

March 2018

Trinity Times

Newsletter

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church

Experience God. Find Community.



Service of Healing and Blessing

Each of us has burdens we carry with us every day. It could be health issues, financial issues, work issues, family issues, stress, loneliness or anything else you have on your mind. We are holding a Service of Healing and Blessing **on Wednesday, March 14th, at 7:00pm.** After the service there will be a time for fellowship and desserts. Caring for each other is what Holy Trinity does best!

Stations of Cross

The Stations of the Cross will be set up outside near the brick cross. You are invited to come to a short service as we walk through the stations on **Monday, March 18th, at 11:00am.**



Repayment of Thrivent Loan

Instead of donating Easter lilies this year, we are asking that your donation go to the repayment of the Thrivent Loan. If you would like to make a donation, please put the \$15 in an envelope marked with your name and church envelope number and tell us who your donation is in memory or in honor of. The names will be put in the Easter bulletin.

Daylight Saving Time begins:

Remember to set your clock ahead one hour on **Sunday, March 11th!**

Holy Week

Palm Sunday: March 24th at 5:00pm
March 25th at 9:30am

These services begin with Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem. We will also learn about the events that happened on the Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday of Holy Week so that we have the entire picture leading up to Jesus' arrest and crucifixion.

Maundy Thursday: March 29th at noon & 7:00pm

These services will be held in the sanctuary. Foot washing (7pm), communion and stripping of the altar will be part of the worship experience.

Good Friday: March 30th at noon & 7:00pm

These are services of Shadows and Stones. Everyone will receive a stone to hold throughout worship. Music, readings, silence and prayers will be part of the worship experience.

Easter Vigil: March 31st at 5:00pm

This service will include candle lighting, videos of the story of salvation, and a remembrance of baptism.

Easter: April 1st at 9:30am

Celebrate the Resurrection! A continental breakfast will be served after worship.

Where two or three are gathered, there I am among them. Matthew 18:20

Wednesday Cafe
 Wednesday Cafe will be held on **Wednesday, March 21st, at noon.** Come for worship, lunch and fun. It's our world famous St. Patrick's Day corned beef and cabbage dinner! Sign up on the glass table in the sanctuary so we know how many to plan for. Please invite friends to come with you!



Ruth Bible Study

The Ruth Bible Study led by Deaconess Andrea will be held on **Wednesday, March 7th at 10am.** The group will gather around Scripture for coloring and conversation.



Lenten Lunches

Our Lenten Lunches for anyone in need are held on Wednesdays during Lent. We have between 10-18 people who have come for lunch each week! Thanks to all who have volunteered to make soup and dessert and to those who have volunteered to greet and serve. Our guests really appreciate the meal and the hospitality.



Wrinkle in Time

The book discussion/Bible study will be held on **Tuesday, March 6th at 6:30pm** at Holy Trinity. On **Tuesday, March 13th,** the group will watch the movie at Marcus Theatre. The cost is \$5. (Time to be decided.) All are welcome! Let Deaconess Andrea know if you would like a ticket so we can all sit together.



Youth Group

On **February 18th,** the youth held their 2nd annual Chili Cook-Off. Zay Kammrad and Lizzie Delaney tied for best chili!

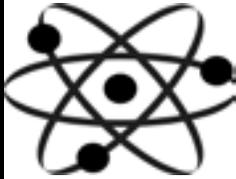
Saturday, March 10th & Saturday, April 15th:

The youth group will meet at Holy Trinity from 6:00-9:00pm.



A Cosmic Adventure through Science & Faith
 a retreat for youth grades 6-12

Friday, April 27-28, 2018



Spend Friday night at the LSTC youth house and Saturday at the Museum of Science and Industry. Cost is \$30 for housing, \$19.95 for museum (12 and older)

\$10.95 (11 and younger) or if you have membership - free

Lunch at museum - \$10-\$15. Contact Deaconess Andrea by April 15th to attend! Money for housing (\$30.00) is due by April 15th. Money for museum and lunch can be brought on the retreat.

Cell: 847-504-7029
 deaconessandrea@holyltrinityelgin.com

Kids Easter Party

Kids from church, our after-school program, friends, and family are invited to our Kids Easter Party on **Wednesday, March 28th, from 10:00am - 1:00pm.** There will be Easter crafts, an egg hunt and lunch. *If you can donate some Easter candy for the egg hunt, please bring it to church by March 25th.*



Hearts and Hands in Service

Calling all Hearts and Hands Alumni and Hearts and Hands Newbies of all ages! We will be starting a new volunteer opportunity this year. Hearts and Hands will host Feellowahip Hour 4 times a year beginning March 18th. This is the perfect opportunity for those of you who wish to be a part of Hearts and Hands, but the work at NIFB or FMSC doesn't fit into your schedule. We would love to have your Hearts and Hands help with fellowship hour set up, treats or post fellowship hour clean up. Please sign-up on the March 18th Coffee Hours sheet on the glass top table outside the sanctuary. If you have any questions please contact Dick or Beth Quathammer (rquathammer@yahoo.com)

Thank You

Holy Trinity Family & Friends,
 This thank you is long overdue; however it's taken a long time for me to get back to feeling myself. I do thank you for all your prayers and cards. They were very much appreciated, especially the prayers. It is so good to be part of such a faithful and believing (in God) congregation. We'll be on church as often as the weather permits.
 Thanks again, Dorothy Heneise

Caring Ministry

We are starting a new ministry. We are asking anyone who would like to participate to write down a person who should be notified and their contact information, your medical power of attorney if you have one, and who has a key for your house. Place this information in an envelope, seal it, and bring it to church. Please write your name on the envelope. These papers will be stored in a locked cabinet at church.

Council Corner

At our most recent Council meeting on February 12, 2018 we discussed our plan to pay back the line of credit from Thrivent Financial. It was noted that over \$6,000 was collected through the giving tree initiative in December 2017 and that Holy Trinity continues to receive monetary donations specifically designated for assisting in the repayment of the line of credit. There is also a plan in place for Easter to have donated funds that in past years have supported lilies to be directed to repaying the line of credit. With this information in hand, the Council approved that any monies donated in 2018 towards the line of credit would go against the \$12,000 approved in the 2018 budget to pay back \$1,000/month on the line of credit.

From the Finance Desk ...

... a Financial Snapshot as of January 31, 2018:

Budgeted Income	\$25,840.65
Budgeted Expenses	\$25,091.43
Line of Credit Balance	\$47,300.00
Imagine Fund Balance	\$16,196.37

The newsletter is given by Gayle Strohmaier in honor of her granddaughters Evy & Andrea on their birthdays.

Council

President: Jordan Wildermuth
Vice-President: Jackie Kutina
Secretary: Bruce Woerner
 Scott Kolakowski Bob Jones
 Bob Langlois

Worship Times

Saturday: 5:00pm
Sunday: 9:30am

PASTOR'S COLUMN

"Let no debt remain outstanding, except the continuing debt to love one another, for whoever loves their neighbor has fulfilled the law."
Romans 13: 8

The only expectation God has of me is to love - freely and boldly. As a younger man, I had so often questioned whether my efforts in this world were enough for my Lord. It was as if I somehow had to return the favor so to speak. I must forgive because God has forgiven. I must sacrifice because God has sacrificed. I must give because God has given. I had this remarkably long list of things I simply had to do in order to be a good Christian. It was exhausting, quite frankly, to live up to all the expectations - until one day I realized they were my expectations, not God's.

God has, in reality, placed but one debt upon my heart - to love all people and all creation. This debt is not levied as a means of purchasing God's Love and Grace, for these gifts of the Sacred Heart are free. Rather, the debt to love is born of a seed intentionally sown within my soul by my Creator, cultivated by the Holy Spirit, and harvested by a world in such desperate need. I, a beloved child of God, have this debt solely because all others are also beloved children of God. It is ultimately a debt we owe to one another, not to God. In paying such a debt daily, we fill this world with a righteousness that extends far beyond our comprehension. We love, the family which we call humanity is blessed, and God gently smiles.

This love is never meant to be held close to our hearts cautiously. It is never meant to be shared only with those we know and trust. It is never meant to be used only in special situations or with certain company. Love is a gift emanating straight from God's very Heart and Soul. It cannot be measured, for it is too great for that. Love is to be spread gloriously and boldly without bounds, for this very gift fulfills all the Divine Desires of the Lord and Creator of all the universe. Love is grand and beautiful. Love is God's very presence. Thus, love is a continuing debt with no end, and one we are eternally grateful to pay. Amen

-Rev Jeffrey G Mikyska

ELCA World Hunger Domestic Hunger Grant Holy Trinity has received a \$2500 grant from the ELCA World Hunger Domestic Hunger Program! These funds will help us in so many ways as we continue to help feed those in need in Elgin.

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Food Drive

The goal of the drive was to collect 20,000 pounds of food to help eight local pantries. The goal was reached! Many families in our community will be able to eat a decent meal and not worry about having food for their children. Thanks to everyone who donated! Together we can make a difference!

Sympathy

Our prayers and sympathy go out to the family of Nancy Kerber. Nancy passed away on February 9th.