



APRIL 2022 Volume 25, No. 4

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

TIDINGS

Holy Land Trip

Dear Church – after 2 years of planning and 3 postponements, it does look like Lindsay and I will be able to travel to Holy Land. The trip is scheduled for April 18-26, and though this is not my preferred way to spend the week following Easter, we will have some unique experiences in the Holy Land because of this schedule. Please keep us in our prayers, and thank you for supporting this opportunity for Continuing Education.

Also, we invite you to check the [Trinity Facebook](#) page daily for an update/travel blog about our adventures, as technology allows. Lastly, if there are any questions that you want answered about the Holy Land, geography, ancient history, or from the “Living Stones” of Israel, please share them with me and I will search for an answer.

Peace – Pastor Rick and Lindsay

TLC book Group

In April the Book Group will change from Zoom to a hybrid format. Those who are comfortable gathering in person will meet in the Sun Room at 9:30 am on Monday, April 4. But for those who prefer to “tune in” from home, the Zoom link will be available. April’s selection will be a historical novel about Jesus’ ministry in which the protagonist – an intelligent, well-educated woman who is the sister of Judas – is also portrayed as being married to Jesus: ***The Book of Longings*** by Sue Monk Kidd. In May we will discuss ***Tangled Up in Blue*** by Rosa Brooks, a non-fiction account of a journalist and academic who becomes a cop in her forties. Copies of both books are in the church library now located in the Fireside Room. To join via Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85358221885?pwd=RWx6dTEwRzIzc0xuNmtkaWFzZzZldz09>

Shhhh....

We are having a surprise Birthday CARD Party for Anna Chapman’s 100th Birthday on April 20! Cards, emails, and greetings may be sent to Anna via email or home address achapman1517@gmail.com or

Anna Chapman
5000 Boardwalk Dr Unit 22,
Fort Collins, CO 80525



April Adult Forum

April 3 & 10: Session 3 & 4 of "Who is my Neighbor" series

April 17: Easter Sunday; no Forum

April 24: Representatives from The Food Bank of Larimer County and McBackPack will be our presenters as we highlight 2 of our benevolence partners who work to alleviate hunger in our local area.

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH



301 E. Stuart Street
Fort Collins, CO 80525
www.trinitylutheranfc.org
Facebook: /TLCfortcollins
Phone: (970) 482-1226
Fax: (970) 482-0817
Preschool: (970) 221-9852
After Hours Emergency:
(970)-400-7252

OFFICE HOURS

MON-THURS 9AM-3PM

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

Interim Director of Choirs & Saturday Worship Leader

Clinton Ellerbe

clinton1964@gmail.com

Church Musician

Carrie Hansen

carrie@trinitylutheranfc.org

A/V Techician

Claire Pickerel

claire@trinitylutheranfc.org

Sunday School Teacher

Jennifer Reeve

childrensminister@stpauls-fc.org

TLC Preschool Director

Brenda Harju

bharju@comcast.net

Minister's Message - Celebrations as a New Rhythm

We are about halfway through Lent. I have shared before that Lent is my favorite church season, and it has been for as long as I can remember. I have always loved soup suppers, and the intentionality around slowing down and quieting down. But this year Lent has felt different, it has been different than past years. We aren't having soup suppers at the church and while we are quieting down as a we gather for worship (especially since the worship theme is 'silence') there is almost an excitement to be together, in-person, for Lenten worship. There is something so beautiful about being silent together, especially after such a long season of being apart, of a silence that felt lonely rather than holy. And again, I am reminded that Lent is such a sacred season, something needed in our rhythm of church life.

Since last summer when we began holding in-person worship services we have been learning what the rhythm of our church might look like in new phases of the pandemic. We are seeing grief, sadness, loss, as well as new life, new members, and new possibilities. We are sensing the need to re-imagine roles of volunteers. The ministries and groups of the church are discerning best practices as we move forward, and we are realizing that even though we have always done things one way, does not mean we need to continue in that way (or return to that way) – it is refreshing to see the new possibilities emerging and it's also a lot of work!

In a recent conversation with someone, she said, "it seems like we are returning to normal". Then she caught herself, and said, "no, we aren't returning to normal, that isn't how time works, we can't go backwards, only forwards". I think that is such a wonderful way to think about the time we are in. We can't go backwards; we can only go forwards. I am excited by the possibilities on the horizon, the new ways some things are already being done. I am also grounded by the traditions we are holding on to, or the things we are bringing back after a season away because of the pandemic. Finding this balance is good and necessary for the life of the congregation. As we continue to live into these new rhythms of the church, we will continue to celebrate who we are at Trinity.

In the coming month at Trinity we will celebrate a class of new members, we will celebrate First Communion for some of our young people, and we will celebrate the resurrection of Jesus (Easter worship as well as brunch following). Join in these celebrations continue to move forward and live into new rhythms as a church community.

Deacon Katie Kline, Education & Family Minister

First Communion Class & Celebration

Has your child been asking questions about communion? Is your child waiting to take communion until first receiving instruction? If the answer to either of these questions is yes, it may be the right time for your child to receive first communion class (note: this is not a requirement at Trinity to receive communion). If you would like your child to participate in First Communion Class, please contact Deacon Katie to express your interest. Class will be **Sunday, April 3** (after worship, lunch included) and the First Communion Celebration will be Maundy Thursday, April 14. If either of these dates don't work for you, we can arrange something else.



Your Gifts In Action

Focus on Local Hunger

Food Bank for Larimer County

One in 3 children in our county suffer from lack of food and almost 10% of seniors make a choice between food and medicine. In addition to providing food directly to clients the Food Bank distributes food throughout the community in partnerships with food pantries, community kitchens, and shelters.

The last two years of Covid-19 restrictions have hampered getting food out directly. So in addition to partnerships the Food Bank has added outreach workers to increase participation in SNAP benefits (food stamps). Colorado is 43 out of 50 states in the people eligible for assistance receiving this benefit. Having outreach workers has increased families and seniors experiencing food insecurity to get the food directly from grocery stores.

McBackpack

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.

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

Camp this summer!

Would your child like to go to Sky Ranch this summer? Elementary and Middle School students are invite to Sky Ranch with other Trinity youth the week of July 24. Please register directly with Sky Ranch: [SUMMER CAMP REGISTRATION | skyranchcolorado](#) (under registration – individual) and let Deacon Katie know you have registered. Cost is \$230 (half-week, grades 1-3); \$455 (grades 3-8), The Trinity trust would like to offset each campers cost by \$100, and as always, scholarships are available. **Registration deadline is April 15.** Please let Deacon Katie know if you have any questions.



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.



Trinity, thank you once again for the periodic gift (\$116) received late last month. There is little this organization could accomplish without the generosity and commitment of our faith communities members. We are most grateful for your engagement and these periodic surprises in support of our ministry. ~ ISAAC

Dear **Trinity**, you just made a difference! Your donation of \$174 is helping Stephen and Ashland achieve their long-time dream of being homeowners. They will be able to move from the challenges of trying to find an affordable rent into a place that they call home. ~ Habitat for Humanity

Dear **Trinity**, Like tens of thousands of other people in our community Lisa has faced uncertainty about where her meals are coming from. Thanks to your generosity (\$699) she has at least one guaranteed option when she needs food. ~ The Food Band for Larimer County.

Dear **Trinity**, on behalf of Outreach Fort Collins, Colorado Nonprofit Development Center would like to thank you for your gift of \$291. Outreach Fort Collins is a project of CNDC. The mission is to maximize the impact of nonprofits through fiscal sponsorship table all Colorado communities to thrive. CNDC fulfills its mission by providing comprehensive fiscal sponsorship to the charitable groups (Projects) it accepts, which includes financial management, administrative oversight, coaching, and technical assistance. ~ CNDC

Dear **Trinity**, thank you for your gift of \$699 to ELCA world hunger. This season remember a time before Christ's birth when humanity waited to be delivered from fear and sin. But we also remember the day the waiting ended. Our savior arrived, and now we live in a world transformed by God's grace. ~ ELCA World Hunger

Members of TLC, First, Thank you to all of you for the love and sympathy you have shown toward Rick, Lindsay, Anya and all of our family at the passing of Kathie. It was and is very much appreciated. Secondly, enclosed please find an Easter gift to help decorate your sanctuary with lilies. After Easter service feel free to donate them to a care facility in Ft. Collins area. God's Blessings to you all. ~ Peace, Dick Reiten

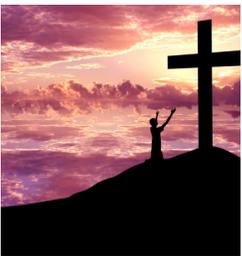


Thank you Trinity

As part of the 2015 Gifted to Grow Capital Campaign Trinity committed 10% to benevolence. Our gifts included helping two daughters of the Maasai finish high school in Tanzania. The four years ended November 2021. The young women are from nomadic rural backgrounds. Their education will nearly triple their lifetime income. The thank you letter is from one of the women we have helped over the last four years. The original connection with Operation Bootstrap came from Bob and Esther Johnson's time in Tanzania in the 1950's. The thank you letter can be read [HERE](#).

APRIL 2022

| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY |
|--|---|---|
| | | |
| 3 9 am Adult Forum 9 am Confirmation 10 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship 11:45 am First Communion Class | 4 9:30 am Book Group 6 pm Property | 5 7:30 am Men's Breakfast 5:15 pm Soc/Eco Justice 6 pm FP Soc Eco Justice |
| 10 Palm Sunday 9 am Executive Council 9 am Adult Forum 9 am Confirmation 10 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship <i>New Member Welcome</i> | 11 4:30 pm Exec Council | 12 4 pm Finance |
| 17 Easter Sunday 11 am Easter Service 12 pm Easter Brunch | 18 6 pm Council | 19 |
| 24 9 am Adult Forum 9 am Confirmation 10 am Sunday School 10:30 am Worship | 25 | 26 5:30 pm FP Eco Justice |



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

| WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|---|---|---|---|
| | | 1 | 2 1 pm Brad Abbott's Retirement Open House 5 pm Saturday Praise |
| 6 12 pm Prayer Hour 6 pm Bells 6:45 pm Taizé 7:15 pm Chancel Choir | 7 9:30 am Bible Study 1:30 pm Spanish Class | 8 | 9 9 am Spring Clean Up 5 pm Saturday Praise <i>New Member Welcome</i> |
| 13 12 pm Prayer Hour 6 pm Bells 7:15 pm Chancel Choir | 14 Maundy Thurs 9:30 am Bible Study 7 pm Service | 15 Good Friday Registration deadline for Sky Ranch Camp 12 pm Stations of the Cross 7 pm 7 Last Words | 16 Holy Saturday 5 pm Easter Service |
| 20 6 pm Bells 7:15 pm Chancel Choir | 21 9:30 am Bible Study 6 pm FP Co-Op | 22 | 23 5 pm Saturday Praise |
| 27 6 pm Bells 7:15 pm Chancel Choir | 28 9:30 am Bible Study 7 pm Immigration | 29 | 30 5 pm Saturday Praise |

ASSISTING IN WORSHIP

April 2/3 Ron Bend / Shelley Aust

April 9/10 Sherry Albertson-Clark / Rick Aust

April 16/17 Andrew Zuniga / Anya Reiten

April 23/24 Bonnie Bend / Erik Elliott

April 30/May 1 Vicky Splittgerber / Cherlyn Gorsky

Faith, Family, Hospitality Host Weeks

As April begins we are in our final week of hosting four families who are experiencing homelessness. Click on the link below to take you to the Sign-up Genius schedule to see if there are still vacant spots where you might help. <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090449AEAA28A6FB6-faith>

We always need volunteers to cook meals, serve as evening or overnight hosts, or to help with laundry or teardown at the end of the rotation. Questions? Call Steph Dugger (970-223-9119) or Nadine Hunt (907-825-3730). Questions? Call Steph Dugger (970-223-9119) or Nadine Hunt (907-825-3730)

Amazon Smiles

When you order through Amazon, you can donate to your favorite charity! Simply go to <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/84-0444325> and sign-in with your regular Amazon password. Amazon will give 0.5% of your eligible purchases to the organization of your choice. What a great way to positively impact our ministries!



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 Klamann | 4/21 | | |

Anniversaries

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



Holy Week

Maundy Thursday, April 14

7 pm Service (First Communion)

Good Friday, April 15

12 pm Stations of the Cross - Open House Style - outside dress accordingly

7 pm Seven Last Words

Holy Saturday, April 16

5 pm Easter Service

Easter Sunday, April 17

11 am Easter Service with Orchestra

12 pm Easter Brunch

2022 Ministry Fund Plan for the month of February and for year-to-date as of February 2022

| | February | Year-To-Date |
|--|-----------------|------------------|
| Receipts: | | |
| Offerings | \$52,473 | \$ 87,169 |
| 1) SPE and MoM Building Use Donations | 4,611 | 5,932 |
| Building Use | 525 | 1,200 |
| Total Receipts: | 57,609 | 94,301 |
| Expenditures: | | |
| Operating and Support | 26,097 | 52,275 |
| Ministries | 9,169 | 16,294 |
| Benevolence/Gifts (Synod, Sky Ranch, etc.) | | |
| Total Expenditures: | \$35,266 | \$ 68,569 |
| Receipts less Expenditures: | \$22,343 | \$ 25,732 |

JET ECO Tip of the Month

From the 301 Faith Partners Joint Ecological Team (JET)

The first Earth Day was promoted on April 22, 1970 with a record of 20 million people attending earth day events across the United States. On Earth Day's 20th anniversary, an estimated 400 million people in multiple countries spoke out and walked to protect natural resources. Then, in 2020, over two billion people participated and walked in solidarity for a day of action to change human behavior and to create global, national, and local policy changes. This year's Earth Day is Friday, April 22, 2022.

Let's make everyday Earth Day!

Please join the next Joint Ecological Team (JET) meeting on **Tuesday, April 26, at 5:30 pm** either via Zoom or in-person. The JET meets as needed to plan educational events, bike to work day, volunteer opportunities and advocacy. Join Zoom Meeting [HERE](#) ID: 350 899 592 | Passcode: 028929

Council President Update

As the Council shared last weekend in worship, we are surprised and saddened to receive a resignation letter from President Betty Wagner. The letter is available upon request in the church office. We want to thank Betty for all of her volunteer and ministry Leadership at Trinity especially on council as Finance Chair, acting Vice President, and President. Council has elected current Vice President Don Heyse to be acting President through the end of the year, while the nominating committee will begin a search for an acting Vice President.

We appreciate the work that has been done by Betty, especially during a difficult season of Covid the last two years. We send Betty and John off with prayers and Godspeed as they explore new ministry opportunities at First Lutheran in Ault.

Highlights from Current Council Minutes

Council Devotions will be centered in 2022 around each person's baptismal word. Books for the Council study for 2022 "Becoming a Welcoming Church" will be distributed at the Annual Meeting.

Finance Report

- Receipts to the end of January were \$36,692 with expenditures of \$33,303 for a positive balance of \$3,389.
- TLC has renewed its line of credit at Community Bank.
- The Finance Committee has been working on updating the procedures for stock donations, determining the best way that the \$788 surplus from yearend 2021 can be distributed to staff members, and developing a job description to be used to find a replacement for Debbie Schwartz
- There are employer matched gifts which can be shifted to property expenses.

The Annual Meeting will be held on March 5/6 via Zoom and in person. The agenda will include: call to order, opening prayer, agenda approval, minutes from November meeting; updates by TLC ministry chairs; president updates; financial position as of 31 December 2021; celebration; slide show; adjournment; Lord's Prayer. The congregation will also need to elect delegates to the Synod Assembly.

Debbie Schwartz's Retirement: A committee to plan a celebration for Debbie Schwartz's June retirement will be formed.

Electronic Sign: The 301 Faith Partners recommends the replacement of the sign at the parking lot entrance with an electronic version from Connecting Signs for \$26,500, the least expensive of three bids received. The sign would include "301 Faith Partners," the names of the three churches, and the preschool on the top, with a programable digital screen on the bottom. Finance Committee questions whether this is a needed expenditure at this time since we have a \$55,000 negative MFP (budget) for 2022. Others believe that an electronic sign is "the cost of doing business" in this day and age. Council needs more info about how much of the cost would be shared by our partners, and the expenditure would need to be approved by the congregation. It is not a decision that can be made by the Council.

Covid Building Use

- Because the county COVID positivity rate skyrocketed since Christmas, the Executive Committee on January 10th voted to revert to a Zoom format for worship, committee meetings, and outside groups. The revised policy stipulates that the online worship policy will remain in effect so long as the Larimer County positivity rate remains at 15% or higher; once the rate falls below 15%, in-person worship and building use may resume after ten days. The Council fine-tuned the wording of the policy and approved it unanimously.

Miscellaneous

- Two tools from the Excellence in Leadership training were introduced to be used as trust building exercises at future meetings or at a retreat.
- The finance team and council designated \$5000 for discretionary benevolence for 2022.
- Hospitality/Evangelism shared a video highlighting our rostered leaders which will be added to the TLC website.
- Fellowship hour will become a shared event with SPE from 8:45 – 10:30 a.m. replacing the fellowship hour following the TLC service.
- The snow removal costs have exceeded budget this year, and the winter season is not over!
- The lock-up committee composed of volunteers from the three churches is functioning well improving the security of the building.

Respectfully submitted, Nadine Hunt, Council Secretary

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



TRINITY LUTHERAN
301 E. Stuart St.
Fort Collins, CO 80525
(970) 482-1226