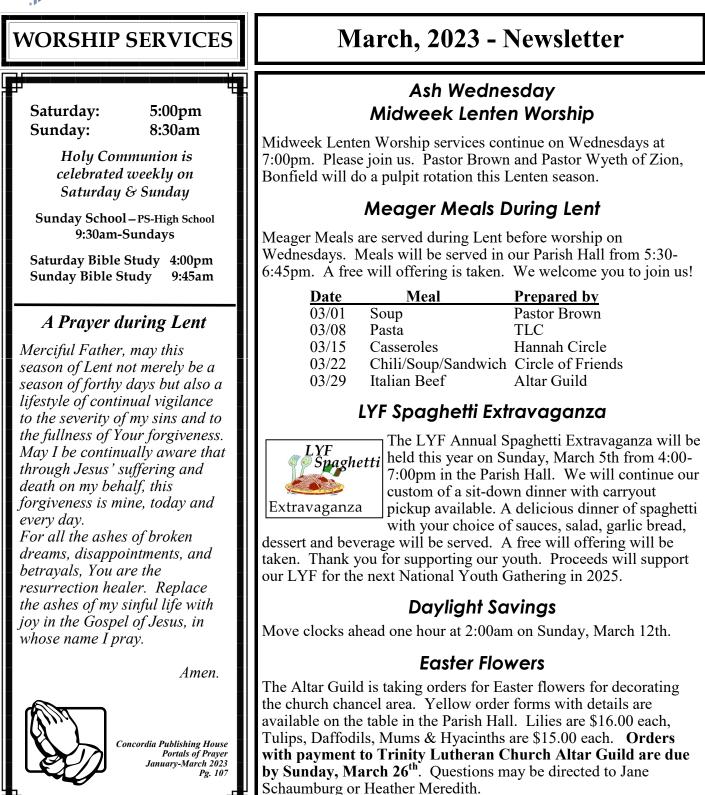


Trinity Lutheran Church

Proclaiming, Teaching and Living the Gospel of Christ!



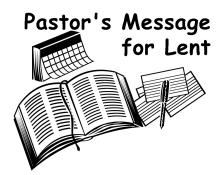
255 E. Third Street, P.O. Box 414 Herscher, IL 60941 Phone: 815-426-2262

Web site: trinitylutheranherscher.org Email: trinityher1@comcast.net Visit us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/trinityherscher

Repentance Known and Unknown

Before God we should plead guilty of all sins, even those we are not aware of, as we do in the Lord's Prayer... - The Small Catechism

One of the refreshing things about the Scriptures is how frank and honest they are concerning sin. By this I don't mean simply how they are blunt about what is sinful, but they address the depth of the impact of sin upon us. Sin isn't just a matter of sometimes we do bad things – sin means that many times we aren't even aware of the sin we are stuck in.



There are many verses that teach this idea. I think of Psalm 19:12 - *Who can discern his errors? Declare me innocent from hidden faults.* Paul notes in 1 Corinthians 4 that he is *not aware of anything against myself, but I am not thereby acquitted. It is the Lord who judges me.* Or you have Balaam not able to see the impending punishment God has set in store for him (Pastor Wyeth will be preaching on this here this Lent). Over and over, there is the idea that we don't fully see or understand the impact sin has upon us.

Lent is a time of repentance. Sometimes this is a repentance against known flaws and faults – a renewed assault against the old familiar temptations that we know we struggle with. Perhaps some of you have given up something for Lent specifically to fight against some of those a bit more consciously.

However, there is another angle to repentance. There's the humility of acknowledging that we don't know all our sin. There's the repentance that comes when God through His Word reveals our sin to us – sins that we hadn't even realized before – and He turns us away. While this can be scary and intimidating, it is good for us and for our neighbor as well.

So yes, you may see how strong your sins are. You may see even new sins that you weren't aware of. So be it? This Lent we also see that Christ Jesus is even stronger than those sins, strong to save you. Be bold in seeing, in facing, in struggling against your sin, for Christ is even stronger and bolder in rescuing you from them with His death and resurrection!

Pastor Brown

Planning for Easter Sunday

Worship with Holy Communion will be held at 8:30am on Easter Sunday, April 9th. After service, a Continental Breakfast (Juice/Coffee-and) will be served in the Parish Hall.



The Sunday School Easter Egg Hunt will be held at 10:15am on Easter Sunday.



Christian Education Schedule/ Bible Study

Sunday School is held on Sundays at 9:30am. Meet in the front of the church for the opening.

LYF (High School) Bible Study is held on Sundays at 9:30am in the church basement.

Sunday Adult Bible Study is held on Sundays at approximately 9:45am after the Sunday worship service and Sunday School opening. We are just beginning to study the *book of Titus*.

Saturday Adult Bible Study is held on Saturdays at 4:00pm before the worship service. We are currently studying *The Small Catechism*.

Confirmation is held on Sundays at 2:00pm.

Facebook Live devotions are held online Monday through Thursday at 8:00am.

Be in the Word! It's a great place to be! All are welcome!

Sunday School

We are accepting Easter Egg size candy donations for the Easter Egg Hunt this year. A bin is located in the Parish Hall for your donations. Thank you!

We will be stuffing Easter eggs on Sunday, April 2nd after church. Anyone willing to help is welcome!

Check out our memory work progress on the Sunday School bulletin board in the Sunday School hallway! The children are doing an amazing job!



Weekly Bulletin Deadline

Items for the weekly bulletin are due in the church office each **Wednesday by noon.** Thank you!



Monthly Newsletter Deadline

Articles, announcements and information for the April newsletter are due on, **Thursday, March 23rd by 9:00am**. Thank you!

Pastoral Care & Church Office Hours

Pastor Brown will be in the office on Mondays & Wednesdays 8:00-11:00am-ish. He will be happy to meet with you at other times as well, just call, text or email.

Pastor's Email: pastorbrown.trinity@comcast.net Pastor's Cell phone (call or text): 815-953-9995 Pastor's Office phone: 815-426-2262 x102

Diane Hart will continue to be in the office as often as needed. Phone messages and email are checked multiple times daily.

Diane's Email: trinityher1@comcast.net Diane's Office phone: 815-426-2262 x101 Diane's Cell phone (call or text): 708-307-2710

Missionaries

Please continue to pray for our missionaries Rev. Shauen & Krista Trump and their family as they continue to share God's love and spread His Word.



Courtyard Estates of Herscher Services



A worship service is planned at Courtyard Estates of Herscher (Harvest View) on Mondays, March 13th & 27th at 2:00pm. Watch the bulletins for updates.

Member Birthdays



- Trevor Stutz, Hope Thurston, John Varvel
- Randy Bisaillon
- 3 4 5 7 Nicholas Collins
- Amelia Emery, Nikki Shifflet
- 8 Chuck Fieldman. Kit Ruel
- 11 Deloris Lockwood, Steven Lund, Sherri Orr
- 12 Joshua Foltz, Barbara Jackson
- 13 Tyler Janssen, Lisa Scanlon
- 19 Mady Rogers, Annabelle Royal
- 20 Diane Winterroth
- 21 Bonnie Matherly, Steven Ramsey
- 22 Cheryl Ferris
- 23 Frances Horn, Chad Lucht
- 24 Mackenzie Marquis
- 26 Brayden Shepard
- 27 Eden Hull, Debbie Kohl
- 28 Pam Lambert
- Susan Bruner, Michael Foltz, 29 Debra Gaus, Cassandra Hoffman
- 31 Matthew Barwegen, Brandon Malone

Please notify Diane in the church office if there are any errors or omissions. Thank you!

A Birthday Prayer

O source of life and every perfect gift, as *I* celebrate another year lived in and by Your grace with those who give me great joy, accept my thanks for every blessing You bestow. I especially praise You for the perfect gift of Your Son, who gives me the greatest joythe promise of everlasting life with You. May I hold fast to that promise all the days of my life. In Jesus' name. Amen.

> **Concordia Publishing House** Portals of Prayer Jan.-Mar. 2023, page 112

Trinity Lutheran Church January, 2023 **Financial Summary**

General

| Utilti al | |
|------------------------|-------------|
| Beg. Balance | \$20,975.53 |
| Receipts | 32,703.68 |
| Expense | 27,801.19 |
| Ending Balance | \$25,878.02 |
| Mission Fund | |
| Beg. Balance | \$ 808.00 |
| Receipts | 3,595.00 |
| Expense | 808.00 |
| Ending Balance | \$ 3,595.00 |
| Little Lambs Preschool | |

| Little Lambs Preschool | |
|-------------------------------|----------------|
| Beg. Balance | \$ 3,855.79 |
| Receipts | 4,512.00 |
| Expense | 3,968.01 |
| Ending Balance | \$ 4,399.78 |

Complete financial reports are given at Quarterly Voters' Meetings held on the third Sundays of January, April, July and October.



Please contact Diane in the church office if you need to pick up your

Treasurer Renort

offering envelopes, have them issued, or to be removed from the offering envelope list.

Sales Tax Exemption

Contact Diane in the office for a copy (electronic or paper). This should be used for all purchases for Trinity. There are additional forms/bar codes available for church purchases made at Home Depot and Menards. Please get a copy of the forms/bar code prior to making purchases. Thank you.

Parish Hall Rental/ Property Check-Out List

The Parish Hall may be rented to Trinity members for various functions. Please contact Diane in the office to schedule, remit rental fee, and obtain a copy of the guidelines. Also, any property borrowed (old tables, kitchen items, etc.) need to be signed out on the check-out sheet in the church office. Please note, per the Church Council, the white tables and chairs may not leave the church property. Also, all items used are to be returned clean and stored appropriately. Thank you!

Little Lambs Preschool



I'm excited to announce that Trinity's Little Lambs Preschool is open for enrollment for the 2023-2024 school year. Registration forms may be printed from our website or picked up from the church office. Our goal is to guide and nurture as many children as possible by providing learning experiences in the areas of spiritual, social, emotional, physical, cognitive, and language development. Spots are filling up fast, so please spread the word to any families that you may know that would be interested in joining our preschool family.

Other exciting news for our preschool is that starting in July, Celia Brown will be become the new preschool director! Over the next few months, Celia will be working alongside me to learn more about the director role and to make the transition a seamless one. I am very grateful for the hard work and dedication that she has shown and continues to show to Little Lambs.

As always, we are so thankful for the outpouring of love, kindness, financial support, and time that people give to the preschool!

Many Blessings, Mrs. Kruse

Raise Right Gift Card/Scrip Card Program—go to: raiseright.com

It is easy to raise funds for Trinity's Little Lambs Preschool simply by shopping! A recent list of retailers/order form is available at raiseright.com or in the Parish Hall. You may order online or give paper orders with payment to Diane in the office. Contact Diane in the church office with any questions regarding this no selling fundraising program. Thank you for your support! All proceeds benefit Trinity's Little Lambs Preschool. Remember, this program goes yearround! The online enrollment code for Trinity's Little Lambs is: 363ECBLF55795 Please make checks payable to *Trinity's Little Lambs Preschool*. Questions/orders may be directed to Diane in the church office.

Redeeming Life Outreach Ministries, Inc. (RLOM)

Greetings to you in the name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ from the entire team at Redeeming Life Outreach Ministries!

What a journey this has been! Since January 2020, when talks of opening a maternity home in the Northern Illinois area first began, we have faced many challenges and struggles. But we never give up! We know these critical housing and program services need to be available to vulnerable mothers in Illinois who are at risk of abortion, abuse or homelessness. Mothers who want to choose LIFE for their baby but don't see a path to the future need support; they need a home, help and hope!

Despite all the challenges, God has continued to provide for this expansion home with the enduring support of people in the NID and beyond with their prayers, financial support and loving inquiries about when this home will open. God walks with us in this mission, even as the evil one tries to frustrate us or tempt us to give up. And so, here we are: ready to begin the extensive remodel project at the East Dundee home...and boy, are we ever ready!

We are thrilled to have a general contractor taking over the project, as our amazing volunteer project manager relocated to Kansas in December after starting this project so well. We feel confident he will expedite and lead this project forward with intention and integrity. He is willing to work with our ministry partners who want to donate goods and services.

Possible opportunities are:

- Electrical (IL license required)
- HVAC
- Windows
- Masonry work
- Materials (Interior doors, drywall, plywood, etc.)
- Radon Mitigation
- Roofing (IL license required)

With Joy and Thanksgiving, Sheryl DeWitt Executive Director *Redeeming Life Outreach Ministries, Inc.*



Contact Barbara Schwark, Trinity's RLOM Advocate with any questions. Visit rlom.org/expansion for updates and information regarding the new home in Illinois.

Martha Circle

Martha Circle will meet for breakfast on Friday, March 3rd at 8:30am at the Herscher Restaurant. Visitors are welcome.

Board of Education

The board will meet on Sunday, March 5th, time to be announced. Contact Jessica Kruse with any questions.

Church Council

The Church Council will meet on Tuesday, March 14th at 7:00pm in the Parish Hall.

Hannah Circle

Our deepest thanks for the congregation's generous support of our Valentine Bake Sale!

Hannah Circle will be serving casseroles for the Meager Meal on March 15th.

Our next meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 21st, at 6:30pm at the home of Barbara Schwark. We'll begin our new book <u>DAUGHTER</u> <u>OF THE REFORMATION</u>. We'll also collect our mites for LWML.

March Card Care: Lynne Noffke

Dartball

Dartball games will be held on Monday, March 6th at 7:00pm. The Annual League Tournament will be held on Sunday, March 19th at 1:00pm at Emmanuel Lutheran Church, Dwight, IL. Please arrive by 12:45pm sharp.



Herscher Council of Churches

Herscher Christian Church will be distributing food from the Northern Illinois Food Bank on Tuesday, March 14th beginning at 10:00am.



The Trinity Library is located in the southeast corner of the Parish Hall.

LYF

Bible Study for the LYF (high school age) is held on Sundays at 9:30am in the church basement. All high school youth are welcome and encouraged to attend!

LYF will host the Spaghetti Extravaganza on Sunday, March 5th. LYF please arrive at 1:00pm for setup and stay through clean up. Dinner is served from 4:00-7:00pm. LYF members please text Jen



Overacker at 815-370-3690 and let her know if you will be there.

Trinity's Sewing Group

Trinity's Sewing Group will meet on Tuesday, March 7th from 12:30-4:0pm. Please plan on joining the group for a day of fellowship. We have lots of projects you can help with or just sit and visit.

We are in need of flannel sheets for liners. Any size will work as we can piece together. In addition we can use full or larger flat sheet for backs. If you hear of a yard sale, rummage sale or moving sale, please let one of our members know. We have been going to thrift stores to pick up items.

In February we used every liner we had to finish our days work. We do have some to start with March so we can keep binders busy. Thank you for your support in our mission project. We are well over 60+ quilts completed.

Vacation Bible School June 5-9, 2023

Registration information coming soon!

We are looking for volunteers to help make this event successful! If you would like to volunteer to help, please text or email Jessica Kruse. 815-530-5088 or kruselittlelambs@gmail.com



The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod LCMS Stewardship Ministry – lcms.org/stewardship Newsletter Article— March 2023

Lenten Discipline: Denying the Self

We are at the beginning of Lent. During the Lenten season, the church calls to our attention the sufficiency of what God gives. It points to the sufficiency of God's grace in the atoning work of Jesus. It shows us the sufficiency of faith in Jesus' work for us. It makes known the sufficiency of God's Word in faith and life.

But Lent doesn't just remind us of the sufficiency of God's spiritual gifts the gifts that pertain to our redemption and salvation. Lent also reminds us of the sufficiency of the physical, temporal gifts of God which pertain to this body and life. In other words, it reminds us of the importance of godly contentment and of outward discipline and training of the body.



This outward training of the body teaches us not to give in to every desire of our flesh, but to learn to say no to them. And it does this in such a way that if you fail, it is no sin. It is a way to practice without putting yourself into a compromising situation.

Fasting is a good example of this outward training. When you fast, you are practicing saying no to the desires of your body. But if you fail in this, if you break your fast, you have not sinned. But you have learned something about how your flesh works, how difficult it is to fight against it, and how you need help from above to discipline the desires of your body.

Another example is almsgiving. An increase in giving to the church and its mission during Lent is also a form of outward training. We all know that our flesh finds security in money and stuff. By committing to give more to the church, you are training your flesh. You are, by this outward discipline, training yourself to be content with what God gives. You are practicing saying "no" to your desires. Again, if you fail, you have not sinned. But you've learned just how powerful your flesh is — it leads you instead of you leading it. You've learned how you need help from above in being content with what God gives.

This is why St. Paul instructs young Pastor Timothy in this way:

But godliness with contentment is great gain, for we brought nothing into the world, and we cannot take anything out of the world. But if we have food and clothing, with these we will be content. But those who desire to be rich fall into temptation, into a snare, into many senseless and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evils. It is through this craving that some have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many pangs. (1 Tim. 6:6–10)

Our sufficiency is not of ourselves; it is in God. Let us learn this without sin by training our flesh this Lenten season.

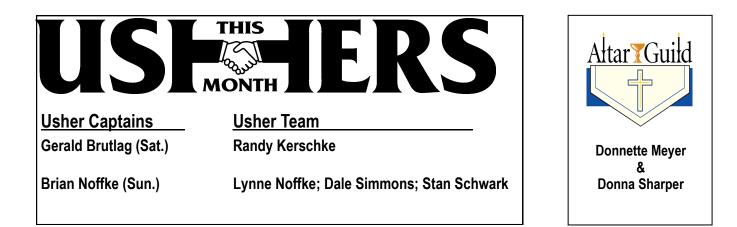
- LCMS Stewardship Ministry: <u>lcms.org/stewardship</u>

Serving Our Lord This Month—March, 2023

Elder/Communion Assistant

- March 04*Kevin KruseMarch 05*Chip Thurston
- March 11* Alan Janssen March 12* Brian Noffke
- March 18* Ken Taube March 19* Chip Thurston
- March 25*Dale SimmonsMarch 26*Don LaChappell

*Denotes Holy Communion is served



Altar Flowers

Feb. 22– April 8

While we refrain from placing flowers on the altar during Lent, we continue to celebrate the victory won for us by Jesus Christ.



March 2023

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|--|---|--|--|---|--|
| |)] | 1 Devotion on Facebook Live 8:00am Meager Meal 5:30- 6:45pm Children's Music 5:30pm Handbells 6:00pm Lenten Service 7:00pm Choir 7:45pm | 2 Devotion on Facebook Live 8:00am | 3 Martha Circle 8:30am @ Herscher Restaurant | 4 Communion Bible Study 4:00pm Worship 5:00pm |
| 6 Devotion on Facebook Live 3:00am Dartball Games 7:00pm Trinity Herscher 1 @Emmanuel, Dwight; Trinity Herscher 2 @ 10me | 7 Devotion on Facebook Live 8:00am Sewing/Quilting Group 12:30- 4:00pm | 8 Devotion on Facebook Live 8:00am Meager Meal 5:30- 6:45pm Children's Music 5:30pm Handbells 6:00pm Lenten Service 7:00pm Choir 7:45pm | 9 Devotion on Facebook Live 8:00am | 10 | 11 Communion Bible Study 4:00pm Worship 5:00pm Move clocks ahead 1 hour tonight. |
| 13 Devotion on Facebook Live 8:00am Courtyard Estates Service 2:00pm Dartball Practice 7:00pm | 14 Devotion on Facebook Live 8:00am Circuit Meeting-St. Paul, Kankakee downtown 9:30am Council Meeting 7:00pm | 15 Devotion on Facebook Live 8:00am Meager Meal 5:30- 6:45pm Children's Music 5:30pm Handbells 6:00pm Lenten Service 7:00pm Choir 7:45pm | 16 Devotion on Facebook Live 8:00am | 17 | 18 <i>Communion</i> Bible Study 4:00pm Worship 5:00pm |
| 20 Devotion on Facebook Live 3:00am Little Lambs-No School | 21 Devotion on Facebook Live 8:00am Little Lambs-No School Hannah Circle @ Barbara Schwark's 6:30pm | 22 Devotion on Facebook Live 8:00am Little Lambs-No School Meager Meal 5:30- 6:45pm Children's Music 5:30pm Handbells 6:00pm Lenten Service 7:00pm Choir 7:45pm | 23 Devotion on Facebook Live 8:00am Little Lambs-No School April Newsletter Deadline 9:00am | 24 Little Lambs-No School | 25 <i>Communion</i> Bible Study 4:00pm Worship 5:00pm |
| 27 Devotion on Facebook Live 8:00am Courtyard Estates Service 2:00pm | 28 Devotion on Facebook Live 8:00am | 29 Devotion on Facebook Live 8:00am Meager Meal 5:30- 6:45pm Children's Music 5:30pm Handbells 6:00pm Lenten Service 7:00pm Choir 7:45pm | 30 Devotion on Facebook Live 8:00am | 31 | |
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