

TIDINGS

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church

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April 2024

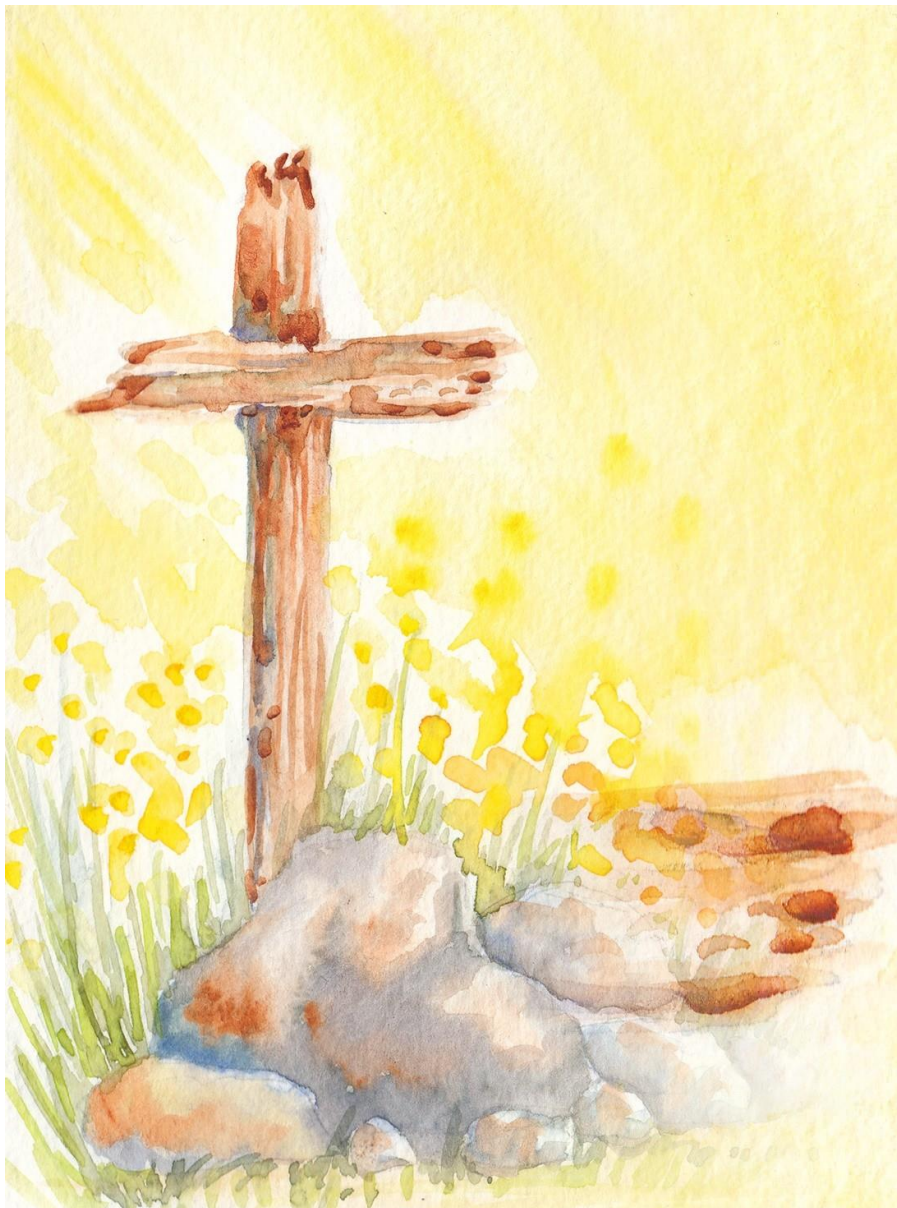
Volume 64, Number 4

Monthly Newsletter

Sunday School @ 9:30 am

Worship, with Communion @ 10:30 am

Fellowship (after Worship Service)



“I have been
crucified with
Christ and I no
longer live, but
Christ lives in me.

The life I now
live in the body,
I live by faith
in the Son of
God, who loved
me and gave
Himself for me.”

Galatians 2:20

Inside this issue:

- Page 2 Two Theologies *by Pastor Steve Hagler*
- Pages 3-5 Council Meeting Minutes *by Nancy Purcell*
- Pages 6-7 Annual Congregational Meeting Minutes *by Nancy Purcell*
- Page 8 Spring Yard Clean-up Day—*Saturday, April 13, 9:00 am*
- Page 8 UGM 2024 Annual Gathering—*Tuesday, April 23, 11:30 am*

Two Theologies

by Pastor Steve Hagler

We just celebrated Christ's resurrection on Easter Sunday. Hallelujah! Christ is risen! He is risen indeed!" We, too, will be resurrected. "Or don't you know that all of us who were baptized in Christ Jesus were baptized into His death? We were therefore buried with Him through baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life. If we have been united with Him like this in His death, we will certainly also be united with Him in His resurrection" (Romans 6:3-5). You may recognize these words which are sometimes included in funeral and memorial services. Christ's resurrection must be celebrated. We should never; however, skip over Christ's suffering and death that we observe on Maundy Thursday and Good Friday of Holy Week.

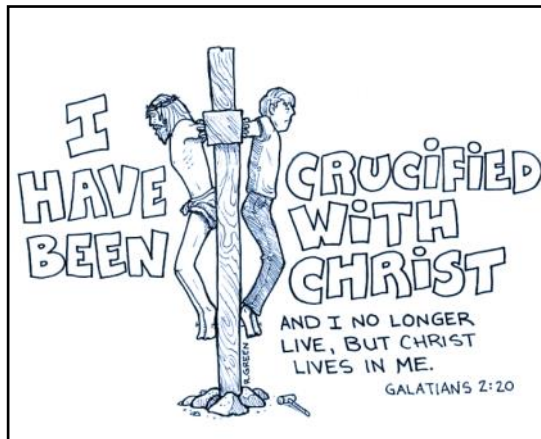
Because of the events from Palm Sunday through Easter Sunday, Martin Luther, and Lutherans since then, embraced a "Theology of the Cross" as opposed to a "Theology of Glory". Scripture informs us, as Luther pointed out, that there is suffering in this world and that God's activity and God's glory are often hidden from us, because of the reality of sin, suffering, and death. If these things did not exist, Jesus would never have had to go to the cross, but those things do exist. This is the world in which we live, and the world into which Jesus was sent to save. Jesus loved us so much that He did suffer and die on the cross for us.

"Baptized into His death" as St. Paul states in Romans, means we have been crucified with Christ. "For we know that our old self was crucified with Him" (Romans 6:6), and again, "I have been crucified with Christ; and it is no longer I who live, but it is Christ who lives in me. And the life I now

live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me" (Galatians 2:19-20). So if we want the glory of the resurrection life, we must first acknowledge and accept crucifixion and death. This is a Theology of the Cross.

A Theology of Glory, on the other hand, jumps right over Christ's passion and death, and celebrates His glorious resurrection without any attention to how Jesus got there. It overlooks the sin and suffering in the world, and focuses instead on what's good and makes people happy. God never promised that our life in this world would be carefree, without trials and troubles. He promised

He would be with us, and if we trust Him, He would carry us through all life's circumstances, and in the end have life with Him forever. Jesus was lifted up on the cross. His cross was His glory. It is on the cross where we see love. Glory is seen in a death that brings life. Jesus' glory on the cross brings us eternal life.



While we don't dwell on what's wrong in this world, neither do we ignore it. If not for the wrong, there would be no need for Jesus to set it right. In order to appreciate the resurrection, we must embrace the cross. It's not just a symbol of our faith; the cross gives meaning to our faith. Without the cross of Christ, there would be no resurrection of Christ. Thanks be to God who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ!

(Much of what is stated above is from notes I have on what Pastor Kurt Wandrey taught me in the 22 years that he was my pastor.)

**By God's Grace,
Pastor Steve**

COUNCIL MINUTES

Council Meeting Minutes: March 12, 2024 — “Subject to Approval”

Respectfully Submitted by Sandy Hoveskeland, Secretary

Present: George Simon, Diane Fried, Charlie May, LaLita Tadena, Denel Ingraham, Pat Woods, and Nancy Purcell. Also present were Pastor Steve and Larry Tyler. Dan Olson and Sandy Hoveskeland were absent.

Call to Order: President, George Simon, called the meeting to order at 6:31 p.m. and welcomed our newest Council member, Pat Woods.

Devotional: Diane led the devotionals based on Revelation 1:5, “How We Are Washed by Jesus” and closed with prayer.

Approval of Minutes: A motion was made by Charlie and seconded by LaLita to approve the February 20, 2024 minutes as presented. Motion was unanimously approved.

Treasurer’s Report: In Dan’s absence, George handed out the Treasurer’s report, which was reviewed and discussed by Council. It was noted that our current cash assets were higher this year than last year at this time, in part because our Vanguard Investment Fund has a higher value.

STCU Checking:	\$41,548.80
C. Schwab Building Fund:	\$21,279.23
C. Schwab Savings:	\$69,018.92
Vanguard:	\$38,557.62



Pastor’s Report: Pastor Steve reported that, as usual, time was spent preparing for the Sunday morning worship service and in preparation of the sermons. Additional time was spent preparing for the midweek Lenten services. Sunday School has completed the study of James and is beginning Philemon, which he prepares for each week. He also prepared an article for our monthly newsletter. He meets weekly with Tracy on Thursdays and attends the monthly Council meetings and Worship and Music Committee meeting. He also regularly attends the Friday morning breakfast and Bible study. This month Pastor Steve met and visited with four members of Holy Trinity and two members from the AA groups.

Denel stated he was discouraged that more people from AA do not come to church and wondered if there was anything we, as a church, could do to encourage fellowship. It was suggested that we post something about Easter breakfast in the back AA room. Charlie and Larry reminded the group that there is a fine line as to church involvement with AA.

Because Pastor Steve spends much of his time each month on the same things (service prep, sermon prep, etc.), Charlie wondered if he needed to report on that each month. Nancy pointed out that the committee reports were similar each month, but were still prepared so the congregation would know what was happening. She suggested that maybe Pastor Steve could also do a written report. After discussion, it was

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COUNCIL MINUTES

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decided to continue with the oral reports from Steve as we are currently doing. It saves Steve time for other things and Council can then ask questions.

Properties and Maintenance: See report submitted by Charlie May. Charlie handed out for review an estimate from Ponderosa Lawn and Plow for lawn maintenance, fertilization, and herbicide applications for summer 2024. He pointed out that prices had not been raised from last year. He also said that he had checked at Costco and fertilizer was \$60.00 a bag. Four bags would cost \$240.00 and then it would need to be spread. It was agreed it was much better to again contract with Ponderosa.

Charlie also reported that he was going to schedule a spring clean-up for April 13. Larry reported that the tiles in the men's bathroom off the narthex need to have a deep clean and that some may need to be replaced. He also reported that he has a helper from AA helping with the janitorial work.

Worship and Music: See report submitted by Nancy Purcell. We will decorate the church for Easter on Saturday, March 30, at 10:00 a.m. There is a sign-up sheet in the narthex. Squeaky will get donuts.

Congregational Ministries: See report submitted by LaLita Tadena. LaLita additionally stated she thought we need to announce the cost of the breakfast. George agreed as he had heard discussions that there was no cost.

Christian Education: See report submitted by George Simon. Pat Woods has agreed to become liaison for the Christian Education Committee beginning at once.

Social Care and Concerns: See report submitted by Diane Fried. Diane reported she will take the items collected for our Lenten service project, "Easter Blessings for UGM," on Thursday when we go to the Mission to serve lunch.

Care Crew: Diane reported that she had tried to call Cher Brown twice and had not heard back from her. She will continue to try and make contact. Pastor Steve reported that Squeaky May is picking Dan Winchester up for church and will take communion to Rita Smith.

Old Business:

Pastoral Call Committee: Unfortunately, the call to the pastor from Texas is not going to work out due to personal problems. The money for the plane fare is nonrefundable. We had travel insurance but it will only pay if you are unable to fly for some reason, not for a cancellation. There was discussion on how best to avoid problems in the future with travel for a pastoral candidate. Number one thing is to be sure the candidate has been fully vetted.

The Committee is reviewing the paperwork on two other candidates—one from Salem, Oregon, and one from Ontario, Canada. The candidate from Salem is a youth pastor and has never had a congregation of his own.

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COUNCIL MINUTES

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Tracy has again been asked to send materials to the seminaries regarding our need for a pastor. Charlie said it was important that: 1) if we find a potential candidate we must move quickly as there is a great need for pastors; and 2) that one person on the committee communicate with the candidate. It was suggested that be the chairperson but a co-chairperson should be appointed to act in the chairperson's absence with summer and vacations on the horizon. The monetary side of the equation has been posted on the website but we don't want it to be the deciding factor. We hope to be able to work with whomever we call.

Pat is attending the LCMC Northwest Annual Gathering in April and has made a commitment to speak with the pastor in Richland, Washington. Their church has been successful for many years in launching new pastors. Denel has also offered to meet with them and they will take call packets with them to the gathering.

New Business:

Facility Use Request by NA for Bingo and Taco Night. Council approved the use of the kitchen and fellowship hall by NA for a Bingo and Taco Night on April 19. They will be reminded that the church suggests a \$50.00 donation to cover utilities, extra garbage generated from the event, etc. Also, a reminder that pizza boxes, food wrappers, or other containers for food that cannot be washed are not recyclable. Charlie made a motion to approve the request, which was seconded by Pat, and passed unanimously.

Audit Committee: George reported that no one had volunteered to serve on the audit committee. Pat said depending when it meets, he would be willing to help. Nancy suggested that the need be announced again on Sunday emphasizing you don't need a financial background and that it takes two to three hours for one day.

Easter Breakfast: It was agreed the charge for breakfast should be \$5.00 per person or \$20.00 per family. Hours will be from 8 – 9:30 a.m. so helpers have time to clean up before service. George suggested for another year we consider serving until 10 and maybe clean up after service. He also suggested that perhaps instead of a "Gratitude Dinner" we consider not charging for Easter Breakfast. Something to think about.

Handicapped Parking: It has been suggested that we consider dedicating some of the parking on the west side of the church (Pines side) as handicapped since both our congregation and AA have the need for handicapped parking. Charlie will check on the cost to have the painting done for additional handicapped parking on the Pines Road side of the church. Also, AA will be reminded that on Easter Sunday they must park in the overflow lot, leaving room for worshipers to park.

Next Month Devotional: LaLita Tadena

Counters: Diane Fried and Nancy Purcell

Adjournment: Meeting was closed with prayer at 8:17 p.m.



Annual Congregational Meeting Minutes

Annual Congregational Meeting Minutes: February 25, 2024 — “Subject to Approval”

Respectfully Submitted by Nancy Purcell, Secretary

Call to Order: Church President Dan Olson called the meeting to order at 11:25 a.m., following the worship service. The meeting opened with prayer led by Dan Olson.

Announcement of Official Meeting Quorum: There were 30 voting members present, which constituted a quorum based on membership determined by the church council at their meeting on February 20, 2024.

Approval of 2023 Congregational Meeting Minutes: A motion was made by Marcia Taes and seconded by Cindy Slaton that the Minutes for the June 4, 2023, Congregational meeting be approved as presented. The motion was unanimously adopted.

UGM Presentation: Diane Fried presented a cross to the congregation which was received from Union Gospel Mission as a thank you for all the contributions they have received from Holy Trinity. It is sitting on the table in the narthex beside the doors to the sanctuary.

Call Committee Report: Marcia Taes, Chairman of the Call Committee, asked that we keep the Committee in our prayers. She reported they had two informal interviews with a pastor currently serving in Oregon, but he felt we could not support he and his wife. They also interviewed another pastor, but he wanted to work part-time with Holy Trinity and then work on planting a Missouri Synod church in the area. The Committee also had Zoom meetings with Pastors from Texas, Canada, and Pennsylvania. There was a second Zoom meeting with the Pastor from Texas. The Committee is trying to arrange a personal meeting with him in Spokane April 12-14. They would ask that he give the sermon on that Sunday so the congregation could meet him. The Committee will keep us updated as plans are finalized. Unfortunately, as most of us are aware, there is a shortage of pastors, and we are grateful for Pastor Steve’s willingness to serve.

Treasurer’s Report: Treasurer, Dan Olson, presented a proposed Budget for the 2024 fiscal year, which also showed the budget and actual expenditures for the 2023 fiscal year. The 2024 budget is based on a total income of \$139,300. Dan reported our income is composed of 28 regular giving units, 19 irregular givers, Thrivent Choice Dollars, and those groups who use our facilities. Dan reported the Council would like to start a Good Samaritan Fund in the amount of \$1,000 for the needs of people in our congregation. We currently have three part-time employees: Pastor Steve Hagler; Tracy Tenney, office manager; and Larry Tyler, custodian. Pastor Steve is a contract employee and Tracy and Larry are both part-time and so Holy Trinity is providing no medical insurance for them. In addition, the budget includes benevolence of \$200 each for LCMC District and National and the North American Lutheran Church. Dan further reported our insurance went up about 13%. Lester Boudewyns asked whether we had shopped for insurance from a different company. Denel explained that Ministry Pacific only insures churches and so has different rates than a regular insurance company. Pat Woods indicated that they are giving to a Women’s and Children’s center in Coeur d’Alene and wondered if it would be better to give as designated giving through the church. It really is a personal choice. Squeaky May asked if Council had any conversations about what a full-time pastor might cost. George Simon and Dan indicated they thought it would be about \$100,000, yearly. Caren Woods asked if the pastor from Oregon, who had withdrawn his name, indicated what he was expecting for a salary. Marcia Taes indicated that he hadn’t given a specific figure but was currently in an affluent suburb of

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Annual Congregational Meeting Minutes

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Portland. There are a lot of different things to consider in calling a pastor. Salary has not been discussed with the Texas pastor. After the Call Committee submits his name for consideration, then compensation will be discussed. The Congregation has the final decision in all pastoral calls. The two top considerations for calling a pastor are 1) preaching the word of God, and 2) do outreach. Caren Woods made a motion that the budget be adopted as presented which was seconded by Ilene Benham. There being no further discussion, the motion unanimously passed.

Election of Council Members: Dan presented the following slate of nominations:

George Simon - President - (2-year term ending February 2026)

LaLita Tadena – Vice President (2-year term ending February 2026)

Sandy Hoveskeland – Secretary (2-year term ending February 2026)

Nancy Purcell – Member at Large (3-year term ending February 2027)

Pat Woods – Member at Large (appointed by the Council to fill the one-year unexpired term of LaLita Tadena. Term will end February 2025)

A motion was made by Squeaky May and seconded by Judy Ingraham to accept the slate of officers as presented. The motion passed unanimously. Ilene Benham was recognized and thanked for her many years of service on the Council. Thank you to Dan Olson for accepting the dual role of President and Treasurer for one year until the position of President could be filled. He will remain as Treasurer.

Old Business: None

New Business: Based on the Council's recommendation, George Simon made a presentation to the congregation regarding joining the North American Lutheran Church, in addition to Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ. We would become a dual rostered church. Some of the reasons to join the NALC are: 1) Ability to utilize the NALC Pastor call list, which is more organized than the LCMC; 2) the NALC has a seminary; and 3) the NALC does have a Bishop, but his responsibility is to offer theological assistance, not administrative. This aligns with our membership as part of the LCMC. Pastor Don Brandt has already been assisting us in the call of a pastor. Being a dual rostered church doesn't change who we are as the LCMC and NALC have a common confession of faith. There are many dual rostered churches. Tom Purcell moved that we vote to join the North American Lutheran Church, in addition to our membership in the Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ. LaLita Tadena seconded the motion. There being no further discussion, the question was called, and the motion passed unanimously.

Dan then presented the proposed members of the Nominating Committee to the congregation as recommended by the Council, i.e., Judy Ingraham, Squeaky May, and Nancy Purcell. Each would serve a three-year term ending February 2027. Ilene Benham made a motion to accept the nominations as presented and it was seconded by George Simon. The motion passed unanimously.

Dan reported to the meeting that the reason for changing the annual meeting to February from May was so that we had a budget in place at the beginning of the year instead of halfway through the year.

Adjournment: There being no further business to come before the meeting, the meeting was closed with prayer by Pastor Steve at 12:10 p.m.



April Birthdays

Marla Simon	April 3
Denel Ingraham	April 9
Tom Purcell	April 11
Dan Olson	April 19
Dennis Bennett	April 20
Owen Andreasen	April 22

UGM 2024 ANNUAL GATHERING

All are invited to join us at UGM’s 2024 Annual Gathering to learn the scope of ministry and how your giving and donations are making a lasting impact.

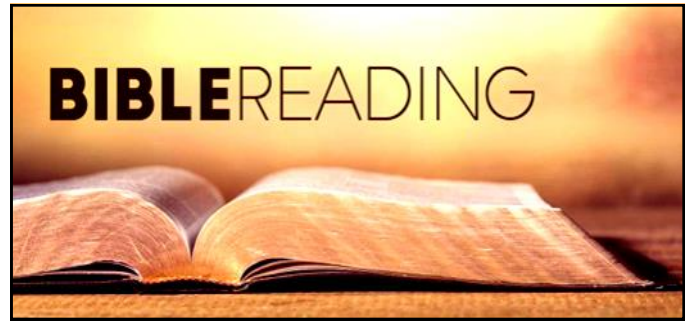
Tuesday, April 23, at 11:30 am



Valley Assembly Church
15618 E. Broadway, Ave.
Spokane Valley



Pat & Caren Woods
Married April 6, 2007
Celebrating 17 years!



April 7 (2nd Sunday of Easter):

- † Acts 4:32-35
- † 1 John 1:1—2:2
- † John 20:19-31

April 14 (3rd Sunday of Easter):

- † Acts 3:12-19
- † 1 John 3:1-7
- † Luke 24:36b-48

April 21 (4th Sunday of Easter):

- † Acts 4:5-12
- † 1 John 3:16-24
- † John 10:11-18

April 28 (5th Sunday of Easter):

- † Acts 8:26-40
- † 1 John 4:7-21
- † John 15:1-8



Saturday, April 13, at 9:00 am

Please join us as we clean up the church grounds and shrub beds.

We have some rakes and tools but if you have your own, please bring them with you.



April 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
31	1	2	3	4	5	6
	12:00 pm AA—VNG 5:30 pm TOPS 5:30 pm AA—HHG 7:00 pm NA—MNM	12:00 pm AA—VNG 5:30 pm AA—HHG	10:00 am Bible Study 12:00 pm AA—VNG 5:30 pm AA—HHG 7:00 pm NA—WNW	Pastor Steve's Office Hours: 9:30 am – 12:00 pm Tracy's Office Hours: 11:00 am—1:00 pm 12:00 pm AA—VNG 3:00 pm INW Jr Fiddlers 5:30 pm AA—HHG	7:30 am Breakfast and Bible Study Pastor Steve's Office Hours: 9:00 am – 1:00 pm 12:00 pm AA—VNG 5:30 pm AA—HHG 6:00-9:00 AA-HHG Game Night	8:00 am AA—MWU 10:00 am AA—SMM 8:00 pm AA—SNM
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
2nd Sunday of Easter 9:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship Service & Fellowship 10:00 am AA—SMG 2:00 pm AA—CAYA 7:00 pm AA—SRG	12:00 pm AA—VNG 5:30 pm TOPS 5:30 pm AA—HHG 7:00 pm NA—MNM	12:00 pm AA—VNG 5:30 pm AA—HHG 6:30 pm Council Meeting	10:00 am Bible Study 12:00 pm AA—VNG 5:30 pm AA—HHG 7:00 pm NA—WNW	Pastor Steve's Office Hours: 9:30 am – 12:00 pm Tracy's Office Hours: 11:00 am—1:00 pm 11:15 am—1:00 pm Serving Lunch @ Men's Shelter 12:00 pm AA—VNG 3:00 pm INW Jr Fiddlers 5:30 pm AA—HHG	7:30 am Breakfast and Bible Study Pastor Steve's Office Hours: 9:00 am – 1:00 pm 12:00 pm AA—VNG 5:30 pm AA—HHG	8:00 am AA—MWU 9:00 am Spring Yard Clean-up Day 10:00 am AA—SMM 8:00 pm AA—SNM
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
3rd Sunday of Easter 9:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship Service & Fellowship 10:00 am AA—SMG 2:00 pm AA—CAYA 7:00 pm AA—SRG	12:00 pm AA—VNG 5:30 pm TOPS 5:30 pm AA—HHG 7:00 pm NA—MNM	12:00 pm AA—VNG 5:30 pm AA—HHG	10:00 am Bible Study 12:00 pm AA—VNG 5:30 pm AA—HHG 7:00 pm NA—WNW Newsletter Articles Due	Pastor Steve's Office Hours: 9:30 am – 12:00 pm Tracy's Office Hours: 11:00 am—1:00 pm 12:00 pm AA—VNG 3:00 pm INW Jr Fiddlers 5:30 pm AA—HHG	7:30 am Breakfast and Bible Study Pastor Steve's Office Hours: 9:00 am – 1:00 pm 12:00 pm AA—VNG 5:30 pm AA—HHG	8:00 am AA—MWU 10:00 am AA—SMM 8:00 pm AA—SNM
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
4th Sunday of Easter 9:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship Service & Fellowship 10:00 am AA—SMG 2:00 pm AA—CAYA 7:00 pm AA—SRG	12:00 pm AA—VNG 5:30 pm TOPS 5:30 pm AA—HHG 7:00 pm NA—MNM	11:30 am UGM 2024 Annual Gathering 12:00 pm AA—VNG 5:30 pm AA—HHG	10:00 am Bible Study 12:00 pm AA—VNG 5:30 pm AA—HHG 7:00 pm NA—WNW	Pastor Steve's Office Hours: 9:30 am – 12:00 pm Tracy's Office Hours: 11:00 am—1:00 pm 12:00 pm AA—VNG 1:30 pm W&M Mtg 3:00 pm INW Jr Fiddlers 5:30 pm AA—HHG	7:30 am Breakfast and Bible Study Pastor Steve's Office Hours: 9:00 am – 1:00 pm 12:00 pm AA—VNG 5:30 pm AA—HHG	8:00 am AA—MWU 10:00 am AA—SMM 8:00 pm AA—SNM
28	29	30	1	2	3	4
5th Sunday of Easter 9:30 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship Service & Fellowship 10:00 am AA—SMG 2:00 pm AA—CAYA 7:00 pm AA—SRG	12:00 pm AA—VNG 5:30 pm TOPS 5:30 pm AA—HHG 7:00 pm NA—MNM	12:00 pm AA—VNG 5:30 pm AA—HHG				

HOLY TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
 PO BOX 141862
 SPOKANE VALLEY WA 99214-1862

Return Service Requested

**Holy Trinity Lutheran Church
 Mission Statement:**

*“To proclaim the Good News of God’s
 Saving Grace and to minister to our
 community through our relationship with God.”*



Tidings is published monthly for the members and friends of Holy Trinity Lutheran Church. The material and content of this periodical is intended to be about church business, community outreach, theology, and spiritual inspiration.

If you no longer desire to receive this publication, please email: office@holytrinitylcmc.org, or call: (509) 926-7966

April Events

Council Meeting	Tuesday, April 9 @ 6:30 pm
Serving Lunch at UGM Men’s Shelter	Thursday, April 11 11:15 am—1:00 pm
Spring Yard Clean-up Day	Saturday, April 13 @ 9:00 am
Newsletter Articles Due	Wednesday, April 17
UGM 2024 Annual Gathering	Tuesday, April 23 @ 11:30 am
Worship & Music Committee Meeting	Thursday, April 25 @ 1:30 pm
Mid-week Bible Study	Wednesdays @ 10:00 am
Breakfast & Bible Study	Fridays @ 7:30 am

Regular Worship Schedule

*9:30 am Sunday School
 10:30 am Worship w/Communion
 11:30 am Fellowship (after Worship)*