Trinity Lutheran Parish
Mona Lutheran Church, Mona, IA
Six Mile Grove Lutheran Church, rural Lyle, MN
PO Box 69
Lyle, MN 55953

T.L.P In TOUCH

March 2023

COME, JOIN THE JOURNEY OF JESUS TODAY!

The story of Christ's passion and death holds up a mirror to our own weakness and sin. We come together as adults and children who have messed up and turned away from God; we struggle with loving our neighbors and even ourselves. Together we confess our sins.

O God, we want to be your faithful followers, but just like your first disciples, we fall away or fall asleep. We deny you or betray you or abandon you. We are afraid of what your cross means for our lives. Have mercy and forgive us. Open our ears and hearts and minds to hear your story in a new way -- and receive your grace and forgiveness again. Amen.

O God, Jesus' journey to death awakens with in us our own confusion and questions and pain. Our old griefs and defeats and deaths come to the surface again. We come to you now in silence and offer you our hurt and despair, our loneliness and questions, our gratitude and the wonder of our hearts as we reflect on Jesus' sacrifice. Amen.

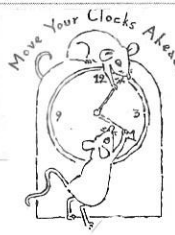
MAY THE LOVE OF JESUS HUG YOU -- NOT TO DEATH, BUT TO LIFE -- AS THE TRUTH OF THE CROSS REVEALS YOU AS YOU ARE. WE WALK THE WAY OF JESUS INTO THE REAL WORLD AND FIND GOD EVEN IN THE DARKEST SHADOWS. THANKS BE TO GOD!

Go in peace; the jouney continues! We will walk on -- thanks be to God!

"The Journey" ligurgies written b Pastor Julie Kahl, 1992 Dakota Road Music All Rights Reserved. Used by Permission. CLL#1708903

WE are called. GOD'S Work. our Hands. GOD'S Family!

March 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Pastor Scott Meyer C# 507-319-0715 scottmeyer39@hotmail.com			**1** Lent 1 @ Mona 6 P: Supper 7 P: Worship	2	**3** 1 P: SMG LL, H: Diane K	4
Second Sunday in Lent **5** 9 A: SMG w/HC & SS 10:30 A: SMG ABC	**6** Pastor Scott's Day Off	**7** 7 P: Parish Council Mtg followed my separate Council Mtg's	**8** Lent 2 @ Mona 6 P: Supper 7 P: Worship	9	10	 11
Third Sunday in Lent **12** 8:15 A: Choir Practice 9 A: OS w/Choir & SS 10:30 A: ABC at SMG	**13** Pastor Scott's Day Off 1 P: Peel Potatoes	**14** 7 A: Brown Steak 4-7 P: Mona Steak Supper	**15** Lent 3 @ SMG 6 P: Supper 7 P: Worship	16	17	18
Fourth Sunday in Lent **19** 9 A: OS w/HC & SS 10:30 A: ABC at SMG	**20** Pastor Scott's Day Off 9:30 A; Naomi Circle, H: Diane K, L: Kathy H	**21** 1 P: Mona BS, H: Nancy	**22** Lent 4 @ SMG 6 P: Supper 7 P: Worship	23	24	25
Fifth Sunday in Lent **26** 9 A: Mona w/SS 10:30 A: ABC at SMG	**27** Pastor Scott's Day Off 6:30 P; Mona LL, H: Nancy, Install Officers	**28** 7 P: Pleasant Hill Cemetery Annual Mtg at Mona	**29** Lent 5 @ OS 6 P: Supper 7 P: Worship	30	31	
Wanda Hanson, Office Sec C# 515-290-0936 O# 507-325-2437 monaandsmg@gmail.com	HC=Holy Communion SS=Sunday School ABC=Adult Bible Class OS=Our Savior's SMG=Six Mile Grove LL=Lutheran Ladies BS=Bible Study	Notes:			April 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	

T.L.P. IN TOUCH

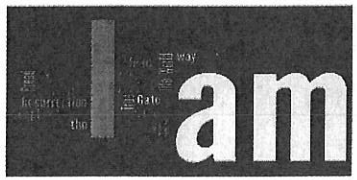
Trinity Lutheran Parish Monthly Newsletter: Mona & Six Mile Grove Lutheran Churches

March 2023

From the Pastor

"No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known." John 1:28

Consider the following quotation, which I've heard people say before and seen on social media, ***"I am...Two of the most powerful words; for what you put after them shapes your whole reality."***



We spend a good deal of our lives, both consciously and unconsciously, trying to figure out what words we would use to describe ourselves. But an equally important task is finishing that sentence as it relates to God. Luther said that, when trying to understand the nature of God, we need to look no further than to consider the life, death and resurrection of Jesus. In other words, the person of Jesus Christ is basically all we need to know about God. Lent is a perfect time to remember one very important thing about what it means to be a Christian – that **when Jesus goes to the cross, there, in fact, is God.**

The unique reality of Jesus as this one-and-only God is the distinctive claim of Christianity. Yet in today's world, what is said and believed about Jesus has the tendency to divide Jesus' humanity from his divinity. Or you might say that our understanding of God's Son seems comfortable with choosing one or the other, depending on whom we need Jesus to be in a certain time or place. It's the Gospel of John that reminds us best of all — which, during Lent, is an especially important thing to do — that to believe in Jesus is to hold the **fullness of Jesus' humanity and Jesus' divinity together.**

The "I AM" statements in John are more than just a novelty of the Fourth Gospel. They reveal, in all fullness, the identity of Jesus. Therefore, our Wednesday evening Lenten services this year will focus on five of those statements: *"I am the Bread of Life," "I am the Light of the World," "I am the Gate of the Sheepfold," "I am the Good Shepherd," and "I am the Resurrection and the Life."* This Lenten series helps us imagine that what Jesus puts after "I AM" in the Gospel of John shapes *our* reality.

I invite you to join us on Wednesday nights for this important look at Jesus' identity. A light supper will be served at 6:00pm, followed by the service/Bible study at 7:00. Please check your worship schedules for the location each week. Hope to see you there!

Pastor Scott

YOUTH

Sunday School:

>Every Sunday at the hosting church for 9:00 am worship. Children will leave worship after the children's sermon for class. See calendar or inside under Church info to see where Sunday School will be.

Confirmation:

Wednesday's – During Lent, the students are expected to attend the Wednesday night services at 7:00 pm.

Youth for Christ in Austin

The building is on the northside across the street from the High School (400 3rd Ave, Austin). Contact, John Engelstad, the Director, #507-481-4894. Feel free to check it out on FB. Facebook Group: Austin Youth for Christ.

Breakfast Clubs:

Middle School on T & Th from 6:55-7:45 A at Bethlehem Church, Austin

High School on M & F 7:30 -8:15 A at the Youth for Christ Building.

After-school Club

Tuesday's and Thursday's from 3:30-5:30 pm. Enjoy a light meal, games and activities, and for sure, a Bible based life message.

Make a SPRING TREE

Celebrate the season by creating a one of a kind spring tree.

What you need:

- Container (such as an empty coffee can)
- Construction paper or wallpaper scraps
- Glue
- Small fallen tree branch
- Sand
- Easter grass
- Poster board
- Scissors
- Marker
- Hole punch
- Ribbon

How to make it:

1. Use the container as a base. Decorate it by gluing construction paper or wallpaper scraps to it.
2. Place the fallen tree branch in the container and pour sand around it.
3. Place Easter grass on top of the sand.
4. Cut out of the poster board shapes that remind you of spring (eggs, rabbits, birds, butterflies, flowers, etc.). Use the marker to add details.
5. Punch a hole in each shape. Use ribbon to tie the shapes to the branches.

Just for KIDS

God's Plan

Jesus was resurrected from the dead. He appeared to his disciples, and he told them about the plan of God.

On the blanks in the first section, write the words that fit the definitions. Transfer those letters to the numbered lines in the second section. Read the Scripture verse. Unscramble the circled letters to finish the sentence at the bottom of the page.

1. Water that falls from the sky ___ ___ ___ ___ (1 2 3 4)
2. Birds lay them in nests ___ ___ ___ ___ (5 6 7 8)
3. A newly hatched hen ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ (9 10 11 12 13)
4. Bloom in the spring ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ (14 15 16 17 18 19 20)
5. A caterpillar transformed ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ (21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29)
6. Dirt mixed with water ___ ___ ___ (30 31 32)

"J ___ ___ ___ ___ ○ ___ ___ ___ ___, 'I ___ ___, 5 8 31 20 8 2 3 32 2 30

___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ___ ○ ___ ___, 19 5 23 31 26 4 11 4 6

___ ___ ___ ___ F ___ ___ ___ ___ ○, 24 16 30 29 2 23 10 18 26

___ ___ ___ F ___ ___ ___ ○ ___, 2 4 32 29 16 22 1 2 24 10 25 19

___ ___ ___ ___ G ___ ___ ○ ___, 23 16 30 29 16 32 2 4 32

___ ___ ___ ___ G ___ ___.'" 29 16 31 1 16 32 (taken from John 20:17, NIV)

Jesus has ___ ___ ___ ___ ___!

Answer: rain, eggs, chick, flowers, butterfly, mud

"Jesus said, 'I am returning to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.'"

Jesus has risen!

PRAY

Prayers of Healing and Strength to:

Joan Anderson Lorna Anderson Ted Anderson Barb Fossey
Gary Fredrickson Parker Gennert Alex Hanson Dawn Helgeson
John Mickelson Lydia Mittag Emily Nelson Jack Rector
Kyle Trytten Deanna Wagner Norma Wangen Autumn Whalen

Please pray for God's protection of our troops and HIS wisdom for their commanders. "Lord, hold our troops in your loving hands.

Christopher Slindee Thomas Frank Kelly Fredrickson
Riley Wondra Adam Dublinske *(M)* Skyler Thomas *(NG)*
Ed Dreyer *(M)*

Protect them as they protect us. Bless them and their families for the selfless acts they perform for us in our time of need. I ask this in the name of the Jesus, our Lord and Savior. Amen.

(NG=National Guard), (M=Marines), (AF=Air Force), (A=Army), (N=Navy)

Missions to pray for:

>Pastor Samuel, his family and church members in Oaxaca.
>Friends of Ngong Road children and their families – Lenny Kamanda, Josephine Wairimu, Monica Wanjiku, Sharon Mideva, Victor Nyarega, Faith Mumo, Emily Wanjiku, Godfrey Otieno and Swinny Mbone.
>Peace and Power, Marie Sandvick Center, Lyle Food Shelf, Good Earth Village, Noah's Ark Adventure, Haiti

Prayers for guidance:

Pastor Scott ~ Parish Council ~ Church Councils ~ Sunday School Teachers ~ Members of Six Mile Grove, Mona & Our Savior's Lutheran Churches

Sympathy and Prayers

…for the family of Linda (Haugen) Lagoni. Her funeral was at Mona on February 25, 2023. She was the sister of Terry (Faye) Haugen.

…for the family of Russell Ashley. His funeral will be at St. Olaf in Austin on Thursday, March 2 at 10:00 am. He was the father of Mark Ashley and grandfather to Stephanie Riles.

WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS

LECTOR:	Name
Wednesday, March 1 - M	
Sunday, March 5 - S	
Wednesday, March 8 - M	
Sunday, March 12 – O	--------
Wednesday, March 15 - S	
Sunday, March 19 – O	--------
Wednesday, March 22 - S	
Sunday March 26 – M	
Wednesday, March 29 - O	

USHERS:
Mona: Kim Whalen and Kelsey Bundy
SMG: Barb Goslee Family, Brian & April Helle Family and Merle & Diane Klouse Family

COMMUNION ASSIST.:
Mona Becky Fredrickson or/and Nancy Mickelson
SMG Timm Ehret, Jim Sampson or/and

COMMUNION SERVERS:
Mona: Kim Whalen and Kelsey Bundy
SMG: TBD

FELLOWSHIP SCHEDULE:
Every Sunday following worship at hosting church.
Every Wednesday before worship during Lent at hosting church, 6 pm.
Mona: Sunday, March 26 after church by Kim Whalen and Kelsey Bundy
SMG: Sunday, March 5 after church

Thank YOU for the giving of YOUR time and having a Servant Heart!

CHURCH INFO

MARCH / LENT WORSHIP SCHEDULE:

Wednesday, March 8	7:00 pm	Mona – Lent 2
Sunday, March 12	9:00 am	OS
Wednesday, March 15	7:00 pm	SMG – Lent 3
Sunday, March 19	9:00 am	OS w/HC
Wednesday, March 22	7:00 pm	SMG – Lent 4
Sunday, March 26	9:00 am	Mona
Wednesday, March 29	7:00 pm	OS – Lent 5
Sunday, April 2	9:00 am	Mona
Maundy Thurs, April 6	7:00 pm	Mona
Good Fri, April 7	7:00 pm	OS
Easter Sun, April 9	7:00 am	Mona w/Breakfast
	10:00 am	SMG

PARISH/CHURCH COUNCIL MTG's

- Parish Council will meet, Tuesday, March 7 at SMG, 7 pm.
- Mona Council will meet following TLP mtg
- SMG Council will meet following TLP mtg
- It is important that you as a council member attend these mtg's.

YEARLY CALENDAR
Still in need of info. Please turn into Wanda. Please use this email: monaandsmg@gmail.com

MONA STEAK SUPPER

- Anyone who wants to do something special – please let Craig (507-421-8788) or Karen (641-326-4718) know. All help is greatly appreciated. Thank YOU!
- Monday, March 13th - Peel potatoes at 1:00 pm
- Tuesday, March 14th – Get meat ready at 7:00 am
- Steak Supper Drive Thru is March 14th from 4-7 pm or until meat is gone. Free-will Offering. Menu: Swiss Steak, Mashed Potatoes w/Gravy, Sweet Corn, Bun, Coleslaw and Cookie.

LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS
Good Samaritan Society in St. Ansgar is looking for anyone interested in volunteering. This could include helping with activities, visiting 1-1 with a resident, passing waters/snacks, or any other task one is willing to help with!

We would love to add a few new faces to our family. Please contact Kelsey at 641-713-4912 to volunteer.

SMG BIBLE STUDY *(AKA ABC=Adult Bible Class)*
Following worship in the Dining Hall. All are welcome!

YOU ARE INVITED!
We would love to have you join us for the Coffee Club. Gatherings will be the second Tuesday of the month at 9:00 am for Coffee, Conversation and Christian Study at Our Savior's Lutheran in Lyle.

PLEASANT HILL CEMETARY MEETING
The Annual mtg will be at Mona on Tuesday, March 28th at 7:00 pm. All are welcome.

READERS NEEDED
Please sign up to read the Lessons on Sunday mornings or possibly for the Wednesday Lenten Services. If there is a day that will work for you, please contact the office if you don't see clipboard and I will make sure to get you the readings for that day. Thank YOU! Wanda

WELCA / CIRCLES
>SMG WELCA – Friday, March 3 at 1:00 pm, H: Diane K
>Naomi Circle – Monday, March 20 at 9:30 am, H:Diane K, L: Kathy H
>Mona M&M Circle/BS – March 21 at 1:00 pm, H: Nancy
>Mona LL – Monday, March 27th at 6:30 pm, H: Nancy, Install Officers

THANK YOU!

Thank you to Morgan Blood for the church painting on wood slabs. Very nice.

Thank you to all of you who have helped with fellowship in anyway!

Trinity Parish Council Minutes

Trinity Lutheran Parish Council meeting was held on February 7th, 2023 at the Mona Lutheran Church at 7 pm. Those who attended: Pastor Scott, Carol Anderson, Sarah Douglas, Becky Fredrickson, Nathan Garvey, Brian Helle, Brian Mason, Nancy Mickelson, Steve Sampson, Courtney Whalen, Craig Whalen, Karen Whalen, Kim Whalen.

President Craig called the meeting to order in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Pastor Scott gave devotions and offered a prayer.

Secretary report from the January 3rd, 2023 meeting was read by Kim. Carol made a motion to accept, seconded by Steve. Motion carried. Secretary reports from the January 22 nd 2023 meeting was read by Courtney. There was one correction on the Phyllis Helgesen scholarship volunteers and that was Carol does not want to be on the committee and she does not remember volunteering. Nancy made a motion to accept, seconded by Nathan. Motion carried.

The treasurer report was read by Carol. Brian Helle made a correction to add mileage into the salary on the monthly report. Utility expenses for the parsonage were discussed that the Trinity Lutheran Parish will pay $2,000 for utilities at the end of the year or $500 quarterly to Our Saviors. Brian Helle made a motion to pay Our Saviors $500 quarterly,seconded my Nathan. Brian Helle made a motion to accept the treasurer report, seconded by Nathan, Motion carried.

Old Business: Red hymnals are still up in the air and will be in future discussions.

New Business: Kim asked about having people write down their emails for the monthly minutes and Courtney will send them out before the next meeting to the ones that wants to have them emailed.

Steve made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Brian Helle. Meeting adjourned. The Lord's Prayer was prayed.

Courtney Whalen Parish Secretary.

LITTLE SOMETHING EXTRA

Good St. Patrick

On March 17th, many churches, especially those with a large Irish population, will celebrate the life of St. Patrick. He grew up in a Christian home in Britain, but wasn't very religious until a major even changed his life.

As a teen, he was captured and sold into slavery in Ireland, but escaped to Gaul (France) after six years. The years of enslavement strengthened his faith. He later wrote, "In that strange land (Ireland), the Lord opened my unbelieveing eyes." He was led by God's voice to return to Ireland where he converted People to Christianity tribe after tribe.

Because Ireland is called the Emerald Isle, those who celebrate St. Patrick's Day will wear something green. Some Christians will even color food or drink green. Many Christians will also eat corned beef and cabbage and decorate the tables with shamrocks. Shamrocks are actually three-leaf (not four-leaf) clover plants. Legend has it that St. Patrick used the three leaves to teach about the Holy Trinity: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

The Color Purple

We are beginning the church season of Lent. Many churches have purple paraments on the altar, lectern and pulpit. Many pastors and choir members wear purple stoles. Why purple?

In ancient times, purple garments were expensive and hard to find. The dye came from rare sea mollusks that had to be crushed to garner their purple fluid. (One source of purple dye required 250,000 mollusks!) Then the right kind of fabric had to be placed in the dye, dried and made into clothing, which was time consuming.

Generally, only wealthy people and members of royalty could afford purple garments. For example, in the story of the rich man and Lazarus, the rich man "was dressed in purple and fine linen" (Luke 16:19, NSRV).

Purple is used in church sanctuaries during Advent and Lent because Christ is revered as the King of Kings.

COMMUNITY

Farm Boy BBQ
Saturday, April 1st from 4:30-8:00 pm at the Lyle Legion.
Free-will Donation. Meat available: Ribs or Chicken
In memory of family of friends lost to cancer.

Toeterville Fish Fry
Thursday, April 13th from 3:00 pm until gone. Drive Thru!
Free-will Donation. Menu: Fish, Tarter Sauce, Coleslaw, Baked Potato, Corn and Dessert

Lyle Food Pantry/Shelf
The last Saturday of the month (March 25?) at Our Savior's in Lyle will hand out food bags at 10:00 am.

Can Drive: At HOME First = Helping Others Means Everything
Please deposit your empty aluminum pop cans
into the fenced trailer at Mona Lutheran Church. Thank YOU!

Cans for Cancer
Collecting aluminum cans though out the year with a collection box behind the Lyle Legion. Please donate your empty aluminum cans to a very worthy cause.

FOOD SHELF AT OUR SAVIOR'S
The food pantry at Our Savior's is *grateful* for your support, please help us keep our shelves full.

CONCERTS / TOURS

- **Mercy Me Concert** on Saturday, March 25th at Mayo Civic Center, 7:00 pm (Civic Center Dr SE, Rochester, MN)
- **Elevation Worship Concert** on Friday, April 21st at Target Center, 7:00 pm. Go to myktis.com for ticket info.
- **Rend Collective** on Saturday, April 29 at Grace Lutheran in Eden Prairie at 7:00 pm. Go to myktis.com for ticket info