

March, 2025

Trinity Lutheran Church

Rolling Meadows, IL

TRINITY tidings

A WORD FROM OUR PASTOR

LENT

The season of Lent begins with Ash Wednesday, which lands on **March 5th** this year. As is customary among many churches, as with Trinity, we will have a worship service in which Ashes are administered. **Trinity's service will be held at 7 pm.**

The ashes remind us of our mortality and our mortality reminds us of the consequences of our sinful nature. During the service, we participate in a service of confession, which symbolically remains unfinished.

That is, it does not conclude with an "absolution", or the pronouncement of forgiveness, but simply with a promise, that will consummate in the Maundy Thursday service when we celebrate Jesus' gift of Holy Communion.

As we move through the five weeks of this Lenten Season, and Palm/Passion Sunday, we will explore the notion of "Repentance." This is one of those churchy words, but it is filled with power and nuance.

The hope is that exploring repentance will lead us to Holy Week with a fuller understanding and experience to receive the gift of Holy Week and Easter.

We hope you will join us on March 5th and each of the succeeding Sundays to explore this powerful notion that helps us explore our humanity and the grace of the one who calls us to transcend it.

In Christ, *Pastor John*

March Activities

- **LENT BEGINS WITH OUR ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE ON WEDNESDAY, MARCH 5TH AT 7 PM. THE THEME FOR THIS LENTEN SEASON IS "REPENTANCE"**
- **MARCH 9TH IS OUR SECOND SUNDAY CEREAL COLLECTION DAY FOR THE FOOD PANTRY. PLEASE BRING ALL YOUR BOXED CEREAL TO CHURCH**
- **A "PAINT PARTY WITH A PUNCH" WILL BE HELD ON FRIDAY, MARCH 21, 7:00 TO 9:00 PM, SUPPLIES WILL BE PROVIDED. AND YES WE WILL BE PAINTING PICTURES—NOT WALLS!**



New Directions for the Hope of Trinity SUBMITTED BY PASTOR JOHN & AL CORBETT

In a recent release, the Pew Research Center has shared that the percentage of persons identifying as “Christians” is now at 62% as compared to 78% in 2007. Despite this, the large majorities, believe people have a soul, believe in God or some universal spirit, believe there is something spiritual beyond the natural world, and believe in heaven, hell or both.

While 44% of adults say they pray daily and 33% say they attend religious services monthly, the projection of young people being religiously connected is not hopeful.

The study does not tell us why these trends are at play. That is for us to both study and hypothesize about.

What is Church?

Most of us speak about Church as a location and building. Some talk about it as an activity (largely associated with worship) at a certain time and day. Others speak about it as an organization, with a constitution, polity and organizational chart.

However, Paul defines it as “the body of Christ” and “the people of God” wherever they are, and when they are sharing the Gospel of Joy, Peace and Hope!

The story of the Church is that eleven followers were hiding and bewildered and suddenly a Spirit came upon them, animated them and called them to speak to others and give hope. They met people in their communities, amidst their work, in their homes and brought hope and faith to them. They scattered and traveled across the world telling about Jesus and God’s love. That is the Church.

Trinity needs to find a way to relate with others in a manner that will allow others to be attracted to hear this good news, and that is why we are engaged in this process to see if there is another way to engage with others, help them to understand the deep impact faith can make in their lives, and to give away what had been given to us as a gift in the first place.

The Process:

The process is to help Trinity to provide something the world might want, and what humanity needs. People are less and less attracted to a Sunday morning gathering in pews. Our mission is the same: A) To experience God’s love; B) to Love as we have been Loved, C) To proclaim God’s care to the world, D) To invite others to experience God’s Love more personally, and E) to call everyone and everything to be transformed by God’s love.

On February 9th we heard about examples of churches who left behind the ways and things they were doing to do things differently. Some built schools or kitchens or became safe havens for people who were vulnerable. Some built housing. Some worked with elderly, others with youth. Some built housing and provided opportunities for people to learn skills, open businesses and find ways that would provide vitality.

On February 23rd, we discussed some of the qualities we might try to assess how and with what emphasis we might try to make. Some of those qualities are:

- Impact: Making a significant difference to individuals and to the community
- Engagement: Choosing activities where we can engage others and invite them into activities we are also interested in, but to also share how these activities are consistent with our faith
- Missional Connectedness: Making sure that what we are doing is consistent with the mission we have been given and might help others to connect with faith
- Resources: Making sure we have the resources to make this happen
- Partners: Determining who else might share our interest and might support our work
- Timeliness: Making sure we can get things done soon enough
- Sustainability: Making sure this engagement can last for as long as it needs to
- Unanimity: Making sure we have the support of nearly everyone in the congregation.
- Loss/Sacrifice: Addressing what we are willing to sacrifice for these efforts
- Faithfulness: Making sure that what we are doing is a faithful expression of who and what God calls us to be.

March 9th and March 23rd: During these sessions we will be brain storming ideas. This means we want everyone to think of ways we could remodel how we do ministry including who the audience we might be looking to address, what need we would be addressing, and what that might look like. So we need you to put on your thinking caps and your praying hearts and share ideas. All ideas will be welcome, and then we will see if they connect with other people’s ideas as well.

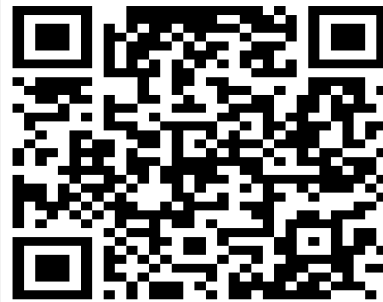
In succeeding months we will flesh out ideas and hold them to some of the criteria we identified above.

SAVE THE DATE!.... There will be a congregational meeting on April 27 after the 9:30 am worship service. Voting will be for Council member elections and if any other church matter needs to be presented to the congregation.

Financial Update: General Fund 2024

	INCOME	EXPENSES	NET SURPLUS OR (DEFICIT)
Jan	\$ 9,846.73	\$ 13,875.55	\$ (4,028.82)
Feb	\$ 9,958.20	\$ 14,294.49	\$ (4,336.29)
Mar	\$ 13,389.51	\$ 16,034.69	\$ (2,645.18)
Apr	\$ 9,663.91	\$ 11,608.70	\$ (1,944.79)
May	\$ 10,173.18	\$ 11,543.41	\$ (1,370.23)
Jun	\$ 10,778.95	\$ 12,768.46	\$ (1,989.51)
Jul	\$ 11,078.91	\$ 11,787.07	\$ (708.16)
Aug	\$ 13,857.51	\$ 13,482.48	\$ 375.03
Sep	\$ 10,468.77	\$ 12,235.17	\$ (1,766.40)
Oct	\$ 11,185.00	\$ 13,118.85	\$ (1,933.85)
Nov	\$ 11,347.58	\$ 15,299.10	\$ (3,951.52)
Dec	\$ 27,925.38	\$ 15,404.05	\$ 12,521.33
Total Jan-Dec 2024	\$ 149,673.63	\$ 161,452.02	\$ (11,778.39)

Donations can be made electronically from your smartphone using the "Vanco Mobile" app available from the App Store or Google Play, or use our website QR code, or go to the Donations link on our website tlcrm.com or our secure website at <https://secure.myvanco.com/L-YRVQ/home>



Thank you for your continued support!

- On March 29, Saturday, 9:00 am to 1:30 pm, at Prince of Peace in Schaumburg is Lay Leadership Day where four church focused workshops are offered, the cost is \$10.00 to cover the lunch. Contact Dan Phillips if you wish to attend.
- The Metropolitan Chicago Synod Assembly is May 30 to 31 in St Charles at the "Q" Center. Trinity is allowed two congregant attendees plus our pastor. Contact Dan Phillips if you can be one of the congregant attendees for direction on how to register.
- There is a March 04, 7:00 pm, meeting in the City of Rolling Meadows upstairs public meeting room to share information about the "City's Kirchoff Road Corridor Study", check the website under Agendas & Minutes at the website

www.CityRM.org

EARLY VOTING DATES!
March 17 to 31, or vote on election day, April 01. These are consolidated elections for districts road-water-park, library, board of education, and other township offices. The website to search more is www.cookcountyclerkil.gov



Lutheran Home Auxiliary
Spring Sale

Friday, March 21, 2025
10 am to 3 pm

Enjoy a day of
shopping
for many new and
gently used treasures

All Sale proceeds
will be used for
resident activities
and special events.



Jewelry
Linens
Fabric & crafts
Household items
Glassware
Artwork
Books, toys, puzzles
Baked goods

For Quilters . . .
We have a special selection
of beautiful fabrics
and pre-cuts!



LUTHERAN HOME
INSPIRING THE BEST SINCE 1892.

800 W. Oakton, Arlington Heights



**JOIN US FOR A FUN DAY OF
SHOPPING- GREAT VARIETY AND
AMAZING BARGAINS.**

The Lutheran Home Auxiliary is
hosting its spring sale on Friday,
March 21, 2025, from 10:00
A.M. to 3:00 P.M.

In addition to Easter décor and
our regular offerings of jewelry,
baked goods, linens, books,
toys, games, glassware, dishes,
artwork and other general
treasures we have a large
amount of beautiful quilt fabric
and pre-cuts.

All proceeds go to the Auxiliary
to spend for activities and
special programs for the
residents.

**Lutheran Home
800 W Oakton,
Arlington Heights, IL 60004
847 368-7400**

Thanks to all who participated in Trinity's Gift Card Program in 2024! Together we purchased a total of \$9,645.00 in gift cards during the year and Trinity received \$381.76 in rebates after paying shipping fees.

We will order gift cards again in March, but you don't have to wait until then.

Please see Dan Phillips if you would like to reload a card that you already have from a past order, or if you would like to order an eGift card that can be delivered via e-mail to anyone you choose on whatever delivery date you choose.

The March ladies group meeting is on March 11, starting at 12 noon, where one brings their lunch + beverage then we will lunch together. Our activity will be trivia sharing. Welcome also are friends or neighbors.



TLC PUZZLE RACE









Last month, We had 27 participants, with groups at 3 tables putting together puzzles. Supplied were beverages, snacks, a raffle of puzzles and puzzle themed oven mitts, token giveaways and a prize for each person at the table who were first to complete their chosen puzzle.

Thanks to Chrissy Barlisle who crafted the puzzle race prizes and token giveaways.

A GREAT TIME!

***A HUGE THANK YOU TO
Rick from Always-On-Time
Refrigeration, (Phone 847-338-
2858).***

***He fixed for free the small
refrigerator used for
communion wine, grape juice.
Rick recharged the refrigerator,
saving Trinity about \$170, Rick
believed God's direction
prompted him to offer this
donation to Trinity.***

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<div>23</div> <div>9:30am Trinity Worship Service - Worshipping At Church AND via ZOOM</div> <div>10:30am Book Study With Pastor Hildner</div> <div>11:00am Peaceful Baptist Church Worship</div> <div>2:30pm Masihi Church of God Worship</div>	<div>24</div>	<div>25</div> <div></div> <div>10:00am "Come And See" Bible Study</div>	<div>26</div>	<div>27</div>	<div>28</div>	<div>1</div> <div>10:30am Tu Familia SDA Worship</div>
<div>2</div> <div></div> <div>Transfiguration Sunday</div> <div>9:30am Trinity Worship Service - Worshipping At Church AND via ZOOM</div> <div>10:30am Book Study With Pastor Hildner</div> <div>11:00am Peaceful Baptist Church Worship</div> <div>2:30pm Masihi Church of God Worship</div>	<div>3</div>	<div>4</div> <div></div> <div>10:00am "Come And See" Bible Study</div> <div></div> <div>Fellowship Committee</div> <div>7:00pm Fellowship Ministry</div>	<div>5</div> <div></div> <div>ASH WEDNESDAY</div> <div>Ash Wednesday</div> <div>7:00pm Trinity Worship Service</div>	<div>6</div> <div>7</div> <div>World Day of Prayer</div>		<div>8</div> <div>10:30am Tu Familia SDA Worship</div>
<div>9</div> <div></div> <div></div> <div>Food Collection</div> <div>Daylight-Saving Time Begins</div> <div>TLC Second Sunday Cereal Food Drive</div> <div>9:30am Trinity Worship Service - Worshipping At Church AND via ZOOM</div> <div>10:30am Book Study With Pastor Hildner</div> <div>11:00am Peaceful Baptist Church Worship</div> <div>2:30pm Masihi Church of God Worship</div>	<div>10</div>	<div>11</div> <div></div> <div>10:00am "Come And See" Bible Study</div> <div></div> <div>Ladies Fellowship</div> <div>12:00pm Talk, Lunch, Crafts - TLC Ladies Club</div> <div>4:30pm Girl Scouts - Troop 45736</div>	<div>12</div> <div>13</div> <div>14</div> <div><div>March Birthdays</div><div>Kaitlyn Vigna 01</div><div>Dave Witt 24</div><div>March Anniversaries</div><div>Chuck & Jan Cosman</div><div>03-07-1992</div><div>Happy Together</div><div>Dave Patterson & Denise Williams</div><div>03-20-1986</div></div>			<div>15</div> <div>10:30am Tu Familia SDA Worship</div>
<div>16</div> <div>9:30am Trinity Worship Service - Worshipping At Church AND via ZOOM</div> <div>10:30am Book Study With Pastor Hildner</div> <div>11:00am Peaceful Baptist Church Worship</div> <div>2:30pm Masihi Church of God Worship</div>	<div>17</div> <div>St. Patrick's Day</div> <div></div>	<div>18</div> <div></div> <div>10:00am "Come And See" Bible Study</div>	<div>19</div>	<div>20</div> <div></div> <div>CHURCH COUNCIL</div> <div>First Day of Spring</div> <div>7:00pm TLC Council Meeting</div>	<div>21</div> <div></div> <div>7:00pm TLC Paint Party with a Punch!</div>	<div>22</div> <div>10:30am Tu Familia SDA Worship</div>
<div>23</div> <div>9:30am Trinity Worship Service - Worshipping At Church AND via ZOOM</div> <div>10:30am Book Study With Pastor Hildner</div> <div>11:00am Peaceful Baptist Church Worship</div> <div>2:30pm Masihi Church of God Worship</div>	<div>24</div>	<div>25</div> <div></div> <div>10:00am "Come And See" Bible Study</div>	<div>26</div>	<div>27</div>	<div>28</div>	<div>29</div> <div>10:30am Tu Familia SDA Worship</div>
<div>30</div> <div>9:30am Trinity Worship Service - Worshipping At Church AND via ZOOM</div> <div>10:30am Book Study With Pastor Hildner</div> <div>11:00am Peaceful Baptist Church Worship</div> <div>2:30pm Masihi Church of God Worship</div>	<div>31</div>	<div>1</div> <div></div> <div>10:00am "Come And See" Bible Study</div> <div></div> <div>Fellowship Committee</div> <div>7:00pm Fellowship Ministry</div>	<div>2</div> <div><div>Belated Febuary Birthdays</div><div>Thor Johnson 06</div><div>Tina Frankiewicz 10</div><div>Mary Thompson 11</div><div>Joan Anderson 19</div><div>Ashton Johnson 25</div></div>	<div>5</div> <div>10:30am Tu Familia SDA Worship</div>		