



February 2019 Volume 22, No. 2

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

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TIDINGS

Faith Family Hospitality

By the time you receive Tidings it will be almost time for our host week of **February 3-10** for FFH: Faith Family Hospitality. Volunteers are needed to set-up and take-down, prepare meals, do laundry, and serve as evening and overnight hosts. Go to our website www.trinitylutheranfc.org to and click on the link to Sign-up Genius, or call Dawn Theis Fulkerson at 970-232-5472 or Nadine Hunt at 970-825-3730.

3 Congregations 1 Faith Community Sunday, February 17

Join us again, as Mary of Magdala, St. Paul's and Trinity, combine to share worship together at 10:30am on **Sunday February 17**. We will also have a special fellowship fundraiser called "St. Swissom's Liars Day Lunch!" A fun, satirical celebration of a fictitious saint. Tickets are now available, see page 10 for more details..

Congregational Celebration Meeting

Congregational Celebration Meeting will be held on **Sunday, February 24** after the 10:30 am Service. Lunch will be provided, but we need your help!! The sign up sheet is in the Narthex, so sign up for what you can bring and don't forget to sign up for set-up and clean-up! Thank YOU!

A-G: Hot dish

H-M: Salads

N-S: Desserts

T-Z: Buns or bread

TLC book Group

Book group will meet on **Monday, February 4, at 9:30 am** in the Fireside Room, to discuss the novel *A Gentleman in Moscow* the story of a Russian count who is put under house arrest in 1922 and lives out his days in the luxurious Metropol Hotel in Moscow by Amor Towles.

In March we turn to biography: *Obsessive Genius: The Inner World of Marie Curie* by Barbara Goldsmith. This biography is a dazzling portrait of Curie, her scientific success, and the price she paid for fame.

Questions? Call Nadine Hunt at 825-3730. Come every month, or just come when the book interests you.

Lutheran Campus Ministry

In Your gifts to campus ministry support opportunities for worship, Bible study, peer ministry, service and community building. This month we are looking forward to a winter retreat at Rainbow Trail Lutheran Camp with students and staff from all over the Rocky Mountain Synod. Campus ministry offers opportunities that support students on their faith journey and expand our communities. For more information about Lutheran Episcopal Campus Ministry at University of Northern Colorado contact Pastor Deb Abbott at pastor@lecmgreeley.org or visit www.lecmgreeley.org. For Lutheran Campus Ministry at Colorado State University contact Pastor Paul Judson at pastor@lcmcsu.org or visit www.lcmcsu.org. Thank you for your support! LCM will be at Trinity on the weekend of **February 9 & 10** so don't miss your chance to learn more about this great ministry.

Habitat for Humanity

Our next 3 build days at Harmony Cottages (Harmony Rd. & Taft Hill) are **Saturday, March 30, Thursday, April 25 & Saturday, May 18**. Construction skills not necessary - there is a job for everyone. We would like to have 4 volunteers each of these days. BONUS - lunch is provided by one of the churches each build day. St. Paul's is now joining on the FOCOLU build also. Contact Ron Bend 970-310-3482 or Steph Dugger 970-223-9119 the Sunday before the build if you would like to build with us!

A wall raising for our 2019 FOCOLU Habitat home will be on February 16. Watch the e-News & Announcements for the time. This is a perfect time to come to the build site and to meet the family we are building and sponsoring a home for.

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH



TRINITY
LUTHERAN
CHURCH



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WORSHIP TIMES
SATURDAY: 5 PM
SUNDAY: 10:30 AM

Senior Pastor
Rick Reiten
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Pastoral Assistant
Kaari von Bernuth
Kaari@trinitylutheranfc.org

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(970)-400-7252

OFFICE HOURS:
MON-THURS 9 AM - 3 PM

Pastor Rick's Reflections

Fasting from Preaching

As I look at the church calendar for February, I am surprised at what I see. I am not scheduled to preach in February, and I will probably get rusty as I am out of practice for a few weeks. If Lent were already here I would say that I gave up preaching for Lent – but since we are over a month before Ash Wednesday (March 6), I cannot use that excuse. Still, it feels like I am unintentionally, fasting from preaching.

As with any fasting practice, it should deepen our relationship with God, and I hope this is the same for me. I love preaching – but also enjoy worshipping and listening to God's story in other's voices. In truth, I am not a great 'listener' to sermons because I analyze what I would say, given the same text, but still appreciate the opportunity to be fed by the Word. This month we have an opportunity to hear from youth reps about World Hunger; college students and our LuMin ministry; we will worship together with our sisters and brothers from Mary of Magdala and St. Paul's, and continue receiving the gospel from our pastoral assistant. This comes after being able to hear from Karel Waltermire and Stand with Ethiopia back in January.

As I look at the calendar, I am grateful for our ministry partners, and our sharing of the gospel message. I am grateful to Kaari and her gifts in ministry. I am grateful hearing God's story and gospel perspective in another's words. I am grateful for a congregation that responds to different preachers and styles, but all with the message of good news in Jesus Christ. I am grateful to God for the ministry that God has given you – visiting, caring, praying, teaching, worshipping, singing, giving, leading, healing.

Someone recently asked me what my least favorite bible text or church celebration is, and I was torn between Holy Trinity Sunday and Transfiguration. As I look at the calendar, I realize that God has a sense of humor, for my next sermon on March 3 is Jesus on the mount of Transfiguration. I better start working on it now.

God bless you in this month of epiphany light, as we journey through God's story, and may we look with anticipation towards the Lenten season.

Pastor Rick

Trinity Responds to Local Hunger Needs!

Matthew 25:35....for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink.

Trinity's care for the hungry in 2018 and early 2019 has been shown through several actions. From the Food Bank for Larimer County we received thanks from Andrew Gorgol, Food Resource & Transportation Manager, for food donations of 256 lbs. last year. This includes 101 lbs. from the Thanksgiving Turkey drive supported by Trinity, Mary of Magdala, and St. Paul's Episcopal. We have also received many donations to those in need via the TLC Food Pantry on Stuart Street which has become quite popular. Both of these causes are supplied by food barrels in the church narthex near the office door. Please continue to donate non-perishables as you are able!

On January 10 of this year Trinity gave \$1,000 to McBackpack, Inc. through Trinity Benevolence Fund. McBackpack provides supplemental food to Poudre School District students and their families who otherwise would not have enough food. This check was gratefully received at First Presbyterian Church before a group of volunteers who gave several Trinity members a heartfelt welcome and appreciation.

Thank You!

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. There are so many who are the heart, hands and feet of God.

Trinity Lutheran, St. Paul's, and Mary of Magdala churches, Thank you so much for your generous gifts of toys and financial gifts! You were all amazing! With your help, we were able to bless over 100 kids (50 families) with 5 gifts per child (toy, book, educational item, pj's, & a knitted/crocheted item). We greatly appreciate your partnership in blessing the Lago Vista Community. Thanks again & God bless each of you! ~Duncan & Laney Howard, Lago Vista Neighbor

God Speed

Thank you to Al & Mary Rohde for faithfully helping at Trinity with the Memorial Garden, finding worship assistants for Saturday nights, being one of our counters and data entry helpers, and for always making sure our lawn mower was running properly. You will be truly missed!

Benevolence at The Border

The January 2019 issue of Living Lutheran magazine includes an article titled, "Welcoming those in need", about the response to the migrants seeking refuge at our Southern Border. This subject was also addressed by Rocky Mountain Synod Bishop Jim Gonia, in the E-Connections during the Fall on 2018. He traveled to El Paso, Texas this past November to see first-hand the realities of the migration situation. He noted several ways to help including possible support for the Border Servant Corps.

Trinity's Social & Eco Justice Ministry took up this issue at it's December 2018 meeting in relation to needs of the Border Servant Corps (BSC). The BSC has been a ministry of the ELCA for many years and assists asylum seekers and refugees. Based on the urgency of the ongoing concerns at the Border, there was serious consideration given to what we at Trinity could do for those who have been called to serve at the Border. Since funding for several BSC volunteers had been affected by a change in the programming during the fall of 2018, a plea for help was sent in October to supporters of the BSC Yearlong Service Program. Peace Lutheran Church in El Paso, has agreed to receive monetary donations for this cause, and a goal of \$10,000 was set to supplement volunteer salaries.

After discussion of this need and possible ways to help, it was recommended that \$5,000 be requested from the Trinity Benevolence Fund to be allocated to the BSC via Peace Lutheran. This was approved at a January 6 meeting of the Benevolence Fund Team. As mentioned 92 times in the Bible, according to the Living Lutheran article, what a powerful way to "welcome the stranger"!

Marriage Encounter - Winter 2019

Married husbands and wives can celebrate their special relationship and learn unique insights and tools to improve their communication for the long haul with Marriage Encounter! It's a whole weekend away from chores, jobs, and kids to learn how to reap joyful long-term rewards for their relationship, their family, and their faith journey.

Please partner with us by sharing the following Announcement in your church media - newsletter, bulletin announcements, website, and video monitors - throughout January 2019 to inform your congregation. See our Quick Links below for even more media formats!

Your Relationship Deserves Marriage Encounter! February 15-17, 2019

Hideaway Inn & Conference Center, Colorado Springs. Apply now at GodLovesMarriage.org! Pre-registration and pre-payment are required – don't miss out!

TGIF

No TGIF this Month!

Join us again on Friday, March 8 at the home of Shelley & Rick Aust



Birthdays

Glenn Schneider	2/1	Larry Ackerson	2/11	Tim Sersen	2/15
Donna Dauner	2/2	Larry Dietz	2/11	Blake Dugger	2/16
Levi Schmidt	2/2	Betty Wagner	2/11	Lindsay Reiten	2/16
Terry Teal	2/3	Annie Layden	2/12	Susie Stark	2/18
Dave Ferrin	2/4	Pastor Rick Reiten	2/12	Mary Ann Miller	2/21/
Carol Hemken	2/5	Nilia Walter	2/12	Greg Brissey	2/22
Amy Keller	2/5	Shelley Aust	2/13	Andrew Sauer	2/22
Paul Stewart	2/5	Ruth Dietz	2/14	Wally Jacobson	2/25
Carolyn Biedermann	2/6	Quinn Funk	2/14	Duane Ehrlich	2/26/
Rene Mize	2/6	Betty Hautaluoma	2/14	Shae Nance	2/27
Jeffrey Aristoff	2/8	Eileen Ackerson	2/15	Sally Eachus	2/28
Donald Ritscher	2/9	Tanja Betten	2/15	Linda Hamilton	2/29

Anniversaries

Ken & Nilia Walter	2/01	Heinz & Geisele Schueler	2/04
Eileen & Larry Ackerson	2/02	Rob & Aida Schmidt	2/24

February 2019

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY
3 World Hunger 9 am Adult Forum 9 am Shared Sunday School 9:10 am Pray & Play 10:30 am Worship FFH Host Week _____	4 9:30 am TLC Book Group 6 pm Property _____	5 7:30 am Men's Breakfast 5:15 pm Soc/Eco Justice _____
10 9 am Executive Council 9 am Adult Forum 9 am Shared Sunday School 9:10 am Pray & Play 10:30 am Worship	11	12 4:30 pm Finance
17 9 am Adult Forum 9 am Shared Sunday School 9:10 am Pray & Play 10:30 am Shared Worship 11:30 am Fellowship Fundraiser-Saint Swissom 11:45 am Worship & Music	18 President's Day Tidings Articles Due 5:30 pm Council	19
24 9 am Adult Forum 9 am Shared Sunday School 9:10 am Pray & Play 10:30 am Worship 11:30 am Annual Meeting	25 9:30 am Anna's Circle 7 pm Wom's Bible Study	26

ASSISTING IN WORSHIP THIS MONTH

Saturday Worship Assistants

Feb 2 Dallen Simske
Feb 9 Vicki Volbrecht
Feb 16 Bonnie Ben
Feb 23 Ron Splittgerber

Sunday Lectors:

Feb 3 Robyn Moore
Feb 10 Richard Kling
Feb 17 Patty Heyse
Feb 24 Nancy Harrison

WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1 Office Closed	2 5 pm Saturday Praise
6 6 pm Bells of Trinity 6:30 pm Confirmation @ OSLC 7:15 pm Chancel Choir	7 9:30 am Bible Study	8 Office Closed	9 5 pm Saturday Praise
13 6 pm Bells of Trinity 6:30 pm Confirmation @ OSLC 7:15 pm Chancel Choir	14 Valentine's Day 9:30 am Bible Study	15 Office Closed	16 5 pm Saturday Praise
20 6 pm Bells of Trinity 6:30 pm Confirmation @ OSLC 7:15 pm Chancel Choir	21 9:30 am Bible Study	22 Office Closed	23 5 pm Saturday Praise
27 6 pm Bells of Trinity 6:30 pm Confirmation @ OSLC 7:15 pm Chancel Choir	28 9:30 am Bible Study		

Sunday Worship Assistants:

- Feb 3** Delores Wisner
- Feb 10** Sharon Salmen
- Feb 17** Nancy Harrison
- Feb 24** Larry Salmen

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

2019 Adult Forum Series

On **Sunday, February 10**, the Adult Forum will begin a two week series *Guns or Garden Tools?* We will look at gun safety concerns as we get ready to hear from a guest speaker from Raw Tools, Denver on February 17. Raw Tools is a non profit group whose mission statement is: Replacing narratives of violence with communities of creation. The scriptural foundation for their work comes from Isaiah 2:4 and Micah 4:3-4 -This group is known for turning guns into garden tools rather than "swords into plowshares." Anyone who would like to make a contribution to this active area nonprofit group may do so in Adult Forum or through the church office - just designate your TLC check as a donation for Raw Tools. *Note: On **Saturday, March 23**, Raw Tools, Denver, has chosen TLC as the host for one of their "beating guns" demonstrations. Watch for more details about this special event that will be open also to others beyond our church community.*

On **Sunday, February 3**, Adult Forum will conclude the series, Identifying Truth in Everyday Life and Faith. On **Sundays, February 24 and March 3**, the class will consider some of the history of Christian worship and the liturgical year, focusing especially on the season of Lent and its traditions.

Sunday morning Adult Forum meets each week in the Sun Room from 9-10:10 am. All are welcome to participate regularly or occasionally in this presentation/discussion class.

World Wisdoms Program Calendar

The last World Wisdoms Program of the fall/winter series is **February 21, 2019 from 6:30-8:30 pm** at Foothills Unitarian Church it will be on *Ethical Growth Toward Care of Mother Earth in the Buddhist and Humanist Traditions*.

Everyone at Trinity is invited to attend this community wide, interfaith event for which our Trinity Social and Eco Justice Ministry is a sponsor.

Picture Directory

Trinity is putting together a new picture directory, using our 'in house' resources instead of hiring a company. Beginning SOON we will be setting up times for family/households to get their pictures taken. However, if you would like to send in a recent family/household photo to use instead of setting up a portrait time, we are collecting those now. Please send your picture to Amanda at amanda@trinitylutheranfc.org.

Trinity's Little Pantry

We are looking for food donations for Trinity's Little Pantry. The food pantry is a project started by Carol Hemken with a Thrivent Action Team. The pantry was built and installed on Stuart St. in front of the church. It is filled with items for those that are food insecure. This is a year round need, and we are starting 2019 off with a food donation drive. Snack items, protein (meat), nuts and items to make meals are perfect. Smaller sized items can be purchased at the Dollar Store (see display table in the Narthex). Thank you!

From Maintenance to Ministry – Fall Stewardship Appeal

An Update

The Stewardship for All Seasons Committee would like to thank the entire congregation for their supportive response to the Fall Stewardship Appeal. As of this writing, the number of Statements of Intent continues to grow each day and we now have 86 for a total of \$280,250, or over 55% of our budget goal of \$506,000 for 2019.

Included in the budget for 2019 are the additional funds needed for the Three Ministry Initiatives: Expansion of Our Hospitality Ministry, Addition of a Volunteer Coordinator, Addition of a staff person for Education and Family Ministry, and sharing our gifts with others through additional benevolence.

There will be more information presented regarding the latest developments of the Three Ministry Initiatives during the Congregational Annual Meeting on Sunday, February 24. With the guidance of the Holy Spirit, we look forward to generating the support - prayers, people and dollars, to put the plan to increase our church ministry into action next year.

Once again, on behalf of the Stewardship Committee, thank all of you, whether or not you completed a Statement of Intent, for your faithful giving of your time, talents and gifts to the church, and for being a part of the congregation here at Trinity!

Stephen Zink, Stewardship Chair

Budgeted Finances for the month of December and for year-to-date as of December 31, 2018

	December	Year-To-Date
Receipts:		
1) Building use	\$ 3,606	\$ 38,197
2) Offerings	57,732	404,142
Total Receipts:	61,338	442,338
Expenditures:		
Operating and Support	22,716	272,529
Ministries	8,853	97,936
Benevolence/Gifts (Synod, Sky Ranch, etc.)	1,049	20,773
Line of Credit Interest expense	-	273
Total Expenditures:	\$ 32,618	\$ 391,511
Receipts less Expenditures:	\$ 28,720	\$ 50,828
Gifted To Grow Capital Campaign Offering	\$ 130,205	\$ 209,289
1) Includes St. Paul's and Mary of Magdala's monthly building use payments plus other outside groups.		
2) Includes \$10,000 of Challenge Offering plus another \$10,000 of offering to match that Challenge.		

Saint Swissoms Day (and Liars Day Luncheon)

February 17th , 2019

Consider this an open invitation to all the congregations at Trinity, after the combined worship service on **Sunday, February 17** we will be holding a luncheon to benefit CROSSROADS Safehouse. Men from all three churches will be doing the cooking, so bring your favorite companion and join in the fun. The menu is not finalized at this time, but rest assured that it will all be suitable for human consumption. Folks from CROSSROADS will be giving a presentation on their facility and the need that exists in our own neighborhood for the services that they provide. So come on out enjoy a meal and help support this worthy cause.

As part of the entertainment and since St. Swissom is the Patron Saint of Liars, we will have a time for the sharing of TALL TALES. As I am sure you all know Tall Tales always have a bit of truth to them, probably just enough to keep from becoming bald faced lies.

So save they date and join us in this new and different adventure.

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES NOVEMBER 19, 2018

Present: Dave Karst, Scottie Moore, Lisa Dunworth, Don Heyse, Betty Wagner, Jodie Burgoon, Ron Bend, Pastor Rick, Andrea Sauer

Absent: Richard Morton

Guests: Danielle and Kaari von Bernuth

Devotion: Betty Wagner

Guest presentation:

- **Troop 195 update.** February 1, 2019, a new national policy goes into effect permitting girls to join the troops. Troop 195 allows girls to join already, but a new unit will need to be formed to be formally recognized by the Boy Scouts of America. Two additional girls age 11+ are needed to join. The troop would like more 5-6 year olds to join as well, girls and boys. Several upcoming activities include the "Show 'em your skills" rally February 2, the Christmas tree drop-off (\$10 on Dec 29/30 and Dec 5/6), and the train museum. Council suggested continued updates on activities via E-news, Tidings, and reaching out to SPE and MoM. Danielle asked Council to consider involvement in the Office of Emergency Management "resilient communities" project. TLC members would attend a two-day seminar in February/March and see how they can fill the gaps in the event of an emergency.

New Business

- **Approval of Minutes and Finance report:** Dean Gebhardt and Delozier spelled incorrectly. Ron moved to accept the October 2018 Council minutes as amended and the finance report. Betty seconded. Unanimous approval. Betty noted TLC is \$18,888 in the black, but finance will pay accruals which totals about \$9,000. After this is paid, TLC will be just under \$10,000. Gifted to Grow on target. Lisa made the motion. Jodie seconded. Motion passed.
- **Troop 195 re-charter:** Don moved to approve the re-charter for Troop 195 at Trinity for another year. Lisa seconded. Unanimous approval.
- **Christmas party:** Council does not formally meet in December. A social get-together is planned for December 11 at 6 pm.

- **Staff bonuses:** Budget line item for cash bonuses of \$40-\$50 to around 10 staff members. Dave will collect extra donations and distribute them to staff by December 15. Lisa moved to approve the staff bonuses not to exceed \$1,000. Jodie seconded. Motion passed.
- **Financial review position:** Steph Dugger agreed to serve. Bob Beckman and Jenni Mackinen also serve. Jodie moved to approve Steph Dugger to serve on the financial review team. Ron seconded. Unanimous approval.

Old Business

- **Line of credit procedures:** Betty presented a draft of the line of credit procedures. Under the new policy, the line of credit is for “emergency building maintenance or emergencies of near catastrophic nature” only. Shortfalls in general operations should be borrowed from temporary restricted funds not the line of credit. The congregation will be notified in writing or verbal announcement. This policy helps provide better accountability and communication, should TLC need additional funds. Policy will be filed with the minutes and with finance. Betty will reformat the policy and send to PR. Don moved to approve the line of credit policy, Ron seconded. Motion passed.

Ministry Reports

- **Social and Eco Justice – Don Heyse** – Thanked Council for the \$1,000 for the McBackpack program. Bike to Work Day is scheduled for December 12. A task force is planning several social and eco justice adult education events in 2019.
- **Pastor Rick** –
 - ◇ Kaari had a quarterly review on November 20. PR very happy with her first three months. She has a list of 8 goals to accomplish during her time as pastoral assistant. Jodie complemented Kaari on her participation in service and being available for congregants.
 - ◇ A friend of the congregation offered a challenge gift, a dollar to dollar match, during Christmas 2018. The intent of the gift is to get TLC off on a springboard for 2019 to accomplish its goals.
 - ◇ Discernment team assembled 5 members Nadine Hunt, Andy Sprain, Jeff MaCutcheon, Cheryl Dolan, Dallen Simske. They are putting together a ministry site profile. The goal is to present it to the congregation.
 - ◇ PR received feedback from some members about not being able to participate in deciding the 2019 ministry initiatives. The initiatives derived from Council leaders and ministry committees, and that transparency is important. Council will consider better ways to communicate and gather feedback in the future.
 - ◇ January 2019 Council meeting will include outgoing and incoming positions. New positions will be installed prior.
 - ◇ Wednesday night soup suppers will be a joint fellowship during the advent season followed by Taize services.

Jodie moved to adjourn the meeting. Betty seconded. Motion passed and meeting adjourned at 6:52 p.m. and closed with the Lord’s Prayer.

Respectfully submitted, Andrea Sauer, Council Secretary



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