

Trinity Lutheran Church

A welcoming faith community
living together in God's love to
share the joy of Jesus Christ.

TIDINGS

April 2021 Volume 24, No. 4



Holy Week Services

Maundy Thursday, April 1

7 pm Service via Zoom (same link as regular Worship Services)

Join at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89437359149?pwd=a0l1VjEwclhiK2paaEd2QXBtTmVkZz09>

Meeting ID: 894 3735 9149 | Passcode: 408538

Good Friday, April 2

12 pm Stations of the Cross (**in person outside*) **dress accordingly**

7 pm Seven Last Words via Zoom (**DIFFERENT** link as regular Worship Services)

Join at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89676164246?pwd=OWxUeFhSZHZaUklUdmRtcnUwY2VqUT09>

Meeting ID: 896 7616 4246 | Passcode: 419433

Holy Saturday, April 3

5 pm Easter Service via Zoom (same link as regular Worship Services)

Join at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89437359149?pwd=a0l1VjEwclhiK2paaEd2QXBtTmVkZz09>

Meeting ID: 894 3735 9149 | Passcode: 408538

Easter Sunday, April 4

6:45 am Sunrise Service in the memorial Garden! (**in person outside*) **dress accordingly**

7:30 am TLC/LuMin Covid safe pancake breakfast (**in person outside*) **dress accordingly**

10:30 am Easter Service via Zoom (same link as regular Worship Services)

Join at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89437359149?pwd=a0l1VjEwclhiK2paaEd2QXBtTmVkZz09>

Meeting ID: 894 3735 9149 | Passcode: 408538

TLC book Group

On **Monday, April 5, at 9:30 am**, the book group will meet via Zoom to discuss Caste: The Origins of Our Discontents by Isabel Wilkerson. Her thesis is that the US has a caste system in which a person's place in society is determined skin color and ancestry. In May we turn to fiction with Remarkable Creatures by Tracy Chevalier. Set in Dorset, England, the author weaves historical figures and actual events into an engaging account of 19th century amateur scientists and fossil hunters.

To see the list of the Book Groups schedule click [HERE](#).

Join our Zoom meetings [HERE](#).

Meeting ID: 853 5822 1885 | Password: 662888

Questions? Call Nadine Hunt at 970-825-3730.

In Building Scheduling

Reminder to schedule with Deana (office@trinitylutheranfc.org) before using space inside the building. This prevents too many people in the building AND ensures the space you are using is available at the time.

FFH Spring Host Week

TLC (along with FC Friends) will host four families experiencing homelessness for two weeks beginning on **Easter Sunday: April 4 – 17**. The two-week host time is a pilot program to see how it works to have churches host for a two-week period twice per year as opposed to several one-week rotations as in the past. The shelter remains at Foothills Unitarian Church at 1815 Yorktown; for each day we will need an evening host, an overnight host, 1-2 individuals to make dinner – as well as volunteers to do laundry. Watch for the link to sign up in the e-News as the date approaches. Questions? Call Steph Dugger (970-223-9119) or Nadine Hunt (907-825-3730).

Young Adults!

Every 2nd & 4th Monday – Apr 12 & 26 at 7 pm

Click [HERE](#) to join via Zoom

Meeting ID: 817 1273 8613 | Passcode: 025862

Calling all young adults! There is no age limit, if you feel young at heart, this includes you, truly! This is a time to be together, build community with games, fellowship, and study because community matters and because having friends your age matters. This is a safe space to explore your faith and develop local friendships. Bring your drink and snacks and join via Zoom.

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH



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Phone: (970) 482-1226

Fax: (970) 482-0817

Preschool: (970) 221-9852

After Hours Emergency:
(970)-400-7252

OFFICE HOURS

MON-THURS 9 am – 3 pm

WORSHIP TIMES

SATURDAY: 5 PM

SUNDAY: 10:30 AM

Senior Pastor

Rick Reiten

pastorrick@trinitylutheranfc.org

Education & Family Minister

Deacon Katie Kline

katie@trinitylutheranfc.org

Office Administrator

Deana Andrist

office@trinitylutheranfc.org

Financial Manager

Debbie Schwartz

dschwartz@trinitylutheranfc.org

Director of Communications & Volunteer Coordinator

Amanda Backsen

amanda@trinitylutheranfc.org

Director of Choirs & Saturday Worship Leader

Paul Falk

paul@trinitylutheranfc.org

Church Musician

Carrie Hansen

carrie@trinitylutheranfc.org

A/V Techician

Joshua Moore

TLC Preschool Director

Brenda Harju

bharju@comcast.net

Reverend Rick's Reflections

To Comfort or Irritate? What is the purpose of the Church?

A question of paradox that has been posed to the God's people since the beginning of time.

Adam and Eve – God is good and surely wants us to eat that fruit.

Moses – Why did you drag us out here in the desert, with no water or food? It would be better to be slaves in Egypt!

King David – God has given me all I need – but I want more.

Psalm 23 – God your rod and staff comfort me, but do I have to walk through the valley of the shadow of death?

Jesus – You are supposed to be the ruler to save us from the Romans! But you went and got yourself killed!

We cannot know the ways of God, but we want God, Church, to be a comfort for us. When God irritates, we complain and question God. Yet, the greatest faith moments do not come in the comfort as much as they are experienced in our uneasy squirming.

Paul Schairer (Trinity interim Pastor) infamously calls this the Sheep Dip. Linda King (*Collective Genius*) calls it Creative Abrasion. Tod Bolsinger (*Canoeing the Mountains*) calls it sabotage. When we are uncomfortable by what we see, what we hear, especially when it comes from the Church, we get irritated. Our feathers get ruffled. (Yet, did you realize that birds ruffle their feathers not only because of irritation, but also as a greeting or a sign of warmth?)

With all the preface, we are inviting you into a time of unrest. During this Easter season, as a church community, we are engaging in seven weeks of work on anti-racism. As a Reconciling In Christ congregation, we commit to anti-racism. Racism is embedded into the air we breathe, even though I know most of us are not overtly discriminatory. We all have our own history around race relations, and we all have room to grow, which is why Deacon Katie and Brenda Fosse have developed a 'menu' of options, so that all of us may have an entry point into the conversation.

Our hope is that no matter where you enter the conversation, you will be challenged and unsettled, as an opportunity to learner. Remember, Jesus greatest gift is that out of death, grief, weeping, comes resurrection, life, hope.

To comfort the afflicted, and afflict the comforted will always be a challenge for the Church. Yet, they are not mutually exclusive – and our Lenten Dramas have revealed this promise. The same message that makes me irritated, may bring solace to our neighbor.

Dear Church – maybe this is the time for us the white Church, to be uncomfortable, so that our neighbors who continue to be racially victimized, may one day find comfort among us.

May God bless us in this sacred season of Easter.

Pastor Rick

Anti-Racism

In April and May Trinity is going to focus on anti-racism. There will be many opportunities for you to plug into. Speakers in adult forum, small group, preaching, and more. If you have a resource you would like to share or something you would like to see included, please reach out to Pastor Rick or Deacon Katie. We are taking seriously the recommendation from the synod to engage in this work and we invite you to as well. Dietrich Bonhoeffer said "Not to speak is to speak. Not to act is to act."

Updated Worship Guidelines from the Office of the Bishop

To read the whole guidelines document, go to <http://www.trinitylutheranfc.org/>

- ✦ Congregations should engage the changing pandemic landscape with a commitment to a hybrid approach. Those offering online worship should continue that option for the foreseeable future so that no one feels compelled to show up for any in-person worship or event when it is not yet completely safe to do so. ***It is still recommended congregations rely primarily on digital worship platforms for the next several months as we monitor the impact of new variants of the virus as well as the progress of vaccination efforts.***
- ✦ Any in-person worship experience or congregational gathering that occurs in spring or summer should ***prioritize an outdoor venue with limited participants who observe physical distancing and the use of face coverings.*** In-door venues should be used only with very limited numbers in a well-ventilated space while respecting physical distancing and use of face coverings.
- ✦ ***At any in-person congregational gathering, all participants should observe all pandemic protocols regardless of vaccination status,*** including physical distancing and use of face coverings. Congregations should provide guidelines that assure all participants that pandemic protocols will be observed. Those unwilling to honor protocols should not be permitted to participate in any in-person congregational gathering.
- ✦ ***Pastors, deacons and worship leaders*** who have not yet been vaccinated should not be expected or pressured to lead any in-person congregational worship or participate in any in-person gatherings or events. Congregational councils are encouraged to have this conversation with their rostered ministers; the Office of the Bishop is available for consultation on this matter.
- ✦ Congregations and rostered ministers are encouraged ***to support and engage local vaccination efforts,*** to assure that everyone in the surrounding community has accurate information and equal access to vaccines.
- ✦ In this season of “now but not yet” congregations, ministries and leaders of our synod are strongly encouraged to engage in ***intentional conversations about what it means to be a church becoming in light of our experience*** of the last year. What have you learned about being church in your local context? What new insights have you gained? What will be different as you move forward?

Approved by Trinity council on 3/15: “we accept the COVID guidelines from the Bishop to guide our worship practices, with the amendment, all staff – whether vaccinated or not – should not feel any pressure to engage in in-person worship or other interactions.”

Sky Ranch!

Would you like to go to camp this summer? Trinity kids are all invited (finished kindergarten – finished high school) to go to camp together, starting the week of July 25th. Registration is open. Scholarships are available, please contact Deacon Katie for more information about that. COVID protocols will be in place and Sky Ranch will provide more information about that as it gets closer. Both Pastor Rick and Deacon Katie are planning to be there as well. You can register directly on Sky Ranch’s website: www.skyranchcolorado.org/copy-of-summer-camp-registration (And if you aren’t comfortable with camp, we understand that, stay tuned for more information on VBS this summer).



Birthdays



Brenda Fosse	4/1	Annika Garlo	4/10	Katie Remmers	4/21
Eric Jurgenson	4/3	Pollyann Sersen	4/10	Molly Geppert	4/22
Benjamin Yust	4/3	Joslyn Gebhardt	4/10	Rick Walberg	4/23
Marilyn Bycroft	4/4	Patricia Telleen	4/12	Colton Hopkins	4/23
Karolyn Kufeld	4/4	Joy Murphy	4/12	Zachary Yust	4/24
Benjamin Keyser	4/4	Chase Borkowski	4/15	Charlene Mulnix	4/26
William Foos	4/5	Stephen Zink	4/16	Howard Nornes	4/27
Mary Wolpert	4/5	Liz Johnson	4/19	Melissa Mize	4/29
Hannah Murphy	4/5	Nancy Harrison	4/19	Hope Wolf	4/30
Lee Currie	4/6	Netha Peterson	4/20	Cheryl Dolan	4/30
Claire Makinen	4/6	Brittany Knotts	4/20	Kieran Simske	4/30
Rose Zubradt	4/7	Lois Schilling	4/21	Parker Andrist	4/30
Bennie Drews	4/8	Kent Garvin	4/21		
Walter Hansen	4/8	Barb Klaman	4/21		

♥ Anniversaries ♥

Doris & Jimmie Schwartz	4/2	Michele & Ken Christensen	4/29
Lori & Karl Schmidt	4/16		

2021 Ministry Fund Plan for the month of February and for year-to-date as of February 2021

	February	Year-To-Date
Receipts:		
Offerings	\$ 23,597	\$ 67,270
1) Building Use	2,757	5,513
Total Receipts:	26,354	72,783
Expenditures:		
Operating and Support	27,611	54,834
Ministries	7,166	14,069
1) Benevolence/Gifts (Synod, Sky Ranch, etc.)		
Total Expenditures:	\$ 34,777	\$ 68,902
Receipts less Expenditures:	\$ (8,423)	\$ 3,881



A P R I L 2 0 2 1



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY
4 Easter Sunday 6:45 am Sunrise Service in Memorial Garden 7:30 am Pancake Breakfast 9 am Adult Forum 10:30 am Easter Service	5 9:30 am Book Group 6 pm Property	6 7:30 am Men's Breakfast
11 9 am Adult Forum 9 am Confirmation 10 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship 11:45 am Faith Formation	12 7 pm Young Adults	13 4:30 pm Finance
18 9 am Adult Forum 9 am Confirmation 10 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship 11:45 am Worship & Music	19 4:30 pm Exec Council 6 pm Council	20
25 9 am Adult Forum 9 am Confirmation 10 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship	26 7 pm Young Adults	27 6 pm Joint Eco Mtg

**PULL ME OUT! HANG ME UP!!
 PUT ME ON YOUR FRIDGE!**

WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 Maundy Thursday 9:30 am Bible Study 7 pm Service	2 Good Friday 12 pm Stations of the Cross (*in person) 7 pm Seven Last Words	3 Holy Saturday 5 pm Easter Service
7 12 pm Mid Day Prayer	8 9:30 am Bible Study 7 pm Soc & Eco Justice Work Session	9	10 5 pm Saturday Praise
14 12 pm Mid Day Prayer	15 9:30 am Bible Study	16	17 5 pm Saturday Praise
21 12 pm Mid Day Prayer 7 pm Suicide Prevention	22 9:30 am Bible Study	23	24 5 pm Saturday Praise
28 12 pm Mid Day Prayer	29 9:30 am Bible Study Synod Assembly————>	30 —————>	May 1 5 pm Saturday Praise —————>

ASSISTING IN WORSHIP

Prayer Leader/Lector

April 3/4 Ron Bend / Anya Reiten

April 10/11 Ron Splittgerber / Shelley Aust

April 17/18 Bonnie Bend / Rick Aust

April 24/25 Vicki Volbrecht / Brenda Fosse

Mid-Day Prayer

We are inviting you to time of personal prayer and contemplative reflection in the sanctuary, from **Noon to 1pm on Wednesdays**. We will still be limited participation (10 people at a time) per our building policy. For the safety of others, you are required to wear a mask, and to sit distanced apart, unless you are with your own family unit.

Highlights from Current Council Minutes

Finance Report:

- Receipts to the end of January 2021 were \$46,429, with expenditures of \$34,125, for a positive balance of \$12,304.
- The church has a \$25,000 line of credit for emergencies at Community Bank. Because of COVID, the bank's underwriters have tightened regulations and require a CD in the amount of \$12,500 as collateral. A motion was approved to renew the line of credit and to use \$12,500 of the parking lot accrual fund from the capital reserve for collateral.
- The Finance Team approved \$5,000 for use by the Benevolence Committee in 2021. Because there is confusion between the budgeted benevolence in the MFP and that which is disbursed by the committee, a motion to rename the committee as the Discretionary Benevolence Team was made and approved. This fund is to be used for non-budgeted benevolence and extraordinary needs brought forward by TLC members. Requests can be made using a form available in the office.

Faith Partners:

- Council reviewed the document "Shared Projects, Programs, and Purchases among the Faith Partners" presented by the 301 Faith Partners Vision Team which deals with two primary topics: finance and communication. The document presents detailed procedures and forms to be used in making decisions regarding purchases, projects, and programs that would impact all three congregations. The Council endorsed the document as a working document that will be reviewed semi-annually.

Various:

- The Council discussed the possibility of using Microsoft Teams for Council communications between meetings. Discussion will continue at our next meeting after members have had the opportunity to view training videos.
- The Annual Meeting will be held March 6/7; because we are voting on changes to the Trust and to the Constitution, a quorum must be present.
- Council began the conversation about developing a Statement of Intent and will continue next month.
- Planning is continuing for Holy Week/Easter services. There will be a shared outdoor Stations of the Cross service on Good Friday, as well as a shared sunrise Easter service at 6:45 a.m. in the Memorial Garden. The 10:30 a.m. Easter service will be by ourselves "

Respectfully submitted, Nadine Hunt, Council Secretary

Complete minutes of Council meetings are available in the Church Office.

Trinity's Offerings!

Click the link and join the meeting. You do not need a ZOOM account to access the link. However, you may first be prompted to download the software. This is safe, and you only need to do it once.

WORSHIP: (Saturday 5 pm) | (Sunday 10:30 am) | (Wednesday 6:45 pm)

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89437359149?pwd=a0l1VjEwclhiK2paaEd2QXBtTmVkZz09>

Meeting ID: 894 3735 9149 | Passcode: 408538

EDUCATION: Adult Forum (Sunday 9 am) | Bible Study (Thursday 9:30 am)

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89437359149?pwd=a0l1VjEwclhiK2paaEd2QXBtTmVkZz09>

Meeting ID: 894 3735 9149 | Passcode: 408538

CHILDREN:

Confirmation (Sunday 9 am)

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87965973059?pwd=R2pkWGV5TEhSbzFSVGNKVDZhUmVKUT09>

Meeting ID: 879 6597 3059 | Passcode: 674840

Sunday School (Sunday 10 am)

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86920855078?pwd=SIVwcytmME9ia1BJd1pTa3ptZ3EyUT09>

Meeting ID: 869 2085 5078 | Passcode: 926423

OTHER:

TLC Book Group (1st Monday 9:30 am)

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85358221885?pwd=RWx6dTEwRzIzc0xuNmtkaWFzZzIldz09>

Meeting ID: 853 58221885 | Password: 662888

Young Adults (2nd & 4th Monday 7 pm)

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81712738613?pwd=MFNPb2xiVzNFUmNzSUVHUIJoMTZnZz09>

Meeting ID: 817 1273 8613 | Passcode: 025862

Men's Breakfast (1st Tuesday 7:30 am)

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87330615104?pwd=cGg3VEtTTERGVTdsMXFJL2o1d05yUT09>

Meeting ID: 873 3061 5104 | Passcode: 128841

Mid-Day Prayer (Wednesdays 12:00 pm)

GO TO THE CHURCH, this is an in person opportunity.

Don't have a computer or internet? You can still participate fully in the zoom worship services and other meetings offered through Zoom. Follow these steps, and if you run into problems, just ask one of our staff or your phone tree calling person for assistance. We don't want you to miss you. Remember, in order to be part of the zoom call, you need to call in at the designated time.

1. Call (346) 248-7799 (this is a long distance number, so you **need** to have ability to call long distance.
2. "Enter the Meeting ID then press #".
3. Please enter your user ID followed by #. You can skip this step simply by pressing #.
4. Enter the passcode (all meetings now require a passcode, it will be listed with the link). Once you have entered the passcode, you will be in the zoom call.

This is where you can access each weekend worship service!

<https://vimeo.com/trinitylutheranfc>.

Suicide Prevention Training

Suicide is on the rise in the USA – most everyone has been touched by this tragedy. The good news is there is something you can do about it and Trinity Lutheran Church is providing the training to help you understand suicide and how to prevent it.

The local Association for Suicide Prevention (ASP) will present their program on Suicide Prevention on **Wednesday, April 21 at 7 pm** via Zoom. We invite you and your family to attend this important training.

There are two things you must do in order to participate:

1) Please complete [THIS pre-survey](#). (2 minutes)

2) Please register at qprinstitute.com/register using the instructor code **QPR234241523**. (2 minutes)

This will provide you all the materials needed for the training, including a virtual booklet for you to keep and your certificate of completion.

We look forward to this important training and hope you can join in. If you have questions, please contact Nancy Harrison at 307.421.4473 or nharrison@adventuremedianews.com.



The heart, hands & feet of God

Thank someone who has lived out their faith by sharing their gifts and made a difference in the church OR community, please email Amanda, amanda@trinitylutheranfc.org.



Dear **Trinity Lutheran**, Thank you so, so much for joining us for Shrove Tuesday! It was so great to begin Lent with y'all. As we look to the coming weeks, we're excited to continue worship and community during lent with Trinity. We are truly thankful for all that you have done for us, and feel blessed to be able to join in fellowship w/ y'all throughout the year. We are looking forward to Easter and pancakes with Trinity! Thank you again for all of your support of Lutheran Campus Ministry. ~ LuMin

Dear Trinity Lutheran, Thank you so very much for supporting LuMin ins so many ways! The gift card to Spoons is greatly appreciated by all of our students. We are blessed to be in community with TLC. Peace and thanks. ~ LuMin

Dear Trinity Lutheran, On behalf of the Northern Colorado Conference of the Rocky Mountain Synod ELCA, than you for your ministry and partnership in northern Colorado. These funds (\$100) are used for Northern Colorado Conference Missional Gatherings, educational workshops, and ministry leader retreats and gatherings. ~ Rev. Deb Abbott



Your GIFTS In Action

Focus on Local Hunger



One in three children in Larimer County are going to bed hungry. Over seven percent of seniors face food insecurity. And forty-nine percent of people who suffer from hunger are working.

Trinity gives to two non-profits that provide relief from hunger: Food Bank for Larimer County and McBackpack.

A food bank is no longer just a place to get a box of groceries. In addition to providing food directly to their clients, the Food Bank for Larimer County distributes food throughout the community in partnership with food pantries, community kitchens, and shelters. The pantries, both in-place and mobile, stock fresh fruits and vegetables as well as shelf-stable items for their shoppers—at no cost to them. Currently, the pantries serve over 14,000 qualified residents per month. In addition, fresh meals are prepared in the Food Bank's commercial kitchen and served to seniors at various sites in our community. Last year over 195,000 meals and snacks were prepared in the kitchen.

For every \$1 donated, the Food Bank provides two meals to those in need.

McBackpack is one of the organizations that receives grocery items from the Food Bank at reduced prices. McBackpack strives to fill the hunger gap for poverty-stricken families on weekends when children are not in school. In 2007, community members realized the need to provide supplemental food and today, volunteers pack and deliver over 400 bags of food each week to 42 schools in the Poudre School district (92,926 bags packed since 2011!). Others sponsor food drives, contribute money and food, or donate backpacks which are sent home on the first delivery to each family.

There is a proverb, "give a poor man a fish and you feed him for a day. Teach him to fish and you give him an occupation that will feed him for a lifetime." It is true only to a point. Daily hunger for children puts them at risk for serious health and learning problems. Long term hunger in older persons can lead to depression, heart problems or other health issues. Many organizations work on eliminating the root causes of poverty; in the meantime, it is important that no one in our community goes hungry—even for a day.

To volunteer and for more information go to www.foodbanklarimer.org or www.mcbackpack.org.



When you give to Trinity, you give to Local Hunger Agencies

Adult Forum in April

April 4 (Easter Sunday): Please join us for informal fellowship time on Zoom to share your favorite Easter traditions and stories!

April 11: Rev. Lisa Knapp from Lutheran World Relief (LWR) will share with us what LWR is doing on our behalf all over the world.

April 18: We'll view and discuss a TED talk by Tiffany Jana entitled "The Power of Privilege". Tiffany has directed organizational development, marketing, and community outreach initiatives for over 10 years. She founded TMI Consulting, the world's first Diversity and Inclusion Certified Benefit Corporation.

April 25: The program today is about the battle to combat hunger focusing on Larimer County. Speakers are Morgan Villnave, Community Engagement Manager at the Food Bank for Larimer County and Ann Randall, CEO and Co-founder McBackpack, Inc.



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