



TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH PARISH LIFE

February 2023



Dear saints of Trinity,

Many of us grew up in a time where you could usually assume that most of the people you came into contact with were Christians of some variety. Maybe some of you even came from places where most of the people you'd meet around town were members of your local Lutheran parish! But whether that was true for you or not, there was a time in the not-so-distant past when a lot of people in our state and nation could take it for granted that the average person they met on the street shared most of their basic ideas about God, about other people, and about how we should live.

If that kind of religious uniformity isn't gone altogether, it seems pretty clear that it's significantly less consistent than it used to be. In our regular day-to-day interactions, I don't think that any of us would be very surprised to encounter a Muslim, a Hindu, a Buddhist, or a follower of various other religions—not to mention the ever-increasing number of people who don't consider themselves religious, at all. For many Western Christians, this is an experience that we're not particularly accustomed to, and I think sometimes it's hard for us to figure out how to navigate the pluralism that surrounds us.

While this religious diversity may be a new thing to some of us, though, it's not new to the Christian Church. After all, if you think back to the first years after our Lord's resurrection, there weren't many Christians at all. The Church was a relatively small community, often surrounded by non-Christian Jews on the one hand and various kinds of pagans on the other. In that kind of environment, Christians would probably

experience a world much like our world today, where a large number—if not the majority—of the people around them did not share their Christian faith.

Well, what did they do in the face of such pluralism? In the *Didache*, a first-century Christian document that tries to summarize the Apostles' teaching, we get a bit of an answer. When the author outlines the "way of life" that the Apostles taught, he takes a moment to remind the Christian minority that they should "frequent the company of the saints daily, so as to be edified by their conversation." In other words, he tells them that in a world where Christians might be hard to find, Christians need to make an effort to spend time with each other, even on a daily basis.

The Christians in the first century knew something really important: being a Christian is hard. It's hard even under the best circumstances, and it can be even harder in a society where Christianity isn't the predominant religious outlook. It isn't healthy for Christians to try to go it alone in that kind of environment. We need to be a part of the regular gathering of Christ's people in the services of the Church. Moreover, we need to find time throughout the week to enjoy the company of our brothers and sisters in Christ, whether it's for prayer or for more lighthearted activities like eating dinner, taking a walk, or playing games. Because it's in those activities and in the conversations that go with them that we can be edified in our faith in a world where that edification can be hard to find. So take the time to be with your fellow saints. I think you'll be glad you did.

Yours in Christ,
Pastor Einertson

WOMEN'S MINISTRY

The February meeting is scheduled for Thursday, February 2 at 4:00 pm. Please join us.

We will be holding our annual Spring Retreat the weekend of March 11. Watch the bulletin for details on this activity

All ladies of the congregation are a part of the Women's Ministry and are welcomed to join us for our meetings and events.

If you have any questions contact Michelle Hinze (651-246-7335).

BOARD OF EDUCATION:

-Service Project for February will be sending Valentine care packages to Trinity's college students and shut-ins. Please send an address for your college student to the office. Please donate items such as candy, small toiletries, etc. Thank you!

-SS Families please take a Lenten calendar to start using on Ash Wednesday.

-SS Children grades K-8 will sing during the service on Palm Sunday April 2.



TRUSTEES

Trustees

- Working on estimates for additional painting and repair work on south ramp area.

- There is interest in AED/CPR training. Will check into cost on it.
- Working on list of items to be replaced and completed.



OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

This year we will again have an Operation Christmas Child (O.C.C.) shoebox collection. Can we do more than we did in

2022? 142 shoeboxes!! We hope to have workshops and take-home projects starting in March. In the meantime, there are many items that we should start saving and buying for gifts to be made and put into the shoeboxes. There will be samples of some of the items on the O.C.C. table in the near future.

Here is an initial list of those things:

- ♦ Empty pill bottles (clean w/label removed)
- ♦ 1/4" and 1/2" ribbon
- ♦ Small Pom-Poms
- ♦ Small bows for hair
- ♦ Religious stickers
- ♦ Wash cloths from WalMart (18 for \$7) to make Teddy Bears
- ♦ Greeting cards
- ♦ Blank CDs and 1" marbles for making spinners/tops
- ♦ EXTRA gum containers (clear plastic boxes) to make fishing kits
- ♦ Jingle bells (all sizes)
- ♦ Jenga blocks (will paint and print Bible verses on them)
- ♦ Fishing line
- ♦ Fabric (12" x 4") for scrunchies

Please put donations on the O.C.C. table near the Church Office. Let's have another GREAT year!

Jan Luxa and Donna Born

God's Blessing



THANK YOU

Below is a thank-you the church received via e-mail from Rev. Walter and Robyn Steele.

Dear Saints of Trinity Farmington,

We deeply appreciate your partnership in the Gospel, especially in your support of the work in East Africa. Thank you for your generous donation to our missionary account.

The work the Lord has called us to is expanding beyond the seminary at Matongo, Kenya. I have just returned from teaching in Tanzania over the Christmas break. The students included pastors and deaconesses from the Southeast of Lake Victoria Diocese of the Lutheran Church of Tanzania. While there, I engaged in discussions as we assist them in establishing their own seminary in the region. This is an important work, as many of the dioceses are not conservative and confessional. A string counterweight is essential for this church body.

This new work, while still teaching at Matongo and as the academic dean, involves coordinating various groups of the LCMS as we assist them in this venture. Please pray for me and for them as this work progresses.

We trust you are having an edifying Epiphany season. We hope to be able to visit with you in the coming summer.
In Christ,

Rev. Walter and Robyn Steele



In 1 Corinthians 13 Paul writes about love. He tells us what love does and does not do. Let's find out about love!

Use the alphabet code to fill in the blanks.

A B C D E F G H I J K L M N O P Q R S T U V W X Y Z
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26

LOVE IS
16 1 20 9 5 14 20

LOVE IS
11 9 14 4

LOVE WITH THE TRUTH
18 5 10 15 9 3 5 19

LOVE
16 18 15 20 5 3 20 19

LOVE
20 18 21 19 20 19

LOVE
8 15 16 5 19

LOVE
16 5 18 19 5 22 5 18 5 19

... THESE THREE REMAIN: FAITH, HOPE AND LOVE.
BUT THE GREATEST OF THESE IS

12 15 22 5

ANSWER: PATIENT, KIND, REJOICES, PROTECTS, TRUSTS, HOPES, PERSEVERES, LOVE

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

2/2 Justin Walde
 2/3 Daniel Little
 2/4 Berna Deiss
 Joe Hart
 Lydia Schaefer
 2/5 Loren Kahl
 2/9 Michelle Hinze
 2/11 Michael Lee
 Ruth Lehmann
 2/12 Becky Tacheny
 2/13 Rita Anderson
 Luke Johnston
 Greg Opatrny
 2/15 Ron Ersfeld
 Sophia Wratkowski
 2/16 Steve Christensen
 Lance Stewart
 2/17 Carol Brummund
 2/19 Boss Woodford
 2/21 Steve Mouchet
 Luke Porter
 2/22 Gene Peterson
 2/24 Eli Halverson
 2/25 Jude Porter
 2/26 Marnie Figueroa
 Thaddaeus Woodford
 2/27 Leland Huebner
 2/29 Alfred Deiss



FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES

	Day	Years
Peter & Sophia Wratkowski	2/02	7
Tod & Colleen Duffy	2/20	30
Tim & Connie Dau	2/26	17



PARISH LIFE

Parish Life articles for the **March** issue will be due on **February 20**.



FEBRUARY BAPTISMS

2/4 Lucille Christensen
 2/6 Lina Schultz
 2/8 Alex Reiersen
 2/9 Joe Hinze
 2/13 Conner Campbell
 Karra Hartog
 2/15 Loren Kahl
 Becky Tacheny
 Margaret Wamhoff
 2/17 Olivia Beyl
 Jake Campbell
 Lydia Schaefer
 2/19 Madalyn Pietz-Gunhus
 2/27 Joseph Hart
 2/28 Bernadette Deiss



Please inform the office of any errors or omissions in the birthday, baptism, or anniversary lists. Thank you

Church Attendance November 29 through January 17

Sundays		Holidays/Advent	
Nov 27	102	November 24	57
Dec 4	106	Thanksgiving	
Dec 11	83	Advent/Wk 1	36
Dec 18	98	Advent/Wk 2	65
Dec 25	78	Advent/Wk 3*	92
Jan 1	46	Advent Wk 4	25
Jan 8	59	December 24	87
Jan 15	64	Christmas Eve	
Jan 22	80	December 25	78
		Christmas Day	

*This midweek service was also the children's Christmas program

WORSHIP SERVANTS FOR FEBRUARY 2023

Date	Acolyte/Crucifer	Tellers	Altar Guild
02/05/23	Zach Schaefer	Judy Heintz and Steve Heintz	Laura Reinke
02/12/23	Izzy Auwarter	Sophia Wratkowski & Donna Born	Hazel Truax
02/19/23 Transfiguration	Jude Porter/ Zach Schaefer	Peter Wratkowski & Ray Sell	Mary Tyson
02/26/23	Eli Halverson	Sophia Wratkowski & Donna Born	Mary Christensen

ALTAR GUILD INFORMATION

Below are the prices for flower arrangements for the altar:

- \$30 Designer Choice
- \$35 Your Choice of Color
- \$40 Your Choice of Flower

You may take your flowers home after the service or let the Altar Guild member know if you don't want them.

FEBRUARY 2023

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1 6:30 pm Confirmation 6:30 pm Choir Practice	2 4:00 pm Women's Ministry Meeting	3	4
5 9:00 am Worship 10:30 am Education Hour	6	7 9:00 am Quilting	8 6:30 pm Confirmation	9	10	11
12 9:00 am Worship 10:30 am Education Hour 11:45 p.m. Youth Group	13	14 9:00 am Quilting 6:30 pm Elders Mtng 7:15 pm Brds/Comm 8:00 pm Church	15 6:30 pm Confirmation 6:30 pm Choir Practice	16	17	18
19 TRANSFIGURATION 9:00 am Worship 10:30 am Education	20  Parish Life Deadline	21 9:00 am Quilting	22 5:15 pm Meal 6:30 pm Lenten Worship 7:15 pm Confirmation 7:15 pm Choir Practice 	23	24	25
26 Transfiguration 9:00 am Worship 10:30 am Education Hour 5:00 p.m. Youth Group MITE BOX COLLECTION PL Avail for Pickup	27	28 9:00 am Quilting	Church Phone - (651) 463-7225 Pastor after hours - (770) 283-9197 Church email - secretary@trinityfarmington.org Pastor email - pastor@trinityfarmington.org			