

April 2019

Dear Friends of Trinity,

Good Friday without Easter would be completely meaningless. If Christ Jesus had not been raised from the dead, then there would be no reason at all to be a community of faith. But if Christ has been raised from the dead, then the implications are immense. It means that Jesus is Lord of all, and death has been conquered by our God who is gracious and merciful to His created ones.

It was no accident that Jesus was raised on the first day of the week (or, if you will, on the 8th day). It marked a new beginning for a newly-created creation. Eternal life to our mortal bodies is assured all because of Easter. This is ultimately what Easter is all about. Because of Easter we look forward to the New Heavens and New Earth.

Gather your family and friends and receive this Good News at Trinity. My Easter sermon will be about knowing God personally. Knowing God personally is only possible because of the reality of Easter. As Jesus now lives and reigns forever, he lives and reigns *for you!*

A very Happy and Blessed Easter to you!

In Christ,
Pastor Hoag

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Holy Week & Easter

April 18, 2019 - Maundy Thursday Service 7:30 p.m.
April 19, 2019 - Good Friday Cross Walk 10:00 a.m.
April 19, 2019 - Good Friday Service 7:30 p.m.
April 20 - Easter Vigil with Communion 5:00 p.m.
April 21, 2019 - Easter Sunday Services 7:00 and 10:30 a.m.
(Easter Breakfast immediately following the 7:00 a.m. service)



Updates from Council President, Jeff McDonald.

A quick update on the kitchen project is that we have submitted our draft plans to the Village for review. At this early stage, it sounds like the Village is on board with what we are proposing so now it goes to the Fire Department for their review and input. Hopefully they also approve our plans, which would then mean we could start securing bids for the various parts of this project that will require outside contractors. We would like to start on this project as soon after Easter as possible.

Speaking of Easter, hopefully you are planning to join us for services on Easter Sunday. In addition to Easter breakfast being served in between the services, we will again plan to take photos of our members in their "Sunday best" by the flower-covered altar following each service. This is a great opportunity to get an updated picture - whether you alone, you with a group of friends or you with your family - and it's done at no charge to you. Hope to see you there!

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LENT 2019 is here

Lenten services will be held each following Wednesday evening at 7:30 p.m.

exploreGod™

**JOIN US FOR A
7-WEEK SERIES
WHERE WE WILL
EXPLORE THE
BIG QUESTIONS**

- ① Does Life Have a Purpose?
- ② Is There a God?
- ③ Why Does God Allow Pain & Suffering?
- ④ Is Christianity Too Narrow?
- ⑤ Is Jesus Really God?
- ⑥ Is The Bible Reliable?
- ⑦ Can I Know God Personally?

COMING ON THE *SUNDAYS* DURING LENT!

Beginning March 9 and 10 at each service, and for the following 7 weeks, Pastor Hoag will be presenting this sermon series that grapples with the big questions of the Christian faith. We all struggle with these questions. But by asking them we'll gain a more clarity on what the Bible teaches us. Bring family and friends, especially those who you know are struggling with these issues.

DISCUSSION GROUP

Beginning March 10 during Adult Bible class at 9:15am, Pastor Hoag will facilitate a discussion group that will wrestle with these important questions. You are invited! There is no cost to attend. Sign up on the sheet that can be found on the sign-up table next to the gym, or let Pastor know that you will be attending. This will be a great opportunity to

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bring friends and family who really struggle with these issues to discuss them in a safe and welcoming environment. Contact Pastor Hoag if you have any questions about this series.



MIDWEEK LENTEN SERIES 2019

With the upcoming Lenten season, we will once again be having Midweek Lenten Services on Wednesdays at 7:30pm. Beginning on March 13, a video series from The Bible Project will be presented as food for discussion. These very entertaining videos will be sure to pique our curiosity and bring clarity to themes that weave their way through the Bible. Themes that we will be exploring are: The Image of God, Exile, The Way of Exile, The Son of Man, and Sacrifice and Atonement. Bring family and friends to this insightful and meaningful series!



Soup and sandwich suppers are held at 6:30 p.m., just prior to each Lenten service.

Below is a schedule of the organizations who will be preparing the meals and the dates of the meals. Our youth will be serving at all the Lenten Suppers and the free will offering will go help with the National Youth Gathering trip in July.

4/3 Church Council -Sloppy Joes and Soup

4/10 Social Ministry – Roast Beef Sandwiches and Soup

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TRINITY'S 13th ANNUAL EASTER EGG HUNT!!

Grab your Easter Basket and bring it to church on Saturday, April 20th! The Annual EASTER EGG HUNT starts at 10:00 a.m. Bring your kids, grandkids and/or young relatives, along with a camera and smiles and join us! Fifth Graders and younger please. It's a whole lot of fun - in a short period of time! Lineup will start outside the gym 5 minutes before 10:00 a.m. The Easter Bunny will once again make a special appearance for the little ones in the gym!

TO THE TRINITY CONGREGATION –

In the past, I have had many members of our congregation ask me if they too can donate to the Easter Egg Hunt. The answer is: Yes! Absolutely! I am happy to accept wrapped candy, plastic Easter eggs or small items such as stickers, small toys, bouncy balls, crafty stampers, clings or anything small enough to fit inside an Easter Egg. Donations can be dropped off in the marked box in the church office now through Wednesday, April 17, 2019 (which will be my last pick up day). Thank you again for your generosity and support!

CONFIRMATION CLASS

As part of your Service Project for Confirmation Class and to make Trinity's 13th Annual Easter Egg Hunt a success, we are asking the families of all Confirmands to please donate at least one of the following: bag of individually wrapped candy; toys, wrist bands, or other small items that fit inside an egg. Please leave your donation in the box which is located in the Church Office anytime



Confirmation Rehearsal will be on May 1st at 6:00 p.m.

Confirmation – Sunday, May 5th at the 10:30 a.m. worship service. The following young adults will be received into membership through Confirmation: Jackson William Fleege, Christopher Brian Gappa, Amy Claire Grady, Dale Alan Hauser IV, Elena Genevive King,

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Cullen John Seville, and Tanner Michael Simon. We wish them God's blessings and congratulations on the completion of their studies. Please welcome them into our fellowship and keep them in your prayers.

To the Parents of the Second Year Confirmation Class:

Your child will be confirmed at the 10:30 a.m. service on Sunday, May 5, 2019.

The class will wear white robes and red carnations. Boys will be provided with a black clip-on bow tie for the occasion. Boys should wear a white dress shirt with a collar.

The robes will need to be pressed by the parents and brought back on Confirmation Day, and the class will put them on at church before the service. They will leave the robes at the church following the service. If you wish to take personal snapshots, please plan to do it at church. **(REMINDER - NO PHOTOS MAY BE TAKEN DURING THE SERVICE.)**

Individual photographs will be taken after the service. A Professional photographer **will not** be available this year.

We also need your check made out to Trinity Church for robe rental. The cost for the robe rental is \$26.50 per person. The rental fee should be paid on or before the robes are picked up. Checks should be left in the office in the envelope on the counter in the office. The envelope will be marked Confirmation Fees. Thank you for your cooperation.

ALL CLASS MEMBERS ARE TO BE AT THE CHURCH NO LATER THAN 9:15 A.M. ON CONFIRMATION DAY.

If you have any questions, please, phone me or Judi Donovan at the church office, 485-6973.

Member Updates

Weddings:

March 9th – Christie Griffin and James Puttkammer

March 22nd – Dana Duer and Patrick Reilley

New Members:

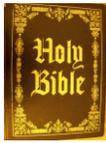
Karolis and Carlyn Gedvilas

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Fannie May Candy Bar Sale!

Rita Larson is continuing to sell candy bars with the proceeds going to the Chancel Guild. The cost is \$1.00 each and are available after church services or in the church office. Please deposit your money in the envelope inside the candy bar box.



Bible Classes – everyone is invited, and welcome to attend.

Wednesday Morning – meets from 8:30 a.m. – 10:00 a.m. in the library.

Sunday Morning – meets at 9:15 a.m. in the library.

Thursday Evening – meets at 7:00 p.m. in the library.



Scrip Fundraiser - If you are in need of gift cards for Easter, there is still time to order. A list of the many retailers/restaurants that participate in this program can be found on the table below the youth bulletin board. Remember, there is no additional cost to you. By participating, you are earning funds for our church. Our next order deadline will be Monday, April 1st, at noon. Cards will be ready for pick up at church the following Sunday, April 15. Any questions can be directed to Angie Minett at minett411@yahoo.com or [\(815\)467-2537](tel:8154672537) or Gary Purnell at (815)485-9017. You can also check out shopwithscrip.com to learn more.



Trinity Pre-School – Registration for Fall Pre-School is now open. Please tell your friends and neighbors. There is a non-refundable registration fee of \$60.00 per student. School year beginning September 2019 the tuition per month will be \$110 for two day students and \$135 for three day students. Children must be 3 by September 1, 2019. For further information, please call Trinity Lutheran Church at 815.485.6973.

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Thank you to all the coffee hosts who take turns each Sunday following the 8:00 a.m. church service. Thanks also to the “new” volunteers who have signed up to a turn on the 4th Sunday of the month. **We still have many open dates for the 4th Sunday of the month. Please take a turn a sign up for one of those Sundays. A sign-up sheet is on the hallway table.**

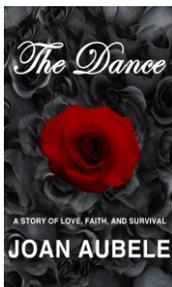


The April Sign-Up sheets for Readers, Greeters, Rides for Mr. Christmann, and MorningStar Mission are on the hallway table! Your help is appreciated.

Easter Breakfast – Signup sheets are out for those who wish to attend and / or volunteer to help with the Easter Breakfast.

SOCIAL MINISTRY

Our next meeting will be Monday, April 15th at 7:00 p.m. at Jan Toepke’s home. All ladies of Trinity are invited to join our committee. If you have any questions or would like further information, please contact the church office at 815.485.6973.



Sunday, May 19th will be designated Survivor Sunday to honor cancer survivors and their caregivers. As in past years information on the New Lenox Relay for Life will be available. Luminaria bags will be available also. That evening at 6:00 we will be hosting Joan Aubele who wrote the book *The Dance: A Story of Love, Faith, and Survival*. At the age of 29, Joan was diagnosed with Stage 4 cancer. Throughout her journey, Joan was constantly

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reminded of the importance of prayer and relying on God in the most difficult times. Social Ministry invites you to come hear her emotional motivating story. A free will offering will be taken for the American Cancer Society. She will also have copies of her book for sale that evening.

We are also looking for transportation for Joan. She lives in Holiday Park, IL. As a result of her cancer she is partially disabled and is unable to drive long distances. It is about an hour trip from there to Trinity. She has asked us to provide transportation. If anyone is able to help out or has a suggestion, please contact Judi in the office or Jan Toepke.



St. Matthew's Outreach:

We are continuing with our collection of clothing and household goods as well as food for St. Matthew's. Food items should be placed in the container at the top of the steps by the parking lot door. Clothing and household goods should be placed in the room at the East end of the church basement.



MorningStar Mission: The next serving dates for April 1st and 15th. Thanks to all the volunteers who help each week. If you are interested in helping, the sign up sheet is on the hallway table.



Chancel Guild: The next meeting will be **Saturday, April 6th at 9:00 a.m.** We will be cleaning for Easter. All ladies of Trinity are invited to visit. Hostess will be Judi Donovan.

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ALTAR FLOWERS: Flowers are placed on the altar every weekend to enhance and beautify the altar area in memory of a loved one, to commemorate a birthday, wedding, anniversary, or in celebration of God's blessings. A 2019 flower chart showing open weekends is posted in the cabinet across the general church office. The flower order forms are attached to the cabinet. If you would like to sponsor flowers on a particular weekend, complete the form and place it along with a **check made out to Trinity Lutheran Chancel Guild** in the Chancel Guild mailbox in the church office. If you want a date already chosen, it may be possible to share the date and the cost with permission from the person who has already selected the date. If you have any questions, please contact Kay Purnell at purnellk51@hotmail.com or (815) 485-9017. Flowers may be picked up after the 10:30 Sunday service. Thank you to all who participate!



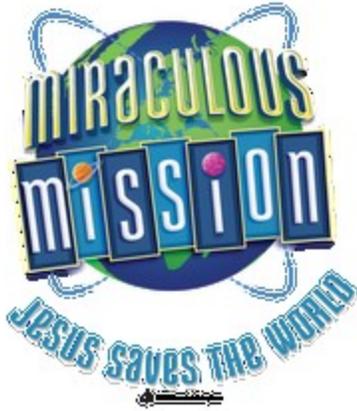
Chancel Guild will again be decorating the chancel area with a variety of Easter flowers for the Easter services. If you would like to help decorate the chancel area by purchasing a plant for them to use, please fill out an order form and turn it in by Sunday, April 14, 2019. Place your completed order form and payment in the marked folder in the general office. Make checks payable to "Trinity Lutheran Chancel Guild." Contact Kay Purnell if you have any questions (815) 485-9017 or purnellk51@hotmail.com. Plants may be picked up after the 10:30 Easter Day Service. Any flowers not picked up by Monday, April 29th will be disposed of. Thank You!

Lily \$20.00 Hyacinth \$20.00 Tulips \$18.50 Azaleas \$27.50



CHOIR Rehearsals will be held each Wednesday in April, at 7:00 p.m. New voices are always welcome.

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Vacation Bible School – June 17-21

VBS – Looking for someone who loves to decorate!! Our theme this year is Miraculous Mission: Jesus Saves the World! If you would like to help decorate, please contact Michelle Hoag. We're also glad to accept volunteers in all other areas!

Student registration for church members and preschool families is now open online. The Cost is \$5.00 per student. The password in "trinity". Please do not share this password outside of church. Registration will open to the public on May 1st.

Youth News: Thank you to everyone who attended our Potbelly Fundraiser for the National Youth Gathering. We raised \$188.25. We appreciate your support!



INFORMATION REQUESTED – CHANGES OR UPDATES

When you move, change phone numbers, email addresses etc., please let the church know. You may call 815.485.6973 or email Judi, the church secretary at tlcsecretary508@gmail.com. You may also complete and turn in the "Record Update Information" sheet, which are on the table outside the church office and on the hallway table.

Church office hours: Monday, Wednesday and Friday – 9:00 AM till 2:00 PM

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