

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER | GLENBURN AND LANSFORD | APRIL 2021

Trinity United Parish

Dear friends,

What an odd time to be writing this newsletter article! I'm sitting here in my office, listening to the wind blow outside. I've been working on putting together all the details for the Holy Week services. Now, I'm trying to write this article. I started wondering about when you might read this. Some of you will get this newsletter right away when we send it because you receive it via email. So, you might be reading this article before Easter. Some of you might not read it until Easter or after because you receive this newsletter in the regular mail. And then there are some of you who will forget about the newsletter until you need to find something on the calendar and, then, when you look up the event, you might just read this article. So, I'm wondering, do I say, "Alleluia! Christ is Risen!" or do I hold off?

I know you are probably reading this right now thinking that I have lost my mind — wondering if it even matters or not. I guess it really doesn't matter if I say, "Alleluia! Christ is Risen!" or "Happy Easter" and you're haven't even celebrated Good Friday yet, or if I don't say it, and you have already celebrated the Resurrection of our Lord. It doesn't really matter if I say it or not. What really matters is if we know it. What really matters is if we live our life as if it is true. What really matters is if it has changed us.

Easter is a beautiful holiday. People are dressed in their finest. There are beautiful flowers in the church. Brass instruments are playing, and we sing at the top of our lungs, "Jesus Christ is risen today! Alleluia!" After church, many of us gather with family and friends for a meal and time together. The children (and maybe some adults too) overindulge in chocolate. And to top it all off, we might even get a day or two off from work or school. All of these things happen because we are celebrating the resurrection of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

But, what happens on Monday? Or Tuesday? Or the next Sunday? Or the weeks and months to come? How do we celebrate the resurrection then? How do we live our life differently because Jesus was risen? How do we live differently because we are children of God?

Because of the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ, we have been set free from the power of sin and death, and set free to live differently – to love and serve one another – to live like this life isn't the end. And this is such a gift! A free one – given to each of us. So, yes, I will say it. "Alleluia! Christ is risen!!"

Easter blessings to you all,

Pastor Martha

Trinity United Parish

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www.trinityunitedparish.com

Office: 701-362-7922

Pastor's Cell: 701-833-1701

Join us for Sunday worship!

Lansford 9am Glenburn 11am

<u>Military</u>

Clay Pilgrim
Bill Tilton
Wes Netcher
Kent Johnson
Nick Swenson
Jesse Hartle
Robert Blevins
Jay Montejo

Prayer List

For healing for Briggs Lee, grandson of Cal and Joellen Lee. For healing for Pearl Nelson. For healing for Alice Undlin. For healing for Curtis Talley. For healing for Cal Lee. For healing and comfort for Elma Doer, the mother of Johnet Christianson. For healing for Bob Helming. For strength and continued healing for Amy Artz. For healing for Shannon Sisk-Wulick. For healing Ron Johnston. For healing and strength for

Cole Schlag and Tamara

Zumbaum.

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Confirmation Worship Responsibilities:

Please make sure you are in worship when you are assigned or find someone to switch with you if you cannot make it.

	Lansford 9am	Glenburn 11am
April 4	Bobby Zumbaum (10am)	Caleb Clementich (8am)
April 11	Reid Morlock	Gracie Boschert
April 18	Cole Schlag	Jayden Nelson
April 25	Carson Nett	Caleb Clementich



"...serve one another humbly in love. For the entire law is fulfilled in keeping this one command: "Love your neighbor as yourself."
Galatians
5:13-14

Backpack Buddies Program

Our Backpack Buddies program will feed a student in need of food for the weekend. Non-perishable and easy to make foods are needed. Examples are: Oatmeal packs, veg. and fruit cups, mac n cheese cups, jellies, tuna packs, ramen noodles granola bars, etc.

If you are interested in sponsoring a child, it costs \$340.00 per year. We currently have 26 students we are helping.



Because hunger doesn't end on Friday.

Glenburn Food Pantry & Clothing Closet

Our Pantry could use syrup, pancake mix, gravy, jelly, peanut butter, Hamburger Helpers, soups of any kind, and toiletries. Any non-perishable food, paper products, and monetary donations are always greatly appreciated. There is a cart in the back of the church. Thanks for donating. We NEED Plastic Bags. Contact Andrea Boschert or Michelle Peters with any questions. Clothing Closet: If you have anything to drop for clothing, please call Michelle Peters at 701-578-4285.

Food Pantry & Clothing Closet Dates: 4th Wednesday of every month from 6:30-7:30 pm.



Congratulations to Trinity Lutheran Church-Glenburn Food Pantry and Clothing Closet for winning the 2020 Agency of the Year Award from Great Plains Food Banks!



GLENBURN NEWS

NEW Lunch and Bible Study: We are continuing lunch and a bible study for two more Sundays on April 11th and 18th! Bring your own lunch and the bible study will be provided. Don't worry if you've never been to a bible study – no experience is needed. Just come and join us for fellowship and the word of God. If you have any questions, please see Pastor Martha.

Confirmation Classes: Class on April 7th, 21st, and 28th @ 4-5:30pm GLB. No class on the 14th. Make sure to grab some candy from the secretary's bowl! ©

Glenburn Council: April 14th at 6pm in Lansford.

Ruth Circle: Come and strengthen your faith and friendship! We will meet April 20th at 2pm GLB **Wednesday Book Study:** Study will be April 7th, 21st, and 28th at 6pm GLB. Our book will be "Outlaw Christian" by Jacqueline A. Bussie. She was the author of the last book we read in our group and the group loved her writing. New members are always welcome! Let Pastor Martha know if you would like a book.

LANSFORD NEWS

Confirmation Classes: Class on April 7th, 21st, and 28th @ 4-5:30pm GLB. No class on the 14th. Make sure to grab some candy from the secretary's bowl! ©

Lansford Council Meeting: Will follow Parish meeting April 14th.

PARISH NEWS

Maundy Thursday Worship: Join us in worship April 1st at 7pm GLB.

<u>Good Friday Worship:</u> Our Holy Week services continue with Good Friday Service, April 2nd at 7pm IFD.

<u>Easter Sunday Worship:</u> Celebrate the resurrection of our Lord! Easter Sunday Worship GLB @ 8am and LFD @ 10am.

Parish Meeting: April 14th @ 7pm in Lansford.

Secretary Hours: Our parish secretary, Ramanda Nash, will be in the office from 12 pm ish - 3 pm ish on Tuesdays and Wednesdays, and 10 am -2 pm on Thursdays. If you need anything from the Church office outside of office hours, please feel free to call or text Pastor at (701) 833-1701.

Celebrate the resurrection of our Lord! Easter Sunday Worship

GLB @ 8am

and LFD @ 10am.



Prayer Ventures for April 2021

- 1 As Paul said, our faith in Christ may seem like foolishness to some people but we can always trust in God's love for us through Christ because it is real, trustworthy and life-giving. Pray that God will embolden us to share our faith without hesitation or embarrassment and to invite others to believe even when doing so seems foolish.
- **2** Good Friday Remember the suffering and sacrifice of Jesus, the Son of God, for our sake and salvation. Give thanks that God looks upon us with concern, gracious love and mercy.
- **3** Lift up prayers of humble gratitude that through baptism our lives are conjoined with the life, death and resurrection of Christ, which enable us to "walk in newness of life" and be "alive to God."
- **4** Easter Sunday He is risen! Praise God! Give thanks that through Jesus' resurrection we are no longer constrained by sin and death but can celebrate salvation, new life and God's wonderful grace, which reclaims and changes us.
- **5** "This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it." Look around and give thanks for the people, community, world, wonders of creation and signs of God's presence and work that surround you.
- **6** Arab American Heritage Month Remember in prayer the diverse gifts, cultures, heritages and stories of our Arab and Middle Eastern siblings in Christ, who remind us of the rich history and tradition of Christ's church in the world. Ask God to bless and further the work, witness and advocacy of Arab and Middle Eastern Ministries in the ELCA and the Association of Lutherans of Arab and Middle Eastern Heritage of the ELCA.
- **7** Give thanks for the generosity shared from across our church, which helps us respond to the needs of the world, live out our faith in service to our neighbors and proclaim the gospel everywhere.

- 8 Jesus continues to walk with us daily and to make his loving presence known when we gather with bread and wine, remembering the sacrifices he made for our sake and for the restoration of our relationships with God. Give thanks and praise to God for being in our lives!
- 9 Give thanks for the empathy and support expressed by the Rev. Martin Junge, general secretary of the Lutheran World Federation (LWF), in his letter to Presiding Bishop Elizabeth A. Eaton and our church in a time of political and social tension. "People need to talk and listen to each other again," he wrote. "Broken relationships need to be mended. People need to trust again so that they can live and work together. People need to heal from their pain and their wounds." Give thanks for the LWF, a global family who accompany one another in doing God's work in the world.
- **10** Pray for the humility to acknowledge and respect God's infinite power, presence and grace for the sake of all people.
- 11 Jesus is with us in times of fear and uncertainty, just as he was with his troubled disciples after the resurrection. Pray for the Spirit to encourage our faith, ground us in the good news of Christ and grant us peace, reassurance, hope and direction throughout our baptismal journey.
- 12 Give thanks for signs of spring! Some places still have snow on the ground, yet others show signs of nature blossoming and new life emerging. Give thanks for the good, life-giving work of our Creator, who urges patience and stirs new life and hope in every season.
- 13 Pray for Creation Justice Ministries, Lutherans Restoring Creation and other ministries, organizations and networks that deepen our awareness and knowledge of creation and the environment and equip us to care for creation and our communities.
- 14 "How very good and pleasant it is when kindred live together in unity!" Pray that God will help us better understand what living together in unity requires of us as siblings in Christ and as world citizens striving for peace, justice, reconciliation and mutual care.

- **15** Ask the Spirit to inspire wisdom, insight, compassion and boldness in the members of the ELCA Church Council as they gather online this week to guide and shape the work of our church in spreading the good news of Jesus Christ, serving our neighbors in need and supporting our congregations.
- Pray that, as we share the gospel and serve our neighbor, we will recognize the spiritual, physical and emotional needs of our siblings in Christ who are also doing God's work in the world.
- 17 Pray for our ELCA missionaries serving alongside companion churches and organizations in Asia and the Pacific region, including the Rev. Phillip Baker (Cambodia), the Rev. Chandran Paul Martin and Timothy Melvyn (India), the Rev. Charles Peterson and the Rev. Jeffrey Truscott (Indonesia), Hailey Brenden (Nepal) and the Rev. Suk Yeon Lee (Jang) (South Korea).
- Lift up prayers of gratitude to God for the presence of the Spirit in our lives, which deepens our faith and trust in Jesus as the promised Messiah, helps us understand Scripture and moves us to respond to God's call that we bear witness to the good news of Jesus Christ.
- Give thanks for volunteers of all ages and gifts who serve in congregations, including teachers, assisting ministers, child care providers, committee members, greeters, singers, musicians, people who fix things and those who visit the ill or homebound. Praise God for the rich diversity of gifts, skills and passions we share in the body of Christ.
- 20 The Multicultural Youth Leadership Event (MYLE) is a pre-event to the ELCA Youth Gathering. Pray for the MYLE leadership team of youth, young adults and adults planning the summer 2021 event on the theme "Made Free." Ask God to bless their work of creating a community, inclusive and accountable to all, that is inspired and woven together by the Spirit.
- What a joy it is to be called children of God because of God's great love for us! We may not know or understand everything about God or what lies in store for us, but we are still loved, forgiven and claimed without condition. Thank and praise God!

- Earth Day Give thanks and glory to God for the blessings and mysteries of creation, entrusted to us to sustain and enrich all generations. Pray that God will make us wise, generous and responsible stewards of nature and Earth's resources for the glory of our Creator and the well-being of our neighbor.
- Give thanks for our church's partnership with Lutheran World Relief to support pandemic emergency response projects in Asia, Africa and Latin America.
- 24 Remember in prayer people who are confined in our jails, prisons and correctional facilities. Pray that they will be treated humanely and justly, be renewed by the good news of Jesus Christ, and find hope and strength in God's love and mercy. Pray for the Spirit to help us as individuals and as faith communities empathize with prisoners returning home and boldly extend our hospitality, acceptance and support as they do the difficult work of building new lives in our communities.
- Give thanks that Jesus is the good shepherd who knows us, loves us, unites us, leads us through life and is willing to sacrifice his life for our sake.
- **26** Give thanks to God for the generosity and commitment across our church as it supports and funds global mission programs and accompanies companions in 45 countries through missionaries, companion church grants, the International Leaders Program and other programs.
- In this sometimes lonely world, praise God that we always have Jesus, a loving shepherd who knows us and provides us with care, guidance, renewal, comfort and courage as we face the challenges of daily life.
- Pray for the needs of people in your neighborhood and community, give thanks for their joys and recognize how their lives intersect with yours.
- Pray that the Spirit will make us courageous and articulate in sharing the good news even in the most intimidating of circumstances, just as John and Peter did while in prison.
- **30** Give thanks for national and local leaders, health care workers and volunteers who continue to fight the COVID-19 pandemic and help us recover physically, economically, spiritually and emotionally. Pray that God will help them persevere and that we will generously express our support and gratitude.



A MESSAGE FROM BISHOP CRAIG

April 2021

"'But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him, just as he told you.'"
So they went out and fled from the tomb, for terror and amazement had seized them; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid." (Mark 16:7-8)

Sisters and brothers in Christ of the Western North Dakota synod, grace and peace to you from our risen Lord and Savior Jesus the Christ!

A few days before Easter Sunday 2020, I found myself on a bluff overlooking the Missouri River at the Double Ditch Indian Village State Historical Site. It was shortly before sunrise, a time of day that I am very rarely awake to see. I was recording a sermon that would be part of Good Shepherd's Easter Sunday worship service. An Easter Sunday worship service offered to an online worshiping community that formed in just a few short weeks as a global pandemic took hold of every part of life. A global pandemic that most of us believed would only last for a few more weeks and then everything would return to "normal" again.

As we worship together – online and in-person – on Easter Sunday this year, have things returned to "normal" yet? Maybe. Maybe not. Or maybe the better question to ask is, should they?

The Easter story from Mark's gospel that we hear this year speaks of fear, terror and amazement. Those are words that evoke emotions only found in an ancient Biblical story. They speak truth to each one of us. And there was far more than just one moment of terror and amazement in the past year. Social and political unrest in our nation and in nations around the world pitted neighbor against neighbor. Angry debates unfolded over how or if we should care for one another during the pandemic. It divided many of our congregations in ways they had never seen before and in ways that they may never fully recover from.

Like the women at the tomb, fear, terror, and amazement consumed us in 2020.

The young man dressed in a white robe who met Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome at the tomb said to them, "Do not be alarmed." The man goes on to tell them that Jesus has risen from the dead just as he said he would and that the risen Christ was going ahead of them. They didn't need to waste time longing for the "normal" they had known before Jesus' resurrection to return or angrily protest who they thought God loved more or argue about any variety of things that would divide their communities to the point of destroying them.

They were to confidently and joyfully go. They would meet Jesus there.

Life as they knew it would never return to the normal of before. And wherever their journey took them next, they would never journey alone.

Maybe this is what Easter Sunday is calling us to do in 2021? To confidently and joyfully go, knowing that wherever we go, God is with us.

As she reflected upon her life of the past year, one ELCA pastor said, "I am so afraid that I will never be who I once was. And I am also afraid that I will be."

My Easter message over the Missouri River bluffs last year offered a challenge us to be "hope carriers." The image of being hope carriers still resonates with me this year. You and I will never be who we were before 2020 began. And because of the resurrection, we do not have to be afraid of that truth. Happy Easter!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Keith Pearson is our synod's Regional Gift Planner through a partnership with the ELCA Foundation. Keith can help provide management services to your congregation as well as help explore the variety of possibilities to help you arrange a planned gift. Contact Faith Simonieg for more information!

Mark Your Calendar: 2021 Synod Assembly June 4 & 5 at the Grand Hotel in Minot

Financial Literacy During a Pandemic

April is Financial Literacy Month, and it could not have come at a better time. I encourage you to take this opportunity to reflect on your personal finances and evaluate your financial health.

If you find that your financial health is not ideal, consider these steps to put your family on the right path.

• Plan to Avoid Financial Stress

- Laying out a plan and setting financial objectives is the best way to stay in control of your money.
- Establish a Savings Routine
 - Saving for larger items can seem overwhelming, taking baby steps can really add up in the long run.
- If your budget allows, there are compelling reasons to continue making monthly payments on your federal student loans.
 - With the continued forbearance provided by the federal government, payments and interest accrual on most federal student loans are automatically paused, as well as collections activities on <u>defaulted federal student loans</u>. But this breathing room is only a temporary halt, not forgiveness of the loans. Your debt will be waiting for you when repayment resumes in October unless the reprieve is extended again.
 - O Making payments while your student loan is not accruing interest chips away at the principal. Your full payment will be applied to the principal amount of your loan after all interest that accrued before March 13, 2020 plus any fees such as for defaulted loans are paid. This means your balance may go down much faster with each payment which reduces the amount of interest paid over the term of the loan. Your payments will be applied directly toward the principal.

Feeling good about your financial health? Here is how to help others with your tax refund or stimulus check.

If you feel you are in a good financial spot and feel fortunate that you do not have to divide your financial stimulus check or income tax refund on groceries, insurance, rent, medicine, or gas; then I urge you, my fellow brothers and sisters in Christ to be generous.

The ministries of your congregation, the ELCA and the Western North Dakota Synod could use your offerings in a variety of ways: to help neighbors who have fallen on tough times, to maintain outreach programs, support online worship, support building campaigns and necessary repairs. Be creative, be generous and encourage others to do likewise.

Faith Simonieg, Assistant to the Bishop for Stewardship and Generosity

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	Apr	EKKE		Maundy Thursday Worship GLB 7pm	Good Friday Worship LFD 7pm	3
Easter Sunday Worship Glenburn 8am Lansford 10am He is	5	6	7 Confirmation 4-5:30pmm Book Study 6pm GLB	8	9	10
11 LFD Worship 9am GLB Worship 11am Lunch and Bible Study Noon GLB	12	13	No Confirmation Glenburn Council 6pm in Lansford Parish Meeting 7pm in Lansford Lansford Council Meeting Following Parish	15	16	17
18 LFD Worship 9am GLB Worship 11am Bible Lunch and Bible Study Noon GLB	19	Ruth Circle 2pm	Confirmation 4-5:30pm Book Study 6pm GLB	22 Earth Day	23	24
25 LFD Worship 9am GLB Worship 11am	26	27	Confirmation 4-5:30pm Book Study 6pm GLB	29	30	

Metigoshe Ministries is adventure anchored in Christ where people experience and celebrate the gifts of God in a life together.



April 2021

Friday Night Live

Grades 4-6 - April 9-10 - Friday 7:00 pm to Saturday 12:00 pm

Join us for Friday Night Live – the best sleepover you'll ever experience! We will adventure outside, play games, pray, eat snacks, learn more about God.



meet great new friends, head out to camp for more adventures and a campfire, and we'll even squeeze some sleep into the whole mix! We will have a snack Friday evening and will make breakfast and lunch for you on Saturday. Grab your sleeping bag, appropriate outdoor clothing for the weather and one adult advisor for every six kids. See you there kids!

Cost: \$25 per youth and includes t-shirt: no charge for advisors

Featherweight Quilting

1:00 pm Monday. April 19 to 7:00 pm Wednesday. April 21



Here is a special retreat for all Featherweight machine quilters. Come and gather at the Lakeside Christian Center for quilting and conversation. Compare your machines and just enjoy the quiet hum of the Featherweight. We will provide meals, lodging, quilting space and relaxation...you provide the projects and machines.

Cost: \$145 per person (\$10 discount if registered on or before April 12)

Piecing Faith Together with Mom

7:00 pm Friday. April 16 to 11:00 am Sunday. April 18

Take time at Metigoshe Ministries to be with your child, grow deeper in faith together, and spend time with other moms. Not only will we be "piecing faith together," we'll also piece together some garden stepping stone mosaics! You'll get to bring one home with you and leave one to make your mark on the Metigrowshe Garden. This retreat is limited to mom and one child – continue the tradition next year with another child! We will make sure a theme room is ready for you and will plan all of the activities and meals – the only thing you need to do is show up and start making special memories! Each participant will receive a T-Shirt.

Cost: \$120 per mother/child pair (£10 discount if registered on or before April 9)



We are thrilled to report that our registration numbers for Camp Metigoshe are at a ten-year high as of mid-March! It is exciting to know how much campers and their families want to be sure to experience Adventure Anchored in Christ even (and maybe especially!) during the ongoing pandemic.

As the only church camp in western North Dakota – and one of only five camps in the entire state – to earn accreditation from the American Camp Association, health and safety of our campers has always been a top priority for us. Of course, that continues during the pandemic – make sure to stay up-to-date with all COVID modifications throughout the season as we will always share that information through our website and social media accounts.

Finally – with registrations coming in so fast – be sure to register soon! We hope to be able to increase our numbers and will do so as soon as the CDC and ACA say that it is safe. Right now camp spaces are limited to half capacity. We already have a few programs with wait-lists and you won't want to miss out on spending time at Camp Metigoshe this summer!



Grace-Filled Gardens

7:00 pm Friday, April 23 to 5 pm Saturday, April 24

Cost: \$145 per person (\$10 discount if registered on or before April 17)

