



Trinity Today

Vol. 17, No. 2

February 1, 2015

Powerful Worship for the Penitential Season of Lent!

Lent begins with Ash Wednesday as we mark our foreheads with the ashes of penitence and repentance. We begin to walk with our Lord Jesus Christ on His journey to the Cross to win salvation for the world.

Our Sunday Morning Worship follows the theme: "Jesus Makes Headlines." We will explore several of His miracles and close encounters that people had with Jesus that changed their lives forever and for life.

Our Wednesday noon and Evening Worship follows the theme: "The Parables of Lent." We will let the Parables take us deeper into the love of our Savior as we examine our unworthiness and His all-sufficient grace.

Dates to Remember:

Ash Wednesday Services with Holy Communion and the Imposition of Ashes

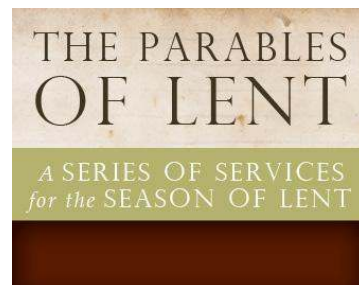
February 18th

Noon and 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday Midweek Services with Holy Communion at all services

February 25th and March 4th, 11th, 18th, and 25th

Noon and 6:30 p.m.



THERE WILL BE NO MIDWEEK EVENING MEALS SERVED! PLEASE PLAN TO EAT AT HOME OR CATCH A QUICK BITE AT ONE OF THE MANY DOWNTOWN RESTAURANTS AND FAST FOOD EATERIES.



Palm Sunday Services

March 29th

8:15, 9:31 and 11:00 a.m.

(Rite of Confirmation at 11 a.m.)

Maundy Thursday Services

April 2nd

Noon and 6:30 p.m.

(First Communion at 6:30 p.m.)

Good Friday Services

April 3rd

Noon and 6:30 p.m.

(Reading of the Passion at Noon,

Tenebrae at 6:30 p.m.)

Easter Services and Breakfast

April 5th

6:00 a.m. - Sunrise Service

7:00 a.m. - Breakfast Starts

8:15 a.m. - Festival Service

9:31 a.m. - Modern Service

11:00 a.m. - Festival Service

May our wonderful Savior Jesus Christ bless and strengthen our faith in Him as we worship Him and take to heart all that He has done for our salvation! Amen.

News from the Mighty Acts Fulfillment Committee

“One generation shall declare Your works to another, and shall declare Your mighty acts.” Psalm 145:4

This verse has appeared frequently in recent months as the theme of both Trinity’s 135th anniversary this past November and our current capital campaign. It provides an apt foundation for our Trinity family as we seek to follow God’s guidance for the future of this congregation. More than that, it’s a dynamic, active statement. On a personal level, what does it mean for each of us? What are the roles that God has set aside for each member of this Trinity family? The rest of Psalm 145 is full of action words and phrases describing some of the things we can do – words like extol, bless, praise, meditate, speak, pour forth, sing aloud, give thanks, tell, make known, look.

It became apparent to the Mighty Acts Fulfillment Committee that the graphic image that we will use to periodically communicate campaign progress to the congregation should illustrate this concept of God’s people taking action in concert with one another to praise His mighty name and spread the word and work of His kingdom in concrete ways. We consulted with Trinity’s Communications Coordinator Pam Schroeder to produce a clear, simple design that conveys this message.

We are excited to reveal the Mighty Acts Fulfillment graphic – people working together to build God’s kingdom in the framework of the cross. Each person in the graphic represents a \$50,000 step in the journey. The cross is already filled with people. As each \$50,000 increment is reached, another person will be colored in and hands raised in praise. Current campaign pledges are for approximately \$1.6 million, while the supernatural challenge remains \$2.7 million. The harvest is plentiful and there is much to be accomplished.

We look forward to bringing you exciting news about visible results throughout the duration of the Mighty Acts campaign. We also wish to thank Pam for her beautiful design for this campaign fulfillment graphic.



Po-Boy Sandwich Reminder

If you ordered po-boy sandwiches for Super Bowl Sunday, remember to pick them up in the Mary and Martha Fellowship Hall after services or Sunday School on February 1. Call Lynn Bedner at 713.668.3977 for the availability of last-minute orders. The sandwiches are \$5.00 each. Checks should be made payable to Trinity Lutheran Ladies Circle.



Net proceeds of this sale are designated for the Ladies Circle scholarship fund for the support of Trinity members attending synodical schools in preparation for full-time church work and other missions and ministries supported by the Circle.

2015 GOVERNING BOARD

Jim Baccus (Chairman/Elder)
Dag Calafell
Kim Davis
Pastor Michael Dorn
Bill Fischer (Vice-Chairman/Elder)
Tim Grady
Bo Hopmann
Kevin Juergen (Elder)
Steve Maynard (Elder)
Jean Minsch (Secretary)
Joshua Rodriguez (Elder)
Dave Weinhold

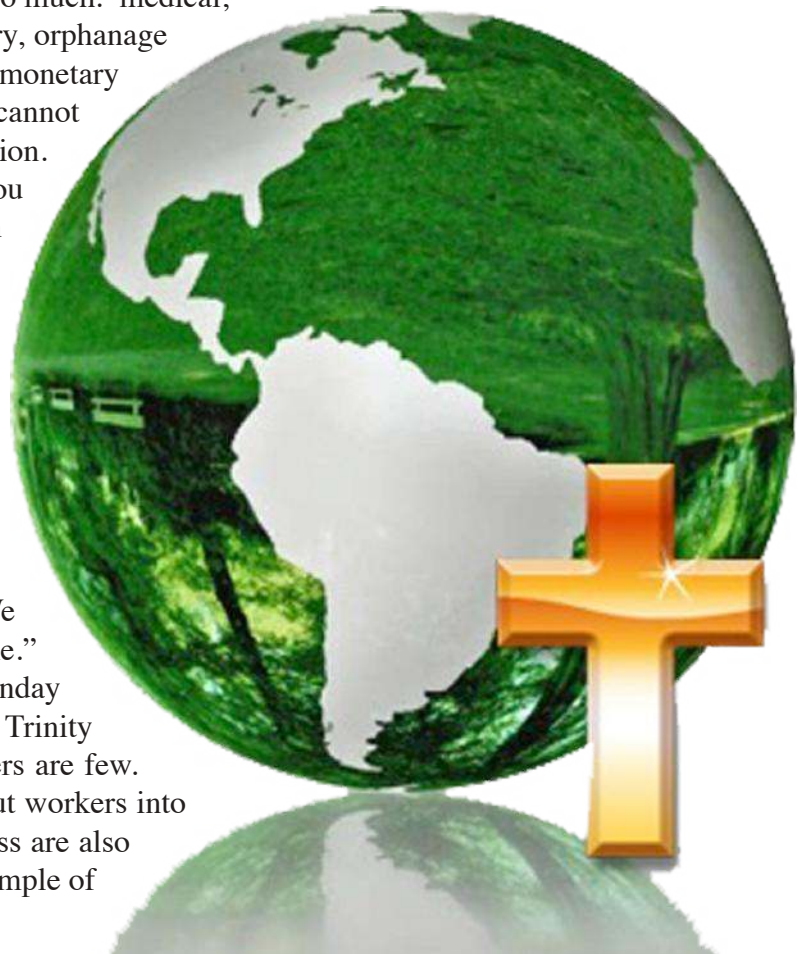
Mission Sunday - February 8th

What a perfect time of year to celebrate Mission Sunday at Trinity Lutheran Church! We are thankful for the gift of Jesus who arrived as a baby in a manger at Christmastime and who is celebrated as a King during Epiphany. We are awe-inspired by the Man whose glory was revealed at the Transfiguration. He is truly the Son of God. As we look forward to Lent and Easter, we know Jesus is also the crucified and risen Lord. Jesus is “The Way, The Truth and The Life.” It is therefore our mission as Christ-followers to share this life-saving message with our neighbors- both locally and globally- who are hurting and lost because they do not know their Savior. What an awesome privilege to introduce someone to Jesus! “But how can they call on Him to save them unless they believe in Him? And how can they believe in Him if they have never heard about Him? And how can they hear about Him unless someone tells them?” Romans 10:14

Join us on Sunday, February 8th as we celebrate Mission Sunday together in all three services. We will focus on how to be an Everyday Missionary, and we will share what the Mission MAT has been doing on behalf of TLC, as well as the results of the congregational outreach survey. We will also have special guests, Keith Screws and Charlotte Wootten from e3 Partners (www.e3partners.org). Keith is a godly man who loves sharing the message of Jesus with others. We will not only be inspired by his stories from the mission field, but we will also learn about an amazing mission opportunity available to our congregation. Charlotte Wootten is a teacher from Nacogdoches who will be one of the leaders on our trip. She has a heart for the orphanage and children’s ministries.

Trinity has accepted Jesus’ call in Acts 1:8b to “Be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria and to the ends of the earth.” Therefore, we are partnering with e3 in an international mission experience to Shinyanga, Tanzania, on June 12-22, 2015. We will “Go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you” as instructed in Matthew 28:19-20. There are so many ways to use your God-given gifts to bring Him glory on this trip as it will include so much: medical, dental, eye glasses, pharmacy, children’s ministry, orphanage care, and of course, evangelism. Prayers and monetary donations to support the team from those who cannot go are also essential to the success of the mission. For those who are interested in learning more, you are invited to a luncheon in the gym at noon on Mission Sunday where Keith and Charlotte will give an informal presentation about the trip and their mission experiences. They will also be available for questions and are happy to provide help for anyone who is ready to commit to the trip and wants assistance in setting up a fundraising webpage.

It is an exciting time at Trinity Lutheran Church Downtown! We are developing a culture of mission, and as Pastor Black says, “We need to start at home, but we can’t stay at home.” So please join the Mission MAT on Mission Sunday so we can join together in the excitement at Trinity because “The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. Therefore, ask the Lord of the harvest to send out workers into His harvest field.” Luke 10:2. Works-in-progress are also accepted as we are all learning from the best example of a missionary, Jesus Christ!



Trinity Prays!

As we begin February, we have already prayed our way through the first half of the academic school year! Praise the LORD! We are also moving into Lent. Lent is a powerful time of penitence and repentance in the Worship Life of the Church.

Here are three suggestions for your prayers this month and a word of encouragement:

- ❖ Pray for all our staff and faculty to be blessed by the LORD with renewed vigor, wisdom and strength to finish this year well in all they do and say.
- ❖ Pray for all our children, from infants through 8th grade and beyond in high school and college and for their families for energy, enthusiasm, and joy in learning with wisdom and discernment and growing faith in our Lord Jesus Christ.
- ❖ Pray for this time of Lent that all of us may return to the LORD in penitence and repentance that He may renew us in Christ and take us deeper into the love of Jesus.

Thank you for your prayers for all of Trinity and for all those beyond our membership that the LORD has put on your heart to pray for! May Jesus increase your joy as you continue to lift up your prayer lists to the LORD for His blessing and guidance. God bless all our prayers as we respond to His grace and Good News in Jesus! Let us pray:

Heavenly Father,

We thank YOU for the privilege of prayer on behalf of others. Pour out YOUR abundant blessings on all of our staff and faculty to finish well this academic year and YOUR blessings on children, students and families with health and success in learning and greater faith, hope and trust in our Lord Jesus Christ. Bless this time of Lent by calling us all to return to YOU that we may gain hearts of humility in this time of penitence and repentance. Pour YOUR Spirit out upon us all that we all may grow in the love of Jesus and live out our faith in service and sharing as we worship YOU with all of our hearts and minds, and with all of our souls and strength. This we pray in the mighty name of Jesus. Amen.



PEP Club to Host Annual Tea Party February 15 from 3-5 p.m.

The PEP Club will hold its annual tea party on Sunday afternoon, February 15 in the foyer. Join us for food, fun and fellowship as various members of the PEP Club delight us with their individual table arrangements.

A \$5/person donation will help to defray the costs of entertainment.



Sack Lunch Ministry Sets Record

The total of sack lunches given out in 2014 was 17,592. Our records reflect this is the largest amount of lunches we have ever distributed.



The number of lunches for 2013 was 15,697. On behalf of the homeless we thank the members of Trinity for their generosity. This truly lives out our mission statement of “Joyfully sharing Christ’s saving love with all people, now.”

BOARD OF ELDERS - CONTACT INFORMATION

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Joshua Rodriguez joshrodriguez@hotmail.com 713.861.4046

Prayers and Promises by Pastor David Leeland

Let's continue our focus and meditation on the prefix: "Re" and the word, "Return."

"Re" has tremendous power and potential in these two little letters. "Re" has the sense of doing things over, of doing things better, or maybe even doing things the way we should have done them in the first place. "Re" also has the sense of bringing new opportunity to dead ends, of taking people and situations out of whatever box we've put them in and bringing a breath of fresh air and new life.

"Return" has the sense that what we've been away from, we have come back to. We have turned back. We have returned!

The Third Law of Thermal Dynamics says: "Over time all things break down." If there isn't intentional and preventative maintenance or improvement, over time all things break down, wear out, and fall apart.

We have this sin condition within us that constantly pulls us away from the LORD like a curvature of the spirit. This curvature of the spirit results in preoccupation with self. It is a curving away from the LORD combined with a curving in on the self.

Let's check it out; would these be the first two questions we automatically ask ourselves when faced with anything new: "What's it going to cost me and how will it benefit me?" (Or, what's it going to cost us and how will it benefit us?)

It's amazing how we can camouflage our selfish ambitions with spiritual language and say that we're only following the will of God when we are really being driven by those selfish desires.

And thus, we have the constant need to return, to hear the voice of the Holy Spirit through the Prophet Joel and return.

The Spirit says through the Prophet Joel: ¹³ *Return to the LORD your God, for He is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love...* [Joel 2:13; ESV]

Let's take a closer look at this powerful verse:

➤ ¹³ *Return to the LORD your God,*

Come back to the LORD your God who has redeemed you with the precious blood of His Son and has washed you clean of all your sins in your baptism. Come back to worship! Come back to Bible Study! Come back to prayer and praying in all situations and circumstances! Come back to hungering and thirsting for Jesus!

➤ *for He is gracious and merciful,*

Grace is: God's
Riches
At
Christ's
Expense!



The LORD is rich in mercy to all who call on His name, to all who put their trust in Jesus.

➤ *slow to anger,*

Have you already condemned yourself? Have you already lost patience with yourself? Have you already given up hope for yourself or someone else because you're mad at your habitual sins and disgusted with the guilt, shame and fear that attend those sins? The LORD poured out His wrath on His Son Jesus so that from His Cross, there is only healing and forgiveness, and mercy and grace for all who call upon the name of the LORD.

➤ *and abounding in steadfast love...*

Steadfast, always there and never not there, we can always count on the steadfast love of the LORD to do His healing and saving work in our lives through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Thank God, He delights in His ongoing work of His Spirit. His Spirit forms us in Christ Jesus and works to make us more like Jesus every day till kingdom come! Thank God that the work of His Spirit is constant and continuous! He is always present and always on the job to teach us of Jesus as our Counselor, Helper, Comforter and Friend. And, thank God we have the privilege of returning, turning back to our God to receive His manifold blessings in Jesus Christ and to pass them on! Amen.

Trinity Lutheran School...Downtown

“Inspiring and empowering students with a Christ-centered education since 1879.”

From the Principal’s Desk

“*Inspiring and empowering students with a Christ-centered education!*” That is the mission statement of Trinity Lutheran School, and it is exactly what we work towards each day. We strive to work in partnership with parents so that children are equipped both academically and spiritually. Students are provided a sound educational experience within a Christ-centered environment, and come to understand they are God’s creation and He has a purpose for their lives. Students at TLS are taught not only the reality of God’s Law, and the saving message of His Grace through Jesus Christ, but also the ability to incorporate these understandings into their everyday living through our values of:

- **Being Christ Centered:** Jesus is the Savior, Healer, Transformer and Friend that every human being needs and we value a journey with Jesus that results in individual growth and kingdom expansion. (Colossians 1:3-6, 9-14)
- **Serving with Ministry Excellence:** Giving our best to honor God and inspire people. (Colossians 3:23)
- **Maintaining Generational Relevance:** Making God real to people in their everyday lives. (Psalm 78:4-6, Matthew 28:19-20)
- **Serving in a Life Saving Community:** Becoming more like Christ through close relationships. (Acts 2:42-47)

Over the last year and a half we have been working on the Trinity Lutheran School Self-Study so that we can continue to be an accredited school by the National Lutheran School Accreditation (NLSA). I am pleased to say that the Self-Study has been completed and submitted. Later in March, we will be hosting the accrediting team as they visit our school, and recommend us to the National Accrediting Board.

I am thankful for all the teachers, parents, and church members who helped in completing the Self-Study. I ask that you continuously keep the accreditation process in your prayers, and the visit that will occur in March. I am confident that we will be re-accredited.

In Christ,
Natalia S. Junkans, Principal

Trinity Lutheran School – 2nd Quarter Honor Roll Students

5th Grade

Lane Bohmbach
Nicole Campa
Chloe Casas
Matthew Cruz
Alicia Garcia
Bryce Hammers
Gavin Johnson
Fiona Murphy
Caden Rice
Ayana Smith

6th Grade

Sarra Cerda
Kendahl Haltiwanger
Janna Hilliard
Trevor Lewis
Lauren Miller
Elizabeth Roesel
Dylan Treat

7th Grade

Jose Arriaga
Elizabeth Dorn
Grant Eudey
Divina Gonzalez
Madison Krailo
Melanie Leitner
Aasha Revier
Bella Villarreal
Shea Williams

8th Grade

Emily Aranda
Austin Biehle
Nathan Chevallier
Theron Co
Layla Crane
Liana Fantich
Johnathan Hilliard
Jessica Junkans
Michaela Kaspar
Jackson Suder



Rodeo Art Contest TLS Winners!

This year, for the first time, Reema Forster's art students at Trinity Lutheran School, participated in the Houston Livestock and Rodeo Art Competition! They participated in the Private School competition, a showing of over 600 pieces of artwork from students all over the Houston area.

TLS was able to enter eight pieces of artwork, based on our school enrollment. These eight pieces of artwork were chosen from a collection of fifty pieces, selected by Mrs. Forster, and were judged and viewed by two representatives from MFAH, and an art teacher from the Glassel School of Art.



The students listed below received the respective ribbons placed on the caliber of their artwork, inclusive of the criteria in place by the guidelines of the Houston Rodeo Art Competition per their judges.

They are on display in both the Middle School Building and Education Center.

Please congratulate these winners, as our school continues to involve our students in all that the community of Houston has to offer, which showcases the talents of our children!

1st Place!

Jameson Hummel - K

2nd Place!

Steven Porter - 3rd
Fiona Murphy - 5th
Jessica Junkans - 8th

3rd Place!

Chloe Casas - 5th
Melanie Leitner - 7th
Austin Biehle - 8th
Theron Co - 8th

Save the Date

February 13

Basketball State Tournament/Early Dismissal

February 21

School Gala, 6-9 p.m.

February 16

Presidents' Day - No School

February 23-27

8th Grade Washington D.C. Trip

February 16-20

Blood Pressure Screening

February 24-27

7th Grade Texas Tour

February 18

Ash Wednesday

February 27

Go Texan Day!



Trinity Spelling Bee

On Thursday, January 15, TLS held its Spelling Bee. We would like to congratulate each of the students for their participation in the spelling bee.



The Spelling Bee winners include:

6th – 8th Grade Spelling Bee

Champion - Theron Co, 8th Grade
2nd Place - Johnathan Hilliard, 8th Grade
3rd Place - Austin Biehle, 8th Grade

1st – 5th Grade Spelling Bee

1st Place - Parker Biehle
2nd Place - Brian Weaver
3rd Place - Fiona Murphy

Theron Co will be representing TLS at the Regional Spelling Bee for Private Schools in Harris County. Join us as we lift him up in prayer as he prepares and competes.

Regional Spelling Bee for Private Schools in Harris County

Day and Date: Thursday, February 5, 2015
Location: Beth Yeshurun Day School
4525 Beechnut, Houston, Texas 77096
Start time for Bee: 9:30 a.m.

Giddy-Up Gala Tickets on Sale Now!

The Gala Committee is selling tickets/sponsorships for the “Giddy-Up” Gala on February 21 from 6:00 - 9:30 p.m. at Saint Arnold’s Brewery. Sponsorship and seating is limited to first-come, first-served.

Gala Sponsor/Ticket Levels are as follows:

- \$5,000 - Yahoo Bull Riders!
- \$2,500 - Wagon Wheelers & Dealers!
- \$1,000 - Calf Scramble Cow Pokes!
- \$500 - Chuck Wagon Bandits!
- \$250 - Trail Riders on the Storm!
- \$50 - Sponsor a Teacher
- \$50 - Individual Ticket (\$75 after February 13)



Tickets may be purchased after church services or on the Gala’s secure and convenient online tool: Acceptiva.com Gala Page or <https://secure.acceptiva.com/?cst=b95949>.

For complete information on the Gala, please visit www.trinitydt.org/galahome.

Cavendarsa True Friend to TLS!

As we reached out to Cavendars in anticipation of the fast approaching “Trinity Giddy-Up Gala”, we already cannot thank them enough for all of their generous donations of décor, centerpieces, and displays to promote this worthwhile event!

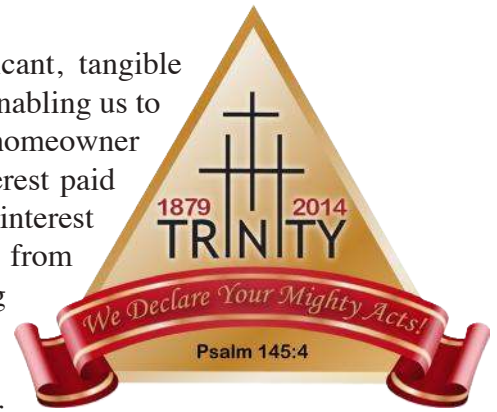
Please shop the Cavendars at Clearlake, ask for Cody or Jimmy, tell them you are from Trinity, and enjoy service that only Cavendars can provide!



Thank You Cavendars!

Capital Campaign Financial Update

Your support of Trinity's capital campaigns has so many significant, tangible results. As previously reported, HUG2 received more than \$2,950,000, enabling us to accelerate payments on our mortgage debt for the new building. As any homeowner knows, accelerating payments against principal reduces the overall interest paid during the life of the mortgage. We are happy to share with you that the interest rate for the new three-year period that just began has been reduced from 4% (for the last three years) to 3%. While this means a corresponding reduction in the mortgage payments owed each month, it is our intention to continue paying the same amount each month as we have been for the last three years, thus once again accelerating payments on principal. Your continued support will allow us to spend less money over time on interest, and consequently more on actual operations and projects. Thank you for sharing the vision of the future of Trinity as we seek to follow God's mighty plans for us!



Stephen Ministry

On January 6, Trinity Stephen Ministers welcomed fifteen new trainees (including several members of the Trinity staff) to begin their 50 hours of intensive training in Christian Caregiving. They will learn skills such as reflective listening, asking open-ended questions and helping people to recognize, express and accept feelings. They will learn how to walk alongside someone in need and how to trust the process that God is curing this individual through many wonderful discussions, and hands-on opportunities for skill practice. When they are finished with training in May, they will have the opportunity to join the current Stephen Ministers as they care for members of the congregation and others who are in need of someone to walk alongside them through difficult times.



“Plop, Plop, Fizz, Fizz, Sodium, Sodium”

It's been many years since I have taken or even considered taking a soluble effervescent (those that dissolve in water) medication. However, many individuals still do - I even have friends that do this and I remember the advertisement of “Plop, Plop, Fizz, Fizz. The shelves in most pharmacies and grocery stores OTC (over the counter) medication section are still filled with these medications that are used as painkillers, vitamin supplements, or antacids. According to Medical News Today and the University of California, *Berkeley Wellness Newsletter*, if you take these medications regularly you may be getting too much sodium.



There was a study over a 7-year period which involved more than a million participants that revealed that those individuals taking OTC soluble effervescent medications were **“seven times more likely to have hypertension and had a 28% higher death rate from hypertension.”** This should be a “wake-up call” even though these “fizzy” solutions are easy to take and have a pleasant flavor.

The list of these “fizzy” medications includes “fast acting pain or cold medications, calcium carbonate (like Alka-Seltzer for acid indigestion and metoclopramide for nausea and vomiting.”

Unfortunately, the dosages of many of these medications **“contain large amounts of sodium”** which may lead a person to regularly exceed the recommended daily allowance of sodium. I hope this is an “eye opener!” Two (2) Alka-Seltzer tablets combined (usual dosage) contain 1,134 milligrams of sodium. According to the American Heart Association we should ingest no more than 1,500 milligrams of sodium daily. If you take a medication like Alka-Seltzer, that leaves little room for ingesting any other form of sodium (i.e. salt, among other sources of sodium).

It's unfortunate, however, that drug manufacturers *are not obligated by law to list the sodium content on their labels*. I'm going to do a “check” the next time I visit the OTC sections at Wal-Mart and the grocery store.

So, if you regularly take these types of medications, talk to your physician about non-soluble alternatives and/or at least let him/her know that you are taking these types of medications and how often they are ingested.

(SOURCE: **“BETTER HEALTH”** – Concordia Plan Services)

PROMISE: “The Lord your God is with you, He is mighty to save. He will take great delight in you, He will quiet you with His love, He will rejoice over you with singing.” Zephaniah 3:17

HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY!

Let us remember that the greatest heart of love that we have with us every moment of our lives is that of our Triune God!

Julie Bertrand, Parish Nurse

New Funding Available in 2015!

Join Thrivent on February 8 at 1 p.m. for a workshop for “Action Team” and “Grant” funding to be held at Gethsemane Lutheran Church, 4040 Watonga Boulevard, Houston, TX 77092.

The workshop is for advocates and/or persons interested in obtaining funding for Trinity organizations.

Notify a Thrivent Chapter Leader for more information or to RSVP.

Linda Brown, Epiphany - Cliff Rasmussen, Epiphany - Dr. Donn Williams, Gethsemane
Beverly Meaden, Trinity Downtown - Fred Stoerkel, Trinity Downtown



**THRIVENT
FINANCIAL®**

Connecting faith & finances for good.™

Catalyst Youth Ministry

Middle and High School Parents and Youth:

To stay up-to-date with what is going on in Catalyst Youth Ministries, you can connect in three ways:

- 1) Follow us on Instagram at (tdt_catalystyouthgroup)
- 2) Join our Facebook page (Catalyst Youth Ministries)
- 3) Contact Kim Flaviani (kimberly@flaviani.net or 832.671.7979) to be added to the mailing list.



In addition to regular gatherings (watch the weekly church bulletin!), we've got lots of things coming up this Spring/Summer including Camp Lone Star in conjunction with Epiphany Lutheran for Middle School youth, "fun"raisers for those planning to attend Glory Bound (High School only) and, then, the Glory Bound Convention for all Texas LCMS Youth July 16 - 19th.

Ladies Circle Ministries - February 5

The monthly meeting of the Ladies Circle will be held in Room 205 at 10 a.m. on Thursday, February 5. Refreshments, with a time for fellowship, will be available at 9:30 a.m.

Our program for the day will be a "Q & A Session with our Senior Pastor, Michael Dorn."

All are invited to attend our meetings on the first Thursday morning of each month. For additional information, please contact Debbie Leonard, president, at (c)319.431.6804; 713.861.7175; or by email to Debbie.Leonard.TX@gmail.com.



Additional dates to remember:

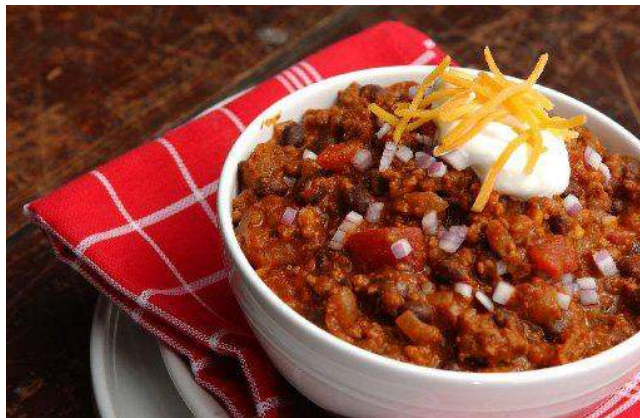
- Saturday, January 31 - Work day for preparing po-boys. Call Lynn Bedner at 713.668.3977 to volunteer your help.
- Wednesday, February 18 - Members and friends are invited to come to the Highland Park Care Center, 2714 Morrison Street, at 10 a.m. for a devotion and hymn-singing.

The 39 Club

The 39 Club is invited to meet in the foyer following the 11 a.m. service on Sunday, February 8, and travel to the home of Jean Minsch for her annual delicious Chili Lunch. Following the lunch there will be a time for fun and games, including Dominoes, Chicken Foot, and fellowship.

On a cold and rainy Sunday in January five of us enjoyed a warming lunch along with fellowship at The Corner Bakery.

Those who are single, 39 and over, are invited to join us. To RSVP and for more information, contact Jean Minsch at 281.550.4752.



Trinity's Foyer Displays

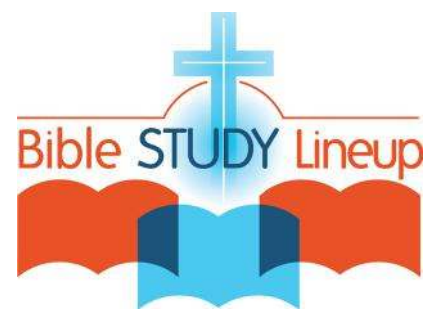
Members have enjoyed the private collections displayed in the foyer cabinet during recent months. Displays have included the private collections of "Pottery" by Nancy and Mark Glaeser; "Hess Trucks" by Braydon and Ben Abby; "135th Anniversary" by Ruth Stoerkel; and "Dickens' Village" by Stacie and Joanne Hemann. We welcome displays of private collections. To schedule a display, please contact Ruth Stoerkel at 713.686.1910.

Be in the Word

Sundays at 9:30 a.m.

Living a Life of Integrity - Room 205 - Led by Jim Cleary

Today it is often considered rude to speak of right and wrong. In such a culture of relativism, we desperately need to be reminded of the biblical value of integrity. These Bible studies invite us to find contentment in who we are and how we follow God as we grow to be people of real integrity.



Vocal Minority - Chapel - Led by Bill Fischer

In "The Vocal Minority," the Chapel Class is now studying the Old Testament book of Nahum. Nahum prophesied about the destruction that the Assyrians were to inflict upon the people of Israel and Judah. The destruction took place because of the people's great sins. It was limited, however, in that the righteous remnant were to be preserved. Following the study of Nahum, the class will look at the Prophet Zephaniah.

Midweek Studies

Book of 2 Peter

Tuesdays at 10:00 a.m. - Room 205

Women's Bible Study led by Audrey Black

Golden Fruit - Living the Fruit of the Spirit through the Best Times of Your Life

Wednesdays at 9:30 a.m. - Room 205

Women's Bible Study led by Jan Case

Book of Colossians

Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m. - Room 205

Women's Bible Study led by Mary Oliver

Class will meet through February 11, take a break for Lent and Easter, and resume April 8 through May 20.

Sonrise Bible Study

Thursdays at 6:30 a.m. - Room 124

Led by Pastor Black

TnT - 20s and 30s Group Bible Study

Current Study: "Broken: 7 'Christian' Rules that Every Christian Ought to Break as Often as Possible"

Meets 2nd and 4th Fridays at 7:30 p.m. - off site.

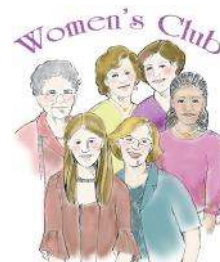
Contact Rachel and Dag Calafell at rachel.calafell@gmail.com or 832.389.8998 for more information.

Trinity Women's Club

Our monthly visit/devotion at the Highland Park Care Center, 2714 Morrison Street, will be on Wednesday, February 4th, at 10:00 a.m. Contact Bea Uhl at 713.864.4919 for more information. The Quilting Group will meet Tuesday, February 17th. Contact Thelma Deterling at 713.643.5845 for more information.

Our next meeting is Tuesday, February 10th, at 7:00 p.m. in Room 124. Mandy Halbert, the LWML Young Women's Representative for the Bayou City Zone will lead us in a Bible study. Jan Case will have the opening devotion and Kristin Fischer will have the closing prayer. Bea Uhl and Wallie Womack will be the hostesses. Refreshments will be served starting at 6:45 p.m. Contact Elizabeth Stoerkel at 281.463.3171 if child care is needed. Members are reminded to bring their LWML mites, hotel toiletries for the homeless ministry, and toiletry items for the Good Samaritan Lutheran Group Homes to the meeting.

At the March 10th meeting, Mark Lardas, who is an author, amateur historian and model-maker, will present "The Port of Houston," a history of the port and how (and why) an improbable location 50 miles from the sea became the second largest port in the United States. At the April 14th meeting, Ruth Stoerkel, who is Trinity's archivist, will present "Trinity's Neighborhood: Today's Thoughts/Yesterday's Memories." Don't forget the Easter Goodies Sale for the Good Samaritan Lutheran Home in Cypress is Sunday, April 5th and the Lutheran World Relief Ingathering is Monday, April 6th! For more information on the LWR kits, go to www.lwr.org. Come and join us for fellowship and service!



The Parables of Lent

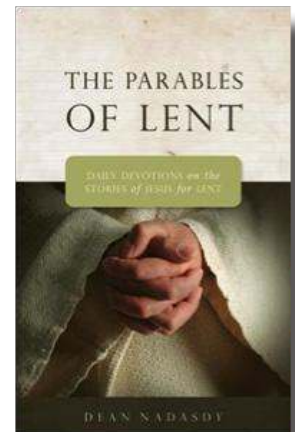
Daily Devotions on the Stories of Jesus for Lent

By Dean Nadasdy

“He spoke to them in parables,” the Bible tells us of Jesus, and in this daily devotional for Lent, these very parables of our Lord speak to us of core components of this sacred season as we reflect on His suffering, death and resurrection for us. Author Dean Nadasdy takes us through some of the most well-known and beloved parables of Scripture and relates the events described there to the events of Lent we experience, helping us to apply the divine messages of these stories to the story of our life in Christ.

The Parables of Lent devotional booklet follows the theme of this year’s Midweek Lenten Worship Services offered on Wednesdays at 12 Noon and 6:30 p.m. beginning with Ash Wednesday (February 18th). All Midweek Services will serve Holy Communion as part of our Lenten preparation for Easter celebration and joy!

Devotion booklets will be available in the foyer, narthex, and gym beginning February 15.



Lenten Devotions from Lutheran Hour Ministries

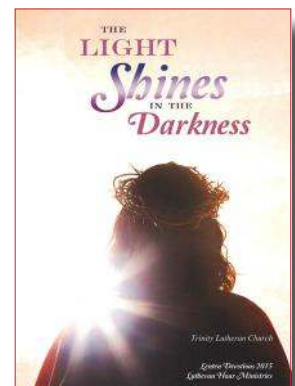
“The Light Shines in the Darkness”

Written by Rev. Wayne Palmer

The light of God is shining in a very dark world! That’s the message of these Lenten devotions from Rev. Wayne Palmer, theological editor and writer for Lutheran Hour Ministries. In *The Light Shines in the Darkness*, he has penned a thoughtful meditation on Christ’s life and passion presented in the Gospel of John, which illuminates this beloved book with insight and clarity. Written in a fresh but familiar style, *The Light Shines in the Darkness* is a captivating portrait of Jesus’ battle against the darkness of unbelief, prejudice and blind, murderous hatred as He fought for us all the way to the cross and back from the empty tomb.

The universal message of hope in John’s Gospel is powerful and written with one purpose in mind: “Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of His disciples, which are not written in this book; but these are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in His Name” (John 20:30-31).

Devotion booklets will be available in the foyer, narthex, and gym beginning February 15. They are also available online at www.lhm.org beginning February 18.



A Life Quote for the Church Year – February 1 – the Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany

“Christians affirm life, not because we live in a society that doesn’t, but because we serve a God who does. Our life-affirming message flows from His life-affirming message of the Gospel. It is with His authority, not our own, that we confront the idols of our time and call sin, sin. It is with His authority that we proclaim His forgiveness and hope to repentant hearts.”

This “Life Quote” is from Lutherans For Life – www.lutheransforlife.org

CHURCH REPORT
December 15 - January 18

BAPTISM

December 21

Avery Lynn Parrish
Todd Allen Parrish



DEATHS

January 11

Alice "Sally" Hansen

January 12

Bettye Jean Castellese

January 17

Sharon Smith

REVENUE UPDATE

Year to Date through 11/30/14

Total Receipts \$3,750,690
Budgetary Needs \$4,045,100

MIGHTY ACTS UPDATE

Year to Date through 01/18/15

Total Contributions \$296,143
Pledged to Date \$1,632,710

SUNDAY SCHOOL TOTALS

	<u>1-8</u>	<u>H.S.</u>	<u>Adult</u>
12/21	25	13	118
12/28	23	10	72
01/04	39	13	101
01/11	27	12	127
01/18	39	9	136
Total Offering			\$244.69

SUNDAY WORSHIP ATTENDANCE

	<u>8:15</u>	<u>9:31</u>	<u>11:00</u>	<u>Total</u>
12/21	322	101	228	651
12/28	168	81	111	360
01/04	205	112	141	458
01/11	200	97	114	411
01/18	250	89	164	503

STAFF DIRECTORY

CHURCH

- Senior Pastor
Pastor Michael P. Dorn 713.229.2940
- Director of Caring Ministries
Pastor David A. Leeland 713.229.2916
- Visitation Pastor
Pastor Donald G. Black 713.229.2917
- Chief Financial Officer
Ron Lacy 713.229.2970
- Dir. of Administration and Human Resources
Trinity Garrett 713.229.2937
- Interim Director of Music and Worship
Mary Voigt 713.229.2922
- Director of Accounting
Roseann Gamez 713.229.2962
- Director of Facilities
John Valdez 713.229.2905
- Communications Coordinator
Pam Schroeder 713.229.2944
- Contributions Manager
Angela Avant 713.229.2963
- Ministry Administrative Assistant
Lisa Valdez 713.229.2931
- Host
Rollin Cattau 713.229.2950

SCHOOL/TLEC

- TLS Principal
Natalia Junkans 832.301.3105
- Director of Advancement
Lisa Jakel 713.229.2903
- Director of Early Childhood Program
Lucia Flores 713.229.2918
- School Ministry Assistant
Dena Krailo 713.229.2901
- Director of Extended Care
Tilita Herrera 713.229.2967



*Joyfully sharing Christ's Saving
Love With All People Now!*

Great Things Are Happening at LSS

Supervised Independent Living (SIL) for youth aging out of foster care.

Teens aging out of the foster care system need a support network, such as LSS' BeREAL (Ready, Educated, Accomplished Leaders) initiative in New Orleans. A crucial aspect of this support is to provide supervised independent living to foster teens when they reach 18, with nowhere to turn.

LSS is also in the process of exploring SIL housing opportunities in the Austin and San Antonio areas with mentorship and case management support, to help these young adults as they transition to self-sufficiency and independence.

From LSS (Lutheran Social Services) NEWS – Lsss.org




'Engaging Confessions'

- Letting go of my "stuff and self" means putting my life in God's hands and seeking to live according to His will.
- I never stop praising God and giving Him thanks in these later years for His awesome blessings and for the lessons He continues to teach me every day.
- My faith in Jesus prompts me as an aging pilgrim to help improve someone else's life and help make the world a better place.

- from Volume 17, #3 of "Engaging the Aging" - a timely newsletter for congregations serving older adults

FEBRUARY 2015

Trinity Lutheran Church

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 8:15 AM Worship (C) 9:30 AM SS & Bible Classes 9:30 AM Confirmation 9:30 AM Faith Discovery 9:31 AM 931 Worship 11:00 AM Worship (C)  Po-Boy Pick-Up	2 6:30 PM Houston Camerata Rehearsal 7:00 PM Basketball Fellowship Group	3 10:00 AM Tuesday Women's Bible Study 6:00 PM Stephen Ministry Training 6:00 PM Stephen Ministry Continuing Education	4 8:20 AM TLS Chapel 9:30 AM Women's Bible Study 10:00 AM Women's Club HPCC 3:30 PM FUEL 5:30 PM Trinity Woodwinds	5 6:30 AM Sonrise Bible Study 10:00 AM Ladies Circle Meeting 1:00 PM Peace-Filled Quilters 5:15 PM Trinity Brass 6:20 PM Trinity Bells 6:30 PM Houston Bronze Ensemble 7:15 PM Sanctuary Choir	6 7:00 AM Middle School Bible Study	7 8:00 AM Houston Bronze Rehearsal
8 8:15 AM Worship 9:30 AM SS & Bible Classes 9:30 AM Confirmation 9:30 AM Faith Discovery 9:31 AM 931 Worship (C) 11:00 AM Worship 12:00 PM 39 Club - Chili Lunch at Jean Minsch's Home 12:00 PM Mission Lunch Mission Sunday	9 11:00 AM LFL Crochet Group 6:30 PM Houston Camerata Rehearsal 7:00 PM Basketball Fellowship Group	10 10:00 AM Tuesday Women's Bible Study 6:00 PM Stephen Ministry Training 7:00 PM Women's Club	11 8:20 AM TLS Chapel 9:30 AM Women's Bible Study 3:30 PM FUEL 5:30 PM Trinity Woodwinds	12 6:30 AM Sonrise Bible Study 5:15 PM Trinity Brass 6:20 PM Trinity Bells 6:30 PM Houston Bronze Ensemble 7:15 PM Sanctuary Choir	13 7:00 AM Middle School Bible Study	14 
15 8:15 AM Worship (C) 9:30 AM SS & Bible Classes 9:30 AM Confirmation 9:30 AM Faith Discovery 9:31 AM 931 Worship 11:00 AM Worship (C) 3:00 PM PEP Club Tea Party	16 6:30 PM Houston Camerata Rehearsal 7:00 PM Basketball Fellowship Group Presidents' Day - No School	17 10:00 AM Tuesday Women's Bible Study 12:00 PM LWML Quilting 6:00 PM Stephen Ministry Training 6:00 PM Stephen Ministry Continuing Education	18 8:20 AM TLS Chapel 9:30 AM Women's Bible Study 10:00 AM Ladies Circle HPCC 12:00 PM Ash Wednesday Worship (C) 3:30 PM FUEL 5:30 PM Trinity Woodwinds 6:30 PM Ash Wednesday Worship (C) Ash Wednesday	19 6:30 AM Sonrise Bible Study 1:00 PM Peace-Filled Quilters 5:15 PM Trinity Brass 6:00 PM Great Marriage Class 6:20 PM Trinity Bells 6:30 PM Houston Bronze Ensemble 7:15 PM Sanctuary Choir	20 7:00 AM Middle School Bible Study	21 6:00 PM TLS Giddy-Up Gala 
22 8:15 AM Worship 9:30 AM SS & Bible Classes 9:30 AM Confirmation 9:30 AM Faith Discovery 9:31 AM 931 Worship (C) 11:00 AM Worship	23 5:00 PM Elders Meeting 5:30 PM Governing Board Meeting 6:30 PM Houston Camerata Rehearsal 7:00 PM Basketball Fellowship Group	24 10:00 AM Tuesday Women's Bible Study 6:00 PM Stephen Ministry Training 6:30 PM Sunday School Teachers Meeting 6:30 PM Health Cabinet Meeting	25 8:20 AM TLS Chapel 9:30 AM Women's Bible Study 12:00 PM Lenten Worship (C) 3:30 PM FUEL 5:30 PM Trinity Woodwinds 6:30 PM Lenten Worship (C)	26 6:30 AM Sonrise Bible Study 5:15 PM Trinity Brass 6:00 PM Great Marriage Class 6:20 PM Trinity Bells 6:30 PM Houston Bronze Ensemble 7:15 PM Sanctuary Choir	27 7:00 AM Middle School Bible Study	28 9:00 AM Houston Retired Police Assn.

JANUARY

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31



MARCH

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				



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Jesus loves:



Article submission deadline **February 9th** for articles to be published March 1, 2015. Submit articles to pschroeder@trinitydt.org. Contact Pam Schroeder at 713.229.2944 with any questions about this publication.

Joyfully sharing Christ's saving love with all people, Now!

Great Marriage! Begins February 19th!

Now's the time to register for Trinity's next *Great Marriage!* Class. This class begins on Thursday, February 19th from 6-9 p.m., in Room 124 and meets for six sessions.

February 19th (6 – 9 p.m.)
February 26th (6 – 9 p.m.)
March 5th (6 – 9 p.m.)
March 12th (6 – 9 p.m.)
March 19th (6 – 9 p.m.)
March 26th (6 – 9 p.m.)

Here are a few questions to consider in coming to this class. Did you know:

- That marriage is the most complex and sophisticated thing a woman and a man can do together?
- That there is a Bell Curve to marriage?
- That fun is essential to a healthy marriage?
- That male and female brains are actually wired differently by God's design?
- That every *Great Marriage* is blessed with agape love? (What's agape love?)



Please contact Pastor David Leeland to register for *Great Marriage!* by e-mail: dleeland@trinitydt.org or by telephone: 713.224.0684.