

Trinity Lutheran Church

March 2024

Worship Services

8:45 AM, Sundays

5:30 PM, Wednesdays

Holy Communion at all services.

Newsletter



Mentor Event of 2024

March Mentor Event will be on
Sunday, March 24th
Noon in Jacobsen Hall

Everyone is invited to bring a sack lunch.
We will be “Following Jesus to the Cross” and preparing
for the Good Friday Worship. We will also have a Good
Friday Worship Practice on
Wednesday, March 27th at
6:30 p.m.



CHILI

COOK OFF

& BAKE SALE

OPEN TO THE
PUBLIC

\$10 ADMISSION
FEE
~~~  
\$5 TO ENTER  
COMPETITION

TRINITY LUTHERAN  
CHURCH  
501 S. WASHINGTON AVE.  
ALBERT LEA, MN  
APRIL 7, 2024  
NOON TO 2:00 PM  
OR TIL IT'S GONE

## YOUTH FUNDRAISER

FOR TRINITY YOUTH  
GOING TO ELCA  
YOUTH GATHERING IN  
NEW ORLEANS  
SUMMER OF 2024

## MARCH 2024 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

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I hope you have been able to attend our 5:30 Wednesday evening Lenten services. We had a fantastic Ash Wednesday service with our ministry partners from First Lutheran in Glenville. After the service we had soup and pulled pork sandwiches in Trinity Hall. It was a wonderful time to meet new people and get reacquainted with old friends. If you cannot make it in person, be sure to view the services on our Facebook page.

At our February council meeting we discussed encouraging more members to receive the church newsletter by email. Trinity sends out over 350 newsletters a month, eleven times a year. We will still continue to mail it to certain member groups and everyone who requests one. The council feels this a good time to update the mailing list and reduce the amount of resources needed to produce the newsletter. There will be information sheets around church to let us know if you would like to be on the email list and/or update your contact information. You can also contact the office by either phone or by email.

The Blue Earth River Conference (BERC) meeting was held February 18th at Grace Lutheran in Albert Lea. One of the concepts put forward was that churches should be doing more things together. Trinity and First of Glenville are an excellent example of this. The council and Pastor Eileen feel the Shared Ministry Agreement has been very positive for both congregations. We look forward to expanding future ministry opportunities. The original six month period expires March 31st, and will need to be renewed.

Our youth going to the National Youth Gathering are busy fundraising for their trip. Please support them however you can. Over 200 sub sandwiches were purchased to support the trip.

It is hard to believe, but Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday are both in March this year. The mild winter has made time seem to fly right by. I hope to see you in church.

Blessings,

Ron Petersen  
Council President

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## Premises Committee March 2024

The church council would like to thank Jeff Nelson and Steve Olson for the work they did on the Premises Committee for the last 6 years. We are lucky to have Steve as the custodian. He does a lot of extra projects that many of us don't even notice.

We also want to thank Glen and LeAnn Juveland for putting up a curtain rod and curtain under the balcony stairs to hide our Christmas decorations.

The roofing contractor was here on February the 13th to fix and replace the shingles on the North side of the sanctuary roof. We are still trying to find bids to repair the South tower.

Jason Taylor has joined Leland and I on Premises Committee so if you have any questions or concerns contact one of us or any council member.

Del Johnson

Premises Committee

## Finance

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We made it to March! Trinity youth and our sub sandwich volunteers had a successful football Sunday fundraiser for the New Orleans trip this summer. I brought my boys in to help at 7:15 AM to start making subs. I kept myself busy and out of the way as it was quite the assembly line they had going. Thank you to all who helped-I have to say I was impressed with how efficient the process was. Corky, Trish, Bob Y, MaChar and Linda O. (hope I didn't miss anyone) and our youth did great!!! The subs we bought didn't see noon and they were great—top notch ingredients for sure.

Good news on energy usage this past month, we used 5% less energy than a year ago. The warm temperatures are helping with that but 5% is a nice decrease.

I would like to remind all Thrivent Financial members to direct your THRIVENT CHOICE DOLLARS by the March 31st deadline. Thank you to all who have donated through Thrivent.

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/>.

|                             |                     |              |
|-----------------------------|---------------------|--------------|
| January financial overview: | Total Receipts      | \$20,073.54  |
|                             | Total Disbursements | \$25,926.03  |
|                             | (Shortfall)         | (\$5,852.49) |
| YTD financial overview:     | Total Receipts      | \$20,073.54  |
|                             | Total Disbursements | \$25,926.03  |
|                             | (Shortfall)         | (\$5,852.49) |

s/Chris Skogheim

## “Let Go, and Let God”

I’ve heard that statement many times. I’ve even told myself to “Let Go, and Let God.” To some, the statement might seem so simplistic and cliché. Others will tout that this statement isn’t very easy to do. For others, the statement is a motto for life that they cling to with all their faith. I guess I would find myself somewhere in the middle.

In my bedroom, I have a plaque that says, “Give it to God, and Go to Bed.” Once again, easier said than done. However, what happens when we do “Let Go, and Let God” or “Give it to God, and Go to Bed?”

First, it allows us to focus on who is ultimately in control. There are things I can control in my life. I can control when I go to bed. I can control what I eat and who I hang out with. There are also things I can’t control. I can’t control the weather. I can’t control the other drivers that might not be paying attention. I can’t control other people and what they may or may not do. With this, I can focus on who is in control.

As I’ve asked before, “Who is in control?” God is. Nothing is impossible with God. Believing in God won’t give us lives of riches and luxury. God doesn’t promise that. God does promise that he will never leave you when things get rough. God promises that he will always love you, forgive you, and give you his grace. God promises you, through Jesus’ death and resurrection, that you will be eternally with God.

Who is in control? We can confidently say—God is! God is ultimately in control of our lives and our futures. In our lives, we love God and love others.

When we say “Let Go, and Let God” or “Give it to God, and Go to Bed,” we are proclaiming the second truth. Many times the “stuff” of life keeps us from our relationship with God. When we remove those things that don’t really matter, we can get to the truth of our lives—that you and I are beloved children of God. We can live in an intimate relationship with God.

What sort of stuff have you put in your garbage bag this Lent? It could be many things. Those jeans that you thought you would wear again but know in your heart you never will. That lamp that won’t turn on but you keep trying. The broken toy. Maybe you symbolically threw away that disagreement you had with a loved one that you can’t even remember what it’s about? Maybe you’ve symbolically forgiven yourself for that thing that’s so hard to forgive.

Continued on next page

Pastor continued

When we open our hands to God, when we “let go” of the things that keep us from God, we can have a fuller and richer relationship with God. When our lives and our hearts are less cluttered by stuff and more filled with God’s promises, our lives are richer and fuller.

God sent his Son, Jesus, to die on the cross for you and me. Jesus didn’t die for all the stuff that clutters our lives. Jesus died for you and for me. Jesus died to free you from your sins. Jesus died to make you free. Jesus died to give you life eternal. In the coming weeks, as we watch Jesus’ journey to the cross, know that Jesus does that for you, for me, and for all. On the cross, we give thanks that Jesus “Let Go, and Let God.”

With what will you fill your bag? Pick up a large garbage bag at church. For Lent this year, let’s not only fast but let’s do something. Let’s fill our Lent bags with the things we don’t need any more. What could we put 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 or never 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. Or could it be an unhealthy emotion or habit? When Lent is over, hopefully our lives will be less filled with junk and more filled with God’s love.

TRINITY USHERS for MARCH

Chris & Annette Hansen

Mark Jensen

Bob & Patti Yaw

Corky Stanley

Larry Weigel



## **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.

## LENT MEALS

Mar 6th- First Lutheran serving 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

March 2024

By Linda Olson & LeAnn Juveland

Scripture theme for March is “Confession and Forgiveness”. This month typically aligns with the season of Lent, in which we are called to repent and spiritually prepare for the celebration of Easter and Christ’s resurrection. The Bible says that every human being is in debt to the Lord God. Since God created us as good and righteous people whose purpose it was to glorify Him, He has every right to demand our perfect devotion. But since the first humans decided to disobey their Creator, they became sinful and so did all their descendants. We are all affected by sin; we deny God the honor He is due and we continuously transgress against His commandment to love God above all and other people as ourselves. That leaves us guilty and damages our relationship with the Lord God. The only way to restore the relationship between man and God is to remove the debt completely. We can’t buy forgiveness with money or sacrifices, we can’t compensate for our sins by leading extra righteous lives. The Lord is aware of our inability to get right with Him, he offers a solution Himself. God the Son was ready to take the burden of sin and guilt upon Himself and to pay the ransom by dying in our place. Jesus’ sacrifice was the only possible and ultimate solution to the problem of human sin.

|                            |                                |
|----------------------------|--------------------------------|
| TLCW Board Meeting         | Tuesday, March 5 at 9:30 am    |
| Mary Circle                | Tuesday, March 12 at 1:30 pm   |
| Sewing Day                 | Wednesday, March 13            |
| Deborah & Elizabeth Circle | Wednesday, March 20 at 9:30 am |
| Eunice & Lois Circle       | Wednesday, March 20 at 2:00 pm |

## **Coffee Hour Circle Dates for March**

|          |             |
|----------|-------------|
| March 3  | Elizabeth   |
| March 10 | Eunice      |
| March 17 | Lois        |
| March 24 | Palm Sunday |
| March 31 | Easter      |

## Confirmation Updates

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



**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



**March 2, 2024**

## **Holy Week**

Palm Sunday is one of striking contrasts:

Jesus rides into Jerusalem surrounded by shouts of glory, only to be left alone to die on the cross, abandoned by even his closest friends. Mark's gospel presents Jesus in his complete human vulnerability; agitated, grieved, scared, forsaken. Though we lament Christ's suffering and all human suffering, we also expect God's salvation; in the wine and bread, Jesus promises that his death will mark a new covenant with all people. We enter this holy week thirsty for the completion of God's astonishing work.

### **Palm Sunday Breakfast at Trinity after worship.**

Maundy Thursday, March 28, at 5:30 at First Lutheran, Glenville. This evening our Lenten observance comes to an end, and we gather with Christians around the world to celebrate the Three Days of Jesus' death and resurrection. Tonight we remember Christ's last meal with his disciples, but the central focus is his commandment that we live out the promise embodied in this meal. As Jesus washed his disciples feet, so we are called to give and receive love in humble service to one another. Formed into a new body in Christ through this holy meal, we are transformed by the mercy we have received and carry it into the world. Departing worship in solemn silence, we anticipate the coming days.

### **Maundy Thursday Meal at First Lutheran, Glenville after worship**

Good Friday, March 29 at 5:30 at Trinity Lutherans, Albert Lea. Life and death stand side by side as we enter into Good Friday. In John's passion account, Jesus reveals the power and glory of God, even as he is put on trial and sentenced to death. Standing with the disciples at the foot of the cross, we pray for the whole world in the ancient bidding prayer, as Christ's death offers life to all. We gather in solemn devotion, but always with the promise that the tree around which we assemble is indeed a tree of life. We depart silently, and we anticipate Easter.

### **Our Confirmation Students and their Mentors will present the Passion Story.**

# Aebleskiver Breakfast

## April 21, 2024

### About Æbleskiver

Food :

Æbleskiver are spherical Danish snacks made from fried batter. The name literally means "apple slices" in Danish, although apples are not usually an ingredient in present-day versions. The crust is similar in texture to European pancakes, but with a light and fluffy interior similar to a Yorkshire pudding. [Wikipedia](#)

Everything you always wanted to know about ebelskivers!

Not quite a donut and not quite a popover, an ebelskiver (pronounced "able-skeever") is a light, puffy, filled pancake cooked in a special pan on the stovetop.

The aebleskiver is thought to have originated with the Vikings and used to restore strength after a battle. Whether this is actually true or not, no one knows, but it certainly is a nice tale to tell again. The earliest known aebleskivers have been found in 300 year old pans that were made of copper. The aebleskiver is one of the most popular Danish Christmas treats. The name literally means "apple slices" in Danish as they were originally filled with small pieces of apple or applesauce.



Hello Trinity family

WE NEED YOU.....

I would like to Mention a few opportunities you might be interested in -

Becoming a communion assistant

Being a reader of scriptures or prayers

Being an usher

Being a Sunday morning greeter at either one of the doors.

Learning how to record the services for Facebook on Sunday mornings.

We also need people to learn how to run the screen and sound system on Sunday mornings.

If you would be interested in helping out with any of these volunteer positions, please contact the church office, or anyone of the Council members or you can always call my phone number.

Phone: 507 -520-0875

Email: [clp@bevcomm.net](mailto:clp@bevcomm.net)

Cathy Petersen

Council Secretary

**On Sunday, March 17th, we will honor Marian Schroeder and Donna Sonnek for their baptismal banner ministry. They are retiring after many years of faithful service.**



Monday evening (6:15 pm) and Wednesday morning (9:30 am) Bible Study will continue our study of Revelation.

Working Women are Welcome to meet the 3rd Tuesday of the month for Bible Study at 6:45 pm. We use the 'The Gather' magazine Bible Study. Questions? See Pastor Eileen

**\*\*SAVE THE DATE\*\***

**Women of the ELCA  
SPRING EVENT  
Blue Earth River  
Conference**

**LOVE WITH JUSTICE**

**Saturday, April 20, 2024  
Registration/Coffee  
8:00 am –9:00 am  
Program 9:00 am-11:30 am  
Shiloh Lutheran Church  
108 East Jay Street  
Elmore, MN 56027**

The speakers will be  
Brandon and Jasmin Sahr  
on 'Our Walk with  
Christ Through our  
Adoption Process  
Journey from Liberia.'

We hope you can join us  
for this interesting and  
exciting telling of their

**JOURNEY**



Holy Communion instruction will be offered on Friday, March 22nd at 6:00 pm (at Trinity) for any Trinity or First child between 3rd and 7th grade who have not received instruction. During our time together, we will have a meal together. We will be discussing the reasons behind celebrating Holy Communion, the Biblical history of the practice, and the Lutheran understanding of the Sacrament of Holy Communion. They will prepare Holy Communion for the following Sunday and have fun. A parent or caring adult is asked to participate with their child. Our time together will be around 3 hours. Prayerfully considering having your child learn more about Communion at this time. Following the period of instruction, your child will receive a blessing by you on the next Sunday, March 24th.

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!

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

## WHAT IS THE ELCA YOUTH GATHERING?

Every three years, thousands of high school youth and their adult leaders from across the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America gather for a week of faith formation known as the ELCA Youth Gathering. Through days spent in interactive learning, worship, Bible study, service and fellowship, young people grow in faith and are challenged and inspired to live their faith in their daily lives.

An important part of the Gathering's ministry are the two pre-events, the Multicultural Youth Leadership Event (MYLE), a faith formation and leadership development event primarily for youth of color, and the tAble, a gathering that brings together, blesses and empowers youth with disabilities.

The ministry of the Gathering is excited to partner with Young Adult Ministries to host the first-ever ELCA Young Adult Gathering for individuals who will be 18-35 at the time of the Gathering.



## *Memorials Given in Loving Memory of...*

### **Undesignated**

#### *Pastor Marcia Hall*

By Rebecca Knutson      By Jean Pestorious  
By Eleanor Schou      By Lyle Hinz  
By Dorothy Larkin      By LeAnn Juveland  
By Sue Fink      By Daryl & Jo Meyer  
By Dean & Donna Sonnek  
By Bob & Pat Goldman

### **Jacobsen Hall**

#### *Pastor Marcia Hall*

By Mike and Andrea Jensen

### **South Tower Repair**

#### *Pastor Marcia Hall*

By Phyllis Tavis  
By Doris Hansen  
By Donna Oliva  
By Barb Larson

#### *Roy Olson*

By Chris Skogheim

### **Berthelsen Scholarship**

By Erna Berthelsen  
By Ron Petersen

### **Sewing Group**

By Fern Rockwell



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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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**PAID**

Permit No. 230  
Albert Lea, MN

**February 2024  
Newsletter**