



TRINITY TIDINGS

Trinity Lutheran Church ~ Spencer, Iowa



May, 2025

To Know, Love and Share Christ



Pastor Renae's May Message

Spring is here and the green grass is a welcome sight. The buds on the trees have burst forth and we find new life everywhere. This Easter season we, as Christians, are reminded of the new life we have been given through Christ's work of conquering sin, death, and the devil.

This past weekend I married my son who most of you know is a Naval Academy graduate and is now working on his pilot training with the Navy. Training has been a big part of his whole life. It seems like we are trained for many things in life, starting with training pants to school training / swim training / driving training / confirmation training / undergrad training / graduate school training to on-the-job-training, but we often find ourselves left with little training for the "Happily-Ever-After" most everyone is looking for.

The search for the "Happily-Ever-After" seems to come in many forms in today's culture. Some look for it in social settings, some look for it in their work, or family, or stock portfolio. Often people find themselves striving to fill up their "Happily-Ever-After" bucket with anything and everything and forget the ONE thing that provides an ETERNAL Happily Ever After...Christ Jesus.

Because HE HAS RISEN we know and trust the one who gives us the ULTIMATE Happily Ever After. Christ has given us faith, hope, joy, freedom, and life in Him so we can *Go Be the Church* by sharing this great love and hope of Christ Jesus with others.



"Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age." Matthew 28:19-20

United in Christ,
Pastor Renae

NEW MEMBER SUNDAY—MAY 4

Sunday, May 4 will be New Member Sunday at Trinity. During the service we will welcome new members into our congregation.

If you have ever considered joining our community, this is a great opportunity to become an official member. New Member Sunday is not only about joining; it's a chance to learn more about Trinity and our LCMC ([Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ](#)) Association, and the various ways Trinity serves our neighbors and one another. After the service, we will gather for refreshments and informal conversations, providing a space to meet fellow members and ask any questions you may have.

If you would like to become a member of Trinity Lutheran Church, please let us know by calling 712.262.1287. We look forward to sharing this meaningful day with you and hope to see you on May 4.

WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY



We invite you to join us each Wednesday at 4:30 pm for a study on the book *“Ordinary: Sustainable Faith in a Radical, Restless World,”* written by Michael Horton. Your life was meant to be ordinary, not radical. By learning to embrace the ordinary, you will find contentment and sustainable faith in the hidden and humble places.

PARISH GRADUATES



This year we have two members of our parish graduating. **Paula Licht** will graduate from high school and **Rebecca Licht** will graduate from college. We will recognize Paula and Rebecca during worship on May 25. A reception to honor them will follow.

May Calendar of Events

EASTER

4 Sun	8:10 am 9:30 am 10:00 am 10:45 am	Senior Choir Rehearsal Sunday Worship / New Members Sunday School Parish Council Meeting
7 Wed	4:30 pm	Wednesday Bible Study
11 Sun	9:30 am	Sunday Worship
12 Mon	4:30 pm	Christian Ed Meeting - VBS
14 Wed	4:30 pm	Wednesday Bible Study
15 Thu	9:30 am	Ruth Circle
18 Sun	9:30 am Today	Sunday Worship Food Pantry Collection
21 Wed	4:30 pm 5:00 pm	Wednesday Bible Study Preschool Graduation
25 Sun	8:10 am 9:30 am	Senior Choir Rehearsal Sunday Worship / Graduate Rec.
26 Mon		Memorial Day - Office Closed
28 Wed	4:30 pm	Wednesday Bible Study

May Birthdays

- 3 - Lisa Leonard
- 14 - Cu Van Cao
- 15 - Bonnie Anderson
- 16 - Herb Kintigh
- 17 - Reagan Kelley
- 17 - Kay Lamport
- 18 - Kyle Licht
- 19 - Amy Gronemeyer
- 20 - Sue Bendlin
- 21 - Eden Long
- 25 - Rebecca Licht
- 31 - Emma White



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Plans are being made for this summer's Vacation Bible School. Our Christian Education Committee will meet on Monday, May 12 at 4:30 pm to discuss dates, times, fundraising, etc. Please stay tuned for more details...

May Parish Worship Ministries

With Bible readings to prepare for worship

ALTAR GUILD :

Deb Garnatz

May 4, 2025

Third Sunday of EASTER

To prepare for worship, please read:

Acts 9:1-22 Psalm 30

Revelation 5:(1-7) 8-14 John 21:1-14 (15-19)

SERVERS: Harper Nolte

LECTOR: Scott Nolte

C. ASSISTANT: Lisa Leonard

GREETERS: Scott & Tina Nolte

USHERS: Brian Behrends, Cu Van Cao

O. COUNTERS: D. Gronemeyer, D. Leu

May 11, 2025

Fourth Sunday of EASTER

To prepare for worship, please read:

Acts 20:17-35 Psalm 23

Revelation 7:9-17 John 10:22-30

SERVERS: Sophia Porath

LECTOR: Andy Anderson

C. ASSISTANT: Grant Leu

GREETERS: Andy & Bonnie Anderson

USHERS: Lynn & Nancy Heideman

O. COUNTERS: Lynn & Nancy Heideman

May 18, 2025

Fifth Sunday of EASTER

To prepare for worship, please read:

Acts 11:1-18 Psalm 150

Revelation 21:1-7 John 16:12-22

SERVERS: Nolan Kelley

LECTOR: Bonnie Anderson

C. ASSISTANTS: Steve Grell

GREETERS: Ron & Shelly McGuire

USHERS: Leo Brownfield, **TBA**

O. COUNTERS: Steve Grell, Walter Mantler

May 25, 2025

Sixth Sunday of EASTER

To prepare for worship, please read:

Acts 16:9-15 Psalm 67

Revelation 21:9-14, 21-27 John 16:23-33

SERVERS: Harper Nolte

LECTOR: Sonna Winther

C. ASSISTANTS: Molly Vander Linden

GREETERS: Lynn & Nancy Heideman

USHERS: Paul & Becky Caswell

O. COUNTERS: Paul & Becky Caswell





PRAYERS AND INTERCESSIONS

“Let Us Pray for One Another”



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

- + **Merlyn Winther**, as he recovers from a broken arm;
- + **Sue Bendlin**, as she recovers from surgery;
- + **Ashley Ballou Bonnema**, cousin of Molly Vander Linden, as she lives with cancer;
- + **Clem & Cheryl McLaughlin**, parents of Tami Kroll, as they deal with health challenges;
- + **Jim Smith**, as he undergoes medical testing;
- + **Stacie Smith**, friend of Pastor Renae, as she lives with terminal cancer;
- + Our college students: **Jacob Gronemeyer, Benjamin Kroll, Rebecca Licht** and **Camden Porath**;
- + Those recently confirmed: **Nolan Kelley, Harper Nolte** and **Sophia Porath**;
- + Members graduating from high school and college this spring: **Paula Licht** and **Rebecca Licht**;
- + The families of our parish: **Winther, Anderson** and **Bauermeister**;
- + 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)



A TABLE BLESSING FOR MOTHER’S DAY

“Gracious Lord, as a mother gives life and nourishment to her children, so you watch over your Church. Bless our mother. Let the example of her faith and love shine forth. Grant that we, her family, may honor her always with a spirit of profound respect. Grant this through Christ our Lord. Amen.”

BIBLE CAMP ON US



To encourage our young people to attend summer camp, we are offering free tuition for Ingham Okoboji Lutheran Bible Camp. Several options are available for those in kindergarten to sixth grades, from One Day Camp to Weeklong Camp. If you would like a list of camp dates or to register your child, please visit www.okoboji.org. Brochures are also available on the table in the narthex. In the section requesting payment information, just note that Trinity Lutheran Church—Spencer will pay the tuition.

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 parish office.



Upper Des Moines Opportunity, Inc.
UDMO

FOOD PANTRY DONATIONS NEEDED

As more families are seeking assistance from local food pantries, donations of non-perishable food and personal care items are greatly needed. Items that are especially needed include: **Cereal, Oatmeal, Hamburger Helper, Canned Soups, Canned Fruits & Vegetables, Canned Ravioli & Spaghetti, Spaghetti Sauce, Peanut Butter & Jelly.** There is a container in the narthex where donated items may be placed. All items will be taken to UDMO.

O Give Thanks to the LORD

1Chron 16:34

Stewardship Report - March, 2025

Income to date:	\$ 112,888
Expenses to date:	\$ (96,329)
Difference:	\$ 16,559

ST. LUKE HOMES AND SERVICES

Trinity Lutheran Church is a member of the St. Luke Homes and Services Association of Lutheran Churches. St. Luke Homes and Services is located on 13 contiguous acres and offers a full continuum of senior housing options, including senior apartments, assisted living and skilled care. Volunteer opportunities exist. For more information contact Amanda Klein at 712-262-5931.



SUMMER SPECIAL MUSIC



We are developing a list of individuals and families who would be willing to provide special music, vocal or instrumental, on a Sunday this summer. If you would like to share your talents, please contact Arla Kintigh at 712-363-1856.

COFFEE HOUR VOLUNTEERS NEEDED



Coffee Hours are held on the second and fourth Sundays of each month, with an occasional exception. We will need 2 volunteers, or a family, to provide and serve refreshments on these Sundays. If you would be willing to help out on a Sunday, please sign up in the office.

TRINITY APPRECIATION NIGHT

Trinity held an Appreciation Night on April 10 to express our sincere thanks and gratitude for all the prayers, service and support following the flood last summer. The evening began with an open house, followed by a meal. We would like to thank all those who volunteered their time and resources to make our Appreciation Night a huge success!



We prayed for a miracle, and then you came along.
We are overwhelmed by your prayers, your generosity and your service. Thank you so much.



TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH,
PRESCHOOL AND DAYCARE
APPRECIATION NIGHT
APRIL 10, 2025

Let us celebrate not just the restoration of our church, preschool & daycare, but the strength of our community united in faith and resilience.

HOLY WEEK HIGHLIGHTS



Laying our troubles at the cross on Palm Sunday



Even our youngest members participated in the foot washing



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



Dan Antoine provided pulpit supply on Easter



Special music for Easter

Trinity Preschool & Daycare

Youngsters Celebrate Appreciation Week

Trinity Preschoolers celebrated appreciation week with a different theme each day. The themes included: Hat Day; Crazy Sock Day; Favorite Hero Day; Crazy Hair Day; and Favorite Color Day. A few members of our parish also read to the students and brought treats for everyone.



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 JUNE "TIDINGS" - MAY 20

