

Worship times: 8:00 and 10:30 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. Sunday School & Bible Classes: 9:15 a.m.

Vol. 69 No. III

NEWSLETTER

Of

Trinity Lutheran Church 603 North 8th Street Atchison, KS 66002 (913) 367-2837

Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod

Web Page - <u>www.trinityatchison.org</u>

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Facebook – www.facebook.com/trinitylutheranatchison Reverend Robert Ziegler and Reverend Marty Reed

FROM PASTOR ZIEGLER'S DESK

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BAPTISM

On February 19, three children were baptized here at Trinity: Cade Jaxson Katzenmeier (infant), Jenny True Stone (3 years) and Lauren Kate Davis (13 years old). We welcome these children into our Trinity family and pray God's blessings upon them.

FUNERAL

On February 20, funeral services were held for Mrs. Mary Ann Dittemore, 79. Mary Ann attended Adult Inquirer's Class and was confirmed on December 21, 1986. She was one of the first residents of Trinity Place. We pray our Lord's comfort to her family and loved ones.

KAIR BROADCASTS

We now have 53 KAIR Radio sponsors , enough to cover all the Sundays of 2023. Thank you to all who have given for this important ministry.

BUILDING COMMITTEE

Our Building Committee continues to work on the church restroom project. Two contractors have been here to take measurements, give and receive ideas in order to prepare bids. When we receive their plans and bids, we will have a Voter's Assembly to accept one by vote. Then we will have an offering to fund the project. After we have received the offering, we will report the amount to the Kansas District and apply for a matching grant. If we do not receive enough from the offering and grant to fund the whole project, we will borrow from the Lutheran Extension Fund what is still needed. You will receive a special envelope in the mail for this offering. We are praying that all will participate. It is estimated the work will take almost two months which means some inconvenience.

March 2023

<u>LENT</u>

Each Wednesday evening now until Holy week, we are having a Lenten Supper from 5:00-6:30 p.m. and a special Lenten Worship Service at 7:00 p.m. We pray for your attendance. Also, either through a personal visit or through the mail you received a special Lenten packet. The "Amazing Grace" devotional booklet is very good. I pray that you are using it every day, plus the Forty-Day Bible Reading Plan that was in the packet. Lent is a time of repentance and spiritual renewal. That happens through God's Word as we hear, read and worship.

"FOLLOW ME"

On the Sundays during Lent, I am preaching a sermon series entitled, "Follow Me." We are looking at what it means to follow our Lord Jesus. Last Sunday we looked at "Follow Me," means obedience. In the weeks coming we will hear that "Follow Me," means repentance, submission, commitment and perseverance. I pray for your presence.

PASTOR CARNEY

Pastor Mike Carney is now serving Zion Lutheran Church in Hiawatha. Please pray God's blessings upon him as he serves there as well as teaching grade 6 at Trinity School.

WEEKLY ATTENDANCE

Average Sunday worship attendance is 280. We continue to pray that all of our people will soon be back in worship and at the Lord's Table.

EASTER

Easter this year is on April 9. During Holy Week, we will have worship and Holy Communion on Maundy Thursday, April 6 at 7:00 p.m. On Good Friday, April 7 we will have worship with Holy Communion at 7:00 p.m. Also, on Good Friday, we will have the Tenebrae Service at 10:00 p.m. As in the past, our Easter Services will be at 7:00, 8:45, 10:30 a.m., and 6:30 p.m. Easter Breakfast will be 7:15-10:15 a.m.

FOOD FOR THE POOR

On April 23, we will have a representative here from "Food for the Poor." We invite this very important ministry to come here every two years.

A MAJOR CONCERN AND HUGE BURDEN

We have several children and youth who are being raised without any contact with their Lord. They are not being brought to worship or Sunday School or Wednesday School or Trinity School. The consequences of this will be tragic for now and for eternity.

PLANNING COUNCIL

Thursday evening, March 2, our Planning Council is going to meet to talk about the need in our community for daytime childcare.

ON A FAMILY NOTE

My son Andrew suffered a severe stroke on February 13. It affected his right arm, leg and speech. At first, he was in the Cleveland Clinic, but is now in a rehabilitation facility. I know that many of you are praying for him. If you want to send him a card, you can send it to his daughter's address: Miss Marissa Ziegler, 200 Hunter's Crossing Drive, Apt. 212, Elyria, Ohio 44035.

See you Sunday. Be sure to greet and introduce yourself to anyone you do not know. I've seen this while shaking hands in the narthex at the end of a service; a visitor is standing at the side and many people will look at the person and walk by him. Please, go over, shake hands and introduce yourself. I am convinced that that is what Jesus would do.

PEACE!

Pastor Robert Ziegler

THE FINANCIAL PICTURE

Home	Needed in 2023	\$ 191,871.00
	Given in 2023	187,022.58
Missions	Needed in 2023	7,560.00
	Given in 2023	81,142.26
Building	Needed in 2023	5,715.00
	Given in 2023	6,328.29

Our financial picture at the end of February looks good. Thank you to all who are faithful in bringing their tithes and offerings. As you can see above, in the HOME budget we are BEHIND \$4,848.42. In the MISSION budget we are AHEAD \$582.26 and in the BUILDING budget we are AHEAD 613.29. If you have not picked up your year-end stewardship report, it is in the narthex.

Special gifts during February were:

Lutheran Hour	\$ 333.00
Lutheran World Relief	136.00
KAIR Broadcasts	450.00
School Sponsor Plan	55.00
Flower Fund	68.00
Technology (current) Fund	135.00
Vacation Bible School	80.00
Portals of Prayer	104.00
Initial Offering	155.00
Lutheran Heritage Foundation	25.00
Trinity Place Endowment	45.00
Emergency Fund	341.00
Church Restroom Project	40.00
Food Pantry	210.00
Bethesda Home	170.00

With these gifts this is how our BENEVOLENCE PICTURE looked at the end of February:

BENEVOLENCE	GOAL	GIVEN
Bethesda Home	\$ 1,200.00	\$ 202.00
Luth. Heritage Found.	700.00	70.00
Lutheran Hour	1,000.00	333.00
Luth. World Relief	3,750.00	186.00

Please remember the Lutheran Hour goal that is above. There is a special Lutheran Hour envelope in your packet. The Lutheran Hour is our Synod's worldwide radio broadcast. Each week it brings the Gospel to millions around the world.

In the listing above, the \$210.00 for the Food Pantry came from the Trivia Night that was held in memory of Joel Wilburn. Thank you, Pam and Jody, for this memorial gift. Also, Pam and Jody gave a gift of \$2,000.00 to our youth ministry in memory of Joel, to

be used for expenses to Higher Things and the National Youth Gathering.

Parents: please encourage and see that your teen uses his or her offering envelopes. Each has received a packet. We must teach our youth to give faithfully for the Lord's word. During covid the ushers quit passing the offering plates down the pews. We are going to start doing this again. Please teach your children that giving is a part of worship by giving them something to put in the offering plate.

Offerings in our Lenten services go to the Home budget to help us catch up. However, it is also good to use some of the other (endowment and benevolence) envelopes in these services.

Here is a quote I read recently: "Think of your gifts to the Lord's work as contributions to a unique mutual fund. In the financial realm, mutual funds incorporate the contributions of thousands of individuals who have pooled their monies to share in the benefits of something very large. In the spiritual realm, all that we give for the Lord's sake is an investment in God's mutual fund, and it pays dividends beyond imagination."

LENTEN VISITATION

On Sunday, February 19, (the Sunday before Ash Wednesday), several couples and individuals took Lenten packets to homes of our members. Some 200 homes were reached (we have 550). On Tuesday, the packets were mailed to homes not reached. We want to thank the following folks for serving as visitors:

Terry Mills Adam & Rachel Goodpasture Merrell & Vonda Young Bryan & Pattie Becker Tom & Jennifer Brincefield Eric & Ledeen Berry Dick & Linda Orton Don & Cindy Lassen Alan Higley Linda Goodpasture Vonda Ostertag Wayne & Sharon Sellers Pastor Reed Glen Buckley Steve & Mary Hobus Kay Gerhardt Jeff & Robin Klawuhn Jeremy & Melissa Blanton Stan & LeNeta Snyder Jim Duitsman

MEMORIALS FOR 2022

Tom Sowers	
School Endowment Fund	\$ 2,000.00
<u>Leonard Thompson</u>	,
Sunday School Program	\$ 100.00
Organ Fund	\$ 200.00
Dream Fund III	\$ 1,800.00
<u>Frances Peterson</u>	
School Endowment Fund	\$ 885.00
<u>Pat Shanes</u>	
School Endowment Fund	\$ 200.00
<u>Terry Larkin</u>	
School Endowment Fund	\$ 5.00
<u>Floyd Ruhnke</u>	
School Endowment Fund	\$ 595.00
<u>Lenora Cairo</u>	
School Endowment Fund	\$ 190.00
Trinity School Grant Fund	\$ 45.00
<u>Dora Williams</u>	
Trinity School Grant Fund	\$ 445.00
<u> James Bilderback</u>	
Technology Fund	\$ 20.00
<u>Roger Benitz, Sr.</u>	
Memorial Scholarship Fund	\$ 980.00
<u>Bill Bewley</u>	
Trinity Lutheran High School Fund	\$ 50.00
<u>Gabrielle Cline</u>	
Trinity School Grant Fund	\$ 10.00
<u>Carl Megenity</u>	
Mission Endowment Fund	\$ 270.00
<u>Sam Nelson</u>	
School Sponsor Plan	\$ 200.00
<u>Charlie Nelson</u>	
School Sponsor Plan	\$ 200.00
Marion Wilson	
Mission Endowment Fund	\$ 10.00
<u>Wilbur Neill</u>	
School Endowment Fund	\$ 100.00

THEODORA CIRCLE

Theodora Circle is collecting items to put together layette kits in August. These kits are distributed to those in need through Orphan Grain Train. The following items are needed, and can be gently used: cloth diapers, diaper pins, sleepers, wash cloths, receiving and crib blankets. There is a box in the narthex in the church. Questions contact Pam Wilburn at 913-426-3191.

MISSION ENDOWMENT FUND

We have not reported on this fund since last June 2022. Since then, the fund has received \$3,873.45 in gifts and memorials. The fund now has given-assets of \$146,279.27. From this invested amount the fund received \$10,820.87 in 2022. See below the various missions' projects to which this was given.

In memorials for Carl Megenity \$270.00 was received. For Marvin Wilson \$10.00. From our Christmas Eve and Day envelopes \$1,136.57 was received. The fund received \$321.00 through the Epiphany envelopes.

Gifts given in 2022 were to:

\$ 250.00
\$ 250.00
\$ 500.00
\$ 250.00
\$ 500.00
\$ 500.00
\$ 300.00
\$ 300.00
\$ 350.00
\$ 350.00
\$ 300.00
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\$ 350.00
\$ 300.00
\$ 300.00
\$ 550.00
\$ 550.00
\$ 550.00
\$ 200.00
\$ 200.00
\$ 400.00
<u>\$ 400.00</u>
\$10,300.00

If you have questions about any of these, please ask. And please use the "Mission Endowment Fund" envelope in your packet so that this fund may grow and grow, and more work be done.



PASTOR'S ADULT BIBLE CLASS

We are still in the Letter to the Hebrews. Last Sunday we finished studying Hebrews 10:24-31. We spent a lot of time looking at verses 26-29. They are so being and attention getting words. "If we deliberately keep on sinning after we have received the knowledge of the truth, no sacrifice for sins is left, but only a fearful expectation of judgment and of raging fire that will consume the enemies of God. Anyone who rejected the law of Moses died without mercy on the testimony of two or three witness. How much more severely do you think a man deserves to be punished who has trampled the Son of God under foot, who is treated as an unholy thing the blood of the covenant that sanctified him, and who has insulted the Spirit of grace?" Think about those words. If you are drifting away from the Lord, not worshiping and serving as you once did, they will shock and scare and wake you up.

Average attendance during February was 73. Those with perfect attendance were:

Ledeen Berry
Ron & Sheila Bilderback
John & Roschelle Bisping
Cassidy Blanton
Jacob Blanton
Jeremy Blanton
Stacy Bokonich
Ed Bosshammer
Jennifer Brincefield
Kay Gerhardt
Marshall & Bonnie Goodlet
Ryan Halling
Terry Hanshaw
Cheril Hefner
Robbie Kincaid
Millie Kruger
Aly Gobin

Don & Cindy Lassen Shirlev Lassen David & Penney Long Jeff Long Mary Merrill Monte & Sue Minard Robert Peterson Keith & Paula Peuker Lorene Peuker Debbie Schneider Sue Schuler Jack & Marcene Selberg Wayne Sellers Georgia Shaver Jesse Smith Charlotte Ziegler Jennifer Lentz

Visitors during February were:

Pastor Mike Carney Allison Drimmel Laura Calhoun Nick Goodpasture Sharon Sellers Pastor Tim and Kim Sowers Katelyn Brincefield

We meet in the school gym at 9:15 a.m. Please come and study and fellowship with us!

Pastor Marty Reed

Dear Friends,

So, why do you wish to receive Holy Communion?

Every communicant should ask that question of himself before approaching the Lord's Table. Because it's possible to go to the Lord's Supper with little thought or the wrong intention.

Think of the many reasons people can come to Communion. Perhaps from a force of habit. Others may come because parents, a spouse, or someone else expects that of them. And others, that by communing they'll make God happy with them. And still others, so they'll look good in the eyes of others, the congregation, or community. Because of these and many other reasons, it's not a bit surprising that such communicants do not receive the blessing the Lord gives in His Holy Supper, but grow worse and worse as time goes by.

Now, the communicant who desires to partake of the Lord's Supper and receive the Lord's blessings must first fully realize what the Lord's Supper is, that is, the purpose for which Christ instituted it. And second, the one partaking must be prepared to receive it as a poor sinner longing for forgiveness.

So what is the Lord's Supper?

Well, a common but wrong idea is that it is merely a meal by which the one 'remembers' the sufferings and death of Christ. That it does, but it is much more!

Holy Communion is an exalted and blessed mystery by which Christ, in the consecrated bread and wine, gives us His body to eat and His blood to drink. The communicant receives the very body and blood Jesus received from the Virgin Mary and gave unto death on the cross for the remission of our sins.

Yes, it's true. No communicant can see this mystery with their eyes, taste it with their mouths, or grasp it with their minds. But this we believe. For our Lord and Savior says: "*Take, eat; this is My body*... *Drink of it all of you; this is My blood*" (Matthew 26:26-28).

Jesus is faithful and true. He is all-wise and knows how to fulfill His promises, even those beyond our understanding. He is almighty (Matthew 28:18) and nothing is impossible for Him (Luke 1:37; 18:27). He can and will do much more than we ask or think (Ephesians 3:20). He can and will certainly bring to pass what He has promised.

Now, if we truly believe this about Holy Communion: that we receive the true body and blood of our Savior, and that this is not merely a memorial meal of bread and wine, we will most certainly not approach the Table of the Lord thoughtlessly or lightly, but with deep reverence and humility. We will say much as the centurion once did, *"Lord, I am not worthy to have You come under my roof"* (Luke 7:6).

Now the benefits of Holy Communion are three.

First, in Holy Communion we receive forgiveness of sins. God's love is amazing! In love He has provided the means by which sinners can receive and be certain of their forgiveness of sins. The means He established are the preaching of the Gospel, Holy Baptism, and Holy Communion. Now, don't ask why God has given three, instead of one. Instead, thank Him for all His gifts! Moreover, if from personal experience you know the heavy weight of sin on your soul you know how gracious God is in providing not one, but several ways of becoming certain of the forgiveness of your sin. Each time you take the Lord's body and blood into your mouth, know for certain you are forgiven all your sins!

The second benefit of Holy Communion is life. No, not the natural life we received at birth, and preserve through food and drink, rest and exercise. This life is the new life— the spiritual life— begun in Baptism and the preaching of the Gospel. This life concerns faith in our Lord Jesus Christ and a love of God and neighbor. God has given the Holy Supper as spiritual nourishment, for the strengthening of the spiritual life within us.

Luther once wrote: "Holy Communion is aptly called a food for the soul as it nourishes and strengthens the new man. While indeed we have been born again by Baptism, we retain our old sinful nature, there are so many obstacles and temptations on the part of the devil and the world. We often grow faint and weary and at times even falter. So, the Lord's Supper is given for a daily food and nourishment, that faith may be refreshed and strengthened and not repulsed in this battle, but ever grow stronger and stronger. The new life is of such a nature that it must constantly grow and progress. This new life has a great deal to endure, since the devil is an enemy who has great wrath. If he finds that he cannot take us by a bold stroke, he tries all his wiles, presents all his allurements, and does not stop until he has tired us out, so that we either abandon our faith or become listless and impatient. But when our

heart is in this condition, being about to succumb, we have the comfort that in this Sacrament it can be again strengthened and refreshed."

The third benefit of Holy Communion is eternal salvation. If our sins were not forgiven they'd bar us from heaven. But with sins forgiven the doors of heaven are open to us. *"For where there is forgiveness of sins, there is also life and salvation."*

But all that depends on a worthy partaking of the Holy Meal, and in being well prepared. But our worthiness, our being well prepared, doesn't come from the Law: from what we do or don't do, or in us living a perfect life free from sin. Our worthiness and preparedness comes from the Gospel, from realizing that as sinners we are not worthy. It comes from having a contrite heart. With a contrite heart we realize we are spiritually poor. With a contrite heart we deeply desire the forgiveness of sins. With a contrite heart we look to our Lord and depend completely on Him for forgiveness, life, and salvation.

On the other hand, the unworthy and unprepared imagine they need little or no forgiveness, like the Pharisee who prayed, "God, I thank You that I am not like other men" (Luke 18:11). Or they are like Judas, who though he heard the Lord's warning, didn't repent and went on to carry out his wicked and sinful desires. Or they despair like Cain, who thinking about his lot in life said to God: "My punishment is greater than I can bear" (Genesis 4:13).

Yes, unworthy and unprepared communicants also receive the true body and blood of Christ, but not for forgiveness, life, and salvation, but to their judgment and damnation. Thus, the Apostle Paul wrote the warning: "Let a person examine himself, then, and so eat of the bread and drink of the cup. For anyone who eats and drinks without discerning the body [of the Lord] eats and drinks judgment on himself" (1 Corinthians 11:28-29). Any individual who recognizes in himself these marks of unworthy communing should refrain from partaking of the Lord's Supper! But he should not forever bar himself from Communion. He should become truly penitent, know why he needs the Holy Meal, and desire to amend his life.

Now, after this you may wonder, "Should I receive Holy Communion? I know my faith is weak. And often I fail in my walk as a Christian. Am I an unworthy and unprepared communicant?"

Answer, no. If you recognize your weakness and know that in the Supper your Lord comes to you with

forgiveness, life and salvation, that's the kind of guest our Lord invites to commune! Our loving Lord will never cast out anyone who knows they are weak in faith and falter in walking as His people, but nevertheless desires to become stronger in faith and in life. It is such people He invites to His table and welcomes. Jesus instituted His Holy Supper for such people, that they might receive His strength. Jesus extends this invitation: *"Come to Me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest"* (Matthew 11:28). And He says, *"Whoever comes to Me I will never cast out"* (John 6:37).

Blessings, Pastor Reed

SEMINARY FOOD BANK. We are gathering food and other items for seminarians and their families at Concordia Seminary, Saint Louis. Currently, the church is in desperate need of church workers: pastors, Lutheran school teachers, DCEs, etc. This is one way for us to try to offset the cost of preparing to serve in the church. The food bank began when Pastor Reed was in his fourth year at the seminary, and immediately he and Laurie and the entire seminary community benefited greatly from it! Over the years, it has been a blessing to many men now serving as pastors. Two men in our area (Pastor Dunaway, recently retired from the NE Kansas Partnership; and Pastor Lally, St. Matthew, Nortonville) spoke highly of its benefits.

Robin, the head of the food bank, identified the following needs: canned beans (but not green beans), granola bars, fruit bars, pasta sauce (in jars), men and women's hygiene items (shower gel, body wash, shaving cream, and feminine products. But please, no toothpaste or bars of soap). Also refrain from giving bulky items, like paper products. If you'd like to donate, bring your gifts to church and place them under the table in the narthex. Collection must be at church no later than Wednesday, March 8. Donations will be delivered to the food bank the 2nd weekend in March. Thank you.

LOOKING BACK Ten Years Ago – March 2013

- Funeral services were held for Richard Rockey, 82 and Charles Sowers, 83.
- Tuition at Trinity School for a member (first child) was \$1,055.00 and Non-Member (first child) was \$1,195.00.
- Mikayla Lowe, Markelle Mikkelson and Eden Barnett (7th grade team) and Katie Peuker and Dalton Lust (8th grade team) were our Trinity students in the Mathletics Competition at St. Paul in St. Joe.
- In the Atchison County Spelling Bee Jerry Ross (6th grade) placed 4th, Thomas North (5th grade) took 6th place and Caleb Pierce (7th grade) was in 13th place. There were 48 students in the competition.
- The given-assets of the Mission Endowment Fund had grown to \$88,242 and income from that to \$5,758 which was given to various missions.

<u>Twenty Years Ago – 2003</u>

- Cynthia Frans and Jeremiah Sanders were married on February 15.
- Debt on the new building was down to \$199,333.12.
- Cost for three-year-old Pre-School was \$60.00 per month and \$70.00 for four-year old Pre-School.

<u> Thirty Years Ago – 1993</u>

- Justin Weatherford (son of Bob and Rita) set a school record for magazine sales, 110 orders.
- Basketball coaches for Trinity School were Bob and Georgia Shaver, Jim Duitsman and Mike Wilson, Sue Sherffius and Adena Thomas, Richard Sinclair and Joshua Sinclair.
- Theodora Circle officers were: Barb Stapleton, president; Cindy Lassen, vice-president; Pam Wilburn, secretary; Loretta Vigola, treasurer.

Forty Years Ago – 1983

- Bill Faris was Cub Master for Cub Scout Pack 94.
- Dream Fund I had grown to \$42,472.08.
- 39 members completed the T.E.A.M. class on Corinthians and 58 people the course on Luke.

ANNUAL CHURCH CLEANING DAY

Ladies, Gents and Youth, our annual Church cleaning day will be Saturday, March 18, 9:00 a.m. to Noon. Everyone is welcome!! Please bring your cleaning supplies. Your help will be most appreciated.

OUR GIVING - 2022

In 2022, we distributed 461 packets of offering envelopes to our Trinity families. Please note that 288 families used their envelopes and their giving ranged between \$1.00 and \$27,852.36. Several of our families are tithers (giving 10%) and some give well beyond the tithe (between 10-20%). 173 families did not use their envelopes and most gave nothing.

Brothers and sisters, this should not be. Please look to see where you are on this list. If you are among the 173, the Lord bids you to give to His work in your church, Trinity. If you do not tithe, where would you be on this list if you tithed? THANK YOU to all who are using their envelopes each week, giving faithfully so that the work of the Lord at Trinity may go on.

Amount Given	# of Individuals/Families
\$0	173
\$1 - \$100	66
\$101 - \$500	54
\$501 - \$1,000	19
\$1,001 - \$1,500	25
\$1,501 - \$2,000	20
\$2,001 - \$2,500	10
\$2,501 - \$3,000	11
\$3,001 - \$3,500	5
\$3,501 - \$4,000	5
\$4,001 - \$4,500	8
\$4,501 - \$5,000	9
\$5,001 - \$5,500	6
\$5,501 - \$6,000	4
\$6,001 - \$6,500	4
\$6,501 – \$7,000	2
\$7,001 - \$7,500	5
\$7,501 - \$8,000	2
\$8,001 - \$8,500	3
\$8,501 - \$9,000	4
\$9,001 - \$9,500	4
\$9,501 - \$10,000	2
\$10,001 - \$11,000	6
\$11,001 - \$12,000	1
\$12,001 - \$13,000	1
\$13,001 - \$14,000	0
\$14,001 - \$15,000	0
\$15,001 - \$20,000	5
\$20,001 - \$25,000	3
\$25,001 - \$30,000	1



Trinity Students pictured:

Malcolm Stonebarger, Alexis Crompton, Adina Rush, Leah Lentz, Grayson Becker, Vanessa Blanton, Landon Lentz, Landon Becker, Mylee Young, (not pictured Maci Young). Non- Trinity students: Lucy Pierson, Makenna Grace, Charlie Hoopes, Brendan Madden (not pictured, Jhett Keller, Tayla Keller)

Saturday, February 25th the students of Organist/Pianist, Melissa Blanton, presented their Spring Semester Recital. The event was held in the church basement. Family and friends were in attendance.

This was Alexis Crompton and Brendan Madden's first recital. Malcolm Stonebarger received an outstanding practice award. Refreshments were served afterwards.

Occasionally, Mrs.Blanton's TLS students get to play during school chapel also. This is a wonderful opportunity for the children to serve the Lord in the service.

Music is an important part of Trinity's ministry and is an enriching and faith-enhancing experience for students of all ages. Contact Mrs.Blanton at 913-426-0780 if you have interest in lessons.



Vacation Bible School is coming in June! Our theme this year is "Keepers of the Kingdom". This is a wonderful opportunity for our children and community to spend a week learning to be "Strong in the Lord" by learning to put on the full armor of God. Those currently in grades 5 - 8 will be attending Sunday through Thursday, June 4 - 8 from 1:00 - 4:00 p.m. Ages 3 - current grade 4 will be attending Monday through Friday, June 5 - 9 from 9:00 a.m. to noon. Friday, June 9 we invite everyone to celebrate the week at our program followed by food and fun for all.

We are asking for helpers to carry out this ministry. There are many ways you can help make this week bring glory to our Lord. We need prayer partners, donations of money and snacks, the decorating team, set up and take down team, class leaders and helpers, transporting and inviting all the children you know. You can contact Cathy Higley by text or phone at 913-370-0605 or email at <u>cathigley@yahoo.com</u> to let us know a place you would like to serve as we are getting our staffing set up now. Enrollment for the children will begin in April.

VBS is a highlight to the spiritual life of our children and Jesus had a most special place in His heart for the children and their faith. We have the most precious opportunity to help make an eternal difference in the lives of our children and to all those who have ever helped with VBS, you will be blessed by the week of focusing on God's Kingdom too.

Health Note for March 2023: Age Related Macular Degeneration or AMD

March is AMD/low vision awareness month. AMD is the leading cause of vision loss in Americans 50 years or older. AMD causes a loss of central vision where sharpest vision occurs. This makes it difficult to perform daily tasks like driving, reading, and recognizing faces.

The following factors increase risk for AMD:

family history of AMD	aging-those over 60 years old
race-Caucasians have a higher rate of AMD	sex-females have a higher rate of AMD (possibly because they tend to live longer)
light colored eyes	Smoking
heart disease	high blood pressure
high cholesterol	obesity
high sun exposure	poor diet with low intake of antioxidants

Symptoms of AMD include:

Difficulty seeing in the center of your vision as with reading, sewing, looking at faces, or driving. Trouble seeing in dim light.

Straight lines start to appear wavy, blurry, or missing. Fading or changes in the appearance of colors

There are 2 forms of AMD, "dry" and "wet". The most common form is "dry" AMD. This is caused by small yellow deposits that form under the retina (the area at the back of the eye that receives and transmits light and images to the brain). These deposits are accumulated waste products of the retina and can grow in size to stop the flow of nutrients to the retina, causing damage. This form of AMD usually worsens slowly. The "wet" form of AMD usually results in more rapid and more serious vision loss. This form of AMD is caused by tiny new blood vessels that grow under and into the retina. These blood vessels are fragile and often break and leak causing a loss of vision.

Currently the only treatment for "dry" AMD is dietary vitamin and other supplements. A study called Age Related Eye Disease Study, or AREDS, found that a certain combination of vitamins and mineral (vitamins C and E, lutein, zeaxanthin, and zinc) can slow the progression of "dry" AMD in people with moderate disease. It should be noted that these vitamins cannot cure this disease and only an eye doctor can tell you if these vitamins will be of benefit.

There are several treatments for "wet" AMD. The most common one involves administering medications that block the development of new blood vessels and limit the leakage from abnormal blood vessels in the eye. These medications are usually administered by an ophthalmologist who is a retinal specialist.

Key to slowing or preventing vision loss is regular eye exams. People 60 years or older should get a complete eye exam and follow up with exams every 1 to 2 years or as advised by their eye doctor. It is important to follow up, as your eye doctor can often detect problems before they cause any noticeable symptoms.

Helen Keller, who was both blind and deaf, once said, "The most beautiful things in the world cannot be seen or even touched, they must be felt with the heart". Clear vision then, also involves the heart and soul.

Even when we struggle with physical problems of the eyes and body, we can be whole and healed. Jesus heals humankind from spiritual blindness and pain through his sacrifice, love and grace. As Isaiah reminds us (53:5 NIV) **"by his wounds we are healed."** As we strive to keep our eyes healthy and our vision clear; keeping our focus on God's love for humankind, his forgiveness and his gift of faith, we look forward to being whole, seeing everything perfectly clearly for eternity with him.

Blessings.

Marcene Selberg RN, parish nurse

references: preventblindness.org; mayoclinic.org; Ipni health topic August 2022 by Dottie Simon RN

Greetings from 4th and 5th Grade!

February is a short month, but it has been very busy! We started the month celebrating our 100th day of school. Students did many activities with the number 100: flipped a penny 100 times, made equations that equal 100, compiled a list of 100 items in a category, wrote about what they would do with 100 specific items, made Lego sculptures with 100 Legos, and more!

We have been studying the water cycle and are now beginning a unit on matter in science. We are discovering how our country began, starting with the 13 colonies. We have read about Valentines' Day and Presidents' Day. We wrote mini biographies of a US President.

We have just completed a unit on liturgy in Religion. The students learned about parts of the worship service and hymnody. Before Lent began, we colored "Alleluias". On Ash Wednesday we "buried" them in a black folder. We eagerly await opening the folder after Easter to decorate our room! We are reading a Lenten devotion each day that has us walking the path Jesus walked to the cross.

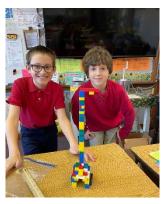
We enjoyed a couple snow days in February and have also enjoyed a Valentines' Day party and a "bingo" reward of a video! Students "pick number sticks" as rewards trying to get 10 in a row on a hundreds chart. It takes a long time to get a "bingo", but it is so fun to earn a reward!

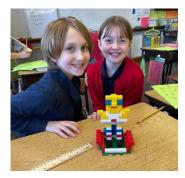
Students in 4th – 8th grade competed in Mathletics this month also! A combined 4/5 team won first place in the 5th grade category. Congratulations to Trevor Peuker, Landon Lentz, and Jasher Pfitzner! All the teams worked hard and represented Trinity well!

God's Blessings from 4/5 Grade!











From the principal's desk!

February is a cruel month. We have days of sub-zero weather followed by temperatures in the 60's with sunny skies. I enjoy telling folks new to our state that if they don't like the weather, they should wait a minute and it will change that quickly sometimes. I do know that Spring will soon be here because my left knee is hurting and that football injury reminds me when the weather is changing for real. It is nice to see a little brighter sky each morning when I drive into town. With the approach of Spring we know that 4th quarter will soon be here as well.

Congratulations are in order for our Mathletics team of Landon Lentz, Trevor Peuker, and Jasher Pfitzner from our 4th-grade class who won their division in the Mathletics competition held at Hope Lutheran School. We sent 6 teams and all the students competed very hard. The other students in the competition were: Chloe Brincefield, Lindsey Hetz, and Lola Handke (8th), Evan Myer, Ryker Diebolt, and Ben Forbes (7th), Lily Hoffman, and Naomi Moore (4th), Case Handke and Mekhel Gray (5th) and Jaxon Leonardi, Shayla Sneller, and Matthew Carroll (6th). Thanks for your hard work and good competitive spirit.

Pre-School Step-Up Day will occur on March 15th, 2023, from 1:30 - 3:00 pm. Parents of Pre-schoolers are invited to have their students stay for part of the day as they get to experience a day in kindergarten. This is a great way to build excitement for starting your budding students' academic career using a Christ centered curriculum. Parents will have the opportunity to sign their students up for kindergarten during the round-up. The **Preschool and Kindergarten Round-up** will occur on March 28th from 3:45 - 6:30 pm. Parents of 4-year-old preschool students are encouraged to attend Pre-school Step-up day prior to attending the round up. Parents of **current students** are encouraged to fill out the paperwork for reenrollment for the 2023-2024 school year. We value your partnership with us and look forward to having your son or daughter attend our school for the next year.

If you have the opportunity, please stop by and visit the Sister Helen Art Show program which will feature several pieces of artwork from Trinity Lutheran Students. Those students who have submitted work will have it on display for the next several weeks. Congratulations to: Rebekak Rieger, Willow Armstrong, and Kamdyn Klasinki (K), Leah Kipple, Jayden Lin, and Addison Kurtz (1), Braelynn Hornbuckle, Isabella Bridger, and Emmaline Halling (2), Courtney Robinson, Henry Hoffman, and Josiah Tilton (3), Delilah Humbard, Vanessa Blanton, Maive Hollingsworth, and Elizabeth Indermuehle (4), Landon Becker (5), Mathew Carroll, Shayla Sneller, and Rose Harper (6), Ryker Diebolt, and Lauren Davis (7), Anna Sinclair, Kailee Kistler, and Lindsey Hetz (8). Thanks to all of these students for sharing their art with us. Well done.

Our 3rd quarter chapel offerings will go to Lead-A-Child. We are nearing our goal of \$900 and hope to exceed that amount in the last few chapels that we have left this quarter. In supporting Lead a Child, we are teaching our students about the sanctity of life from conception to death and how God values each and every one of us as His children.

Our basketball season has come and gone, but we are very pleased to announce that **Malachi Craddock** (8th) has been nominated to the LAKC All-Star Basketball game on March 10th. Malachi had a great season, and we thank God he is able to participate in this event. Way to go sir!

As always..... Go Falcons.

Dr. Steve Hobus

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			March 2023			April ►
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			 Stop and School Chapel Chool Chapel Chool Chapel Chool and Morning Break Chool and Morning Break Chool School To pm Vednesday School To pm Lenten Service Choon NA Stop pn NA 	2 1:00 pm Priscilla Guild 6:30 pm Bell Choir 7:30 pm Adult Choir 8:30 pm Chamber Choir	3 6:30 pm 55+ Potluck 7:00 pm NA	4
5 Worship	9	2	~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~~	6	10	
0:30 am, 6:30 pm amily Bible Hour AIR Broadcast dult Inquirer's Class	1:15 pm Staff Meeting 6:25 pm Elder's Calling 6:25 pm Kennedy Calling 7:00 pm NA	1:00 pm Quilting 6:00 pm Fellowship Comm.	8:30 am School Chapel 9:00 am Morning Break 5:00-6:30 pm Lenten Supper 5:30 pm Wednesday School 7:00 pm Lenten Service 7:00 pm NA 8:00 p.m. Board of Directors	6:30 pm Bell Choir 7:30 pm Adult Choir 8:30 pm Chamber Choir	7:00 pm NA SPRING BREAK	
12 Worship w/Communion	13	14	15	16	17	18
8:00 am, 10:30 am, 6:30 pm 9:15 am Family Bible Hour 9:30 am KAIR Broadcast 4:00 pm Adult Inquirer's Class 5:00 pm Middle School Youth	1:15 pm Staff Meeting 6:00 pm Theodora Circle 6:25 pm Kennedy Calling 7:00 pm NA SPRING BREAK	9:00 am Pastoral Conf. Holton 1:00 pm Quilting	8:30 am School Chapel 9:00 am Morning Break 1:30-3:00 pm Step-Up Day 5:00-6:30 pm Lenten Supper 5:30 pm Wednesday School 7:00 pm Lenten Service 7:00 pm NA	6:30 pm Day School Com. 6:30 pm Bell Choir 7:30 pm Adult Choir 8:30 pm Chamber Choir	7:00 pm Baptismal Inst. 7:00 pm NA	9:00 am-Noon ~ Annual Church Cleaning Day
19 Worship	20	21	22	23	24	25
8:00 am, 10:30 am, 6:30 pm 9:15 am Family Bible Hour 9:30 am KAIR Broadcast 4:00 pm Adult Inquirer's Class	1:15 pm Staff Meeting 6:00 pm Chain of Hearts/MIP 6:25 pm Elder's Calling 6:25 pm Kennedy Calling 7:00 pm NA	1:00 pm Quilting	8:30 am School Chapel 9:00 am Morning Break 5:00-6:30 pm Lenten Supper 5:30 pm Wednesday School 7:00 pm NA 7:00 pm Lenten Service 8:00 pm Adult Bible Class Teachers	6:30 pm Bell Choir 7:30 pm Adult Choir 8:30 pm Chamber Choir	7:00 pm NA	
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