Applications are due March 13.

www.trinity.org > News > Congregational Council > Real Estate Task Force

Trinity Financial Update

January Year-to-Date - Fiscal Year 2016

	This Year	Last Year
Contribution Income	544,325	540,403
Other Income	394,385	322,898
Total Income	\$ 938,710	\$ 863,301
less: Expenses	1,012,167	1,190,080
Surplus (Deficit)	\$ (73,457)	\$ (326,779)

Long-Term Debt Summary:

Long-Term Debt - Beginning of Fiscal Yr.	3,174,742	3,349,370
Increase (Decrease)	(51,219)	(47,544)
Long-Term Debt - End of January	\$ 3,123,523	\$ 3,301,826

Transition Team

Transitioning to the Future

Now may the God who gives endurance and encouragement allow you to live in harmony with one another, according to the command of Christ Jesus, so that you may glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ with a united mind and voice.
— Romans 15:5-6

Greetings from the Transition Team,

Thank you to all who have shared their hopes, bright spots, concerns and dreams for Trinity and its future!

The Transition Team wants to provide you with an update and share with you some of the early outcomes from the Transition Team's Heart2Heart listening sessions that occurred during the month of January and February.

Transition Team members met with many individuals, families and small groups. We also received comments by phone, letters and email. We heard thoughts and viewpoints from approximately 200 individuals! It comes as no surprise that there are a wide variety of thoughts and feelings, along with great passion and high expectations for our church.

From all of the input we have received, we have discerned eight common themes that are priorities for our congregation to concentrate on as we review our mission, ministry, and structure into the future. These themes are; Worship, Children Youth and Family Ministry, Outreach and Mission, Engaging People, Trinity's 'All are Welcome' statement, Financials, Staffing, and Learning.

Although ideas, feelings and dreams may vary, we heard resounding statements from the majority conveying messages of

"our church" and **"we can together."** Such ownership and community-driven messages show hope that the congregation is ready and willing to build towards a Christ-centered ministry and work together united as the Body of Christ for God's work in the days ahead.

Peace and hope as we move forward together,

Jill Longnecker

Transition Team Facilitator

March 2016 • trinity.today

New Outdoor Benches at Trinity Fulfill Eagle Scout Project

A big thank you to Danny Ross and Boy Scout Troop 249 for the newly re-built benches outside Trinity's 3rd and 4th street entrances! To fulfill his Eagle Scout project requirements, Danny managed the bench project including: research, design, planning, fundraising, securing materials, and soliciting volunteers to help build and install the new benches. Danny and his parents, Greg & Cathy Ross, are members of Trinity. Thanks again Danny for the much-needed refurbished outdoor seating!



Trinity Needs You!

If you can open a door, shake a hand, give a high-five, or smile and say Good morning, Welcome, or Top of the Morning, Trinity needs you to be a GREETER!

If you can pass the butter or pass the peas, you can pass the offering plate, and Trinity needs you to be an USHER!

If you would like to SERVE COMMUNION, it is truly a moving experience and all are welcome to the communion table -- as servers as well as receivers.

If you are reading this message, TRINITY NEEDS YOU!

If you do not already have a Sunday commitment at Trinity, please consider stewarding your time in one or more of these tasks for one month of the year, one Sunday every month, on the birthday weekend of every family member, or whenever you are needed.

THANKS!

To hear a stewardship message from me, Ann Wolff, go to <http://www.trinitylc.org/page/show/646650-this-stewardship-life>. Listen to all these wonderful stewardship stories and be inspired to give and to serve.

For your generous commitment of time to these important Sunday morning tasks, please contact:

Ann Wolff 651-439-1972 (home) • 651-260-3855 (cell) • wolff701@msn.com



PASTOR
DEB OST

Perhaps, like me, you've heard the adage, "Preach the gospel always, if necessary use words."

This quote is often attributed to St. Francis of Assisi, born in the late 12th century and the founder of the Franciscan order of monks. While it appears St. Francis never actually said this, it does correspond with much of what we know of his theology. We also see many parallels in the message of the current, and much beloved, Pope Francis. In many ways, I resonate with this way of understanding evangelism, yet, I acknowledge it has some serious pitfalls.

We, as the Church and followers of Christ, are called and commissioned to bring the "good news" (from the Greek *euangelion*). For us at Trinity, a congregation of the *Evangelical Lutheran Church in America*, sharing the gospel good news is foundational. But what

does it mean for us to, "Go & Tell?" How do we live that out?

Scripture states, "What good is it, my brothers, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? Can that faith save him? If a brother or sister is poorly clothed and lacking in daily food, and one of you says to them, "Go in peace, be warmed and filled," without giving them the things needed for the body, what good is that? So also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead... Show me your faith apart from your works, and I will show you my faith by my works." (James 2:14-18) Yet, we are instructed to speak with others about our faith in Christ, a faith which underlies our actions and works, "Always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and reverence." (1Peter 3: 15-16)

If our actions and priorities model Jesus' teaching without expressing why we *live* in such a way, are we fully sharing the good news of Christ's saving acts? In typically Lutheran language, I believe it is Both/And. We are to live Christ through our deeds, and we are to *proclaim* Christ with our mouths. When God gives us an opportunity, we are to tell people about the significance of Jesus in our lives. (Yes, using words.)

As I ponder the charge to "Go & Tell," several additional questions arise: 1. How do we "Go & Tell," respectfully and lovingly, in a pluralistic society which includes non-Christian neighbors, workmates, friends and classmates? (We must not repeat the Crusades or Christian imperialism and forced conversion of "heathens" around the world.) 2. Are we prepared and willing to speak honestly of our faith, even to fellow Christians? (One's faith/theology is an area that is deeply personal, and to offer it up to others necessitates great vulnerability.) 3. How, as a faith community, do we understand and live out our mission to "Go & Tell?"

We are at an important crossroads in the life of Trinity in which we are challenged to ask deep, hard questions such as these, then encouraged to wrestle with answers. In the meantime, while we're working things out, may each and all of us faithfully and authentically, "Go & Tell" the good news that Christ has conquered death so that God's beloved people might receive the gift of new life.



Make a Meal Ministry

Trinity friends,

Heartfelt thanks to all who sent cards, flowers and visited. So grateful for the MMM Ministry!

From Sharon O'Neil

For more information on the Make a Meal Ministry (MMM!), please contact Zanny Johnson at zjohnson@trinitylc.org.



CARE MINISTRIES



Embroider dishtowels for a good cause
Winter is still here and if you spend time embroidering while it's cold outside, please pick up some dishtowels from the Church Office. We are grateful to those who make and buy our towels. The money goes to the Sunshine Fund so birthday cards and flowers can be sent to people 75 years and older.

This Lenten season as we journey to the cross, may we be the hands and feet and breath of Christ. The photo on the cover of this issue of *Trinity Today* is of our Knitting Ministry members blessing many of the prayer shawls they created to give during times when extra comfort and prayer is needed. Go & Tell.

Enjoy this prayer (at right) from Steve Garness-Holmes; may it be our call to action together.

Zanny Johnson
Care Coordinator



Go & Tell.

Then Jesus said to them, "Do not be afraid. Go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee; there they will see me."

– Matthew 28:10

As the women were leaving the empty tomb on Easter, Jesus met them and told them not to be afraid, and to go and tell. We are urged to follow similar instructions of "go and tell" as it pertains to our health.

March is Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month. Colorectal cancer is the fourth most common cancer in the USA and the second leading cause of death from cancer.

Many people with colon cancer experience no symptoms in the early stages of the disease. If you notice any of the following signs or symptoms, "go and tell" your physician:

- A change in your bowel habits, including diarrhea or constipation or a change in the consistency of your stool
- Rectal bleeding or blood in your stool
- Persistent abdominal discomfort, such as cramps, gas or pain
- A feeling that your bowel doesn't empty completely
- Weakness or fatigue
- Unexplained weight loss

Colorectal cancer is also preventable. The best way to prevent colorectal cancer is to get screened regularly starting at age 50 (or before age 50, if colorectal cancer runs in your family). For more information on screening procedures go to www.cancer.org or www.colorectal-cancer.net.

You may be at higher risk of this cancer if you are African American, smoke, or have family history of colorectal cancer. Other risk factors include:

- obesity
- polyps inside the colon
- physical inactivity
- alcohol abuse
- Chrohn's disease

Everyone can take these healthy steps to help prevent colorectal cancer:

- get screened
- quit smoking
- get active and eat healthy
- "go and tell" your physician if symptoms present

May all be well with you this Easter as you go and tell that Jesus Lives.

Sue Peterson
Parish Nurse



Your vessel

Great Spirit,
I am your vessel;
your Breath is flowing through me.
I am the hand;
you are the nerve,
you are the poem.
In my prayer I am your vessel.
As I rise and serve the world
I am your vessel,
as I talk on the phone,
eat my lunch, grateful for its taste,
bend over my shoes,
as I stand against evil,
embrace the outcast,
honor the cashier,
smile gently at a stranger,
pray for light and peace,
close the refrigerator door,
you see through my eyes,
you breathe compassion through me,
you create a world through me.

I become the flesh of your love,
the tissue of your desire,
the speaking of your Word.
Great Spirit,
your Breath flowing through me,
I am your vessel.

Steve Garness-Holmes

Communion Instruction & Celebration on Maundy Thursday

Thursday, March 24, Garden Room
 5 p.m. leading directly into 7 p.m. worship
 Cost: \$10 per attendee
 (to cover meal and materials)
 Register online by March 20 at www.trinitylc.org
 Questions? Contact Julie Jolivette at
jjolivette@trinitylc.org or 612-210-5327
 Did your child/children miss receiving instruction and celebration of communion through our Sunday School scope and sequence in 2nd grade? Then this opportunity—open to all ages—is for you. Students and their parents will receive condensed instruction over a light meal prior to the evening Maundy Thursday Worship Service, where communion will be celebrated.

Good Friday Men's Breakfast

Friday, March 25 at 6:30 a.m.
 Garden Room
 \$10 suggested donation
 Questions? Contact Bob O'Neil at 612-723-6589
 or Irviking@comcast.net
 Join the Retired Men's Group for a hearty breakfast, then Pastor Paul Svingen will speak about "What's good about Good Friday?" Bring a friend, all men are welcome! Please sign-up in the Commons.



Easter Garden Memorials & Honors

This form and payment must be turned in by Sunday, March 20!

In the spirit of memorializing or honoring loved ones this Easter, we welcome donations toward an Easter Garden. We also appreciate memorials and honors directed toward maintenance and improvements of our facilities. Easter Garden names will be printed in the April issue of *Trinity Today*. Please fill out the form below and either bring it to the Church Office, mail it to Trinity, or place it in the offering plate.

Facilities Maintenance & Improvements \$ _____

Easter Garden (suggested donation \$15) \$ _____

In memory of _____ In honor of _____

Given by _____

Phone Number (_____) _____ Total amount enclosed \$ _____

Holy Week & Easter March 20 – 27, 2016

**March 20 Palm Sunday
 Worship – 9 & 10:30 a.m.**
 "The Cry of the Whole Congregation" by Walt Wangerin
 An interactive service including drama, music, dance, palm branches, and the whole congregation.

**March 24 Maundy Thursday
 Worship with Communion – Noon & 7 p.m.**
 Our season of Lent, of turning toward and returning to God, ends as it began, with God's forgiveness and grace.
 Jesus washed the feet of his disciples.
 We set aside our shoes, our reluctance to serve, and our objections to being served, and take up the towel and basin.
 Washing and being washed
 we enact the love we pray takes hold of our lives.
 We eat the bread and we drink the cup around the table.
 This is Christ's life poured out in love for the world.
 Something of a love-fest.
 (See information on Communion Instruction & Celebration at left.)

**March 25 Good Friday
 Men's Breakfast – 6:30 a.m.**
 (See information at left.)
Worship – 7 p.m.
 A service of darkness remembering Christ's crucifixion.
 The Trinity Choir will lead worship with the Solemn Reproaches of the Cross, a work written in a jazz style.

**March 26 Easter Vigil – Telling the Story
 Worship – 5 p.m.**
 The fire is visible from the sidewalk as we gather around it.
 "This is the night" – a night of stories, candles, light scattering darkness.
 Worship for all ages told by all ages.

March 27 Easter Sunday – Go & Tell.
 7 a.m. Sunrise Worship with Communion
 8 a.m. Hot Cross Buns & Coffee
 (Between 7 & 9 a.m. Worship)
 Festive Worship with Communion
 9 & 10 a.m. – Trinity Choir, Brass & Organ
 11 a.m. – Worship Band, Brass & Organ

Nursery will not be available during Easter services.



Go & Tell.



Confirmation 2015-16

At the end of January, 9th grade Confirmation students and their small group leaders ventured over to Luther Park Bible Camp in Chetek, WI for an overnight retreat. The purpose of the retreat was to talk about the final requirements leading up to their Affirmation of Baptism service in April, to discover what may be at the heart of their relationship with God, and to play games, be outside, eat good food and spend time with one another. We had a great time!

By Kelsey Crusinberry



CHILDREN, YOUTH & FAMILIES

Impact Parenting Sessions Continue

Ages & Stages
with Tracy Lysne
Wednesday,
March 9
6:15 p.m.
Living Room



My 9 year-old always complains that their foot hurts, tummy hurts, or head hurts, what is going on? Is my 5 year-old "normal" if all they do is talk about bodily functions? My 13-year-old doesn't say much at all these days. What's up? Join Tracy Lysne and look at the work of behaviorists, psychologists, and educators to discover and discuss what we can expect from our children at each age of their development and what we can look forward to in the future. Grandparents welcome! For more information contact Monty Lysne at mlysne@trinitylc.org.

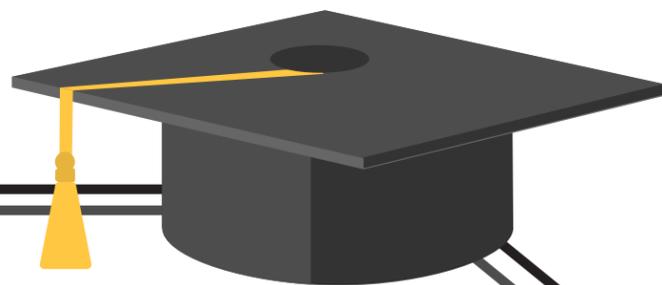


Twenty parents, grandparents and caregivers joined former Trinity Pastor Dr. Rich Melheim to explore the brain research and connective power of faith practices like the FAITH5 to strengthen family relationships. Share, Read, Talk, Pray and Bless are the parts of the FAITH5 and were all unpacked and discussed. Thank you to Rich for his energy and expertise, and thanks to all who took time to attend our first Impact Parenting Session!



VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

Diane Johnson is the friendly face that greets children and parents when they arrive at Sunday School. Thank you, Diane!



Trinity Scholarship Fund

The Trinity Scholarship Fund was established by the estate of Jeanette Johnson, a Trinity member who dreamed of being able to offer college tuition assistance to youth whose achievement and character indicated they possessed the qualities necessary to achieve excellence in higher education.

Trinity awards up to four scholarships each year on the basis of academic status, co-curricular achievement, good citizenship and active involvement at Trinity. The trust also stipulates that scholarship recipients must be baptized at and confirmed by Trinity, and active participants in Trinity youth programs.

Once selected, scholarship winners may renew their scholarships for up to three additional years, providing they maintain a cumulative grade point average of at least 2.75 or a "B-" or, in the absence of a similar grading system, remain in "fine academic standing" as indicated by official record. Scholarship recipients must reapply each year for renewal.

Scholarship applications are available in the Church Office or online at trinitylc.org (click on Connect, then on Senior High, then on Scholarship Fund).

All completed original scholarship and renewal applications must be postmarked **no later than Friday, April 1** and mailed to: Trinity Lutheran Church, Trinity Scholarship Fund, Attn Bob Eiselt, P.O. Box 339, Stillwater, MN 55082.

Applications due April 1

Thank You, Jody

It is with a full and overflowing heart that I write these words to thank, honor and give gratitude for my dear friend and colleague Jody Thone. As Jody resigns from her role here at Trinity as graciously as she filled it, I've been asked to reflect on who Jody is and how she has made an impact in her tenure as staff here in our midst. Not an easy task, for my love and respect for this lady reaches deep and wide. I actually turned to my fellow Trinitarians and asked them to describe Jody in one or two words, and this is what bubbled up:

Encourager, caring, perceptive, life-embracing, life-enhancing, warm, thoughtful, non-anxious, vivacious, eco-conscious, professional, dynamic, guru, soul guide,

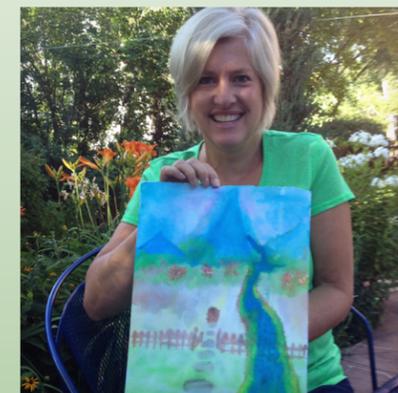
compassion, mentor, teacher, role model, generous, sweet, unruffled, Anam Cara, exceptional, serene, peaceful, centered, warm, embracing, energetic, diplomatic, spiritual, blessed, gracious, wise, purposeful, light, sister, welcoming host, compassionate listener, and creative designer.

That comes close to summing it up.

We love you, Jody.

Thank you for the beautiful mark you have made on Trinity and may your legacy live on in those practices you have taught us. See you and David in worship!

By Zanny Johnson



WORSHIP

ATTENDANCE

January 17 February 7
9 a.m. 163 9 a.m. 187
10:30 a.m. 93 10:30 a.m. 142

January 24 February 14
9 a.m. 269 9 a.m. 223
10:30 a.m. 178 10:30 a.m. 152

January 31
9 a.m. 217
10:30 a.m. 168

WORSHIP

OPPORTUNITIES

9 a.m.
Traditional Worship

10:30 a.m.
Contemporary Worship

Watch Worship on Valley Access
Channel 18

Wednesdays: 1 p.m., 7 p.m.
Thursdays: 1 a.m., 7 a.m.
Fridays: 4 p.m., 10 p.m.
Saturdays: 9 a.m.
Sundays: 11 a.m.

From the Kitchen

By Linda Flood, Food Services Manager

Salmon Cakes

Really tasty and enjoyed by even those family members who do not enjoy salmon. Now that is a compliment.

Ingredients:

- 10-12 oz cooked or leftover salmon, flaked
- 1 egg, beaten
- 1/4 C chopped fresh chives
- 19 saltines, crushed and divided
- 1/3 C frozen corn, thawed
- 1 1/2T Dijon mustard
- 2T mayo
- 2t capers, rinsed and drained
- 2t lemon juice
- 2t lemon zest

Directions:

Using only 1/2 of the crushed crackers, mix all together gently. Chill for 2 hours or more. Shape into patties 2 1/2 inch diameter and 3/4 inch thick, about 5 or 6. Coat patties in remaining crushed crackers and refrigerate for at least 1 hour.

In large skillet, heat 2T olive oil and 2T margarine over medium heat. Cook patties until golden on each side, about 7 minutes per side. Drain on paper towels.

Lemon and Caper Sauce

- 1/2 C plain Greek yogurt or lite mayo
- 1 1/2T capers, rinsed drained and chopped
- 1T lemon juice
- 1T lemon zest, if you have it
- S&P

BAPTIZED

• **Peyton Craig Thomas** — son of
Dylan & Lyndsey Thomas

• **Wyatt Michael Parks** — son of
Steven & Abby Parks

• **Rowan Amos Zehr** — son of
John & Halston Zehr

• **Annabeth Marie Pointer** —
daughter of *Chelsea Pointer*

• **Ethen David Pointer** — son of
Chelsea Pointer

• **Brooks George Kresen** — son of
Dustin & Ashley Kresen

• **Lucy Ann Majchrzak** — daughter
of *John & Lindsey Majchrzak*

• **Harrison Daniel Jablonski** — son
of *Daniel & Lynsey Jablonski*

SYMPATHY

• Family and friends of
Debby Schuna

• Family and friends of **Don Baker**

• Family and friends of
Dwayne Johnson

• Family and friends of
Douglas Berg

TRINITY TODAY

Publication Number: USPS 509650

Published once per month by
Trinity Lutheran Church, 115 N. 4th St.,
Box 339, Stillwater, MN 55082

Editor, Design & Layout: Marilee Tangen
Articles for the next *Trinity Today* (April
issue) are due Friday, March 11, to begin
arriving in mailboxes Friday, March 25.

Office: 651-439-7400; **Fax:** 651-430-2935

Email: info@trinitylc.org

Trinity Today is also available in full-color
on Trinity's web site at www.trinitylc.org
(click to download a PDF).

Postmaster: Send address changes to
Trinity Lutheran Church, PO Box 339,
Stillwater, MN 55082. © Copyright 2016
Trinity Lutheran Church, Stillwater, MN

CALENDAR MARCH 1-31, 2016

Tues., March 1

7:30 a.m. AA Meeting: Library, Room 108B
8:30 a.m. Women's Bible Study: Living Room
9 a.m. Women's Book Group: Library
1 p.m. Prayer Group: Church Office
4 p.m. Quilting Ministry Group: Living Room
6 p.m. AA Meeting: Library
6:30 p.m. YogaDevotion: Garden Room
7 p.m. Workshop Band Rehearsal: Worship Center

Wed., March 2

7 a.m. AA Meeting: Library
9:15 a.m. Hearts of the Home Moms: Lower Level
Noon Lenten Worship & Lunch: Worship Center,
Garden Room
5 p.m. Children's Choirs Rehearsal: Choir Room
5:30 p.m. Lenten Worship for All: Heritage Chapel
5:30 p.m. Family Pizza Hour: Garden Room
6:15 p.m. Wednesday Learning (Gr. 3-6): Lower Level
6:15 p.m. Confirmation (Gr. 7-9): Worship Center
7 p.m. Trinity Choir Rehearsal: Choir Room
7:30 p.m. The River (Gr. 9-12): Youth Area

Thurs., March 3

7 a.m. AA Meeting: Library
2 p.m. Healing Hearts Group: Room 108B
7:30 p.m. Men's "Over 40" Basketball: Gym

Fri., March 4

7 a.m. AA Meeting: Library
10 a.m. Al-Anon Meeting: Room 108B

Sat., March 5

8 a.m. AA Meeting: Library
8 a.m. Al-Anon Meeting: Luther Hall

Sun., March 6

9 a.m. Keeping the Promise Bible Distribution
(2 year-olds): Youth Center
9 a.m. Traditional Worship, Communion, Nursery:
Worship Center
9 a.m. Sunday School (4 yrs.-Gr. 2): Garden Room
9 a.m. Lutheranism Course: Living Room
9 a.m. Couples Small Group: Library
10:30 a.m. Contemporary Worship, Communion:
Worship Center
10:30 a.m. Lutheranism Course: Living Room
10:30 a.m. Weird Stories from the Bible: Room 108B
Noon Mexico Missionaries & Adult Leaders Meeting:
Garden Room

Mon., March 7

7:30 a.m. AA Meeting: Library
8:45 a.m. Bridge for Trinity: Garden Room
1:30 p.m. Commodity Food Distribution: Valley Outreach
6 p.m. Jubilate Bells: Heritage Chapel
6:30 p.m. Tai Chi: Gym
7 p.m. Finance Committee Meeting:
Office Conference Room
7 p.m. Al-Anon Meeting: Library

Tues., March 8

7:30 a.m. AA Meeting: Library, Room 108B
8:30 a.m. Women's Bible Study: Living Room
9 a.m. Women's Book Group: Library
9 a.m. Croixdale Sr. Communion
9 a.m. Leah Circle: Narthex
10 a.m. Good Samaritan Sr. Communion
9 a.m. Greeley Sr. Communion
1 p.m. Prayer Group: Church Office
4 p.m. Quilting Ministry Group: Living Room
6 p.m. AA Meeting: Library
6:30 p.m. YogaDevotion: Gym
7 p.m. Workshop Band Rehearsal: Worship Center
7 p.m. Anna Circle: Members' Homes

Wed., March 9

7 a.m. AA Meeting: Library
9:30 a.m. Boutwells Landing Sr. Communion
Noon Lenten Worship & Lunch: Worship Center,
Garden Room
1 p.m. Marion Circle: Members' Homes
1 p.m. Oak Ridge Apts. Sr. Communion
5 p.m. Children's Choirs Rehearsal: Choir Room
5:30 p.m. Lenten Worship for All: Heritage Chapel
5:30 p.m. Family Pizza Hour: Garden Room
6:15 p.m. Wednesday Learning (Gr. 3-6): Lower Level
6:15 p.m. Confirmation (Gr. 7-9): Worship Center
6:30 p.m. Impact Parenting Session: Living Room
7 p.m. Trinity Choir Rehearsal: Choir Room
7:30 p.m. The River (Gr. 9-12): Youth Area

Thurs., March 10

7 a.m. AA Meeting: Library
1 p.m. Martha Circle: Living Room
1:30 p.m. Dorcas Circle: Members' Homes
7:30 p.m. Men's "Over 40" Basketball: Gym

Fri., March 11

7 a.m. AA Meeting: Library
10 a.m. Al-Anon Meeting: Room 108B

Sat., March 12

8 a.m. AA Meeting: Library
8 a.m. Al-Anon Meeting: Luther Hall

Sun., March 13 - Commissioning of Mexico Missionaries

9 a.m. Traditional Worship, Communion, Nursery:
Worship Center
9 a.m. Sunday School (4 yrs.-Gr. 2): Garden Room
9 a.m. Lutheranism Course: Living Room
10:30 a.m. Contemporary Worship, Communion:
Worship Center
10:30 a.m. Lutheranism Course: Living Room
7 p.m. Women's Book Group: Kowalski's-Stillwater

Mon., March 14

7:30 a.m. AA Meeting: Library
1 p.m. Rebekah Circle: Library
4 p.m. Congregational Council Meeting:
Office Conference Room
6 p.m. Jubilate Bells: Heritage Chapel
6:30 p.m. Tai Chi: Gym
7 p.m. Al-Anon Meeting: Library

Tues., March 15

7:30 a.m. AA Meeting: Library, Room 108B
8:30 a.m. Women's Bible Study: Living Room
9 a.m. Women's Book Group: Library
1 p.m. Prayer Group: Church Office
4 p.m. Quilting Ministry Group: Living Room
6 p.m. AA Meeting: Library
6:30 p.m. YogaDevotion: Garden Room
7 p.m. Workshop Band Rehearsal: Worship Center

Wed., March 16

7 a.m. AA Meeting: Library
9:15 a.m. Hearts of the Home Moms: Lower Level
10:15 a.m. Linden Sr. Communion
Noon Lenten Worship & Lunch: Worship Center,
Garden Room
5 p.m. Children's Choirs: Choir Room
5:30 p.m. Lenten Worship for All: Heritage Chapel
5:30 p.m. Family Pizza Hour: Garden Room
6:15 p.m. Wednesday Learning (Gr. 3-6): Lower Level
6:15 p.m. Confirmation (Gr. 7-9): Worship Center
7 p.m. Trinity Choir Rehearsal: Choir Room
7:30 p.m. The River - (Gr. 9-12): Youth Area

Thurs., March 17 - Mexico Mission Departs

7 a.m. AA Meeting: Library
7:30 p.m. Men's "Over 40" Basketball: Gym

Fri., March 18

7 a.m. AA Meeting: Library
10 a.m. Al-Anon Meeting: Room 108B

Sat., March 19

8 a.m. AA Meeting: Library
8 a.m. Al-Anon Meeting: Luther Hall

Sun., March 20 - Palm Sunday, No Sunday School

9 a.m. Traditional Worship, Communion, Nursery:
Worship Center
9 a.m. Couples Small Group: Library
10:30 a.m. Contemporary Worship, Communion:
Worship Center

Mon., March 21

7:30 a.m. AA Meeting: Library
9 a.m. Ruth Circle: Members' Homes
6 p.m. Jubilate Bells: Heritage Chapel
6:30 p.m. Tai Chi: Gym
7 p.m. Al-Anon Meeting: Library

Tues., March 22

7:30 a.m. AA Meeting: Library, Room 108B
8:30 a.m. Women's Bible Study: Living Room
9 a.m. Women's Book Group: Library
1 p.m. Prayer Group: Church Office
4 p.m. Quilting Ministry Group: Living Room
6 p.m. AA Meeting: Library
6:30 p.m. YogaDevotion: Garden Room
7 p.m. Workshop Band Rehearsal: Worship Center

Wed., March 23 - No Children's Choir, Wednesday Learning, Confirmation or River (Spring Break)

7 a.m. AA Meeting: Library
10:30 a.m. Oak Park Senior Living Sr. Communion
11:30 a.m. Supporting Women as Professionals (SWAP)
7 p.m. Trinity Choir Rehearsal: Choir Room

Thurs., March 24 - Maundy Thursday, Mexico Mission Returns, No Men's Basketball

7 a.m. AA Meeting: Library
10 a.m. Knitting Ministry: Narthex
Noon Maundy Thursday Worship: Worship Center
5 p.m. Celebration of Communion Instruction:
Garden Room
7 p.m. Maundy Thursday Worship: Worship Center

Fri., March 25 - Good Friday

6:30 a.m. Men's Good Friday Breakfast:
Garden Room
7 a.m. AA Meeting: Library
10 a.m. Al-Anon Meeting: Room 108B
7 p.m. Good Friday Worship: Worship Center

Sat., March 26

8 a.m. AA Meeting: Library
8 a.m. Al-Anon Meeting: Luther Hall
5 p.m. Easter Vigil Worship: Worship Center

Sun., March 27 - Easter, No Women's Book Group

7 a.m. Sunrise Worship, Communion
8 a.m. Hot Cross Buns & Coffee: Narthex
9 a.m. Easter Worship, Communion: Worship Center
10 a.m. Easter Worship, Communion: Worship Center
11 a.m. Easter Worship, Communion: Worship Center

Mon., March 28 - Staff Holiday, Building & Office Closed

7:30 a.m. AA Meeting: Library

Tues., March 29

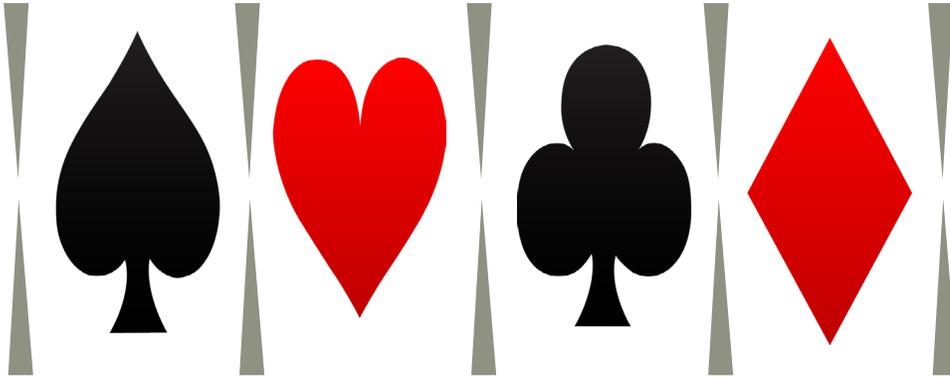
7:30 a.m. AA Meeting: Library, Room 108B
8:30 a.m. Women's Bible Study: Living Room
9 a.m. Women's Book Group: Library
1 p.m. Prayer Group: Church Office
4 p.m. Quilting Ministry Group: Living Room
6 p.m. AA Meeting: Library
6:30 p.m. YogaDevotion: Garden Room
7 p.m. Workshop Band Rehearsal: Worship Center

Wed., March 30

7 a.m. AA Meeting: Library
9:15 a.m. Hearts of the Home Moms: Lower Level
5 p.m. Children's Choirs Rehearsal: Choir Room
5:30 p.m. Family Pizza Hour: Garden Room
6:15 p.m. Wednesday Learning (Gr. 3-6): Lower Level
6:15 p.m. Confirmation (Gr. 7-9): Worship Center
7 p.m. Trinity Choir Rehearsal: Choir Room
7:30 p.m. The River (Gr. 9-12): Youth Area

Thurs., March 31

7 a.m. AA Meeting: Library
7:30 p.m. Men's "Over 40" Basketball: Gym



BRIDGE FOR TRINITY

FIRST Monday of every month
8:45-11:45 a.m.
Garden Room
\$5 donation

Questions? Contact Nancy
at 651-334-4738, or email
bridgefortrinity@gmail.com

Bridge-playing men and women of all
levels are invited to play bridge for fun
and to raise money for Trinity.
All are welcome!

No advance notice required,
come when you can.

Bridge for Trinity

By Nancy Hokonson

Everywhere I have lived, bridges have been a focal part of the community. I live in Hudson, between two bridges that connect the two states that are home to most Trinity members. A beautiful photo of the Golden Gate Bridge hung in my office during the ten years I worked at the Wilder Foundation. It reminded me of my job working with the Befriender program in churches and communities. Our purpose was to connect people who were going through difficult times or times of transition with supportive friends and support groups.

Bridge for Trinity connects bridge-playing men and women of all levels for a morning of casual, fun bridge. We laugh a lot, help each other with this game that we love, and appreciate our connections with each other. At times, it may be just the bridge we need.

Join us the first Monday of every month, in the Garden Room, 8:45-11:45 a.m. Advance notice is not necessary, just come when you can. All are welcome. \$5/time supports Trinity. For more information call Nancy at 651-334-4738 or email bridgefortrinity@gmail.com.