

THE TRINITY HERALD

notes and news from

Trinity Lutheran Church and School

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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.

LOVE AND DEATH AND ON FEBRUARY 14TH

Lent begins on Valentine's Day this year. Ash Wednesday and Valentine's Day last occurred together in 2018; before that, 1945. (Easter is on March 31st) Lent is traditionally a time of fasting, prayer, reflection, study, and meditation. In these weeks leading up to the solemn events of Holy Week, some associate Lent with giving up something, making some small personal sacrifice in order to better understand the enormous sacrifice made by our Savior Jesus. Some simply avoid the season, too busy for worship or to feed faith. Take a look around – how many of the “popular churches” nearby add extra worship during the season of Lent?

True or false: St. Valentine is the founder of the Hallmark Greeting Card company. He is the founder of all things chocolate and flowery and “gifty” that surround February 14th.

One would think, so. But no.

The Christian church has, it seems, a saint for every item you can imagine. There's one for angina sufferers (Swithbert), flight attendants (Bona of Pisa), and embroiderers (Clare). There is a patron saint for those who survive an earthquake (Gregory the Wonderworker) and one for those who've misplaced items (Anthony). Is it true that the patron saint of the Green Bay Packers is St. Vincent? This last bit is unverified.

On Ash Wednesday/February 14th/Valentine's Day, shall we talk about St. Valentine? He is the patron saint of courtly love, epilepsy sufferers—and beekeepers. Shall we talk about his martyrdom back on February 14, 269 AD?

“According to legend, St. Valentine performed Christian marriages in secret at a time when the Roman Emperor Claudius II had banned marriage for young men, believing that unmarried soldiers made better fighters. His actions in performing these marriages were seen as an act of defiance against the emperor's edict.

Eventually, Valentine was arrested and sentenced to death. While in prison, he is said to have developed a close relationship with the jailer's daughter, to whom he wrote a farewell letter signed ‘From your Valentine’ before his execution. This is one of the earliest connections between Saint Valentine and romantic love.” (“Who was St. Valentine?” christianity.com, 11/2/2023)

Here's something that's more than legend. Facts! On Ash Wednesday, it will be my privilege and prerogative to preach to you that you are going to die. Someday. Maybe soon. But true Love has saved you from sin and death and the effects of eternal death so that you may live forever with God in heaven. He gave up his life for you and in Ash Wednesday worship he will give you his very body and blood in/with/under the bread and the wine of Holy Communion for the forgiveness of your sins.

If you have a significant other with whom to celebrate this Good News, please do so. Share it with others. And marvel at a Love who was willing to die that we might live, and Who lives so we will never die. **“Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends.”** (Jesus in John 15:13)

In Christ's love,



Pastor Stephen Luchterhand

PRAYERS

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



Helen Anderson
Tom Driscoll
Carolyn Johnson
Nancy Kreamsreiter
Jan Krueger
John Kunkel
Laura Lee
Sheila Lemke
Harvey Sadler
Peggy Schuenemann
Collette Skon
Brandon Trapp
Bob Tupper

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

OTHER AREA SERVICES

Zion, Rhinelander
Services on WCYE 93.7 FM
at 9:00 am

Christ, Eagle River
Services on WERL 950 AM
at 10:00 am

Time of Grace—Sundays
WSAW Wausau 6:30 am
FYI Network 6:30 am
Cowboy Channel 8:00 am
American Forces Network
10:00 am

WORSHIP AT TRINITY

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

Online at
www.trinityminocqua.org
or our YouTube channel



STEWARDSHIP PRAYER

Heavenly Father, it is indeed an honor to be allowed to serve you. As your servants we are quite aware of our shortcomings and inabilities, and we humbly pray that you would fill us with a greater measure of your Spirit. In all our endeavors may we seek only the honor of your holy name, and the welfare of those who need the sharing of our love. Let no task be considered too small for our devotion, and grant that our courage may not falter when we face those larger opportunities which can be laid hold of only by fervent prayer. Remind us that with you nothing is impossible, and that without you nothing is worthwhile. Let our good deeds be symbols of gratitude for what you have done for us, and grant that when our work is finished we may all stand in your presence to enjoy you in your glory. In the Savior's name we ask this. Amen.

WORSHIP NOTES

Epiphany season worship centers on the theme, **“From Jordan to Calvary,”** focusing on Jesus’ life and ministry from his Baptism in the Jordan River to his transfiguration on the mountain.

- February 4/5 = **From Jordan to Calvary: The Devil’s Work Undone**
Sermon Text: 1 Peter 5:8-11 Sermon Theme: “The Devil Made Me Do It!”
- February 11/12 = **From Jordan to Calvary: A Glimpse of His True Glory (Transfiguration)**
Sermon Text: 2 Kings 2:1-12a Sermon Theme: “The Chariots and Horsemen of Israel!”

The season of Lent (Sundays) begins on February 18th. Theme: *“Rethinking Religion”*

- February 18/19 = **Rethinking Religion: Rethinking Trials, Tests, and Temptations**
Sermon Text: Genesis 22:1-18 Sermon Theme: “The Lord Is Willing To Break Our Heart To Build Our Faith!”
- February 25/26 = **Rethinking Religion: Rethinking Suffering under the Cross**
Sermon Text: Romans 5:1-11 Sermon Theme: “We Now Stand in Grace”

A look ahead to the Lenten season...Ash Wednesday is February 14th. On that day we’ll have two worship services (4 p.m. & 6:30 p.m., both with Holy Communion). *There will be no soup and supper event on Ash Wednesday.* The remaining five weeks of mid-week Lent we’ll offer one service at 4 p.m. We will be exchanging pulpits with the pastors from: Christ, Eagle River; Zion, Rhinelander; and St. John’s, Phelps. Series theme: “God on Trial.”



- February 14 (Ash Wednesday) = Text: Job 40:1,2; 42:1-6 “Accusations”
- February 21 = John 18:33-40 “Truth”
- February 28 = Luke 22:47-53 “Restraint”

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!**

FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA

Like us on Facebook

(Trinity Lutheran Church & School of Minocqua)

Follow us on Instagram ([trinitylutheranminocqua](https://www.instagram.com/trinitylutheranminocqua))

Subscribe to our YouTube channel (Trinity Minocqua)



Flower Chart

The new flower chart for 2024 is available. If you would like to donate flowers during the year, you can sign up in the binder to the right of the picture window in the welcome center. There is the availability of two bouquets per week. Bouquets are \$30 each and you can take them home after Monday worship. Payments can be made in the box by the binder.

- **High School Teen Group** – February Meeting set for Wednesday, February 7th from 6:15-8:00 p.m. Expect dinner, devotion, and diversion (games)!

- **Fellowship Friends Gathering** will take place on Tuesday, February 27th at 1:00-3:00 p.m. in the church fellowship hall. We'll enjoy a presentation by a Wildlife Educator from The Northwoods Wildlife Center, a non-profit wildlife hospital in Minocqua. At the meeting, we will give the Wildlife Center items we've collected to be used at their center. If you would like to donate to this cause, you may drop items off in the collection box in the welcome center. Items requested are:



- Tall Kitchen Bags
- Toilet Paper
- AA and AAA Batteries
- Paper Towels
- Liquid Soap
- 16 oz. Spray Bottles

Be sure to check the bin for any updated list of requested items.

- **Trinity Book Club meets Tuesday, February 20th, from 12:00-1:00 p.m.** in the Fellowship Hall. We'll be discussing the book, "Pearl in the Sand" by Tessa Afshar.



- **Be sure to follow Trinity on Facebook.** We're putting content on the page several days each week. December saw plenty of extra content posted due to extra events at both church and school. 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.

BIBLE STUDY NOTES

Bible study opportunities:

- **Wednesday "Lunch Break" Bible study** (Wednesday, 12-15 – 1:15 p.m.) "The Problem of Evil and How It Fits into God's Will" ends February 7th. After Easter, class will resume.
- **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 Bible Study (and Sunday School)** – Sunday School is for children PreK3 through 4th grade. Adult Bible Study is working through the book of Exodus under the theme, "Deliver Us!"

We begin February with our school Science Fair and Open House. This year, the fair will be held in the school classrooms and in the hallway. We invite you to join us on Friday, February 2 from 3:30-6:00 pm to visit the school and see what the students are doing.

Basketball continues through the month. We will not be having our basketball tournament this year but the team will be playing and practicing for the Luther Prep Tournament, which will conclude our season. We invite you to attend any of our home games.

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

Trinity Seedlings

Friday, February 2 8:30-9:30 am

Science Fair & Open House

Friday, February 2 3:15-6:00 pm

Thursday-Friday, February 8-9

No School—Teachers Conference

Home Basketball Games

Monday, February 12 vs. St. Peter

4:30 & 5:30 pm

Thursday, February 15 vs. Zion,

Rhineland 4:30 & 5:30 pm

Midweek Chapel

Wednesdays at 8:15 am

February 7, 14, 21, 28

Midweek Chapel: Our midweek chapel services are held on Wednesdays at 8:15 am during the school year. This year, the students will give their chapel offerings to the WELS Campus Ministry.

We invite you to join the students for chapel each week.



GOD ON TRIAL

Join us for
LENT WORSHIP
ASH WEDNESDAY,
February 14
at 4:00 & 6:30 pm

Holy Communion will be served.

The remaining five Lent services will be held on
 Wednesdays at 4:00 pm



Fellowship Friends
(formerly Senior Gatherings)
Tuesday, February 27
1:00-3:00 pm

We will have a presentation from Northwoods Wildlife Center. A free-will cash donation or donation of the following supplies can be brought for the center:

- Paper Towels • Tall Kitchen Bags • AA & AAA Batteries
- Liquid Soap • Toilet Paper • 16 oz. spray bottles

We encourage everyone to join us for this time of fun and fellowship!



Planting Jesus in the Hearts of Toddlers

Next meetings:
February 2
and March 1

For children ages 1-3

- * First Friday each month during the school year
- * 8:30-9:30 am in the school library

There is no cost to attend. Children must be accompanied by a parent or caregiver.

Questions?
Call the church office
at 715-356-2255 or
contact Sue Ziebart.

Join us for

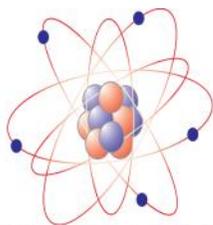


TRINITY LUTHERAN
BOOK CLUB

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 20
12:00-1:00 pm

We will be discussing the book,
"Pearl in the Sand" by Tessa Afshar.

Questions can be directed to Marcia Frederick.



SCIENCE FAIR



Trinity Lutheran School Science Fair and Open House

Friday, February 2
3:30-6:00 pm

Join us Friday to visit the school, observe the students projects, and see what our students are up to at Trinity. Fair projects will be displayed in the classrooms and hallway.

The fair will also be available Sunday, February 4, after worship
Come and support YOUR SCHOOL!