

# 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. Always. Even (Especially!) When It's Hard to Do So.**

***"Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving one another, just as God in Christ has forgiven us. Therefore, be imitators of God as his dearly loved children."*** (Ephesians 4:32, 5:1)

The word for ***"imitators"*** in the original Greek language gives us our English "mimic." Mimic, imitate God. That's a tall order. But it's essential. Forgive as the Lord forgave you: Completely, unconditionally, undeservedly, without hesitation. Not, "I know I'm supposed to forgive, but he's not sorry, so I'm not going to." Not, "She hurt me too terribly. I can't forgive." Nor "I'm going to wait until he/she makes the first move." What does Scripture say? ***"(Forgive)...just as God in Christ has forgiven you."***

Who made the first move in our relationship with God? Christ Jesus, of course! ***"While we were still sinners, Christ died for us."*** (Romans 5:8b) And he sent his Spirit into our hearts to receive and believe this good news. Forgive/show love, not as the world does, but as Christ does.

We struggle with this. In fact the verb tenses here and elsewhere in the Bible reflect the reality of this struggle. Often when God's forgiveness and love are mentioned, it's past tense; it's done and the results continue. Often, when our forgiving and loving others is mentioned, it's present tense, it's something we have to do – again – and keep on doing.

Here's a practical way to look at this in terms of family and relationships. Think of a triangle. You and the other person (spouse, child, friend, really annoying uncle, overbearing fellow employee – you can put anyone else in that other spot) are at the bottom of the triangle. As long as Christ is in the relationship, he is at the top. If both of you are Christ-followers/imitators, even better.

If we just look at each other it's easy to dwell on faults, flaws and mistakes. We figure those out about each other, and remember them. Unfortunately. But if I look at my spouse/family member/friend – or anyone else in my life for that matter – first through Christ, then I can see that person as Christ sees him or her, a precious soul for whom he died and rose again. And honestly, that's how I'd prefer others look at me – through Christ and his merciful point of view.

No one and nothing else can be at the top of the triangle. No one and nothing else exude forgiveness and mercy. Only Christ and his grace belong there.

This perspective will help me hold my tongue when I want to be critical. It's going to make me put the best construction on everything. It's going to give me patience. It's going to fill me with love and compassion and kindness and humility and forgiveness. And with the Spirit's help, I/we can imitate God.

But...there's always a "but," isn't there? – sometimes it's hard to forgive. And I can't forget. I'm human. I've been hurt. How can I let that go? Not to be flippant, but let it go. Look to the Word, look to Christ, look to the cross, remember grace. God forgave you everything in Christ. You and I can go to others, with that same grace, and forgive.

To forgive does not mean forget, condone, excuse, tolerate, or overlook; it means to choose the way of love over the way of hate. It means to imitate God.

***"Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving one another, just as God in Christ has forgiven us. Therefore, be imitators of God as his dearly loved children."*** (Ephesians 4:32, 5:1)

Grateful for Christ's mercy,  
Pastor Stephen Luchterhand

## 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

Pastor Schwanke's Family

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](http://www.trinityminocqua.org).

## TRINITY on SOCIAL MEDIA

Facebook

Instagram

YouTube



## STEWARDSHIP PRAYER

Heavenly Father, your delight is to manifest yourself to us as the divine Giver of all good things for this life and for that which is to come. You have given us life and breath and all things needed to sustain that life in body and soul. You did not even spare your only Son, but gave him up for us all. Grant that we may understand ever more deeply the wonders of your love. Kindle in us an increasing love for you and a growing joy in your forgiveness, that we may grow ever more generous in the gifts we return to you. Help us to be more and more like our Lord Jesus, who, though he was rich, yet for our sakes became poor that we through his poverty might become rich. Remind us of the multitudes who still do not know you, and lead us to be ever more generous in our offerings that the gospel may be taken to the far corners of the earth. In the Savior's name we ask this. Amen.

## WORSHIP NOTES

**Lenten season Sunday worship** is working our way through a series entitled, "Exactly What I Need." The Holy Spirit makes it clear, week after week, that if I lack Christ, I have nothing. But if I have Christ, I have exactly what I need.

- March 1/2 = Text: Genesis 12:1-8 Sermon Theme: "Faith Moves"
- March 8/9 = Text: John 4:5-26 Sermon Theme: "Living Water for All"
- March 15/16 = Text: Ephesians 5:8-14 Sermon Theme: "Walk As Children Of Light!"
- March 22/23 = Text: John 11:17-27,38-45 Sermon Theme: "It Is Not Death to Die"
- March 29/30 (Palm Sunday) = Text: Zechariah 9:9,10 Sermon Theme: "Rejoice To See Your King!"

**Mid-Week Lenten worship – 4 PM on Wednesday.** "It Is Finished" leads us through prophecies from Zechariah. Pastors from area WELS churches are rotating pulpits during this season.

### A look ahead to our Holy Week and Easter Schedule:

- April 2 = **Maundy Thursday** (6:30 pm), Worship w/ Holy Communion
- April 3 = **Good Friday** (1:00 pm & 6:30 pm) Powerful, reflective, often silent and meditative, worship

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

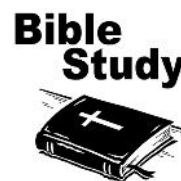
- April 5 = Easter Dawn (6:30 am)
- April 5 = Easter Festival (9:00 am)

**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) is on hiatus. We'll resume after Easter.
- **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 – 4<sup>th</sup> grade are invited to Sunday School which meets in the PreK room. 5<sup>th</sup> grade and up are invited to attend Adult Bible Study. We're working through a study of some of the Minor Prophets: Michah, Nahum, and Habbakuk.



## MINISTRY UPDATES

- **High School Youth Group meets Wednesday, March 4<sup>th</sup>, from 6:15-8:00 pm**
- **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.
- **A new Facebook page featuring just our school and its many activities has been created. Find it and follow!**
- **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 26<sup>th</sup>, and a Free Community Yard Sale on Saturday, June 27<sup>th</sup>. Kristen Smith is leading this event. For now, consider items you may wish to donate. More information forthcoming in the weeks ahead.
- **One last thought: Whom will you invite to Easter worship?** Who are the precious souls who need to hear the truth of Christ crucified and risen again? Invitations are available in the fellowship hall for you to use to invite someone. Take as many as you need.

## FREE YARD SALE COORDINATOR NEEDED

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.

## Care Connection Ministry



Trinity's Care Connection Ministry assists our members and families facing illness or other hardships, connect to services within our church and community, such as:

- assessment visits with members & families
- training volunteers
- respite for caregivers
- rides to appointments, church or other needs
- grocery shopping, preparing & delivering meals
- supportive phone calls

If you would like to learn how Trinity's CCM might be able to assist you, please contact Pastor Luchterhand. This ministry will respect your privacy and will not seek compensation for services. If you are interested in helping with this ministry of please contact the CCM's volunteer coordinator Carne Andrews, 715-225-5567.

**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.



## TRINITY SCHOOL NEWS

March means spring (we hope) and it also brings Spring Break. Our students will be spending their break all over. We pray that everyone has a fun, relaxing, and safe spring break.

March also marks the end of the 3rd quarter and Parent/Teacher Conferences. This school year is going by fast!

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, March 6**

Trinity Seedlings 8:30-9:30 am

#### **Friday, March 13**

No School

#### **Monday-Friday, March 16-20**

No School—Spring Break

#### **Wednesdays, March 4, 11, 25**

Midweek Chapel 8:15 am

**Midweek Chapel:** During the school year, the Trinity School children attend chapel on Wednesday mornings. This year, the students have voted to send their mission money to Northland Lutheran School's expansion project. We invite you attend with the children at 8:15 am.



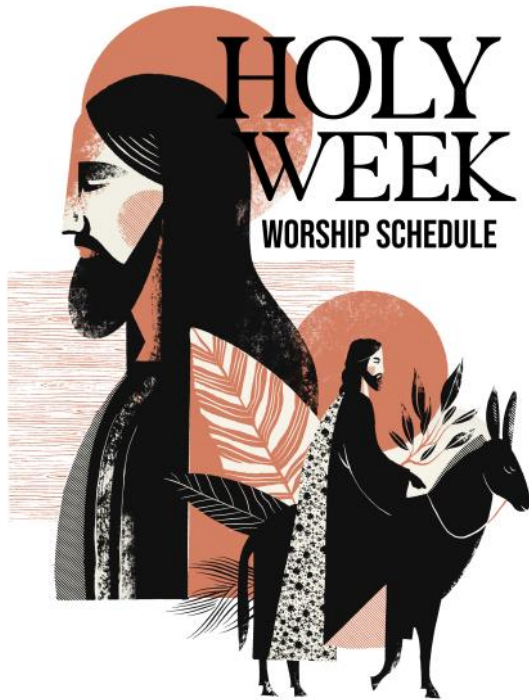


## LENT WORSHIP

Midweek Lent Services

Wednesdays, through March 25

4:00 pm



### PALM SUNDAY

March 29 at 9:00 am & March 30 at 6:30 pm

### MAUNDY THURSDAY

*Holy Communion will be served.*

April 2 6:30 pm

### GOOD FRIDAY

April 3 1:00 & 6:30 pm

### EASTER DAWN

April 5 at 6:30 am

### EASTER FESTIVAL

April 5 at 9:00 am

A light breakfast will be served between Easter services.

*No Monday evening worship on April 6.*



**TUESDAY,  
March 24**

**1:00-3:00 pm**

Everyone is invited  
to attend!

### BOOK CLUB



**Book Club**

**Tuesday, March 17**

**12:00-1:00 pm**

Questions? Contact Marcia  
Frederick.



**TRINITY SEEDLINGS**  
*Planting Jesus in the hearts of children.*

**Friday, March 6**

**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!