

# **Trinity Lutheran Church**

## **February 2024**

### Worship Services

8:45 AM, Sundays

5:30 PM, Wednesdays

Holy Communion at all services.

## **Newsletter**



**SUPER BOWL SUB SANDWICHES are  
COMING AGAIN  
Sunday, February 11, 2024**

There are order sign-up sheets by both entrances, and also from our confirmation students. Please place your offers by February 4th.

Ham or Turkey subs will be \$7.00.  
Combination (Ham, Turkey & Salami) \$7.50.

They will be made fresh on Sunday, February 11th and will be available for pickup after the church service in the Confirmation enter.

This is a Fundraiser for the **2024 ELCA Youth Gathering**



**FEBRUARY-JUNE-OCTOBER USHERS**

- **John Butler**
- **Brian Heavner**
- **Braden Heavner**
- **Gary Jacobsen**
- **Paul Johnson**

## Mentor Event of 2024

February Mentor Event will be on Sunday, February 25 at 12:00 in the Trinity Hall. We will be doing a service project. We will make communion bread for our congregations. We will also be making “Thinking of You” cards for our community.



**Ruby's**   
**PANTRY**

*Please follow the signs  
and stay in your  
vehicle*

Next drive - thru pantry is:  
**Saturday**  
**8:45 am - 10:00 am**

For a \$25 cash donation, people can receive an abundance of food. There are no income or residency requirements.

**UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF ALBERTLEA**  
702 HWY 69 S, ALBERT LEA, MN, 56007

Volunteers Needed: Call 507-373-8233



**February 3, 2024**

## FEBRUARY 2024 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

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Trinity Lutheran's 146<sup>th</sup> annual meeting was held on January 21<sup>st</sup>, 2024. We had 54 voting members in attendance. In addition to the usual business of accepting various reports and approving a 2024 budget, we elected three new people to the church council. I want to welcome Annette Hansen, Linda Olson and Leland Johnson to 3 year terms. I am very grateful for retiring members Jeff Nelson and Steve Olson for their six faithful years of service to Trinity. Thank you!

The following members were elected officers at our council reorganizational meeting.

Ron Petersen – President | Del Johnson – Vice-President |  
Cathy Petersen – Secretary

Chris Skogheim – Treasurer

The full council also includes Cheryl Enderson, Jason Taylor, Greg Andersen, Lori Holty, Tonya Telles, Annette Hansen, Linda Olson and Leland Johnson.

Pastor Eileen and Jean Pestorious gave an update on the Shared Ministry agreement with First Lutheran Church of Glenville. Steve Olson also gave a report regarding the 2024 South Tower repair project. At this point in time we are not sure what the total estimated cost will be. The 2023 Financial, 2024 Budget and the Annual reports are available from the office.

We were disappointed that MN Adult/Teen Challenge was not able to join us on January 14<sup>th</sup> because of the extremely cold weather. However, we will be looking for an alternative date if possible. All donations will be forwarded to them.

A new program that was initiated in 2023 at Trinity was the "Noisy Offering" collection on the third Sunday of each month. The three organizations that benefit are the Salvation Army Food Pantry, the Ecumenical Food Shelf and the United Way Welcome Pantry. In the 9 months of giving, over \$1500 has been collected. Save your change and bring it to Trinity.

One of the organizations we support with our benevolence dollars is Children's Vision International, Inc. in Bogota, Columbia. CVII was formed 30 years ago, and some members from Trinity travelled there to help establish it. A thank you letter with more information from CVII is posted on the bulletin board by the office.

It doesn't seem possible that the Lenten season is almost upon us. I am looking forward to seeing you in church.

Ron Petersen  
Council President

**Premises Committee  
February 2024**

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At the annual church meeting January 20th, premises committee members Steve and Jeff's terms were completed. 2 new members took over. The new members are Leland and Del. So now, if you have any questions or concerns, contact Del, Leland, or any council member.

We have an area on the North side of the sanctuary roof that several shingles have blown off. We could not get to that area because of the snow on the roof. Well, the snow has melted, and our roofing contractor is going to get down here next week. With forecast temps near 40 all week, he should be able to replace the missing shingles. (about 6-8 shingles)  
We continue to work on a plan to repair the South tower.

## Finance

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Writing this, we just completed the 146<sup>th</sup> Trinity annual meeting, 54 were in attendance. I presented the 2024 budget, and it was approved by the meeting attendees. Thank you to those who completed their council service and welcome to our new members. Del Johnson was nominated for Vice-President and accepted the position. Congratulations and thank you for accepting. Now for a recap of numbers from my yearly report.

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Trinity had a cushion of \$1,009 for meeting our fixed expenses and salaries in 2023. Our total disbursements were up \$9,753 from 2022. Our total offering increased by \$10,762 from 2022. We met or exceeded **all** our designated benevolences we budgeted for in 2023. For the first time while serving on the finance committee or as Treasurer, we fully met the budgeted amount of \$10,000 to the ELCA. Our committee was very happy to meet that benevolence and it was because of all our generous donors.

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The finance committee decided to move \$10,000 from our general fund to the following restricted funds, South Tower repair and Parking Lot as those projects will be upon us, the South Tower project being the most urgent of the two – each account received \$5,000.

Please consider setting up for online giving either on our website at [www.tlc-al.org](http://www.tlc-al.org) or at <http://myeoffering.com/>.

December financial overview:	Total Receipts	\$37,174.44
	Total Disbursements	\$38,421.74
	(Shortfall)	(\$1,247.30)

YTD financial overview:	Total Receipts	\$287,521.93
	Total Disbursements	\$286,512.41
	Cushion	\$1009.52

s / Chris Skogheim

Lent begins on February 14<sup>th</sup>

with Ash Wednesday (Also Valentine's Day).

On Ash Wednesday we begin our forty-day journey toward Easter with a day of fasting and repentance.

Marking our foreheads with dust, we acknowledge that we die and return to the earth. At the same time, the dust traces the life-giving cross indelibly marked on our foreheads at baptism. While we journey through Lent to return to God, we have already been reconciled to God through Christ. We humbly pray for God to make our hearts clean while we rejoice that "now is the day of salvation." Returning to our baptismal call, we more intentionally bear the fruits of mercy and justice in the world.

But what is Lent?

Lent is the 40 days before Easter (not including Sundays) that we remember Jesus'

sacrifice for our sin and journey with him to the cross.

The liturgical color of the season is purple to remind us of the majesty and royalty of Jesus the Savior of the world.

Lent is a penitential season. This means that we look inside to ways that we have harmed our relationships with God and others, ask forgiveness, and work to live our lives in a more holy way. Our worship is stark.

The music will be in minor tones. We will not use the word Alleluia again—a word of great praise—until we will celebrate the Resurrected Lord on Easter.

I don't know why, but Lent has always been one of my favorite seasons in the church year. I like the contrast in worship. I've been a church nerd from way back. I love attending worship more often with Wednesday Lenten services. Along with the Wednesday services, there is always a soup dinner. It's not that I terribly love soup; I love the fellowship, the family of God eating a meal together every week. As an only child, I cherished and still cherish these times.

Continue  
Pastor Eileen

When I was a kid, my pastor would always suggest that we fast for Lent. This meant that we would give something up for Lent as an example of all the things that Jesus gave up for us. It seemed that every year I would give up French fries. French fries were a staple to a junior high and high school students' lunch. So, it wasn't a totally easy thing to do; but I don't think giving up French fries is really equal to what Jesus did for me and for you.

As I grew older, I decided to start adding something to my devotional time during Lent—to be more intentional in my “time with God.” I think this was more useful than my lack of French fries. It helped build my relationship with God and therefore with each other.

I continue to do this. I wonder what else we could do. Perhaps we could change our relationships with God and others by Random Acts of Kindness in Jesus' Name: more smiles, more door opening, more please and thank you, more...

In fact, for this Lent, my family and I are going to fill a Lent bag. Each day we will put something in the Lent bag. It could be an article of clothing we don't wear any more. It could be a toy that has been long forgotten. It could be a book that's been read. It could be a can of vegetables. It could be many things. Or maybe it will be something that we don't need any more and no one else needs it either (like something broken) that is just taking up space and needs to go away and out of our lives. When Lent is over, hopefully our lives will be less filled with junk and more filled with God's love.

I invite you this Lenten season...fill up your Lenten bag.



## **Ash Wednesday: Cross Purposes Sunday Lenten Theme**

### Ash Wednesday: Cross Examine

In our worship this Lent we recognize and reflect upon God's purposes as we stand at the foot of the cross. On Ash Wednesday we examine ourselves in the light of the cross. Though our sins make us guilty, we are found not guilty, through the death of the innocent Son of god.

### Week 1: Cross Out

In this service for Week 1 in Lent we remember that all our sins have been crossed out through the forgiveness that comes only through the atoning sacrifice of the crucified Christ.

### Week 2: Cross Road

In this service for Week 2 in Lent we remember that heaven crossed the path of earth on Mount Calvary, becoming a cross road for us that changed the direction of our lives forever.

### Week 3: Cross Walk

In this service for Week 3 in Lent we remember that we are called to follow Christ on his cross walk, stepping out into a life of suffering and service in the name of the Lord.

### Week 4: Cross Word

In this service for Week 4 in Lent we remember that the promise, the message, the word of the cross, is an all-powerful, and that power is made perfect in weakness.

### Week 5: Cross Reference

In this service for Week 4 in Lent we remember that the cross of Christ was referenced long ago by the prophets and refers us now to the future glory we will experience in heaven with him.

In our sanctuaries, we will have a **roughhewn cross**. For the season of Lent, you are invited to tie a prayer cloth to the cross. What does this mean? By the cross there will be strips of cloth. During worship as we sing our hymns or when you come up for Holy Communion or sometime during the week, come to the cross. Say a prayer. And tie your prayer to the cross. Your prayer can be for you, for a loved one, for the world, or anything you want to share with God. All are invited to come to the prayer cross.

We are excited that First Lutheran from Glenville will be joining us and also participating in our Lenten service. We should wear name tags! Soup and dessert makers are also needed for our Lenten Suppers.

### **Ash Wednesday Schedule February 14th** **LENT MEALS**

Feb 14-Trinity Lutheran providing supper  
Feb 21-First Lutheran serving supper  
Feb 28-Trinity Lutheran serving supper  
Mar 6th- First Lutheran servings supper  
Mar 13th-Trinity Lutheran serving supper  
Mar 20th-Trinity Lutheran serving supper  
Mar 28th-Maundy Thursday at First Lutheran

***Our Youth will be serving and preparing sandwiches. We need folks to bring soups and bars. Please watch for the Sign-up Sheet.***

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH WOMEN  
NEWSLETTER

February 2024

By Linda Olson & LeAnn Juveland

Jesus loves us passionately, tenaciously, unconditionally. He doesn't depend on e-mail or the telephone to communicate with us. He is never out of the country when we call. He is closer than the air we breathe. If you are running from God because of your past or present lifestyle, he invites you to let him give you peace and rest. He will never leave you or forsake you, because his perfect love is fearless. There is nowhere he's afraid to go, no part of you he's afraid to face.

God loves us to the ends of the earth.

HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY!!!

It is hard to believe we are already into the second month of 2024. Ash Wednesday is also on Valentine's Day. What a perfect time to wish those we love a Happy Day and to share a meal after church.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS for FEBRUARY

February 6th TLCW Board Meeting 9:30am Confirmation Center

6th Bible Study Leaders 1:00pm Fireside Room  
13th Mary Circle 1:30pm Fireside Room  
14th Sewing Day 9:00am Trinity Hall  
21st Deborah Circle 9:30am Fireside Room  
21st Elizabeth Circle 9:30am Jacobsen Hall  
21st Eunice/Lois Circles 2:00pm Jacobsen Hall

COFFEE HOUR

February 4th Eunice Circle  
11th Mary Circle  
18th Lois Circle  
25th Deborah

Thank you to the Trinity Women who have responded to the letter you have received. Your willingness to help with events (donating your time and making cakes, bars, etc) and your cash donation is very much appreciated. We are Blessed to have women and men who are willing to help with various events.

## **Confirmation Updates**

Sunday, Feb 4th—Sub orders Due—Each participant should sell at least 10.

Sunday Feb 11th—Sub Making and delivering

Wednesday Feb 14th— Ash Wednesday, Worship @ 5:30, Meal @ 6:30

Wednesday During Lent—Confirmation and Pre-confirmation students will set-up, served, and clean-up the Wednesday meals. Assignments will be given. There is no class. Wednesday worship and participation in meals is Lenten requirement.

Friday, Feb 16th—Lock-in 8:00pm-8:00am Saturday Feb 17th. Chaperones needed.

Sunday Feb 25th—Mentor Event @ Trinity at 12:00. We will be baking communion Bread and doing a service project.





***HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO  
SELMA LENT***

Selma will celebrate her 100th Birthday  
on February 18th.

Selma was born February 15, 1924.

Enjoy your very special day Selma.

***Our annual  
Confirmation Lock-in  
will be Friday, Feb. 16,  
at 8:00pm to Saturday  
Feb 17 at 8:00am. This  
will be a time of fun and  
relationship building.  
Everyone should bring a  
2 liter of soda and some-  
thing to share.  
Chaperones are needed***

*Memorials Given in Loving Memory of...*

National youth gathering

Marlys Jensen

By Marlene Wright  
By Ron Petersen

Paul Romer

By Ron Petersen

Undesignated

Richard Tavis

By John and Cheri Butler

Marlys Jensen

By Marlin and Sharon Herfendal

By John and Cheri butler

Jacobsen Hall

Marlys Jensen

By Mike and Andrea Jensen

South Tower Repair

Clarence and Delona Petersen

By Ron Petersen

Cindy Schwemmler

By Jerry Schwemmler Family

Dick and Lorraine Anderson

By Jerry Schwemmler Family

Roof Repair

Dick Tavis

By Friends and Family

## **Memorials—continued**

Tower

Marlys Jensen

By Flo Gilster

Sewing Ladies

Diane Hinner (Fern Rockwell's daughter)

By Fern Rockwell

Undesignated

Lorraine Lenz

By Carol Johnson

ELCA Youth Gathering

Roy Olson

Gary Davis

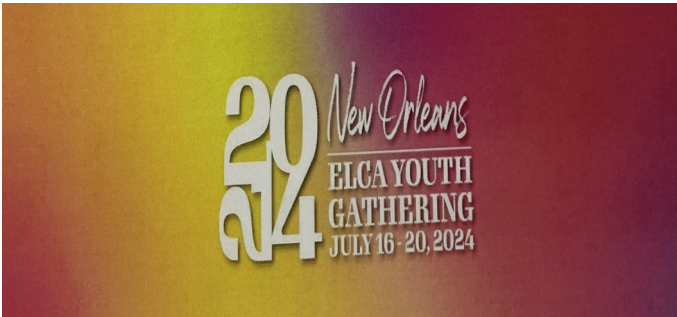
By Ron Petersen

Repairs

Kendall Johnson

By Doris Hansen

Memorials not listed or missed will be in next  
Monthly Newsletter.



Our youth are planning on going to the ELCA  
Youth Gathering in New Orleans this summer.  
Please pray for our youth as they prepare.



Bible Studies resume Monday, January 8<sup>th</sup> and Thursday, January 11<sup>th</sup>. We will be studying **Explaining All The Scary Stuff In Revelation**, By: Rev. Ken Klaus. From the study: "Nobody said demons, plagues, and an appointment with Armageddon would be fun, but it doesn't have to be feared-at least not for the Christian. Check out our Bible study. Explaining All The Scary Stuff In Revelation gives both insight-and encouragement to those who follow "the bright Morning Star." This study looks at the main themes of the book of Revelation.

**Darrel Amundson "Uncle Darrel" Cancer Benefit**  
**February 17, 2024/Noon to 4:00pm**  
**American Legion Post 56**  
**142 North Broadway, Albert Lea, MN 56007**

**We all know Uncle Darrel who for decades was the voice we listened to on KATE Radio. He was on the air for every storm, every event in the community.**

**Now Darrel needs our help as he battles Stage 3 Rectal Cancer and Alzheimer's that was diagnosed in September. Thank you to our community and beyond for coming out to support Darrel!**

**\$15 Burger Baskets**  
**Silent Auction**  
**Bidding closes at 3:00pm**  
**Homemade Bake Sale**  
**Cash only for Auction & bake Sale**



## **Lutheran World Relief 2023 Report**

Quilts for LWR	85
Quilts for Salvation Army	16
Baby Care Kits	22
Personal Care Kits	83
School Kits	60

Total Quilt and blankets from Trinity Sewing Ladies 1968-2023 Is 17,520.

Joan Mattick

2024 Trinity Lutheran  
Scholarship  
Application Forms are available on our opportunity table by the Church Office.

### ***Trinity's Mission Statement***

We are a fellowship of believers in Christ, sustained by God's Word, led by the Holy Spirit and committed to God's vision of caring!







**Trinity Lutheran Church**

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**Facebook:** [www.facebook.com/tlc](http://www.facebook.com/tlc)

***Pastor Eileen Woyen***

***Pastor Eileen's email:*** [ewoyen@gmail.com](mailto:ewoyen@gmail.com)

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Albert Lea, MN

**February 2024  
Newsletter**