



TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

EXPERIENCING AND SHARING JESUS

FOR NO ONE CAN LAY ANY

FOUNDATION

OTHER THAN THE ONE ALREADY
LAID, WHICH IS JESUS CHRIST.

1 CORINTHIANS 3:11, NIV

701 East Florida Avenue, Urbana Illinois 61801– Phone: 217-367-8923

Pastor Shawn Boylan – pastorshawn@trinity-urbana.org

Traditional Worship - Saturday - 5:30 p.m.

Traditional Worship - Sunday - 8:30 a.m.

Contemporary Worship - Sunday - 10:45 a.m.

Join us online - Sunday - 8:30 & 10:45 a.m. trinity-urbana.org

Dear friends in Christ,

The last year has been truly trying for all of us. Who would have thought that we would have actually cancelled services, and that last Easter, we celebrated the resurrection with services online! Trials and difficulties will always come, but the glorious resurrection of Christ shows us that no matter how dark the day might seem, those who hope in Jesus will find new life in His love.



It's not possible to measure God's love for you by how much health and wealth and comfort he brings into your life. If that were the measure of God's love, how do we explain the days of suffering and loss, the days of darkness, and when it seems that everything around us might give way?

On Palm Sunday, I mentioned Jesus' great love for Lazarus and Mary and Martha. I think that they can be a great encouragement to us. Jesus loves us, not first by taking away the suffering or the loss or the darkness, but first by giving us himself in ways that could not have been ours without a painful season. If you demand that God love you the way the world expects to be loved in this life, you won't know what it is to really be loved by God. Sometimes we want to jump to the resurrection without remembering that first came the cross.

We know that Jesus could have healed Lazarus from his sickness. However, Jesus did not leave for Bethany right away when they sent for him. He stayed where he was for two days longer and let them walk through the valley of the shadow of death, and then he went and showed them his glory.

The questions raised by those who confront Jesus' love for Lazarus are, ironically, the key for us to know the love that Christ has for us. Consider these three instances:

Martha — verses 20–21: "So when Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, but Mary remained seated in the house. Martha said to Jesus, 'Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.'"

Mary — verse 32: "Now when Mary came to where Jesus was and saw him, she fell at his feet, saying to him, 'Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.'"

The mourners — verses 36–37: Jesus had just wept. "So the Jews said, 'See how he loved him!' But some of them said, 'Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man also have kept this man from dying?'"

Jesus had chosen to love Lazarus and his sisters by not coming immediately. This is the glory of Jesus. Jesus raised Lazarus because He is the resurrection. He is the arrival in history of God's final, glorious renovation of all things, including our bodies. Fellow believers, you will be raised from the dead and shine like the sun in the kingdom of your Father. Lazarus is a preview of your resurrection. Jesus is coming back to this earth in power and great glory. The raising of Lazarus is a window into that glory.

Think your life of faith as an ongoing conversation where the risen Lord Jesus Christ is saying to you: "I love you, always. You will not be spared of difficulties, even suffering and death. It is the gift of myself that you need. Do you see me? Do you see me for who I really am?"

Blessings in Jesus,





“I cannot do otherwise, here I stand, may God help me, Amen”



Sometimes it takes quite a while to finish what you’ve started. Every century or so, a pandemic gets in the way of what is important (or so it seems). We’ve all heard that there is a time and a place for everything. For all of us, after a year-long pandemic that still lingers on, we may want to pat ourselves on the back for being so resilient, persistent, motivated and driven to carry on with our daily lives! While this may seem acceptable, I believe at least one person had a much tougher time, and he laid a firm foundation for our Lutheran Faith.

500 years ago, on April 18, 1521, Dr. Martin Luther made a stand for what he knew to be true and without error. He stood on the testimony of the Scriptures, and he did not relent. Three and one half (3 ½) years earlier Luther’s “95 Theses” were nailed to the Castle Church door in Wittenberg, on October 31, 1517 which triggered the reformation. Luther made it through the “black death” pandemic of his time as we all know. He never lost sight however, of what was eternally important.

He had plenty of time to think about what he would say when the time came to answer before the Emperor and the Church. He was asked a simple question. “Martin, answer clearly and without any double-talk: Do you or do you not recant your books and the errors in them?” I’m sure you could have heard a pin drop in that packed room of the palace that day. Luther responded: “Unless I am convinced by the testimony of the Scriptures or by clear reason (for I do not trust either in the pope or in councils alone, since it is well known that they have often erred and contradicted themselves), I am bound by the Scriptures I have quoted and my conscience is captive to the Word of God. I cannot and I will not retract anything, since it is neither safe nor right to go against conscience. I cannot do otherwise, here I stand, may God help me, Amen” (LW 32:112-13).

April 18, 2021 is the 500th Anniversary of Martin Luther’s confession at the Diet of Worms. Luther’s complete confidence in God’s Word, and surrender to Christ were on full display for all to see. His bold confession 500 years ago, still speaks volumes today, and allow us to stand in his footsteps. We must remember that we don’t stand on Luther, but rather we stand with him. He proclaimed justification by grace through faith on account of Christ’s work alone!

While so much has changed in 500 years, one thing never changes. Jesus is the same yesterday, today and forevermore! It truly is all about Jesus.

Dear Heavenly Father,

Thank you for the perfect gift of Jesus Christ and his sacrifice in our place to save us from our sin. Thank you for Your Word which guided Martin Luther down the path of everlasting truth. We pray that Your Holy Spirit would lead, guide and protect us from all harm, and that your Love would shine brightly in the lives and personalities of all those at Trinity Lutheran Church.

Amen,

Kevin Donoho – Elder Chairman

President's Monthly Report to the Congregation

Good news! A special use permit has been approved by the City of Urbana (March 22) and our building project has begun to move quickly toward the construction stage (tentatively in July).

As you know, we will need to take out a mortgage to finance the balance that would be due upon completion of the project. We have now learned from our lender (Central Illinois District) that our congregation must adopt a resolution that authorizes the application for a mortgage and that our application would be due by April 29.

For these reasons, in coordination with the Parish Council and the Building Committee, I am calling the congregation to a special Voters' Assembly meeting on Sunday, April 25, 2021 at 12:15 AM in the sanctuary and via Zoom to consider the following items:

Agenda

1. Mortgage application
2. Resolution

You will receive an email about the meeting with Zoom instructions and copies of the mortgage application and draft resolution. Copies will also be available at the meeting.

This special Voters' Assembly will be one of our most important in recent memory for Trinity. It has taken a couple years to get to this point. And I believe the time and energy that we have devoted to establishing the need to replace the old fellowship hall and to study how a new fellowship hall could enhance the ministry of Trinity has been vitally important. It has informed the process of developing a financially feasible building project. But it has also reminded us how important it is that we live together in fellowship.

How good and pleasant it is when God's people live together in unity! - Psalm 133:1 (Today's NIV)

Thanks to the forward-looking leadership of our Treasurer, David Lange, and the work of many others during our recently completed capital campaign, and the enormous generosity of Trinity's members who have contributed financially or pledged to do so within the next three years, we have raised more than \$1.4 million toward building a new fellowship hall.

For the last few months, the Building Committee has been making remarkable progress on the initial preparatory work to build a new fellowship hall. Dave Kuehn, who has done an exceptional job leading the committee, has coordinated the project with the Parish Council and diligently kept the congregation informed in our newsletter. The Building Committee has been working with our architects (Chuck and Elsa Reifsteck) and construction manager (Jim Hinze) on the preparation of accurate construction plans and specifications and cost estimates.

On March 30, the Parish Council voted to support a resolution that will be presented to the congregation for our consideration and vote. The resolution would authorize the construction of a new building and the application for a mortgage loan.

This gets to why the next Voters' Assembly will be such a consequential moment for our church. Before Trinity can break ground for the new fellowship hall, we as a congregation must give our approval to construct the building. Our bylaws have the following requirement:

In all matters affecting ...the erection of any building by the congregation, at least one-half (1/2) of the voting members must be present, and a two-thirds (2/3) majority of those present is required to pass a resolution.

I truly believe that we are a congregation of great hope. Even in the middle of a pandemic, we are building a new fellowship hall. And my prayer is that we do God's will and that when we meet on April 25 we decide what to do out of love for Him and one another.

Grace and peace,

Rick Winkel, President

Building Committee Report

Special Use Permit

As explained in the March newsletter, we had to obtain a Special Use Permit from the City of Urbana to be in compliance with the R2 zoning requirements to continue with the building project. This involved four separate meetings. The first, held on February 18, was a Building Committee meeting with neighbors in the surrounding area to receive their questions and concerns regarding the building project. These concerns were addressed in a modified site plan. The second meeting, held on March 4, was that of the Plan Commission of the City of Urbana at which we requested the Special Use Permit. The request was supported by the commissioners with a recommendation of approval that was passed on to the full Planning Committee of the city. The Planning Committee members also supported the request at their March 15 meeting and recommended that our request for the Special Use Permit be submitted to the Urbana City Council and placed on the Council's consent agenda along with other items to be voted on. The Council members voted unanimously at their March 22 meeting to approve our request for the permit. Thus, our project was officially granted continuance at the March 22 meeting.

Interior Design Subcommittee - Dee Dee Williams (chair) reporting. Members: Brent Burr, Andrea Nation, Julianne Nation, Karen Rohrer, Kerry Rossow, Mike Strom.

The Interior Design Subcommittee has been working with the design consultant at Reifsteck Reid on preferences drawn from proposed themes. Light beige and grey-based tones form the basis of the design, as the group wants to make the best use of light in the space and provide finishes that will be enduring in style.

Kitchen Subcommittee - Dean Hull (chair) reporting. Members: Karen Rohrer, Hilary Rouse.

The subcommittee met with Elsa Reifsteck, Architect, March 10th at which Elsa presented an updated kitchen layout. Dean listed some of the preferences of the subcommittee such as easily cleanable, low maintenance surfaces like stainless steel, accessible dish storage, and ample electrical outlets and separate circuits. Dean noted a concern about the location of the coffee percolators being far from the 3-compartment sink and how this could be difficult for filling with water. Elsa suggested a machine that connects directly to a water line if the church is looking to replace the existing percolators.

Architect - Elsa Reifsteck reporting.

Asbestos - Reliable Environmental Solutions (RES) performed a hazardous materials inspection of the existing Fellowship Hall and provided a report of their findings. They discovered asbestos in various pipe insulation, floor tile, and caulk on exterior windows as well as lead-based paint on some structural beams and window frames. They provided an estimate for probable abatement cost of around \$52,500. Jim Hinze (Zion Church Builders) also solicited bids from area contractors. These bids came in on target with the budget.

Soils - Midwest Engineering and Testing recently visited the site to take soil borings and are now compiling a report of their findings.

Survey - Precision Engineering has nearly completed the survey of existing site conditions but is still verifying locations of some of the existing utilities. Now that we have a more finalized site design which is supported by the City of Urbana, Precision has begun work on the new site plan drawings.



Dear Parents and Youth!

It's time! I'm excited to share with you that the LCMS National Youth Gathering is scheduled for 2022! I've been to many such gatherings over the years, but I'm really looking forward to leading the youth this time!

It's a great Christ-exalting time for youth and adults!

WHEN: July 9-13, 2022

WHERE: Houston, Texas

WHO: The LCMS Youth Gathering's primary focus is on **youth** participants **between the ages of 14 and 19**. To register for the 2022 Gathering, a youth must be 14 years old at the time of the Gathering. You DO NOT have to be a member of an LCMS congregation! The Gathering is a great event for youth to invite friends who are not members of their church but are longing to learn more about God's love for them in Jesus.

What to do now:

Please let me know if your eligible youth would like to go! It's crucial for our planning, budgeting and funding that we have an idea, within the next few months, of who would like to go. If you have any concerns about the costs, travel, COVID or any other details about the LCMS Youth Gathering, please reach out to me. I would be happy to meet with you and discuss this exciting fellowship event!

God's blessings—I can't wait to hear from you!



Dear Friends and Members of Trinity!

Prayer is so essential to everything we do at Trinity. We want to draw your attention to some important opportunities available to you! And also to share a very important request with you.

Because of the COVID-19 crisis, we stopped using printed materials at our services. We are going start afresh printing our prayer/birthday/anniversary sheets. We have lists of birthdays and anniversaries, but we need you to submit your prayer requests.

There are a number of ways to share a prayer request or praise report with us:

- 1) Send an email to: prayer@trinity-urbana.org
- 2) On the Trinity website, you can submit a prayer request. From the homepage, click on the banner item that says, "How Can We Pray for You?" This will take you to a secure online prayer request form.
- 3) Call, text or email Pastor Shawn: (217) 379-7443 or pastorshawn@trinity-urbana.org
- 4) Call the office. Mike's hours are M-F, 10am-2pm: (217) 367-8923
- 5) In our Narthex, we have prayer request/praise report forms that you can fill out and place in the adjacent box.

"We always thank God for all of you and continually mention you in our prayers." 1 Thessalonians 1:2, NIV

Ministry Council



Wee Disciples Preschool News

Wee Disciples Preschool classes are growing for the 2021-22 school year. Registration continues in the month of April. If you know of any families with preschool age children who may be interested in our program, please share with them that they can register at any time. Registration forms and program brochures are available right outside the preschool classroom. We also have a

wealth of information on the church/preschool website at www.trinity-urbana.org. I am happy to answer any questions that families may have regarding our program. Please do not hesitate to contact me at weedisciplespreschool@yahoo.com.

During the month of April, we begin with our Bible Time focus on the Easter story and the resurrection of Jesus Christ. The students have really grown in knowledge about Jesus over the past several months. I pray that they always know God's love for us and use this love to follow Jesus' teaching. Also, this month, we will focus on a unit of study about Space and then will end the month learning some nursery rhymes.

We will participate in some Easter fun with Easter Egg Hunts on March 31 and April 1. There is no preschool on April 2 and 5 in observance of Good Friday and Easter Monday. I wish everyone a happy Easter time to celebrate that Jesus Christ lives for us.

I want to take this time to acknowledge the current Wee Disciples Preschool Committee members for their service to our church and preschool. We are so grateful for Pam Hull, Andrea Nation, Zoe Revell, Brent Burr, Ginger Roney, Carolyn Wanagat, Rise Lange, Nicole Daniels, and our chair, Carol Niemann. It has been a challenging year of change and uncertainty, and our Preschool Committee has been very busy and diligent with meeting each challenge. Thank you to our committee members! You all are a blessing to our program!

God's Blessings,

Karen Rohrer,
Director and Teacher



Ruth & Bill Benton - In memory of our parents.

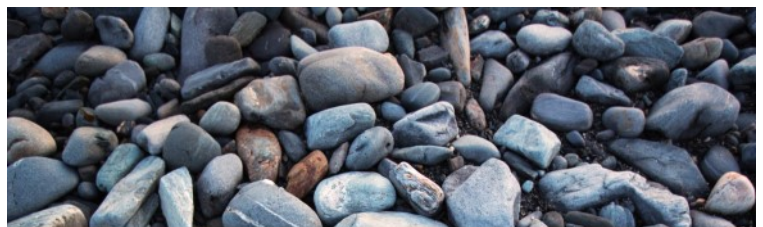
Andrea & David Nation - In memory of loved ones that have passed.

Phyllis Johnston - In memory of parents and husband Albert Johnston Jr.

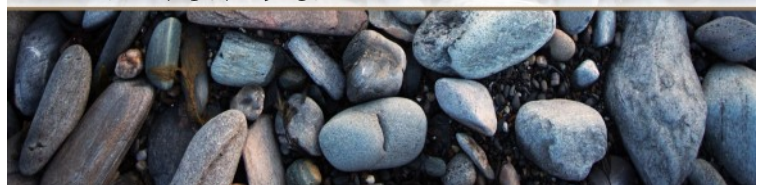
Pastor Shawn & Jill - For the glory of Christ.

Bob & Nina Frank - Glory to God for bringing us through the pandemic this far.

Ken & Mary Jo Rott - To the glory of God.



The Property Team is selling rocks from the garden area with proceeds going to the upcoming construction project. All Small rocks along the sidewalk can be purchased for \$1 and the large rocks for \$5. This money will be put into the Building Fund and can be paid to the church by check. If interested please contact the office at 217-367-8923.



APRIL



BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

Birthdays

04/02	Kristin Otis Helene Strater
04/03	Connor McElwain
04/06	Frederick Meyer
04/07	Jim Wanagat
04/08	Mark Bull
04/11	Katherine Rossow
04/14	Margaret Rossow
04/17	Cheryl Farruggia
04/19	Hilary Rouse
04/24	Greg Williams
04/25	Brenda Donoho Jack Peifer
04/26	Doyle Hartle Marci Warren
04/27	Katrina Holhubner
04/29	David Smallfield
04/30	Debbie Cagle

Anniversaries

04/07	Kevin & Brenda Donoho (32 years)
04/20	Dean & Pamela Hull (36 years)

For the Month of March	
March 7, 2020	\$8,875
March 14, 2021	\$3,811
March 21, 2021	\$2,359
March 28, 2021	\$8,971
March total Offerings	\$24,016
YTD Receipts	\$62,324
Copies of Trinity's monthly income, expenses and full budget breakdown are available in the Narthex.	

Trinity Small Groups

Please reach out to the individual group leaders for additional meeting details.



- Women's Book Group - 7 p.m.-1st and 3rd Mondays via Zoom. (Risë Lange, riselange@icloud.com)
- Pieces of Love at church (Jennifer Holhubner)
- Cottage Bible Study at homes (Mary Jo Rott)
- Women in Mission at church - "LWML (WIM) will resume meeting in person in the church sanctuary on Tuesday, April 13 at 6:30 pm. All ladies in the church are welcome to join us." - Faith Wetzel
- Tuesday Bible Study (Pastor Ehlers) - bible class currently in recess as Pastor Ehlers recovers.
- Young Adults Fellowship (Jill Boylan)
- Breakfast Bible Study at Urbana Gardens (Phil or Joyce Bell)
- Couples Bibles Study (Risë Lange)
- Home Bible Study at the Rouse's (Hilary Rouse)