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Trinity Lutheran Church

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Holy Week Schedule

Trinity Staff

Pastor
Outreach Pastor
Organist/Director of Music
Director of Family Ministry
Office Administrator
Hospitality Host
Bookkeeper
Custodian
Intern

Rev. Ken Johnson
Rev. Jake Lehman
Nathan Mattson
Heidi Albertson
Katie Grubaugh
Margaret Stevenson
Terri Schmidt
Bob Koenes
Vicar Megan Floyd

Church Council

President
Secretary
Treasurer
Financial Secretary
Christian Education
Congregational Life
Facilities
Service Ministry
Stewardship & Finance
Worship & Music

Julie Peterson
Holly Wohlfert
Christina Adams
Jerry Molitor
Ashley Wineland & Sally Morris
Paula Sportel & Jennifer Gougeon-Catarino
Shaun Wright
Rasma McMullen & Sandy Wallace
Steve Morris & Steve Bittner
Jennifer Gatz

Trinity's Sunday Schedule:

Worship with Holy Communion
at 8:30 and 11am

Choir at 9:25 in choir loft

All Sunday School classes 9:45

Parent Small Group or Infant/Toddler
Small Group 10am

***Easter Sunday Services will be at
8:00, 9:30 and 11:00***

April 2024

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
EASTER SUNDAY Worship w/Holy Communion 8:00, 9:30 & 11:00am <i>Easter Fellowship served between 9-11</i>	1 <i>Church open 9-morn</i> Prayer Shawl 10-12	2 <i>Church open 9-morn</i> Clothes & Fishes 10-2 Loaves & Fishes 11-1 C.F.T. 11am	3 <i>Church open 9-morn</i> Men's Bible Study 7am	4 <i>Church open 9-morn</i>	5	6 Youth Movie Night 6-9pm
7 Worship w/Holy Communion 8:30 & 11am Choir 9:25 Sunday School 9:45 Confirmation 9:45 Adult Bible Study 9:45 Parent small grou 10 Young Adult Lunch 12:30 VASA 2-5	8 O&D 6-8pm	9 Clothes Closet 10-2 Loaves & Fishes 11-1 C.F.T. 11am	10 Ladies Lunch 11:30	11 Scripture and Sandwiches 12-12:30 Meeting of the Women 6-8	12	13
14 Worship w/Holy Communion 8:30 & 11am Sunday School 9:45 Confirmation 9:45 Adult Bible Study 9:45 Infant/Toddler sm group 10 Church Council 12:15 Sons of Norway 2-5	15 O&D 6-8pm	16 Clothes Closet 10-2 Loaves & Fishes 11-1 C.F.T. 11am	17 Men's Bible Study 7am Red Cross Blood Drive 11:30-4:30	18 Scripture and Sandwiches 12-12:30 Meeting of the Men 5-6:30	19	20 Family Ministry Game Night 5-8pm
21 Worship w/Holy Communion 8:30 & 11am Choir 9:25 Sunday School 9:45 Confirmation 9:45 Adult Bible Study 9:45 Parent small grou 10 Open Doors 5-8	22 O&D 6-8pm	23 Clothes Closet 10-2 Loaves & Fishes 11-1 C.F.T. 11am	24 Rebecca Circle 10am	25 Quilters 9am Scripture and Sandwiches 12-12:30	26	27
28 Worship w/Holy Communion 8:30 & 11am Choir 9:25 Sunday School 9:45 Confirmation 9:45 Adult Bible Study 9:45 Infant/Toddler sm group 10	29 O&D 6-8pm	30 Loaves & Fishes 11-1 C.F.T. 11am	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 10px;"> <p>Please remember that articles for the Newsletters are due by the 16th of each month; articles for the Sunday bulletins are due one week in advance, by end of day Sunday.</p> </div>			



FAMILY MINISTRY

All families with children infant through 5th grade are welcome to join us!



Family Game Night and Potluck Saturday, April 20th 5pm-8pm

Grab your jello molds and come on down to church! Family Ministry is hosting a traditional Lutheran potluck and Family Game Night!! Join us at 5pm in the Fellowship Hall for a delicious potluck dinner. Please bring a side dish and a dessert of your choice to pass. Family Ministry will provide the main dish and drinks. With the dessert, we'll have a Cake Walk game where everyone is a winner!! After dinner, we'll grab the board games and cards and share some laughs as we play fun games together. Please also bring a game or two to share. Youth group members are also welcome to join us!! If you can join us, let me know by Friday, April 19th. Sign up on our Facebook event page or email me at hmfuerst@aol.com. See you then!



God Loves Flowers and So Do WE!! Sunday, May 19th 12:30pm-2pm

Looking ahead into May, we'll do a little service project with flowers. After we enjoy some lunch in the Fellowship Hall, we'll grab a flower pot and start painting. Then we'll plant a lovely flower in the pot. It will be your job to deliver your beautiful flower pot and flower to someone special—like your mom or dad, grandma or grandpa, a neighbor, or a favorite friend. If you are able to attend, please sign up on our Facebook page or through email by Friday, May 17th.

Join us for our Sunday Morning Opportunities in the Family Ministry room! Please note that there will be only one Parent Small group and one Infant/Toddler Small Group this month.

Parent Small Group:

Dates: Sundays, April 7th and 21st
Time: 10am-10:40am

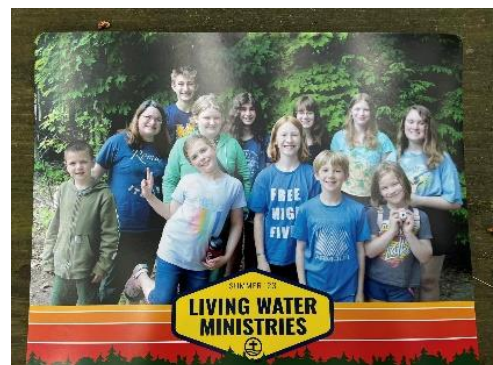


Infant & Toddler Small Group:

Dates: Sundays, April 14th and 28th
Time: 10am-10:40am

Camp!!

Trinity kids are going to Stony Lake Lutheran Camp on Sunday, June 23 thru Friday, June 28. To sign up, go to the Living Water Ministries website at www.elcalivingwater.com. For each person signed up for camp, you choose if you want to pay full rate, half rate, or nothing, and Trinity will donate \$200 per person. Camp is such a wonderful way to meet new people, explore your faith, and have an amazing experience all at the same time! You can sign up elementary, middle school, and high school youth. And for our middle schoolers, this is a great extension of your Confirmation faith journey. Please let me know if you have any questions.



Youth News

Trinity Youth Movie night Saturday April 6th. Mark your calendars and plan to be at the church from 6-9 for food (requests?), sardines (the game...not the fish), and a good movie. We'll be using ranked choice voting to pick the movie and voting is open now, click the link in the emails to make your choice! The winner will be revealed on the night!

Youth Event on Sunday, May 5th from 12:15pm-4:15pm Horseback riding at Wild West Ranch in Fennville, MI.

We'll eat some lunch in the youth room after the 2nd service. Then we'll pile into cars and carpool over to the ranch for a fun hour-long trail ride. The cost is \$10 per person. After the ride, we'll drive you back to church to be picked up by your parents. Please wear long pants and closed-toed shoes. Depending on how many youth go, I will need at least one or two other drivers. Youth and potential drivers, please sign up if you can go by email (hmfuerst@aol.com) or the Youth Facebook event page. Thanks! *Drivers can ride with the youth or just hang out and take nap!

Worship and Faith Formation



Offering donations made for Lenten Wednesday Services have been designated to go to Trinity's Christ Clothes Closet. Maundy Thursday and Good Friday offerings have been designated to go to Lutheran World Relief World Hunger. If you would like to give electronically, please scan the QR code to do so.

If you ordered Easter Flowers, those may be picked up after the 11:00 service on Easter Sunday or April 1-4 from 9-12noon.



Scripture and Sandwiches – Creation Series

Join Pr. Jake online each Thursday from 12-12:30 for a short bible study and conversation about scripture over lunch. After completing a study of every book in the bible, we're moving on...by going back to the beginning! Starting Thursday February 1, we'll be starting a 5-week series on Creation. We'll look at what the bible says about the beginning of it all and how that sets the course of everything that follows! Click the link below or use the meeting ID and passcode to join in from wherever you are!

Meeting ID: 821 5743 3849 Passcode: Lunchtime

In Invitation for Maundy Thursday - "Looking for an easy way to connect to the Easter journey?? Volunteer for Maundy Thursday foot washing! This is an easy way to connect to the message of the season and I found it to be a very humbling and meaningful experience. No preparation is needed: at the Maundy Thursday service just come forward to the altar when invited. I would suggest wearing shoes and socks that are easy to remove. Will you join me?" - Teri Koretsky

Worship Assistants

Date	Time	Altar Guild	Welcome Team	Lectors	Acolytes
April 7	8:30	Teri Koretsky	Jen & Tim Gatz	Dave Runstrom	Jaxon & Avner Grubaugh
	11:00	Sheree Sorensen	Connie Ruch, Holly Wohlfert	Nancy Diment	Kiley & Calico Morris
April 14	8:30	Joyce Magerlein	Janet & Arlen Gullickson	Janet Gullickson	Nolan & Avery Fowler
	11:00	Julie Peterson	Erin & Mark Sutherland	Holly Wohlfert	Frederick Thurn, Edith Wright
April 21	8:30	Karn Erlandson	Paula Sportel, Beth Belleville	Nicole Shugars	Jaxon & Avner Grubaugh
	11:00	Julie Peterson	Sheree Sorensen, Rasma McMullen	Keith Peterson	Elyse Albertson, Emma Zimmermann
April 28	8:30	Teri Koretsky	Jason Grubaugh, Trudi Giffin	Arlen Gullickson	Nolan & Avery Fowler
	11:00	Gary Kent-Bracken	Julie & Keith Peterson	Marianne Fuerst	Kaitlyn Albertson, Jacob Zimmermann

Sunday Morning Adult Lenten Bible Study - "We Make the Road by Walking" by Brian McLaren

McLaren is a pastor, teacher, and contemplative who seeks to help us engage with the Bible in a way that opens us to new ways of understanding God's story of Redemption. Join us in the lounge Sundays February 18- March 31 from 9:45-10:35.

Back to the Hymnals! Did you know...at Trinity we print roughly 200 bulletins each week using an average of five full pages of paper in each bulletin. This means that we use 1000 sheets of paper each week and approximately 52,000 sheets per year...just for the Sunday morning bulletin! We began printing the hymns in the bulletin in order to reduce the risk of COVID transmission during the height of the pandemic. Certainly, many of us have gotten used to the ease of having all parts of the service printed and ready to go, but by moving forward from the pandemic and making use of the hymnals, we can reduce our paper usage by around 20%. That's 10,400 sheets of paper every year saved...(Not to mention the expense and wear and tear on the copier)!

So, to be better stewards of creation and the many gifts that we've been given, beginning in May, we will stop printing the hymns in the bulletin and will go back to using the red ELW Hymnals that are in every pew. If you need the hymns printed out for you for any reason, we will have a few large print copies available each week. Also, if you borrowed a hymnal from the sanctuary at any point during the pandemic, please return that to the church. Thank you!

Men's Bible Study meets throughout the year, every other week on Wednesday mornings at 7am in the church Fellowship Hall! March dates are April 3 and April 17. All are welcome to join them for breakfast and bible study.

Rebecca Circle Looking for a chance to participate monthly in a women's small group meeting for Bible study? Rebecca Circle is an excellent chance to make some new acquaintances while studying God's word. The next Circle meeting will be at Trinity on Wednesday, April 24 at 10am.

Service Ministry

The Welcome Team would Welcome New Members! We have Welcome Team members assist at each of our services at Trinity! Do you like to say "Hello!"? We would love to have you join us. Contact Julie Peterson at jtpeterson55@comcast.net to join and let her know which service you attend.

Personal Care Item Donations Needed As part of our care for our neighbors in need, the Christ Clothes closet is expanding its offerings to include personal care items. Items needed are dish soap, bar soap, body wash, shampoo, conditioner, toothbrushes, toothpaste, laundry detergent (both single and multi-load containers), feminine care products, deodorant and other like items. Donations can be brought to the church weekdays during office hours or Sunday mornings.

El Sol Elementary Outreach: El Sol Elementary School is just a few blocks away from Trinity and as their partners in serving the neighborhood, we want to show our support for their teachers, students and families! We will be collecting all the items listed below at Trinity; please drop off during the week (M-Th, 9-2) or on a Sunday! Thanks for your help in building a stronger connection with our neighborhood school!

Kids Clothes Needed - It's time to clean out your kids' closets! El Sol Elementary has asked for help with supplying some of their students with winter clothes and gear, new socks and underwear, sweatpants and leggings. Will you consider helping us spread the word and donating your kids' clothes here?

School Supplies - Backpacks, crayons, standard washable school markers (Crayola) and plastic two pocket folders. These donations will be collected at Trinity.

Teachers Breakroom - non-perishable items like chips, candy, granola bars, microwave popcorn, drinks, ground coffee, and K-cups.



Trinity Lutheran Church sends out weekly emails to update our congregation on upcoming events, ongoing projects, volunteer opportunities, changes to our schedule, and links to our online services. Sign up with our QR code for the most up to date information available!

Volunteer Opportunities

Blood Drive! There continues to be a great need for blood donations, and at Trinity we are grateful to be able to help meet that need! Thank you to those of you who have given in the past and to those who will consider giving in the future! The next drive at Trinity will be on **Wednesday April 17th**, so be sure to get registered at <https://www.redcrossblood.org/give.html/drive-results?zipSponsor=TLC> or by calling 1-800-RED-CROSS.

Helping Hands Needed at Quilters!! No sewing required, please come and help with this project if you are looking for a place to volunteer and some conversation and coffee. The next meeting will be February 22 at 9am. For information, contact Teri at tkoretsky44@yahoo.com or at 269-567-4238.

Trinity Green Team Updates! The Green Team at Trinity is a group of members who are dedicated to looking at the way we use our resources and care for creation as a central part of our faith - and we are off to a great start! Among the projects that we've tackled so far are the conversion of our cardboard dumpster to a mixed recycling dumpster, repair of the church dishwasher so that we can make use of reusable dishes, and a proposal to save paper in our weekly bulletins. There are LOTS of other ideas and lots of room for more so if you're interested in being a part of this group or want to share your thoughts, talk with Pr. Jake or reach out to the office

Sign up for Fellowship Time and Altar Flowers! Please sign up in the Fellowship Hall and help share God's love for our community! Individuals, families, and groups are encouraged to provide flowers or host fellowship time for the coming months. This is a great way to celebrate birthdays, anniversaries, or other special events. *(And if you enjoy baking, we're always happy for help to stock our freezer for Sundays that might not have a fellowship host!)* *Altar flowers are \$ 20 per bouquet and should be ordered one week in advance. Call or email the church office or sign up in the Fellowship Hall if you wish to put altar flowers on for a Sunday.

Please keep these people in your prayers:

Cliff Davidson, Sandy Eschelbach, Sylvia Reekers, Beth Latshaw, Ruth Krueger, Amy Ramirez, Debbie Roach, Matt Jaeky, Nick Karasch, Darcey Stevens, Jillian, Jo Brinker, Vicky Phillips, Linda Ward, Carolyn Bayerkohler, David Mason.

And if you would like to be added to our prayer chain team, please let the office know!

The purpose of the prayer chain is to provide spiritual support and healing for our congregants and their families and friends. It is also a way for any person to act on God's command to love one another (John 13:34-35). Many people cannot engage directly in ministry but we can all pray. Many are older or ill themselves but can take the time to help others and to make their time and suffering valuable. Prayer is a way for us to reach out of ourselves, to put aside our loneliness and pain for the sake of another.

Fellowship and Events

Ladies Luncheon will meet on Wednesday, April 10 at 11:30 at Travelers Café (5225 Portage Rd). Sign up in the Fellowship Hall or contact Julie Peterson (269-249-6141) for more information.

Meeting of the Women – All women of all ages are invited to join us for a time of fellowship and friendship! On **April 11 from 6-8** we'll gather at Bell's Brewery. Come as you're able and stay as long as you like!

Meeting of the Men! Meeting of the men is an "informal, come as you are, when you can" kind of get together with no agenda, just good conversation and a great opportunity to get to know one other guys who call Trinity home! We'll plan to gather at the West Main St. location of Latitude 42 Brewing on Thursday April 18th from 5:00-6:30pm for a relaxed time of fellowship and conversation. Hope to see you there!

Young Adult Lunch! If you are in that 18-30ish age range and/or consider yourself a young adult, you're invited to join us at Shakespeares Pub after church on **Sunday April 7th from 12:30-1:30** for a time of fellowship, conversation, and hopefully a little planning for what the group can do together through the summer! Just show up on the day or let Pr. Jake know if you plan to be there if possible!

Dungeons & Dragons will be taking a break March 25 and April 1, resuming April 8 Monday nights from 6-8pm - Trinity has a couple groups of adventurers (middle school, high school & adults) that meet at church for ongoing campaigns. If you are interested in joining one of the groups, contact the church office for more information or just show up and we can get you plugged in!

Men's Retreat- Sign up and Save the Date! This fall we'll be heading north again for the Men's Retreat at Camp Arcadia on the beautiful shores of Lake Michigan! The retreat runs from Sept 27-29 with options for coming up early to take advantage of fall in northern Michigan! This is always a great opportunity to get away to relax and connect with other guys from Trinity and beyond! Trinity will be covering your deposit, so cost of registration is just \$163 with options to pay a little more if you'd like a private bath (\$35) or an extra night (\$62). To register, or for more information, go to <https://camp-arcadia.com/rkd-mens-retreat/> .

Be sure to register for the "Arcadia Men's Retreat with Chad Bird". If you have any questions, contact Pr. Jake or the Camp Arcadia office staff.

Matrix Campus Ministry Interns at Trinity We are very glad to have Three Matrix Campus Ministry interns with us at Trinity this semester! These interns are all college students who have a desire to be a connected to the church and community and Matrix, our campus ministry, provides a unique opportunity for them to do that! Our students for this spring are Lydia Saylor, a fourth year transfer student majoring in Psychology at WMU; Grace Newman, a first year student majoring in Social work at WMU; and Cedric May, a first year student majoring in Environmental Biology at Kalamazoo College. Please take the #me to say hello to these three wonderful students as we welcome them into our community!



"I came that they may have life and life abundantly." -John 10:10

It's hard to believe that it has been nearly fourteen years since I was called to serve at Trinity. During those years I have truly been blessed to experience life and *life abundantly* as Jesus promises! That abundant life has come in so many ways as relationships have grown, ministry has been done, and life experiences have been shared. I am truly grateful for this community of which I am blessed to be a part.

I am also incredibly grateful that this congregation is one that understands the demands of pastoral life and has developed a policy and practice designed to grant a time of renewal to those who are called to serve. It is the policy of Trinity to grant a sabbatical to their called pastors every seven years, and this time is a true gift that enables us as leaders to step away from the everyday demands of ministry in order to refresh and renew in spirit, faith, and perspective as well as reconnect with our families.

Beginning in late April, I will begin a time of sabbatical that will continue until the end of August. Last year I applied for (and was thrilled to receive!) a Clergy Renewal Grant from the Lilly Foundation. This grant will cover all funding needs for all sabbatical activities for myself and my family as well as renewal activities for the congregation while I am away. I won't go into the complete schedule while I'm away, you'll hear all about that when I come back, but in summary, my renewal activities will include a silent monastic retreat in California (for me), an Immersive tour of eastern religions in Japan (for Melissa and I), and a prolonged stay in the UK and Ireland (for my family) where we will experience the gift of staying at the Isle of Iona before going on to visit many other historic and holy sites.

During my time away, the congregation will of course continue to be in the very capable hands of Pr. Ken and Vicar Megan. In addition, you will benefit from the expertise of two theologians in residence as Dr. Amy Allen and Dr. Tim McNinch will each be spending a week with the congregation in June to share their expertise and insights and a special guest will be brought in August for a focused time of retreat with the women of the church (more to come on all of that!). My hope is that just as this is a time of renewal and learning for me, it will be the same for our family of Trinity!

Again, I want to express my *deep and sincere thanks* to this congregation for all of the support that you show us as your pastors, but especially for this time of renewal. Often when I get dressed for church, my son George will ask me, "You're not a pastor, your my dad right?". I tell him that I am both, but along with the study, renewal, and exploration that this Sabbatical will bring, I am very much looking forward to some time to be a dad. So thank you for the opportunity to step away to dig deeper into this *abundant life* that we have been given in Christ.

Thank you and God Bless!

Pr. Jake

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

LENTEN SCHEDULE

SUNDAY SERVICES - 8:30 AND 11AM

WEDNESDAY SOUP/SALAD SUPPERS -5:30PM

WEDNESDAY LENTEN SERVICES - 6:30PM

FEBRUARY 14, 21, 28, MARCH 6,13, 20

HOLY WEEK SERVICES

MAUNDY THURSDAY, MARCH 28 - 7PM

GOOD FRIDAY, MARCH 29

STATIONS OF THE CROSS -12NOON

TENEBRAE SERVICE- 7PM

EASTER SUNDAY, MARCH 31

SERVICES AT 8, 9:30 & 11AM

***A SPECIAL EASTER FELLOWSHIP OF COFFEE,
JUICE, AND BREAKFAST SNACKS WILL BE
SERVED FROM 9-11AM***

***ALL SERVICES LIVE-STREAMED AND AVAILABLE TO
VIEW ON OUR YOUTUBE CHANNEL***

***Please note the church will be open limited hours the week following Easter –
Monday April 1 through Thursday April 4 9am – 12noon.***