

# Trinity Tidings

A Monthly Publication of Trinity Lutheran Church (ELCA)

March 2019

## What is This Thing Called Lent?

The fast food restaurants are ahead of most of us in gearing up for the upcoming season of the Church year. They are already running specials that feature fish **on the menu. That's right it is once again time for Lent.** But do you know the significance of this time of year? And what is the big deal about eating fish

**anyway? Let's** take a moment to get you oriented to the next six weeks.

The season of Lent derives from the ancient Church's period of preparation for

those who were to be baptized at the Easter Vigil. That preparation included instruction, fasting, repentance, prayers and special acts of devotion. Today, many churches use this same period and some of those same practices to prepare for the Feast of the Resurrection of Christ.

The word "Lent" comes from the old English word "lencten" (meaning lengthen), and is a reference to the lengthening of days that occurs during this time of the year. For that reason, Lent is associated with Spring. As the earth sees a rebirth and renewal of the plants and flowers during this

season, so Lent is a time for Christians to consider our rebirth in Baptism and engage in spiritual renewal as preparation for Easter.

Lent is 40 days long, counting from Ash Wednesday (and minus the six Sundays, which are little celebrations of the resurrec-

tion). Those 40 days identify with Jesus' 40 days of fasting and prayer in the wilderness as he prepared for his ministry; with Moses' 40 days of fasting and prayer on Mt. Sinai as he

waited to receive the Law from God; and with Elijah's 40 days of fasting and prayer on his way to Mt. Horeb, the mountain of God.

On Ash Wednesday, as Lent **begins, we are invited "to struggle against everything that leads us away from love of God and neighbor" by exercising the Discipline of Lent: repentance, fasting, prayer and works of love.** In the Lenten Discipline, we focus our lives on Christ's self-sacrificing passion, death and resurrection, which has brought us acceptance, forgiveness and redemption by God. Through that same discipline, we make a

*"as Lent begins, we are invited to struggle against everything that leads us away from love of God and neighbor"*

*continued page 3 .....*



**Worship Service  
March 6 at 5:30PM.**

**The service will include  
the imposition of ashes  
and  
Holy communion.**

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# Discover Christ in the Passover

Jesus' Last Supper was actually a Jewish Passover. Giselle Le'Aupepe Bruce of *Jews for Jesus* will re-create the traditional Passover service and explain how it foreshadowed Jesus' death and resurrection in a presentation called "Christ in the Passover".

Giselle

Le'Aupepe Bruce will set a table with items traditionally used at the Passover meal and detail their spiritual significance. She will also explain the connection between the events of the first Passover in Egypt and the redemption that Jesus accomplished, as well as the deep bond between the ancient Passover feast and the Christian communion



**Christ in the Passover**  
**Monday, April 8, 2019**  
**5:30 pm**  
**Trinity Lutheran Church**

celebration today.

After the presentation our leader, Giselle Le'Aupepe Bruce will be happy to answer questions. There is no admission charge. We would love to be able to share this with more people so please con-

sider inviting a friend. We look forward to this experiential faith formation event. This will be our Cross Gen Event for April. Families are very welcome to attend. If you have any questions please contact Pastor Tim [tvadis@cometotrinity.com](mailto:tvadis@cometotrinity.com) or call **the church office or pastor's cell 715-437-0774.**



## WORLD HUNGER

More than 820 million people — **that's about 11 percent of the world's population** -- are hungry. **That's more than 1 in 10!**

As members of the ELCA, we are called to respond.

ELCA World Hunger reaches communities in need with health clinics, microloans, water wells, animal husbandry, community meals and advocacy. Your gift to ELCA World Hunger makes it possible for the ELCA to support sustainable solutions that get at the root causes of hunger and poverty.

The Northern Great Lakes Synod Assembly's theme for this year's world hunger campaign is "Pie or Pi".



Our challenge is for every member to donate \$3.14 (pi) or more during Lent to take a bite out of hunger.

Envelopes can be found in the pews or at the IOC Table.

Please give so that ALL can have a piece of the pie.

*For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me.*

Matthew 25:35



## Small Groups for Youth



There are two unique opportunities for youth in our congregation to get connected to one another and to Christ.

*The High School Small Group meets Wednesdays 7am (9am on*

*late starts)* @ the Briar House Coffee is on PK — bring a friend/guest/sibling... **The group meets** for about 45 minutes to talk about life and share in Christian community.

The Middle School Small Group meets immediately following Worship On Wednesdays. Games, Highs & Lows, Faith Talk, make new friends...Get connected & bring a friend/guest/sibling.

Contact Pastor Kari to Sign up/ Questions @ 715.437.0770 ■



# From the Council President

Greetings Brothers and Sisters,

I've been preparing a Bible study for our small group, and one of the parables in Luke has me really thinking. Luke 13: 6 The barren fig tree .

The owner of the vineyard had a fig tree that hadn't produced fruit for three years and said "cut it down!" but the gardener asked for one more year to care for it and if it still didn't produce then cut it down .

As I read this, it's pretty obvious that Jesus is telling us that we as individuals are to be productive, bear fruit and live Christ-centered lives.

I also believe this is meant for us as a community, this "church" that gathers at 235 N Stevens St. Are we being fruitful ? Are we doing everything possible to witness to our community? I've used this statistic before, and contrary to popular opinion, 54% of the residents of Oneida County are under the age of 44 (county census). When

I look around our congregation on Sunday morning, I don't think 54% of our worshippers are under 44.

God is truly at work here at Trinity. We are doing much better than most congregations, but we've only just scratched the surface on our potential impact on the lives of those around us. We MUST take a hard look at how we present

ourselves to the world around us, and adapt to today's contemporary realities if we are to help this world see the power of living Christ-centered lives.

*Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.*  
Hebrews 13:8

It is how we meet him and how we introduce him to others that changes. I pray for strength and wisdom for our congregation as we face this challenge.

■ *Blessings, Kevin Eggers*

*Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.*  
Hebrews 13:8

## COUNCIL OFFICERS

### 2018-2019

- President*—Kevin Eggers
- Vice President*—Carole Hansen
- Secretary*—Jerry Dykstra
- Trustee*—Josh Pudlowski
- Trustee*—Lori Grinde
- Trustee*—Rob Wienandt
- Rep. Witnessing*—Tammy Wienandt
- Rep. Worship*—Mary Taylor
- Rep. Education*—Jody Doro
- Rep. Property*—Peter Leick

### FISCAL YEAR 2018-2019 YEAR-TO-DATE THROUGH January 31, 2019

Actual Giving: \$149,795  
(Actual Giving represents the contributions we have received thus far)

Projected Needs: \$163,373  
(Projected Needs represents the contributions we need to support our ministry plan)

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loving response to God.

As with all things, begin with prayer, asking the Holy Spirit for guidance in choosing those things that would best fit you for your Lenten Discipline. This year you might focus on what you could "take up" such as helping a neighbor in need. Prayerfully dedicate all your choices to God as a commitment for the six weeks of Lent, and ask that your Lenten Discipline move you closer to God for the sake of the sufferings and death of our Savior, Jesus Christ.

■ *Pastor Tim Vadis*



Wednesday March 13th through  
 Wednesday, April 17th,  
 Trinity will offer a Lenten Worship service at Noon.  
 We are unable to have the  
 luncheon following services this year.  
 Rich Reitz will lead the service the first two  
 Wednesdays while the Pastors are out of town.



## How to Live Like No One Else Part 1 of 2

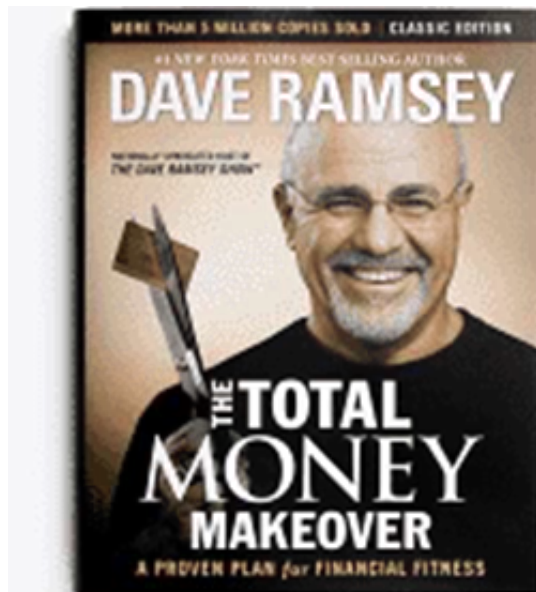
I remember first hearing Dave Ramsey on his radio show many years ago. We were vacationing in northern Michigan, and the station airing his show was one of the few that we could receive. Hearing the horror stories recounted by his call-in audience made us aware of how close many of us are to financial ruin.

Over the next 2 months, **I'm going to review Ramsey's book, The Total Money Makeover.** Dave is a Christian, and I believe for the most part the book is written from a Christian perspective. I do have to admit that some of the wealth building chapters at the end made me a little uncomfortable. The book is sprinkled with anecdotes written by real people, which makes the book a lot more readable. Dave also knows what he is talking about, having gone through bankruptcy himself. He writes **"I wonder what the electric guy thought as he stood in my driveway next to my Jaguar and pulled the electric meter."** He definitely had a few things to learn about priorities.

Dave points out that many of us, myself included, were taught that debt was a tool, a way to leverage your way to success. But debt brings risk,

and can also be a symptom of overspending. Dave writes **"We buy things we don't need, with money we don't have, to impress people we don't like."**

Most of the book details Ramsey's 7 "baby steps" to financial fitness. He goes into a lot more detail about each



step in the book. You must complete each step in his plan before moving on to the next step. He also believes that it is imperative that you follow these steps in the exact order listed. Before you can start the baby steps, you must stop charging things to your credit cards, and preferably cut them up. To me, this should be baby step #1. The first 3 steps are:

- Establish a \$1,000 emergency fund in cash.

- Begin what Dave calls the **"debt snowball."** After ordering your debts from smallest to largest, start concentrating on paying off the smallest debt. Make the minimum payments on the rest. After the smallest one is paid off, move to the next smallest debt, until they are all paid off.

- Finish funding an emergency fund with 3-6 months of living expenses. In the book he describes how to determine how big an emergency fund you need, based on your job security and family situation.

**Next month, I'll continue with the remaining steps in the plan. I'll also look at some of the criticism the plan gets from other experts. Until then, as Dave states, "If you will live like no one else, later you can live like no one else."**

■ Jerry Dykstra  
Stewardship Team Member

*Watch next month's newsletter for Part 2 of this book review. Our goal in these articles is get you thinking about your own stewardship and how it is shaped by love and generosity of God in your life. Our Stewardship Team is wanting to provide helpful information to our members. So if you have a question about stewardship let us know.*



## Simply Living Our Faith

This picture shows a great example of our members using their time and talents to serve the church.

Thank you to Judy and Terry Nossner, Margo Morey and Mary Soderlund for putting up the Bible verse over the doorway at the back entrance to the church.

*“Love one another, as I have loved you.” John 13:34*



*Trinity is going to camp!!*

FORTUNE LAKE LUTHERAN CAMP



## The Trinity Connection Café

Developed several years ago to help us enhance our fellowship time before and after worship services, Trinity Connection Cafe provides an avenue for people to connect

with one another, meet those who are new to our church or members **they don't** already know. This is also a time when we can of-

fer care to one another. It is wonderful to see how this ministry continues to thrive and how full our gathering area is before or after worship.

Preparing and setting out food and coffee is an important part of our ministry of hospitality here at Trinity Lutheran.

We are looking for people to help with the Trinity Connection

Café on Sunday morning or Wednesday evening. You can choose to prepare a food item that can be dropped off before the worship service. You can be

on a team that sets the food and coffee out and helps clean up. Or you could volunteer to do both! All of these jobs add to our fellowship time

making it vibrant and uplifting. Being part of the Trinity Connection Café is one of the ways you can serve the body of Christ and become an active and engaged follower of Christ.

Please contact the church office at 715-362-4258 if you would like to get involved and sign up . ■



JULY 14-19, 2019  
Camp changes lives & leads youth to a deeper relationship **with Jesus...plus, it's a lot of fun!!**

Camp is recommended for youth in 4th —8th Grade. Spend your week in Crystal Falls, MI with Pastor Kari, Camp Staff and youth from Trinity & area congregations. Love Jesus! Love One Another! Love Camp! Fund Raisers & Scholarships Available.

[www.FortuneLake.org](http://www.FortuneLake.org)  
Contact Pastor Kari @ 715.437.0770

## From the Office

Trinity Lutheran is a busy church! To help us keep track of our space, please contact the church office to get your meeting, practice or set-up information on the calendar so you or your group can use the space without any conflicts.

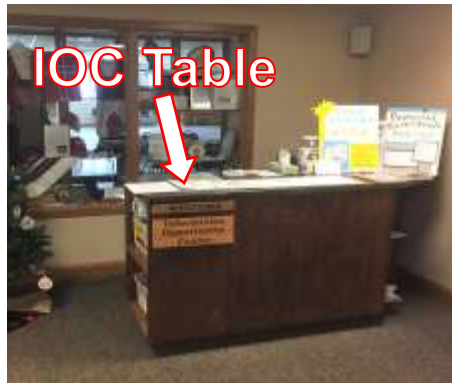
Former newsletter items such as the calendar, serving schedule and birthdays and anniversaries can be found posted on the bulletin board in the church gathering area or at the IOC table.

If you are unable to attend worship and would like copies sent to you, please contact the church office Monday-Friday from 8 am to 12 pm. by calling Pam at 715-362-4258 or [tlcsecretary@cometotrinity.com](mailto:tlcsecretary@cometotrinity.com)

If you need a document that was emailed but you are unable to open, please let Pam know and she will get it mailed out to you instead.

## Check out the IOC Table

The IOC Table (Information and Opportunity Center) is located in the gathering area outside the worship space. On Sunday morning it is staffed so that someone will be there to answer questions or help you sign up. Please stop by the IOC Table to check out upcoming events.



## True Tales from Trinity

We are working on another season of **“True Tales from Trinity”**, and we would like YOU to take part! We're going to use a video format which will help in sharing our stories—we can show them at both the Sunday and Wednesday services.

If you'd like to share a time in your life in which you clearly felt the active hand of God, please provide a written description of your experience for review, and plan on setting up a convenient time to record your story. Some stories in the past were of life-changing events that took place over months or years. Others were quick and even quirky, the kind of experience that's dismissed as a coincidence at first, but in which the presence of God becomes clear over time.

If you're not comfortable talking about your experience, or if you'd rather people didn't know it came from you, somebody else can read it on the video. We'd like to try and keep the stories fairly short—ideally they should take only a couple of minutes to tell (although exceptions are allowed).

Please contact Pastor Kari, Pastor Tim, or any member of the stewardship team if you'd like to share your faith story in a **“True Tale from Trinity!”**

## Update Your Info

Please keep the church office up to date with any changes to your name, address, phone number and email address. We are updating our database and want to be sure we have your current information.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Cell phone \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Please clip and drop off in the church office. Thank you!





## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Newsletter Deadline

The Newsletter deadline is the *15th of each month*. Please email submissions to the office email: [tlcsecretary@cometotrinity.com](mailto:tlcsecretary@cometotrinity.com) or drop them off in the church office. Office hours are Monday-Friday from 8:00 am-Noon.

### Food Pantry Milk Collection

On the 2nd Sunday of the month we collect milk for the Rhineland-er Area Food Pantry. Needed are 1/2 gallon and gallons of skim or 2% milk. Please leave your donations in the milk crates by/in the refrigerator in the kitchen at church.

### NATH/Frederick Place Meals

Reminder that we still need people to help provide the evening meal for the residents at the Frederick Place homeless shelter. This for the 2nd Tuesday of each month. Information and signup sheets are available at the IOC table. Trinity is committed to this community service for the remainder of this year and hope to continue to do this with your help.

### LiveStream of Church Service

We are Livestreaming our worship service on the first and third Sundays of the month. If you are interested in the live stream worship services please email the church office requesting a [link](#) that we will send you. This link is how you will connect to the service. Note that the link must be watched during the service time at 9:30am. We are working on how we can download recorded files so that these can be shared for future viewing.

### Electronic Giving Option

You can now give online through our website portal under the **“Connect” tab/Share Faith Giving/Give**. This is a secured transaction with many giving options from one-time gifts to recurring donations. For your convenience you can simply scan the QR code with your phone to take you to the giving portal.



### Calendar Is Online

The church calendar is now available on our website, [www.ComeToTrinity.com](http://www.ComeToTrinity.com)

**Go to the tab “Events”**

**And then to “Calendar.”** The public calendar in Outlook will come up.

Double clicking on individual events will bring up additional information including a brief description of the event, room, and contact person.

If you see any corrections needed or your group is not meeting on a certain day, please notify the office so the calendar can be up to date.

This is the best way to find the most current info!

### Staffed Nursery

A staffed nursery is available from 9:00AM-10:30AM located downstairs for children during the worship service. While children are ALWAYS welcome to be in worship this option is available if needed. We want to support families and help them have a good worship experience.

### Trinity Logo Bags

Trinity Logo Bags are available at the IOC Table. There is a suggested donation of \$7. The donation helps to pay for more bags. Get one of these handy tote bags to haul around your stuff. Great for Bible Study material!

## THANK YOU'S

A big thank you to the person who donated the drapery samples. They are nice to work with and will make beautiful quilts!

■ Virginia Randolph

Pastor Kari, Debra Bradley, Lynnea, Gabrielle Kivi, Leo, Amy and Annola,

Thank you all for the special valentines I received from all of you. God has His way of making me feel special and all your valentines really made me feel extra special. I will keep them and treasure all of them.

I remember when I taught Sunday school years ago and I enjoyed every minute I spent with each child and also their parents. I wish I could thank you each personally.

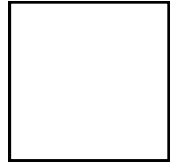
God bless you all.

■ Delores “Dee Dee” Counter

Just a reminder to turn your clocks ahead March 10th.



Trinity Lutheran Church  
235 N. Stevens St.  
Rhineland, WI 54501



**Address Service Requested**

*Read our Newsletter on our website at  
[www.ComeToTrinity.com](http://www.ComeToTrinity.com)*



***Our Mission is to help  
people of all ages become  
active and engaged  
followers of Christ.***

We are a Lutheran congregation with a variety of ages, backgrounds and passions. We are a community striving to grow in our walk of faith with Jesus Christ to love and serve the world. We are a member congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (*often referred to as the ELCA*) in the Northern Great Lakes Synod. These relationships help us to share the saving message of the gospel in our congregation, in the Rhineland community, in our country and throughout the world. We welcome you to be part of our community and join us in the mission we share in Christ. For more information about Trinity Lutheran, to get involved in our ministries, or to learn more about becoming a member, please contact us.

Phone: 715.362.4258

Email: [tlcsecretary@cometotrinity.com](mailto:tlcsecretary@cometotrinity.com)

Website: [www.ComeToTrinity.com](http://www.ComeToTrinity.com)

You can also find us on Facebook