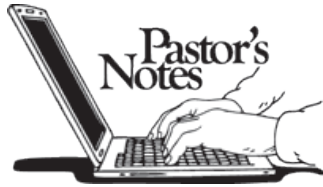




Trinity Lutheran Church
Wee Disciples Preschool & Daycare
1226 First Avenue North
Great Falls, MT 59401-3201
(406) 452-2121



Lenten Journey

You and I are about to embark upon a journey. As Moses and Israel spent 40 years wandering in the wilderness awaiting their entrance into the promised land, and as Jesus spent 40 days being tempted by Satan before beginning His earthly ministry, so the Church spends 40 days in Lent, looking forward to our own redemption.

This journey of Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, which is February 14th this year. On a day typically associated with romantic love, we will gather together to remember the greatest love that the world has ever known. Ash Wednesday is a day that we remember the words that God spoke to Adam after he fell into sin: “*You are dust, and to dust you shall return*” (*Genesis 3:19*). Because we are sinners, death awaits us all. But even as God condemned Adam and Eve and all their descendants to death, He also promised that He would grant us salvation. Jesus came to bring us salvation by loving us so much that He willingly endured death to defeat death for us.

During Lent, our worship services will become increasingly somber. We will sing our last “Alleluias” on Transfiguration Sunday, which is February 11th, and will not sing it again until we celebrate the Resurrection of Our Lord. Beginning in Lent, the color of our paraments will change to purple, reminding us of our need to repent our sins. We also will no longer sing the Hymn of Praise. Our joy will be muted, even as we know that our redemption awaits us following that journey.

But even in the midst of this Lenten Season, we have reason for hope: For Christ has come to defeat sin, death, and the devil for us and for our salvation. He has carried our sins and borne our iniquities so that we who are called Children of God would receive life and salvation through His death and resurrection.

Our Midweek Lenten Series will explore the Old Testament background for the Lord’s Supper. We will read through Luther’s *Small Catechism* on The Lord’s Supper and hear how the Old Testament foreshadows Jesus’ work of giving us His own Body and Blood for our forgiveness and redemption. Please join us for our Lenten Midweek Worship Services on Wednesday evenings starting on February 14th. We will have soup supper each Wednesday at 6:00 pm, and worship will begin at 7:00 pm.

May God fill us with His peace,

Pastor Jonathan Schultz

MARCH LAMPLIGHTER DEADLINE

Please have your articles and tidbits into the church office by:

Monday, February 19th!!



Quarterly Voter's meeting ~ Sunday, February 18, 2024 following Divine Service

WEE DISCIPLES

"Let the little children come to Me." Mark 10:14



January has been a busy month at Wee Disciples! As part of our Epiphany celebration, we followed the star to find Jesus, just as the Wise Men did. We learned about Jesus' baptism and how He healed the ten lepers. Children did many activities and crafts using snowflakes, gingerbread and hibernating arctic animals. But our biggest focus, as always, has been to share Jesus' love and saving grace with our children and families.

During the month of February our children will get to experience a taste of other traditions and cultures as we have special treats and music times during Mardi Gras and Chinese New Year. We will have learning activities from Fish Wildlife & Parks and a few special field trips as the weather allows. Check out the calendar posted by the church office door and see what we're planning!

None of this would be possible if it weren't for our dedicated staff and parent volunteers - we are so thankful to God that He provides for our children in so many ways! And thank YOU, members of Trinity - our partners in service to the Lord - for your prayers and support.

We are looking forward to the *Trinity & Wee Disciple Brat Feed* sponsored by the Mission & Evangelism Committee on Friday, February 2nd at 5:30 pm. All members of Trinity are welcome to come to get to know some of our Wee Disciples families and staff! It means so much to everyone when we can all come together for a time of food and fellowship.

Our next *Burgers for Benefits* will be from 5:00 to 9:00pm on February 20th at Fuddruckers. Thank you for your continued support with this fundraising activity!

LWML News

All ladies of the congregation, including our new members and confirmed young women, are invited and encouraged to attend all LWML happenings here at Trinity.

Please contact Sylvia Adams or Amy Schultz for more information.

Thanks to YOU and your generous donations, we raised about \$560 at the *Cookie Walk* in December! \$140 of that will go to each of the seminarians Trinity supports, and the other \$280 will go towards missions. At our Group Gathering on January 20th we selected our 2024 Mission Grant recipients. They include:

Montana Indian Ministries

Our 4 Montana Missionaries Abroad

Trinity Lutheran Camp, Bigfork MT

Orphan Grain Train

Bob Bergen's Ministry/Project in India



Our next Group Gathering will be **Saturday, February 10th at 9:30 am** in the Stahlecker Room. There will be devotions, planning, and fellowship time.

Instead of having a Lenten Brunch at Trinity this year, we are inviting our ladies to attend the *Parade of Tables* at Peace Lutheran Church on **Saturday, March 9th**. More information will be coming soon.

The Montana District Convention is coming up **April 26th-28th** in Polson. *What a fun time to gather with your fellow Lutheran Ladies to hear how our Mites are used, reports from missionaries in the Harvest Field, worship together, and have great times of fellowship, Bible Study and more!* Please ask Sylvia or Amy for more information.

Mark your calendars!

Saturday, Feb 10th ~ 9:30 am ~ Group Gathering in Stahlecker Room

Saturday, March 9th ~ Ladies are invited to attend the *Parade of Tables* at Peace

April 26th-28th ~ Polson, MT ~ MT District Convention

Wednesday Morning Ladies Bible study ~ The Wednesday Morning Ladies' Bible study meets every Wednesday from 9:30 to 11:00am in the Stahlecker Room. Join us for a morning of fellowship time together as we study God's Word.

Men's Bible Study continues to meet on **Thursday mornings at 8:30am** for an hour of fellowship and study of God's Word. All the men of the congregation are invited and encouraged to attend.

Did you accept my invitation from last month? What did you find in the church library to read during the sub-zero days of January? I found a very interesting little paperback titled, *Men Who Shaped America* by Robert Flood. It tells how the Bible molded the lives of famous men who helped shape early America. I would highly recommend it. Ash Wednesday is on February 14th this year. What better way to spend Valentine's Day than remembering the love our Lord has for us, as we begin pondering His passion. See you there!

The Friday Ladies Bible study ~ Friday Ladies Bible Class is planning to resume in March.

Assisted Living Ministry ~ The Assisted Living Ministry, with hymn singing and a devotion, will meet at the following locations. On Friday, February 2nd from 10:00-10:45am they will be at *The Lodge*, 1801 9th St. S. Join the group at 11:45am on Friday, February 23rd for the no-host lunch which will be held at *JB's Restaurant*, 1322 10th Ave. S. Afterward continue on to *Highgate Senior Living* at 3000 11th Ave. S. for singing.

Pastor Reinke will be holding worship service at *The Lodge* on Ash Wednesday, February 14th at 2:30pm. On Monday, February 19th he will be at *Highgate Senior Living* at 1:30. We have members from our congregations living at these residences. How delighted they would be to have you join them for worship!

Did you know that Trinity has scholarships available for families of Trinity who have, or would like to have, their children attending Wee Disciples Preschool and Day Care? You do not need to have a financial need, but you do need to be a member of Trinity Lutheran Church. The application is available on our website (www.trinity-mt.org) or in the church office.



Called Home to Glory

January 4, 2024

Arlene Royland (Evelyn McNaight's sister in Spokane, WA)



Ginnaty, Sean & Rayn
Brayden, Bayley, Brielyn & Brydger
 131 Big Bend Ln.
 Great Falls, MT 59404-6488

Rossberg, Frank & Shelley
 131 Big Bend Ln.
 Great Falls, MT 59404-6488

Our shut-ins

Millie Birkholz (The Lodge), **Ellen Carpenter** (Eagle’s Manor), **Anita Erickson** (at home). **Ed Hickel** (at home), **Arleen Nelson** (Bee Hive Homes-Pine Tree), **Myrtle Pence** (at Benefis Extended Care), **Juanita Winter** (Bee Hive Homes-Clover)



Bob Blomstrom (Beehive Homes in Helena), **Darlene Murray** (at son’s home in Kansas), **Vi-Nell** (at son’s home in Spokane, WA), **Flo Winter** (at daughter’s home in North Dakota)

Our members who continue to battle health issues and their caregivers

Chuck & Judy Lively, Chuck & Elsie Lorenz, Jerry & Colleen Mans
 Henry & Alice Schuman, Wally & Diane Thompson

We pray for our members in hospice care

Sherrie Blomstrom

We pray for our expectant mothers and their families:

Kelli & Zach Lynch

We pray for those serving in law enforcement and the military

Sam Birkett, Cascade County Sheriff’s Deputy; **Joshua Graham**, (Blomstrom’s grandson-in-law) Helena Police Department

Evan Brenner, USAF; **Nathan Brenner**, USAF; **Scott Broberg**, USAF; **Daniel Crème’**, USAF; **Matthew Erickson**, USAF (Anita Erickson’s grandson); **Dustin Krueger**, USAF (LaVelle VanVoast’s son); **Kelli Lynch**, USAF; **Isaac Monroe**, USAF; **Martin Shabaan**, USAF; **Chaplain Jonathan Schultz**, USAF; **Kalainee Teaney**, USAF; **Julie Timms** (Waetzig’s granddaughter)

Our Seminary Student

Aaron Ferguson, 6600 N. Clinton St. Box 245, Fort Wayne, IN 46825

Birthdate: January 16th

Home Church: Shepherd of the Hills Lutheran Church, Hyannis, NE

Special Ministry Interests: Rural Ministry, Parish/Congregational



Rev. Dr. David & Jennifer Preus ~ Eurasia (Romania)

Rev. Dr. Gerald & Heidi Paul ~ Cayman Islands

Rev. Eric & Johanna Stinnett ~ Ethiopia

John & Jenn Wolf ~ Kenya

Giving Online: You can partner with the LCMS by making an online gift restricted in use to the support of these missionaries at lcms.org

Giving by Check: You can also make a donation to their ministries by check. *Mail your check, made payable to The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod and designated in the memo line with the missionaries last name*, to The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, P.O. Box 66861, St. Louis, MO 63166-6861, **QUESTIONS?** Call 888-930-4438 or send an email to mission.giving@lcms.org.

COMPARISON OF GIVING REPORT ~ 2023 ~ 2024

For the period December 31, 2023 through January 21, 2024

December 31 st	\$ 2,035
January 7 th	\$ 3,319
January 14 th	\$ 1,665
January 21 st	\$12,937
Vanco	\$ 2,050

Actual giving for report period: \$22,006

Roof Repair Fund –through 01/21/2024 \$49,174



If you have any questions, please call me at (406) 868-2260 ~ *James Lautenschlager, Assistant Treasurer*



Vanco's Give+ Online

Vanco's Give+ Mobile

The next generation of giving

Please visit our website www.trinity-mt.org, go to the "Fellowship" tab and sign up for online giving. You can also download the Vanco mobile app to your smart phone for even more convenience.

A Reminder to Use Your New Offering Envelopes ~ New boxes of offering envelopes for **2024 (BLUE in color)** were issued Wednesday, December 20, 2023.

Please destroy any remaining 2023 yellow offering envelopes.

Begin using the BLUE offering envelopes.

Offering Counters are needed to assist the Treasurer and Assistant Treasurer count and record the offerings following each Sunday service. No experience is needed. Please call the church office (452-2121) or sign up on the bulletin board outside the church office if you are willing to assist.

Snow Removal ~ *Are you willing to come to church early on a Sunday morning to shovel snow before services?* If so, there is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board outside the church office. Given the recent weather patterns, you may not need to ever shovel, but your willingness to come **JUST IN CASE** is appreciated.

Read through the Gospels or New Testament in Lent ~ We are again throwing down the challenge to Trinity to read through God's word during the 40 days of Lent **OR**, if you find that to be too daunting a challenge, read through just the Gospels. What better way to prepare for Easter than to read the complete story of Jesus' birth, life, death and resurrection? So, dust off your Bible as we read God's Word through these 40 days of Lent!

Read through the Gospels or New Testament in Lent		
Day	Gospels only	New Testament
February 14	Matthew 1-3	Matthew 1 - 7
15	Matthew 4-6	Matthew 8 - 12
16	Matthew 7-9	Matthew 13 - 18
17	Matthew 10-Matthew 12	Matthew 19 - 24
February 18	Take a Break	

19	Matthew 13-Matthew 14	Matthew 25 - end
20	Matthew 15-Matthew 16	Mark 1 - 5
21	Matthew 17-Matthew 18	Mark 6 - 11
22	Matthew 19-Matthew 20	Mark 12 - end
23	Matthew 21-Matthew 22	Luke 1 - 4
24	Matthew 23-Matthew 24	Luke 5 - 8
February 25	Take a Break	
26	Matthew 25-Matthew 26	Luke 9 - 12
27	Matthew 27-Matthew 28	Luke 13 - 19
28	Mark 1-Mark 3	Luke 20 - end
29	Mark 4-Mark 6	John 1 - 5

Lenten Soup Suppers ~ *Ash Wednesday is February 14th* this year and as usual we will be having Lenten soup suppers each Wednesday of Lent. As always there is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board outside the church office. Please sign-up for items to bring each week. We are also looking for groups of people to handle the serving and clean-up each week.



****NEW** cell phone ~ (406)590-6460**

New Church Contact Number ~ The church council recently authorized the purchase of a cell phone to be used by the church secretary for all church contact business. This phone will have all of the contact information (names, addresses, phone numbers, etc.) for the entire congregation and will be carried by the church secretary **except** when she is on vacation. The congregation is asked to use this number to request prayers, inform the office of hospitalizations, etc.

The *Missions & Evangelism* board is sponsoring a “Brat Fry” potluck supper Friday, **February 2nd at 5:30pm** with the Wee Disciples families. M & E will be providing the brats, buns, beans and chips. Please bring a salad, side dish or dessert to share. The congregation is invited and encouraged to come and enjoy some fellowship time with the families of Wee Disciples.



Items Need a Good Home ~ The Stahlecker Room is nearly complete. All that needs to be done is to hang the new TV and re-home several items. The items needing a new home are an electric typewriter (with additional ribbons, etc.) and a typing table. If you are interested please feel free to whisk them away.

They are Still Available and Now 45% OFF!!

Cards (both Christmas and all-occasion) and calendars!

Prices:	All Occasion Cards	\$7.00	\$4.00
	Christmas Cards	\$9.00	\$5.00
	2024 Calendars	\$9.00	\$5.00

Get them in the church office. All proceeds go to benefit our youth.

Worship Assistants



Serving this Month

Counters ~ Alan & Denise Wegner

Altar Guild ~ Denise Wegner / Barb Going / Sandy Baranko

Ushers ~ Alan Wegner / Elders

February 4, 2024 ~ Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany (green)

Duty Elders	Len Koelbel / Shawn Shaw
Audio/Video	Isaac Schultz
Organist	Joy Suek

Wednesday, February 7, 2024

Duty Elder	Shawn Shaw
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February 11, 2024 ~ Sixth Sunday after the Epiphany (green)

Duty Elders	Roy Arves / Bill Sybrant
Audio/Video	Barry Eastley
Organist	Jeannine Eastley



February 14, 2024 ~ Ash Wednesday (black)

Duty Elders	Len Koelbel / Shawn Shaw
Organist	Jeannine Eastley

February 18, 2024 ~ First Sunday in Lent (purple)

Duty Elders	Martin Bauer / Len Koelbel
Audio/Video	Barry Eastley
Organist	Jeannine Eastley

Wednesday, February 21, 2024 ~ First Lenten Mid-week

Duty Elder	Martin Bauer
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February 25, 2024 ~ Second Sunday in Lent (purple)

Duty Elders	Shawn Shaw / Bill Sybrant
Audio/Video	Josh Schultz
Organist	Joy Suek

Wednesday, February 28, 2024 ~ Second Lenten Mid-week

Duty Elder	Martin Bauer
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If unable to serve on your designated Sunday, please contact the church office (406-452-2121) as soon as possible to allow time to find a substitute.

Birthdays and Wedding, Baptismal and Confirmation Anniversaries

<p>February 2nd February 3rd February 4th February 5th February 7th February 8th February 9th February 11th February 12th February 13th February 14th February 15th</p>	<p>Ruth Brenner Mattie Norris Lois Phillips Emily Neumann Gary Neumann Gary Headington Randy Klatt Lacee Brown Mary Somerfeld, LaVelle VanVoast Brayden Ginnaty Ron Lee Laura Filson, Linda Wade Hudson Kotz Riley Kotz, Jacob Mansch Caleb Bicsak Vi Nell (90+)</p>	 <p style="font-size: 2em; font-weight: bold; color: #e91e63;">FEBRUARY</p> <p style="font-size: 1.5em; font-family: cursive;">Birthdays</p>	<p>February 17th February 18th February 19th February 20th February 21st February 22nd February 23rd February 24th February 26th February 27th February 28th</p>	<p>Louise Kuki Alexandria Young Travis Copp Laney Wied Jon Schroeder Lauretta Stanfield (80+) Carson Bauer Hunter Sharrah, Kerry Williams Nolan Joyce, Zach Lynch Rayn Ginnaty Austin Webb Judy Lively (80+) Melissa Soldano Tracy Lou Miesmer Dakota Sharrah Chad Mans</p>
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<p>February 1st February 4th February 7th February 8th February 12th February 14th February 20th February 22nd February 25th February 26th February 27th</p>	<p>Justin Lee Mick Jones Kenzie Legg Martin Bauer Ruth Brenner Molly Church, Hailey, Hannah & Hayden Houle, Sarah Lautenschlager Denise Rutledge Kathie Gessaman, Louise Keith Tim Chapman, Maryanne Kingland Anita Chapman, Samuel Chapman Ed Hickel, Hudson Kotz, Henry Schuman</p>	 <p style="font-size: 2em; font-weight: bold; color: #e91e63;">FEBRUARY</p> <p style="font-size: 4em; font-weight: bold; color: #e91e63; opacity: 0.5;">BAPTISMS</p>	<p>February 2nd February 17th February 29th</p>	<p>Marty Eberly, Sandy Schroeder Lauralyn Fairbanks Bob Blomstrom</p>
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<p>February 2nd February 17th February 29th</p>	<p>Marty Eberly, Sandy Schroeder Lauralyn Fairbanks Bob Blomstrom</p>
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