

TRINITY TIDINGS

Trinity Lutheran Church ~ Spencer, Iowa

April, 2026



To Know, Love and Share Christ



CHRIST IS RISEN...
HE is risen indeed!

Pastor Renae's April Message

Jesus Christ is Risen Today Al-le-lu-ia!

We sing the song. We sing it every Easter. The tune and lyrics are sweet to our ears.
We sing. We celebrate. Why? Because of the incredible gift we have received in Christ Jesus.

Romans 6:23 says, "For the wages of sin is death, but the **free gift of God** is eternal life in Christ Jesus."

We celebrate because...

We know the gift we have been given.

We know that Christ overcame sin and death.

We know that he has forgiven and redeemed us.

We know that He saves us.

We know the tomb is empty.

We know Christ is alive.

We know we will live with Him forever.

How do you celebrate this Risen Savior?

How will you celebrate Him this week?

How will you celebrate the Risen Savior today? How about tomorrow?

Is it through staying tethered to the scripture of God?

Is it through worship?

Is it through prayer?

Is it through singing His praises?

Is it through serving?

Is it through giving?

Is it through leading?

Is it through words of grace?

Is it through forgiving?

Is it through listening?

However you celebrate that He is risen, may you be reminded each hour, each day, of each year how much He loves YOU!!

Peace to you in Christ Jesus,

Pastor Renae Behrends



BIBLE STUDY

This winter Pastor Renae is leading a study on the Books of the Bible, through the Bible Project. Each Sunday we watch a short video, followed by discussion. Please join us for this informative study.



EASTER FLOWERS

The Easter flowers will be removed from the altar area after worship on April 12. If you purchased flowers for Easter and would like to take one home to enjoy, you may do so on April 12.

Thank You

Hello Everyone! Thank you for all the cards, well wishes and prayers. I have been very blessed all of my 85 years of being healthy, and this has been a journey that I personally have been dealing with. Hopefully I'm on the right pathway. Thank you so very much!

~Karen Kahley

A big thank you to the following families for providing soup and milk for our Midweek Lenten Soup Suppers: **Anderson, Caswell, Ebeling, Gronemeyer, Kroll, Leonard, Leu, Long, Nolte, Rustad, Vander Linden and Winther.**

We thank all those who served as readers for The Passion Story on Palm Sunday. They are: **Andy Anderson, Pr. Renae Behrends, Becky Caswell, Paul Caswell, Annette Ebeling, Jacob Gronemeyer, Scott Nolte, Molly Vander Linden and our Senior Choir.**

We also thank those who served as readers on Good Friday. They are: **Brian Behrends, Paul Caswell, Scott Nolte and Molly Vander Linden.**



PRAYER MATERIAL DISTRIBUTION

In order to encourage the practice of prayer in the lives of our young people, we distributed prayer resources to our 3 year old – 6 year old students. This took place during worship on March 1.

HOLY WEEK HIGHLIGHTS



Kinnick Nolte received his First Communion on Maundy Thursday



Pastor Renae shared a special message with our youth during the children's sermon on Easter



Trinity youngsters participated in an Easter Egg hunt following worship on Easter



For
God
so loved the world,
 that He gave His only begotten Son,
that
 whosoever
 believeth in
 Him should
 not perish,
 but have
 everlasting
LIFE
 John 3:16

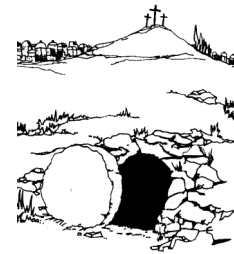
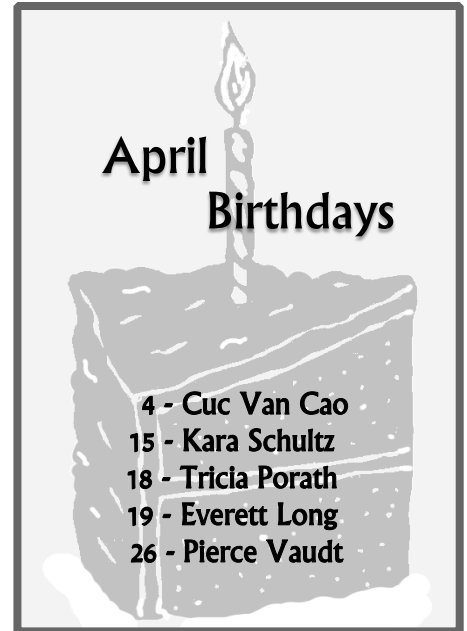


A big Thank You to Tami Kroll & Jane Long for decorating the sanctuary for Easter. It was beautiful!

April Calendar of Events

EASTER

1 Wed	11:30 pm	Lenten Lunch & Worship
2 Sun	6:00 pm	Maundy Thursday Service
3 Fri	6:00 pm	Good Friday Service
5 Sun	9:30 am 10:45 am	Easter Day Worship Easter Egg Hunt
12 Sun	9:30 am 10:00 am	Sunday Worship Sunday School
16 Thurs	9:30 am	Ruth Circle
19 Sun	9:30 am 10:00 am 10:45 am	Sunday Worship Sunday School Parish Council Meeting
26 Sun	9:30 am 10:00 am	Sunday Worship Sunday School



He Is Risen!

CHURCH MEMBERS / RUTH CIRCLE READS TO PRESCHOOLERS

Members of Trinity Church and Ruth Circle spent some time recently with Trinity Preschoolers. Delinda Leu, and Andy and Bonnie Anderson read to preschoolers. Sonna Winther and Mary Cullen provided cookies to the youngsters.



April Parish Worship Ministries

With Bible readings to prepare for worship

ALTAR GUILD :
Becky Caswell

April 5, 2026

EASTER DAY

To prepare for worship, please read:

Acts 10:34-43 Psalm 16

Colossians 3:1-4 Matthew 28:1-10

SERVERS: Nolan Kelley

LECTOR: Brian Behrends

C. ASSISTANT: Dale Kroll, Lisa Leonard

GREETERS: Dale & Tami Kroll

USHERS: Bob Bendlin, Dean Gronemeyer

O. COUNTERS: Randy & Lisa Leonard

April 12, 2026

Second Sunday of EASTER

To prepare for worship, please read:

Acts 5:29-42 Psalm 148

1 Peter 1:3-9 John 20:19-31

SERVERS: TBA

LECTOR: Paul Caswell

C. ASSISTANT: Becky Caswell

GREETERS: Paul & Becky Caswell

USHERS: Lynn & Nancy Heideman

O. COUNTERS: Paul & Becky Caswell

April 19, 2026

Third Sunday of EASTER

To prepare for worship, please read:

Acts 2:14a, 36-41 Psalm 116:1-14

1 Peter 1:17-25 Luke 24:13-35

SERVERS: TBA

LECTOR: Sonna Winther

C. ASSISTANTS: Dean Gronemeyer

GREETERS: John & Marie Kelley

USHERS: Grant Leu, Cu Van Cao

O. COUNTERS: Kay Lampport, De Linda Leu

April 26, 2026

Fourth Sunday of EASTER

To prepare for worship, please read:

Acts 2:42-47 Psalm 23

1 Peter 2:19-25 John 10:1-10

SERVERS: Harper Nolte

LECTOR: Scott Nolte

C. ASSISTANTS: Becky Caswell

GREETERS: Dean & Amy Gronemeyer

USHERS: Scott Nolte, Guy Schurz

O. COUNTERS: Dean Gronemeyer, Guy Schurz

**SUNDAY
WORSHIP
9:30 am**

Give Thanks to the LORD

1Chron 16:34

Stewardship Report - February, 2026

Income to date:	\$ 52,565
Expenses to date:	\$ (27,349)
Difference:	\$ 25,216

For
God
so loved the world,
that He gave His only begotten Son,

that

whosoever
believeth in
Him should
not perish,
but have
everlasting

LIFE

John 3:16



QUARTERLY GIVING STATEMENTS

The end of March marked the end of the first quarter of 2026. Quarterly giving statements are being prepared and will be emailed to you. For those of you without email, your statements will be sent in the mail.



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR INDOOR & OUTDOOR WORK

There are always projects that need to be done to keep our church building and grounds looking nice. We have created sign up sheets with a list of projects for both indoor and outdoor. If you would be willing to help out with any of these projects, please sign up in the narthex or call the office.





PRAYERS AND INTERCESSIONS

“Let Us Pray for One Another”



In our prayers during April, let us remember the following persons and causes in our intercessions:

- + **Dale & Tami Kroll and family**, as they mourn the death of Tami’s father, **Clem McLaughlin**;
- + **Molly Vander Linden**, as she mourns the death of her grandmother, **Wilma Vander Linden**;
- + **Brad & Jean Hoffman**, as they mourn the death of Brad’s mother, **Marlene Hoffman**;
- + **Emma White**, as she recovers from surgery;
- + **Sophia Porath**, as she recovers from surgery;
- + **Ashley Ballou Bonnema**, cousin of Molly Vander Linden, as she lives with cancer;
- + **Leo Brownfield**, as he deals with health issues;
- + **Karen Kahley**, as she deals with health issues;
- + **Jim Smith**, as he undergoes medical testing;
- + **Stacie Smith**, friend of Pastor Renae, as she lives with terminal cancer;
- + The families of our parish: **Rustad, Schultz and Schurz**;
- + Our college students: **Jacob Gronemeyer, Benjamin Kroll, Paula Licht and Camden Porath**;
- + Staff and students of Trinity Preschool & Daycare;
- + Directors and staff of Ingham Okoboji Lutheran Bible Camps;
- + Residents of our community’s long term care facilities for health and peace;
- + Caregivers and workers who go above and beyond for our aged and infirm;
- + Fertility of the earth, favorable weather and for all those who labor in the fields;
- + All members of our parish, that as we continue to rejoice in the mystery of the Resurrection, we may be empowered to live the new life given in Christ in our daily lives.

“ First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all people, ...” (1 Timothy 2:1)



“For God so loved the world,
that he gave his only begotten Son,
that whosoever believeth in him
should not perish but have eternal life.”

John 3:16

2026 Parish Worship Ministries – April to June

Date	Altar Guild	Lector	Greeters	Ushers	Offering Counters
April 5 (Easter)	Becky Caswell	Brian Behrends	Dale & Tami Kroll	Bob Bendlin Dean Gronemeyer	Randy & Lisa Leonard
April 12	Becky Caswell	Paul Caswell	Paul & Becky Caswell	Lynn & Nancy Heideman	Paul & Becky Caswell
April 19	Becky Caswell	Sonna Winther	John & Marie Kelley	Grant Leu Cu Van Cao	Kay Lamport De Linda Leu
April 26	Becky Caswell	Scott Nolte	Dean & Amy Gronemeyer	Scott Nolte Guy Schurz	Dean Gronemeyer Guy Schurz
May 3	Deb Garnatz	Bonnie Anderson	Andy & Bonnie Anderson	Randy & Lisa Leonard	Lynn & Nancy Heideman
May 10	Deb Garnatz	Tami Kroll	Ron & Shelly McGuire	Dale Kroll Michael Kroll	Steve Grell Walter Mantler
May 17	Deb Garnatz	Ardith Rustad	Randy & Lisa Leonard	Herb Kintigh Scott Nolte	Randy & Lisa Leonard
May 24	Deb Garnatz	De Linda Leu	Scott & Tina Nolte	Paul & Becky Caswell	Paul & Becky Caswell
May 31	Deb Garnatz	Annette Ebeling	Lynn & Nancy Heideman	Grant Leu Ron McGuire	Lynn & Nancy Heideman
June 7	Amy Gronemeyer	Natalie Kroll	Dale & Tami Kroll	Bob Bendlin Dean Gronemeyer	Dean Gronemeyer Guy Schurz
June 14	Amy Gronemeyer	Grant Leu	Grant & De Linda Leu	Randy & Lisa Leonard	Kay Lamport De Linda Leu
June 21	Amy Gronemeyer	Tina Nolte	Deb Garnatz Jane Long	Herb Kintigh Guy Schurz	Randy & Lisa Leonard
June 28	Amy Gronemeyer	Andy Anderson	Andy & Bonnie Anderson	Dale Kroll Michael Kroll	Steve Grell Walter Mantler

PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDARS!!!

1. Remember, you will not be called to be reminded about your assigned dates.
2. Mark your assigned dates and/or your youth's assigned dates on your calendar.
3. If a conflict arises, switch dates with another or find a substitute. Inform the church office before Wednesday so the bulletin is correct. If you have any questions, please call the appropriate chairperson or the parish office.

THANK YOU FOR SERVING!!!

Parish Council Meeting—February 15, 2026

"To Know, Love and Share Christ"

February Parish Council Meeting called to order by President Dale Kroll at 11:00 am.

Present: President Dale Kroll, VP Grant Leu, Secretary Lisa Leonard, Becky Caswell, Dean Gronemeyer. Excused: Steve Grell.

Minutes of the January meeting were reviewed. Motion by Lisa L. to accept the January Minutes. Second by Becky C. Motion carried unanimously.

Treasurer Report: Dale K. gave a briefing on the report. Was reviewed and discussed. Motion by Lisa L. to accept the Treasurer's Report. Second by Becky C. Motion carried unanimously.

Pastor's Report: Pastor Renae gave a briefing on her duties, activities and volunteering for the past month. Motion by Dean G. to accept Pastor's Report. Second by Becky C. Motion carried unanimously.

Parish Committees were reviewed and discussed.
Property - Grant L. gave update.
Preschool - Board Reports - Pastor Renae and Dale K. gave briefing. Reviewed and discussed.
Motion by Grant L. to accept the Parish Committee Reports. Second by Becky C. Motion carried unanimously.

Unfinished Business:

Communion Assistant Schedule was reviewed, changes made and accepted.

New Treasurer (Andy Anderson is retiring in 2026) Discussed.

Preschool Infant Room: Discussed. Will look into possible Spencer City Grant.

Release Time Program: Tabled.

Jodi's Office / Cubby Room: Discussed new carpet and check-in cabinet countertop.

New Business:

Elect Parish Council Officers: President elect - Dale Kroll, VP elect - Grant Leu, Secretary elect - Lisa Leonard. Motion by Becky C. to accept elected Parish Council Officers. Second by Dean G. Motion carried unanimously.

Review Chairpersons for Parish Committees: Discussed and all listed below.

Social and Health - Becky Caswell.

Property - Grant Leu, Dean Gronemeyer.

Support - Andy Anderson, Dale Kroll, Steve Grell.

Worship and Music - Molly Vander Linden, Delinda Leu, Arla Kintigh.

Christian Education - Amy Gronemeyer.

Memorial - Ryan Porath.

Website - Molly Vander Linden.

Trinity Visionary Task Force - Pastor Renae.

Motion to approve Parish Committees members by Grant L. Second by Dean G. Motion carried unanimously.

SBA Loan - discuss and vote on paying off SBA loan: Reviewed and discussed. Will re-evaluate after Infant Room details are finalized since loan is interest free for 12 months.

Rebalance Bank Accounts: Reviewed Andy A. Financial Memo. Discussed his findings and recommended changes.

Marriage Retreat Sponsor: Reviewed and discussed. Motion by Grant L. to use benevolence funds to become a sponsor for the Marriage Retreat at SYC Ranch. Second by Dean G. Motion carried unanimously.

Noon Lenten Service: Trinity Lutheran Church will host the Community Noon Soup and Sandwich Lenten Service on Wednesday April, 1, 2026.

Motion to adjourn by Lisa L. Second by Grant L. Motion carried unanimously.

Adjourned with prayer at 11:55 am.

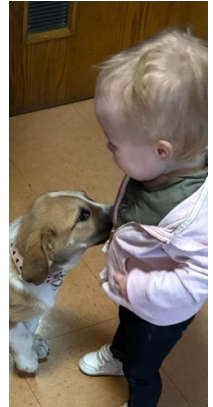
Minutes by Secretary,
Lisa Leonard

Trinity Preschool & Daycare

Trinity Youngsters Celebrate Pets

Trinity preschoolers got a jump start on National Pet Week by hosting their own pet celebration at the preschool! Pet week is held each year in the spring, and honors the bond between humans and animals while promoting responsible pet care.

The preschoolers enjoyed playing with a puppy, learning how to take care of rabbits, and even experienced more exotic pets, including a lizard and a scorpion.



Trinity Preschool & Daycare Receives Grants for Infant Care Project



Trinity Preschool & Daycare recently received two grants to help support their infant care room project. They received a \$15,000 grant from the City of Spencer and a \$10,000 grant from the Clay County Community Foundation.



TRINITY TIDINGS is published monthly by Trinity Lutheran Church
9th & 11th Avenue West, Spencer, Iowa 51301-0396;

712-262-1287

Pastor Renae Behrends

Email: trinchurch@outlook.com; Website: www.trinitylutheranchurchspencer.com

DEADLINE FOR MAY "TIDINGS" - APRIL 20

"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life." John 3:16