



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
1314 E Lexington Blvd • Eau Claire WI 54701-6434
2021, April Newsletter—Vol. LXVII No. 004



Join Us for Holy Week Online Worship

- Maundy Thursday—April 1 online worship at 6:00 P.M. Please have communion elements ready as we confess our sins together.
 - Good Friday—“The Last Seven Words.” April 2 online worship at 6:00 P.M. This will be an Eau Claire Area ELCA collaborative service.
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EASTER SUNDAY

Our online Easter Festival worship services on Sunday, April 4, will feature Holy Communion and choral music by our children’s choirs.

- Services will premiere at 8:15 A.M. and 9:45 A.M. watch worship on Trinity's YouTube page at trinity-ec.org
 - There will be Drive-In services that day! You must register for a parking lot spot on trinity-ec.org Registration is limited to 150 vehicles per service. You will need to tune your radio to frequency 107.1.
 - You may listen by phone. Trinity’s worship phone number is 715.972.1314. This is a local number, so long-distance rates may apply.
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Online Children's Musical

Sometimes following our faith can feel difficult. The Bible characters Abraham, Sarah, Moses, Joshua, Esther, Noah and his wife all chose to put their trust and faith in God during unbelievable circumstances. Come join the combined Trinity youth choirs online at trinity-ec.org on Sunday, April 25, at 2:00 P.M. as they present the musical, *Faith News*. Old Testament Bible stories are told by a roving angel reporter who interview and shares biblical faith stories on the Faith News Network for a Heavenly audience.

LEAD Planning Process Update

Over the last couple of months, a team of Trinity members has met four times to begin our journey in the LEAD planning process. This team consists of Pastor Patrick, Pastor Tom, Matt Olson, Michelle Zumwalt, Kristin Walukas, Michelle Lavoll, Jill Brandenburg, Steve Josephson, and Karla Halloin. The team is at the beginning stages of a process to help Trinity discern, through prayer and conversation, who God is calling us to be in a world and community that is very different than it was 10 years ago, let alone 12 months ago. Through this process, the team will engage with members of the congregation and community to listen, observe, and learn about one another's concerns, hopes, and vision to allow Trinity to continue to grow and lead into a post-pandemic world. The team's intent is to keep you up to date on new developments by communicating to the congregation through the church newsletter, social media, email, and worship announcements. Please keep the LEAD team and Trinity in your prayers as we embark on this journey.



Update from Trinity Council

Here are a couple of exciting announcements from the Congregational Council regarding upcoming opportunities for worship:



- Drive-in worship will be offered on Easter Sunday, April 4 at 8:15 A.M., 9:45 A.M., and 11:00 A.M. Online worship will also premiere on Facebook and Youtube at 8:15 A.M. and 9:45 A.M. Pre-registration for the drive-in services is required, as was the case for similar services last fall. Registration is limited to 150 vehicles per service. We hope to see many of you there!
- On April 11, we will begin in-person worship in our Worship Center. These services will have a limited capacity of 100 people per service which adheres to the Community Expectations from the Eau Claire County Health Department. As a result, pre-registration for these services is required as well. Safety protocols are place to ensure a safe return to the Worship Center. By registering for the services, you are committing to following such policies. A complete listing of the protocols for a safe return are listed in the right column of this page.
- Register for the Easter drive-in worship services or the following weeks' on-site worship services by going to Trinity's webpage at trinity-ec.org and clicking the "register for worship services here" link, or call the church office at 715.832.6601.
- The nursery will not be available, and coffee will not be served.
- We will continue to offer online worship for those who have concerns about in-person gatherings and with the recognition that we may not be able to accommodate all who wish to attend due to capacity limitations.
- Until further notice, the Trinity building will remain closed to members and the public Monday—Friday with the exception of preschool students and food pantry volunteers.

Love of neighbor has been our guiding principle, and it will continue to guide us in the weeks and months ahead. Thank you for your continued support and prayers throughout this uniquely challenging time. God's peace be with you all!

Facebook

Trinity has several active Facebook pages which are a source of up to date information and inspiration for your faith development. There is a general Trinity page plus pages for Children, Youth, and Family Ministries, and Noah's Ark Preschool. Be sure to "Like" Trinity soon and begin enjoying the benefits of inspiration and news.

Protocols/Policies for Sunday Mornings

- By registering for in person worship, you are agreeing to abide by Trinity's Safety Protocols.
- Only Door 3 will be available for entry into the building.
- Door 3 will open for screening of family units 20 minutes prior to each worship service.
- Hands will be sanitized upon entry.
- Masks must be worn over the nose and mouth when being screened and whenever in the building-3 years and up.
- Physical distancing of 6 feet will be maintained outside of household units.
- Ushers will seat family units together with six feet between families.
- The worship leader will be the only person to sing.
- There will be no congregant contact.
- Communion will be celebrated in non-contact ways.
- Ushers will release congregants by pew, and people will immediately exit through Door 2 after the worship service.
- No congregant food or beverage activity will be permitted.
- The nursery, Rainbow Bags, children's books, and the library will not be available.

"Just One Day"

You are invited to attend the "Just One Day" of Service for Luther Park on Saturday, April 2, from 8:30 A.M.—4:30 P.M. Luther Park We will ensure all projects are set up to be safe with all the proper protocols. There is a need for skilled labor in the form of construction, roofing, painting, electrical, plumbing, deep cleaning, power washing and more. However, one of most desperate needs is for help cleaning up the woods from the 2019 storm and subsequent logging activities. All volunteers must have a smile and energy as a qualification. All ages welcome! You can sign-up at lutherpark.org/spring-work-day



Kniitting in Prayer

Prayer Shawls, Pocket Prayer Shawls, and Prayer Beads are available from Trinity to be given to friends, neighbors, and coworkers experiencing a challenging time due to health concerns, death, or other major life events. If you are in need of any of these items, they are available in the entry way of Door One. Please leave the index card with the recipient's name on it in the basket. If you can assist by knitting prayers shawls or pocket prayer shawls, there is yarn available in the entry way also.



Memorials & Gifts

Memorial Fund

- In memory of Avis Grambo: Leatrice Solberg
- In memory of Donald Timm: Family & Friends
- In memory of Rachel Studt's life and her contributions to Trinity and for the support that Trinity has provided: Larry Studt

Children's Bibles

- In memory of Avis Grambo: Rose Sippel

Food Pantry

- In memory of Daniel Hillestad: Sue Hesketh
- In memory of Avis Grambo: Doris Husberg, Jon & Maureen Homstad
- In memory of Jean Hanson: Doris Husberg
- In memory of Lois Olson: Thomas Gradel & Corinne Peterson, Carol Bartingale, Steve Bartingale, Brenda Young
- In memory of Pam Creydt: Joel Creydt
- In memory of Donald Timm: Family & Friends
- In memory of Elaine Pomerening: Lynn Brandland, Mary Pomerening
- In memory of Vila Nygaard: Bruce & Ruth Easterson

Endowment Trust Fund

- In memory of Avis Grambo: Pat Hanson

Quilters

- In memory of Avis Grambo: Orville & Shirley Anderson, Bob & Mary Schoenknecht, Phyllis Burrows, Pam Burrows,

Health Ministry

- In memory of Avis Grambo: Mike & Michelle Richards

Endowment Trust Kurt Jacobson Fund

- In memory of Benjamin Jacobson: Paul & Amber Moltzau, Lori Juneau

Children's Ministry

- In memory of Avis Grambo, Arvid & Diane Faldet

Your Church, Your Gift, Your Legacy Endowment Trust Fund

The Trinity Endowment Trust Fund exists so that your values and legacy of Christian faith will live on and further God's work for generations to come. Gifts now or through a will bequest to the Endowment Trust Fund become part of a perpetual fund with earnings used to advance Trinity's ministries and global missions.

Grant applications are welcomed semi-annually with submission deadlines of May 1 and November 1. A nine member Board oversees the Endowment Trust and welcomes grant applications for individual or organizational endeavors that advance the Fund's mission: "Serving God's people in Christ's name by providing financial foundations to the ministries and missions of Trinity Lutheran Church for all generations."

You can read more about the Endowment Trust and watch the videos at trinity-ec.org. The grant application is online on the same page.

Women's Giving Circle Grant Recipients for 2020

The Women's Giving Circle, a fund of the Trinity Endowment Trust, is excited to announce that in 2020 they awarded three grants totaling \$5,400 to support the Chippewa Valley Free Clinic (cancer screenings), Trinity Food Pantry, and Bright Smiles (children's oral screenings).

The Women's Giving Circle is proud to support the good work being done to improve the lives of families and children within our church and community. We invite all members of Trinity to join the Women's Giving Circle. For more information, visit Trinity's webpage www.trinity-ec.org and click on the Endowment menu.



Trinity Library

We hope you were able to read a Dr. Seuss book to a young friend during March to celebrate Dr. Seuss' birthday.

- **Please Note:** As you may have read and heard in the news, the Dr. Seuss estate recently stopped selling six books after concluding that "the egregious racial and ethnic stereotypes in the works are hurtful and wrong." We will remove any of these six books that are in our Seuss collection.
- **A Reminder:** We will wait to hear from the church council on when we can open the library for people to come in and check out books. In the meantime, there are a couple of people on the committee who are checking in books when they are returned and keeping the space in order.
- **Returning Books:** Books that have been checked out for over a year can be returned by taking them to Door One. Put them in a bag marked, "For Trinity Library" and place them in the bin in the entry way. Thank you.

Children, Youth & Family Ministries

Noah's Ark News

It is hard to believe how fast the school year has been flying for the children and teachers at Noah's Ark and the Early Childhood Enrichment Classes this year. We're excited for spring! Here are some things we have been up to and are so thankful for:

- **S • Singing!** We've been singing "Jesus is our King!" as we prepare to celebrate Easter.
- **P • Peacemaking!** We continue to practice peacemaking! We followed Jesus' call to serve others by washing each other's feet after our footprint painting fun.
- **R • Reading fun books** is always a favorite activity!
- **I • Imagination!** We love to imagine as we pretend and play in our classroom including in our doctor's office, post office, school, and fire station as we discover about community helpers.
- **N • Nice weather!** As the weather improves, we love to get outside to our playground for climbing, running, and having fun.
- **G • Growing in God's love.** God has blessed us with our time together!

Registration continues for the 2021–2022 school year at Noah's Ark Preschool. We have openings in both morning and afternoon classes. If you would like to learn more, please contact Marlee Knickerbocker, Preschool Director, at marlee@trinity-ec.org or 715.832.6601, ext. 205.



Family Farms Bacon Wrapped Chicken Fundraiser

Thank you for your participation in the Family Farms Bacon Wrapped Chicken fundraiser for Noah's Ark Preschool! If you ordered chicken, please remember to pick it up on Wednesday, April 14, between 3:30 P.M.–6:00 P.M. We will have a drive-through pickup line where the committee members will place your order in your car.

Second Noah's Ark Chipotle Fundraiser

Please join us for a second Chipotle fundraiser night for Noah's Ark Preschool on Tuesday, April 20, from 4:00 P.M.–8:00 P.M. at Chipotle Mexican Grill, 4738 Golf Rd, Eau Claire, WI. At the time of in-person ordering, tell the cashier you are supporting Noah's Ark Preschool **OR** order online and pickup Chipotle by using the Promo Code ND2Z248 on the Chipotle app or website. *(Please note that fundraiser online ordering is only valid through pickup during your fundraiser's scheduled date, time, and assigned restaurant. Ordering delivery for fundraisers is not permitted at this time.)* Noah's Ark will receive 33% of the proceeds at the restaurant during our fundraiser time frame.

Noah's Ark Preschool Registration

Our phone-in registration for the 2021–2022 school year is open. Register your children by calling 715.832.6601. Classes include a T/Th morning class for three year olds, a M/W/F morning class for 3–5 year olds, and a Monday–Thursday afternoon class for 3–5 year olds. For more information about our classes, fees, or to download a brochure, visit our website trinity-ec.org. Contact the Noah's Ark Preschool Director, Marlee Knickerbocker, at 715.832.6601 ext. 205 if you have questions or to learn more about Noah's Ark Preschool.



Summer Programming

The Children, Youth, and Family Team is excited to offer faith-based programs for children and youth this summer. Summer brochures will be mailed out mid-April. Registration will open on Monday, May 10, at 8:00 A.M. Please check out Trinity's website for more information at www.trinity-ec.org or contact Director of Children's Ministries Sara Reed at sarar@trinity-ec.org or 715.832.6601 ext. 218

When You Desire Baptism

These one-session gatherings are an opportunity to learn about the Sacrament of Baptism and strategies for nurturing faith while getting to know other families and children at the same point in their faith journey. Join Pastor Tom and Sara Reed for the upcoming Baptism Class on Sunday, April 25 from 9:00 A.M.–9:45 A.M. via Zoom. To register for the class please email Director of Children's Ministries, Sara Reed at sarar@trinity-ec.org or 715.832.6601 ext. 218



Early Childhood Enrichment Classes, Fall 2021

While we were unable to hold these classes during the 2020–2021 school year, it is our intention to return to our Early Childhood Enrichment classes for one and two year olds in the fall of 2021. The following classes will be offered:

- **Music and Movement:** Children will move and groove as they explore music and movement with song, dance, and instruments. This is a parent/child class for children whose birthdates are between 9.1.2018–3.1.2020.
- **Come and Play:** This is a great precursor to preschool! Children are provided a warm and safe Christian environment to play with other children. Stories, art, and music activities are included. This is a drop-off class for children whose birthdates fall between 9.1.2018–5.31.2019.

Watch for specific information on class days/times and cost in the coming weeks. Registration will be a phone-in registration beginning at 8:00 A.M. on May 13.

Parent Check-In

Parents are invited to a Zoom Check-In with Pastor Tom on Thursday, April 15, at 8:00 P.M. We will share a devotion as well as commiserate in the joys and struggles of parenting. Contact Pastor Tom at tomw@trinity-ec.org with any questions. Here is the Zoom link, <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85855285329?pwd=VVdCTIRIN1BxTCtKNUpYdIBQs3MvZz09> Meeting ID: 858 5528 5329, Passcode: trinity

Luther Park Summer Camp

Ashley Olson, Youth Ministry Director, invites students completing grades 6–11 to join her for a week at camp, Week Three, June 27–July 2. Campers stay in cabins and experience the wide variety of fun and activities available at Luther Park. Youth will experience the heart pounding excitement of the High Ropes course and Disc Golf, along with swimming, games, and developing community with new and old friends. You will also engage in creative Bible studies, worship, campfires, and meaningful small group discussions. Check out the Luther Park web page lutherpark.org to learn more about Luther Park Summer Camps and to register.

Care & Concern

Covid-19 Vaccinations

Please get vaccinated as soon as you are eligible. Check with your Health Care organization, local pharmacies, or Eau Claire County for site locations and appointments. The Eau Claire County Health Department has a detailed vaccination web page which can be accessed at

<https://coronavirus-and-covid-19-information-hub-eccounty.hub.arcgis.com/pages/covid-19-vaccine-appointments>

Red Cross Blood Drive

Sign up for our Red Cross Blood Drive being held on Thursday, April 22, from 12:30 P.M.–6:30 P.M. at redcrossblood.org Trinity is doing blood drives every other month this year to help out during the pandemic. Please note that the Red Cross is following FDA blood donation eligibility guidance for those who receive a COVID-19 vaccination. If you receive a vaccine, knowing the name of the manufacturer (e.g. Pfizer, Moderna or Johnson and Johnson) is important in determining your eligibility. In most cases, there's no deferral time if you receive a vaccine.



It's Friends of Flynn Fund Drive Time!

Donations are being sought this month to help fund the Friends of Flynn efforts. We know that many of you give to this wonderful community service mission through your weekly or monthly gifts. Others donate through memorial gifts and/or make donations of books, school supplies, and more. We appreciate those donations, and we thank you. This month we hope to raise \$6,000 of which \$4,000 will go to Feed My People for Weekend Meals at Flynn. Your consideration in giving to this important mission of our church is appreciated.

The Friends of Flynn committee helps meet a variety of needs of the students at Flynn Elementary School. One of the ways we help is by providing healthy snacks at different times of the year. In 2020 we provided snacks in the fall, and we are providing snacks during their test weeks. We also provide extra snacks for teachers to have in their classrooms when children can't bring their own from home. Usually, we ask volunteers to help sort, pack and deliver snacks but this doesn't work during COVID. We hope to get back to normal soon.

We also provide each student with a new book at Christmas and at the end of the school year. We will start collecting book donations on April 12. You can leave the books in the designated bin inside Door One from 8:00 A.M.–5:00 P.M. on weekdays. We will need the books by May 17.

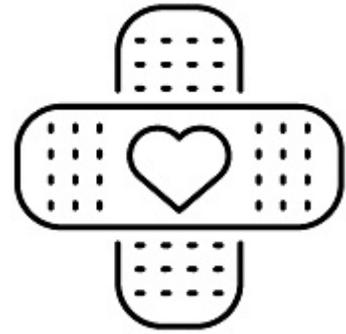
The Flynn Elementary students and staff are always appreciative of our help. We recently received the following note:

Thank you again for your generosity! The sleds have been a big hit. It's amazing to see the joy on student's faces as they go down the "hill." The water bottles are also appreciated. It's a little harder to see the excitement with the water, but it is appreciated!

Thanks again. Jessica, Flynn School Partnership Coordinator.

The cover of the note has this quote: Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed people can change the world. Indeed, it's the only thing that ever has."

Contributions to the Friends of Flynn mission are always appreciated. Please make checks payable to Trinity Lutheran Church with the memo: Friends of Flynn.



Grief and Hope: Both/And

Do you ever have times when you get the feeling that God is really trying to get your attention? This past month has been one of those times for me. We recently had a close family member die. Then a member of the congregation talked to me about a book they found very helpful in their grieving process ("*Finding Meaning—The Sixth Stage of Grief*" by David Kessler) and an email arrived from a friend suggesting a webinar on "*Ministering to Grieving People*" by Don Eisenhauer. Plus, I received a few more "messages." So....I'm now on a journey of learning and growth about grief and how to better help those who are going through loss.

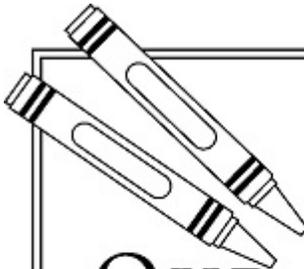
There are some very key points I've learned so far, and I want to share them with you.

- The words grief and mourning are often used interchangeably. However, grief is our inner feelings, and mourning is the outside expression of those feelings.
- Each person grieves and mourns in their own unique way. Our own grief experiences are not the same as another's. There is no right or wrong way and no time limit on grief.
- A person who is grieving needs a safe place and safe people to let their feelings out and experience their pain—crying, weeping, anger, etc. Our job as that "safe person" is to listen. We do not need to fix the grieving person.
- Grief and hope are a both/and experience. They do/can exist side by side. It is not an all or none situation.

There's more to come in the coming months. I'm taking all of you with me on this journey!

Vicki Dueringer R.N.
Parish Nurse

Blessed are they that mourn, for they shall be comforted.—Matthew 5:4

Just for **KIDS**

OUR LIVING HOPE

Easter is a time to rejoice because of what God did for us in sending his Son. Jesus is our living hope. Read 1 Peter 1:3-4 (NIV) below. Then find the **bold** words in the crossword search.

"Praise be to the **God** and **Father** of our **Lord Jesus Christ!** In his great **mercy** he has given us **new birth** into a **living hope** through the **resurrection** of Jesus Christ from the dead, and into an **inheritance** that can **never perish, spoil or fade** — **kept** in **heaven** for you"

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Quilting Update

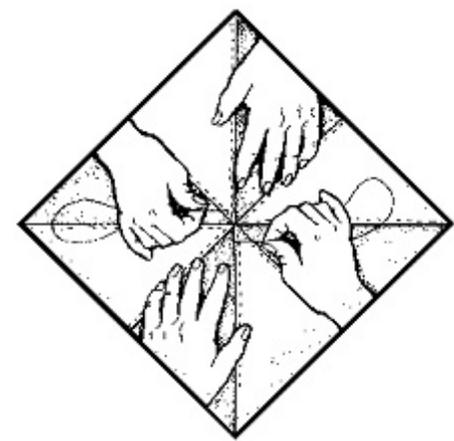
The quilters have been working continually through the pandemic. For the 2020 year, they made and donated 444 quilts, 68 comfort bags (for chemo patients), 84 personal care kits (for homeless vets) and over 1,500 masks to people in need. So far in 2021, they have donated 56 quilts that have been requested.

These items have gone to Homeless Vets, the Christmas Sharing Project at Trinity, Luke 3:11, Sleep in Heavenly Peace, Homeless in the Eau Claire, Altoona, and Fall Creek Schools, Jamaica Trip, Luther Park Auction, Hope Gospel Mission, and the Cancer Centers at Marshfield and Mayo right here in Eau Claire.

Our group has been working from home and accomplished so much. I am so proud of them. We hope to be back working at church soon. So now, we are asking for your help. If you are shopping garage sales this summer and see flat sheets, we are always in need of them for the back of our quilts. We can always use funds to purchase batting and other supplies to complete the quilts and purchase supplies for the kits. We can also use new or gently used bath towels and wash cloths.

We certainly appreciate your support. If you have any questions, please call Sheila at 715.832.9686.

Sheila Running
Quilting Coordinator



"Serving in Christ's Love and Sharing the Good News"

A Reconciling in Christ Congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

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Blantyre Lutheran Parish, Malawi, Africa
Jacqueline & Patrick Bencke, Japan

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- Please submit all articles for the Tidings **electronically** in MS Word, Corel WP format, or in the body of an email. Submit to: cindy@trinity-ec.org
 - All submissions must be your own work. Any copyrighted material (code, images, or otherwise) must include written permission from the original source.
 - Deadline for the May Newsletter is April 15.