

Our mission at Trinity Lutheran Church is to teach the Word of God, to train believers for lives of Christian service, and to tell the good news of Jesus Christ to the Northwoods community and to the world.

No Foolin!

For you to fully appreciate this April's newsletter headline, permit me to share a story.

Dr. John Sullivan was lecturing in one of my German classes at Northwestern College, Watertown, WI. Normally I hung on every word and took careful notes. But apparently not that day. For Dr. Sullivan paused his lecture. After a bit, he proceeded, *"Schwanke! Was bededeut das?"* The question brought my day-dreaming/shenanigans to a crashing-halt. Then came my puzzlement at the Professor's question. His question, auf English? *"Schwanke! What does that mean?"* Dr. Sullivan continued. *"The literal meaning is to wobble, or vacillate. However, the usual transferred meaning is Jokester. Prankster."* Wow. I was riveted to Dr. Sullivan's every word the rest of that class, and in all the other classes I took with him!

Because his formal proclamation helped me learn something about myself. *"Jokester. Prankster."* It's my name's meaning. It's also a big part of who I am. Which leads me to April 1st. April Fools? I'm all in. The more elaborate the hoax, the better. I once convinced my sister-in-law and her husband (whom I shall leave unnamed) that "Siberian obinglobins" need to be planted alongside a telephone pole, on the northeast corner of the pole, 24 inches deep, by the light of the first full-moon after the spring equinox. These *"Siberian obinglobins"* are rare, but hearty, huge squash-like plants that can weather just about anything. Plus, just one squash can feed an entire family for a month. My sister-in-law and her husband wanted to know where to buy the seeds.

And then there were *"pig eggs."* Another delicious *"April Fools"* that reeled in more than a few, even a few farmers. But I'll save that story for another time.

"Jokester." "Prankster." Maybe you'll prank someone with an April Fools this year. Or maybe you'll be pranked. But not with what I share next! Never with the message that follows! This is **No Foolin!**

Some 2,000 years ago, a group of disciples locked themselves *"behind closed doors because of fear of the Jews."* (John 20:19) Why? They had lived through a nightmare. Their beloved Master had died on Calvary's center cross. There was no doubt. A spear thrust into his side brought out blood and water, a certain sign of death. (John 19:34) His lifeless corpse had been wrapped in spices and laid in the tomb of Joseph of Arimathea. (John 19:38-41) And with that, all their hopes and dreams were buried. too. (See Luke 24:19-21)

Then came Easter! Then came the impossible! The rolled away stone! The empty tomb! The grave clothes neatly folded! An angel announcing, *"Do not be afraid! I know that you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. He is not here. He has risen, just as he said. Come, see the place where the Lord lay."* (Matthew 28:5-6) Then came the women who met Jesus just down the road from the tomb! They knelt, grasped Jesus' feet, and worshipped. (Matthew 28:8-10)

Then came Jesus into the locked room! Twice! The second time for Doubting Thomas. Our Savior's invitation to the skeptic? *"Put your finger here and look at my hands. Take your hand and put it into my side. Do not continue to doubt, but believe."* (John 20:27)

The story doesn't end there. Our resurrected Lord appeared to over 500 witnesses at once! Then to James, the brother of the Lord! Then to all the apostles together! And then last of all, to the Apostle Paul! (1 Cor. 15:6s-8)

The resurrection of Jesus Christ is not a fable. Not a cute bed-time story. Not an April Fools. Rather, Jesus' resurrection is the bedrock of our future! (Read 1 Corinthians 15 for a refreshing review of the Easter Fact!)

Privileged to Serve,
Rev. Glenn Schwanke

PRAYERS

Please keep the following members and friends of Trinity in your prayers and in your words of encouragement to them:

Helen Anderson
Linda Driscoll
Carolyn Johnson
Sheila Lemke
Harvey & Mary Sadler
Our Military

If you would like to be included on this prayer list in future newsletters please contact the church office.



WORSHIP AT TRINITY

Sundays at 9:00 am
Mondays at 6:30 pm



Watch live or recorded services on our YouTube channel or Online at www.trinityminocqua.org.

TRINITY on SOCIAL MEDIA

Facebook
Instagram
YouTube



STEWARDSHIP PRAYER

Heavenly Father, you are the Giver of every good and perfect gift. Left to ourselves, we are spiritually poor and barren. Through the poverty and suffering of your only Son and the sanctifying operation of your Holy Spirit, you make us rich in spirit and fruitful in life. As you continually give us power to get wealth, so give us the wisdom and generosity to give a good portion of your gifts back to you. Make us and all members of our congregation good stewards of our earthly treasure that we and many others may enjoy your heavenly treasures. Give us a healthy national economy that we may labor and have the wherewithal to give to you willingly, cheerfully and regularly. Lift our eyes to the fields white already to the harvest and fill our hearts with love to send reapers to the uttermost parts of the earth. Let your blessing rest on us and all our efforts for you, for without you we can do nothing. Amen.

WORSHIP NOTES

Holy Week Worship:

- April 2 = **Maundy Thursday** (6:30 PM), Worship w/ Holy Communion Text: Mark 14:36 Sermon Theme: "A Question of Will"
- April 3 = **Good Friday** (1 PM & 6:30 PM) Powerful, reflective, meditative, worship
Text: Zechariah 3:1-10 Sermon Theme: "Gone In A Single Day"

Easter Sunday worship schedule is as follows. Expect a light brunch in-between services.

- April 5 = Easter Dawn (6:30 AM) Text: Revelation 1:17,18 Sermon Theme: "The Last Word"
- April 5 = Easter Festival (9 AM) with Communion Text: Matthew 28:1-10 Sermon Theme: "The Easter Difference: Life Instead Of Death!"

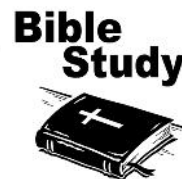
Worship for the Sundays after Easter will center on the theme: "The Easter Difference."

- April 12/13 = Text: John 20:19-31 Sermon Theme: "Christ Is Risen! No Doubt About It!"
- April 19/20 = Text: Luke 24:13-35 Sermon Theme: "Travel With Jesus On The Road To Emmaus!"
- April 26/27 (Good Shepherd Sunday)=Text: John 10:1-10 Sermon Theme: "Full Life with God!?"

Worship Online: Sunday worship is recorded and posted online at our church website. You can also find the worship folder and a printed copy of the sermon there. Printed copies of each week's sermon can also be found in the Fellowship Hall. Find us on *YouTube* by searching the handle *@trinityminocqua*. Please subscribe and share! **We're streaming our Sunday services live!** Special services will also be streamed live and then archived for viewing.

BIBLE STUDY OPPORTUNITIES

- **Wednesday Lunch Break Bible Study** (12:15 PM) continues an in-depth study of 2 Corinthians.
- **Pastor's "Wednesday Encouragement" blog**, continues to be found on Trinity's Facebook page and on our church website. You can also have this devotion sent to your email each Wednesday.
- **Sunday School & Adult Bible Study** (begins at approximately 10:30 AM) Children ages 3 – 4th grade are invited to Sunday School which meets in the PreK room. 5th grade and up are invited to attend Adult Bible Study. We're working through a study of some of the Minor Prophets.





- **A new Facebook page featuring just our school and its many activities has been created. Find it and subscribe!**
- **High School Youth Group meets Wednesday, April 1st, from 6:15-8:00 PM. No foolin'!**
- **Be sure to follow Trinity on Facebook.** We're sharing content several days each week. The Wednesday blog post can be accessed in three ways (church website, Facebook, email from church office). You can follow our "Where's Marty?" campaign on Facebook and on Instagram at... trinitylutheranminocqua. Our "50 for 50" campaign, highlighting 50 years of our school, can also be found there.
- **Easter is April 5th.** Whether you're here or traveling, whom will you invite to Easter worship? Who are the precious souls who need to hear the truth of Christ crucified and risen again? See you at the empty tomb!
- **We're gearing up for another Camp Compassion** this summer. Like last year, we're making it an entire weekend on June 26 & 27! An event for children on Friday, June 26th, and a Free Community Yard Sale on Saturday, June 27th. Kristen Smith is leading this event. For now, consider items you may wish to donate. More information forthcoming in the weeks ahead. **We are in need of someone to lead the Free Community Yard Sale portion of the event!** Please speak with Kristen Smith or Pastor Luchterhand.
- **A free-will offering for our congregation's Student Tuition Fund** will be gathered Good Shepherd Sunday weekend (April 26 & 27) Under the direction of our Endowment Committee (currently chaired by Mark Bergeon), this fund offers tuition assistance to Trinity students attending our worker training schools (e.g., Luther Preparatory School in Watertown; Northland Lutheran High School in Kronenwetter; Martin Luther College in New Ulm, MN).



FREE YARD SALE COORDINATOR NEEDED

We would like to begin promoting the Yard Sale, but we are unable to do so until someone steps up to be the coordinator. If you have a bit of time and have the abilities, please consider taking on this task.



As part of our Camp Compassion weekend this summer, we will once again be offering a Free Yard Sale to the community. To make this a success, we need many volunteers. This year, we are also looking for someone or a group of people, to coordinate the yard sale as a whole. There are already volunteers ready to help with multiple aspects of it, but we need someone to coordinate the moving parts.

If this is something you would be interested in, please contact Kristen Smith. She will be able to talk with you about what was done in the past and even let you know names of people willing to help with parts of the yard sale.

FLOWER CHART: There are still plenty of spots available for sponsoring flowers during 2026. If you are interested in donating a bouquet, you can sign up in the book located to the right of the picture window in the welcome center. Bouquets are \$30 each.



We have exciting news! We are expanding our preschool program! We have called Mrs. Kristen Smith to teach our 3K students. They will meet three mornings a week starting this fall, from our previous two afternoons a week. And our 4K will continue to meet five days in the morning with the option to attend full days. Mrs. Katie Mildebrandt will continue teaching 4K and will add Kindergarten to her room as well.

Trinity School has a new Parent/Teacher Organization (PTO). The first activity they are hosting is movie night for our school families. As they continue to meet and brainstorm, they hope to have more activities for the school families as well as activities for congregation members to attend.

Towards the end of the month, Trinity will have Christian Education Sunday. This will be our students last opportunity to sing during worship. The week following, will be our Spirit Week...a fun week for students and faculty.

Please continue to keep Trinity Lutheran School in your prayers. This is **YOUR SCHOOL**. Please feel free to participate in any of the activities at Trinity.

Upcoming Dates

Friday, April 3 & Monday, April 6
No School—Easter Break

Friday, April 10
Trinity Seedlings 8:30-9:30 am

Sunday, April 26
Kids sing for Christian Edu. Sunday

Monday-Friday, April 27-May 1
Spirit Week

Wednesdays, April 1, 8, 15, 22, 29
Midweek Chapel 8:15 am

Midweek Chapel: We invite you attend with the children at 8:15 am on Wednesdays. Mission offerings will go to Northland Lutheran High School for their upcoming expansion project.



H O L Y W E E K

MAUNDY THURSDAY

Holy Communion will be served.

April 2 6:30 pm

GOOD FRIDAY

April 3 1:00 & 6:30 pm

EASTER for Kids



SATURDAY, APRIL 4 9:00-11:30 AM

FOR ALL CHILDREN AGES 3-10

FORMS ARE IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL OR REGISTER ONLINE

Celebrate Easter!

EASTER DAWN at 6:30 am

EASTER FESTIVAL at 9:00 am

Holy Communion will be served.

**A light breakfast will be served
between Easter services.**

**No Monday evening
worship on April 6.**



**TUESDAY,
April 28**

1:00-3:00 pm

Everyone is invited
to attend!

BOOK CLUB



Book Club

Tuesday, April 21

12:00-1:00 pm

Questions? Contact Marcia
Frederick.



TRINITY SEEDLINGS
Planting Jesus in the hearts of children.

Friday, April 10

8:30-9:30 am

in the school library

For children ages 1-3

Contact Sue Ziebart for details,
715-892-3634.



Wednesdays

9:30 am-2:00 pm

All are welcome
to join us!