

Vol. 26, No. 3

March 1, 2024

# HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE









PALM SUNDAY • MARCH 24, 2024 Traditional Worship - 9:00 a.m.

Discipleship Hour - 10:15 a.m. Confirmation Service (HC) - 11:30 a.m.

#### MAUNDY THURSDAY • MARCH 28, 2024

Traditional Worship (HC) - Noon Living Last Supper (HC) - 6:30 p.m. First Communion

#### GOOD FRIDAY • MARCH 29, 2024

Traditional Worship - Noon Tenebrae Service - 6:30 p.m.

#### EASTER SUNDAY • MARCH 31, 2024

Festival Worship (HC) - 9:00 & 11:00 a.m. Empty Tomb Party - 10:00-11:00 a.m.

(HC) = Holy Communion

### Lenten Video Series – The Gospel of Mark; The Desert Life

Join us as we continue to explore the Gospel of Mark during the Lenten season. Both our sermon series and our daily video devotionals will be coordinated so we will have discussed the entire book by Easter Sunday.

Our popular Lenten video devotionals are available Monday-Saturday through March 30<sup>th</sup>, and will feature Pastors Michael Dorn, Paul Dorn, Lonnie Gonzales and Donald Black; Haley Davisson (Trinity's DCE) and Rev. Greg Finke (Trinity's deployed missionary).

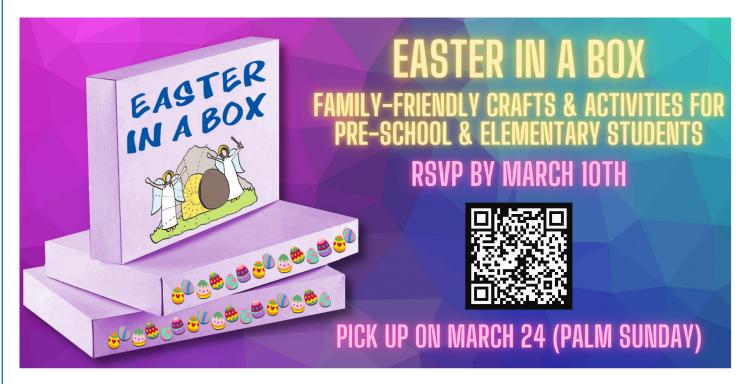
Watch your email inbox for a link to each day's video, and allow God to deepen your faith during this important season of the year.

The following is a list of the remaining readings from the book of Mark that accompanies the daily Lenten devotionals.

- March 1..... Mark 6:30-44
- March 2..... Mark 6:45-56
- March 4..... Mark 7:1-23
- March 5..... Mark 7:24-37
- March 6 ..... Mark 8:1-21
- March 7 ..... Mark 8:22-33
- March 8 . . . . Mark 8:34-9:13
- March 9 ..... Mark 9:14-29

- March 11 ..... Mark 9:30-37
- March 12 ..... Mark 9:38-50
- March 13 ..... Mark 10:1-16
- March 14 .... Mark 10:17-31
- March 15 .... Mark 10:32-52
- March 16 .....Mark 11:1-25
- March 18...Mark 11:27-12:12
- March 19 ....Mark 12:13-34
- March 20 . . . . Mark 12:35-44
- March 21 .....Mark 13:1-20
  March 22 ....Mark 13:21-37
  March 23 .....Mark 13:21-37
  March 23 .....Mark 14:1-26
  March 25 ....Mark 14:27-42
  March 26 ....Mark 14:27-42
  March 26 ....Mark 14:43-65
  March 26 ....Mark 14:66-15:15
  March 27 ...Mark 14:66-15:15
  March 28 ....Mark 15:16-39
  March 29 ....Mark 15:40-47
  March 30 .....Mark 16:1-8

Deser



### **Easter Lily Orders**

Beautiful Easter lilies will adorn our sanctuary for Easter. If you would like to purchase one or more for \$13.00 each, please order in one of the following ways:

- Complete the form online <u>here</u> or use the QR code below right and submit your payment by mailing a check earmarked for Easter lilies to the church office or submit payment <u>online</u>.
- Write your dedication(s) on the Easter lily order form available at the Welcome Desk. Insert your check and form in the envelope provided and place in the Easter lily box.

Lilies may be taken home after the

11:00 a.m. Easter service. Deadline to order and have dedication in the online Easter Service Folder and in the pre-service loop is Wednesday, March 20<sup>th</sup>.











Dress in your western wear and join us for fellowship, food, games & dancing! Sign up at Welcome Desk to enter your chili in the cook-off.

For more info contact Roseann at rgamez@trinitydt.org.

Save the Date!

# THE LIVING LAST SUPPER

MAUNDY THURSDAY MARCH 28, 2024



## Wind Symphony of Concordia University Chicago in Concert at Trinity - March 2



The Wind Symphony from Concordia University Chicago will perform a concert of sacred and secular music at Trinity Downtown, on Saturday, March 2 at 4 p.m. The concert is part of the ensemble's Spring Tour, March 2-10, taking them to Texas, Oklahoma, Kansas, Missouri and Illinois. The concert is open to the public, and admission is free.

The concert will include Praise God, All Creatures by Samuel Marquart, Conni Ellisor's Keepers of the House, the March from Holst's First Suite for Band, Alleluia! Laudamus Te by Alfred Reed, Rossano Galante's Sailing with Whales, Pennsylvania Faux Songs by Johan de Meij, San Pelayo by Victoriano Valencia Rincon, Dan Forrest's Shalom, How to Train Your Dragon by John Powell, and Two Sacred Pieces: Pavel Chesnokov's Salvation is Created and O Love, How Deep by Jordan Holliday. Special guest trumpet soloist Christopher O'Hara will be featured in Ballad by R. Christopher Tiechler and Herbert L. Clarke's Carnival of Venice.



Dr. Richard R. Fischer Director

Under the direction of Dr. Richard R. Fischer, celebrating his 50<sup>th</sup> year of conducting at Concordia University Chicago, the Wind Symphony has performed in 43 states, Canada, Europe, Asia and South Africa as well as twice at Carnegie Hall. The ensemble has commissioned and premiered numerous wind compositions and produced 16 acclaimed recordings of sacred wind music.

### The Transformative Power of Praying for Our Enemies

In a world that is seemingly defined by division and conflict, the act of praying for our enemies stands as a profound way of "standing tall" and following Jesus's counter-cultural command. In the simple act of directing our thoughts and intentions towards those who we feel have wronged us, we embark on a journey of healing and understanding that opens the door for the Holy Spirit to change us in profound ways.

At its core, praying for our enemies challenges our instinctual responses rooted in anger, resentment, and vengeance. It calls upon us to confront our own biases and prejudices, fostering empathy and forgiveness where bitterness once resided.



This transformative process begins internally, as we grapple with our own emotions and seek to cultivate a spirit of reconciliation rather than retaliation.

Following Jesus' command to pray for our enemies fosters a shift in perspective, allowing us to see beyond the surface-level actions and motivations of others. It invites us to consider the humanity inherent in every individual, regardless of their actions or beliefs. Through prayer, we acknowledge our shared vulnerabilities and shortcomings, recognizing that we are all capable of both great kindness and grave mistakes.

By extending grace and goodwill towards those who have wronged us, we create space for dialogue and reconciliation, laying the groundwork for mutual understanding and healing. This process not only can transform our own hearts but has the potential to inspire similar growth and empathy in others.

Ultimately, the act of praying for our enemies is not primarily about changing them but about allowing the Lord to transform US. It is a practice that challenges us to rise above the cycle of hatred and resentment by putting Jesus's love into action. In doing so, we unlock the profound potential for personal growth and collective healing.

Are you feeling profoundly angry about how someone has treated you? Or, perhaps you are sad or anxious, facing financial difficulties or grieving the loss of a loved one? God never intended for us to go through these challenges alone. You can reach out to Trinity's Stephen Ministry for assistance. Stephen Ministers are laypeople in our congregation trained to provide one-to-one, Christ-centered care to individuals facing difficult times in life—grief, cancer, divorce, financial difficulties, hospitalization, chronic illness, job loss, disability, loneliness, a spiritual crisis, or other life struggles. They have a compassionate heart for those who are hurting, and they have been equipped with caring ministry skills by their congregation's Stephen Leaders. A Stephen Minister typically has one care receiver at a time and meets with that person once a week to listen, care, pray, encourage, and offer emotional and spiritual support.

If you'd like to learn more about how our Stephen Ministry could provide a listening ear and caring heart for yourself, a loved one, friend, neighbor or co-worker (inside or outside our congregation) please speak with Pastor Lonnie at <u>Igonzales@trinitydt.org</u> or contact one of our other pastors.

# Hello, Trinity Families!

February was filled with awesome events! The youth went on their first weekend retreat out to Carolina Creek. We studied Ephesians, Chapter 4 and dove into conversation about compassion. Our Children's Ministry had an awesome event where the youngest members of our congregation got to serve! We made cards for homebound members, decorated sack lunch bags and packed the homeless lunches for Monday. Check out some pictures!



March looks forward to the Empty Tomb Party for children and teens on Easter Sunday. It will be March 31<sup>st</sup> from 10:00-11:00 a.m. in the gym and we will have crafts, prayer activities and an Easter Bible lesson! It will be a come and go event, so make sure to drop by!

March also looks forward to First Communion and Confirmation. We will be communing nine children for the first time on Maundy Thursday, March 28<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m.! We will confirm five students on Palm Sunday, March 24<sup>th</sup>, at 11:30 a.m. in the Sanctuary. It will be a full worship service and anyone is welcome to attend!

Thank you for your continued support of our children, youth and adult leaders! We are all grateful!

Blessings in Jesus' Name, Haley Davisson, Director of Youth and Children's Ministries

## Youth Stock Sale

#### **INVEST IN OUR YOUTH**

The youth at Trinity Downtown are pleased to announce a renewed opportunity for you to make an annual investment in their lives, with as little as a \$50 contribution.

#### WHAT CAN \$50 DO?

Have you ever wondered what \$50 can do for summer youth ministry at Trinity?

- \$50 can cover an entire day of meals for one student at our middle school mission trip to the downtown community.
- \$50 can cover a tank of gas.
- \$50 can cover lunch with lay leaders who are investing in students during trips/planning meetings.
- \$50 can cover supplies for summer trip preparation and bonding materials.

#### **INVESTING IN THE FUTURE**

By investing in the Youth of Trinity Downtown during the summer you are advancing the faith formation of students between 7th-12th grade, who are growing in their roles within the body of Christ. Our hope is to take 20 students and 5 chaperones on our high school trip and 15 students and 5 chaperones on our middle school trip. To accomplish that goal, we need to raise \$25,300. This is larger than last year for two reasons: first, I have better estimates for expenses and second, I am not subsidizing money from my budget.

Your investment this year will support all costs associated with the summer mission trips for our 7th-12th grade students, to meet our \$25,300 goal. Any investment beyond that amount will be designated to upcoming youth mission programs and opportunities!

Buy a single share at \$50 and you will receive a signed group photo and thank you note from either the middle or high school mission trip group after returning home. Buy 2 shares (\$100) and you are invited to join the Annual Shareholder's Dinner, on July 12, 2024. The Shareholder's Dinner is very special, both to our students and return investors! It gives our students a chance to share how God changed their lives during each trip, serve the people who generously supported them and revel in the relationships they built during the summer. There are 3 more levels that you can give at that have awesome perks including partnering in prayer to submitting questions for the students to answer at the Shareholder's Dinner.

#### **HOW TO PURCHASE**

You can pay by check (payable to Trinity Lutheran Church, memo line: 2024 Youth Stock Subscription) after services or give directly to Haley Davisson. You may also pay using a credit card at https://www.trinitydt.org/online-giving/.

#### **SHAREHOLDER BENEFITS**

#### Orange Shareholder = invest \$50 (1 share)

- Signed group photo
- Thank you note from students



#### Bronze Shareholder = invest \$100 (2 shares)

- All the perks of being an Orange shareholder, +
- Shareholder's Dinner.

Silver Shareholder = invest \$250 (5 shares)

- All the perks of being a Bronze shareholder, +
- Specialized bookmark
- Come alongside students during both trips and receive prayer partner updates.

#### Gold Shareholder = invest \$500 (10 shares)

- All the perks of being a Silver shareholder, +
- Cookie Jar Kit
- Opportunity to pre-submit questions to be asked at the Shareholder's Dinner.

#### Teal Shareholder = invest \$1000+ (20+ shares)

- All the perks of being a Gold shareholder, +
- Preferential seating at the Shareholder's Dinner
- Personalized thank you note from Haley Davisson and a Trinity Downtown Student.
- Special dessert during Shareholder's Dinner.

Your contributions can make a real difference in Trinity Downtown's ministry to our students by helping provide a place and a ministry that can build their faith for a lifetime!

# Next New Member Class Begins April 7th!

Faith Discovery 10:15 - 11:15 a.m. Room 123

Contact Pastor Dorn at mdorn@trinitydt.org for more information.

#### 2024 GOVERNING BOARD

Jim Baccus (Elder) Lori Dixon Pastor Michael Dorn Mike Gilmore (Elder) Tim Grady (Chair/Elder)

**Ross Krueger** 

**Brent Laumen** 

Cassandra McGarvey (Vice-Chair)

**Marie Munier** 

**Mary Oliver** 

Chris Sonneborn (Secretary/ Elder)

Mike Sterling (Elder)

Minutes of the Governing Board meetings are available to our members at the Welcome Center.

### Finance Corner - March 2024

Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God. Hebrews 13:16 ESV

I am thrilled to report that **tithes and offerings for the month of January were almost \$20,000 higher than our budget, and over \$3,000 higher than January 2023!** Our operational expenses in January were \$2,500 less than we budgeted, **and actually \$11,000 less than January 2023.** Your generosity is a blessing to our church and our community as we act as God's representatives to our segment of Houston.

Participation in our traditional worship service continues steady, as does the number of those who worship with us online. I'm especially pleased to report that **Discipleship Hour attendance in January was 17% higher than last year at this time**, with growth in children, youth and adult classes.

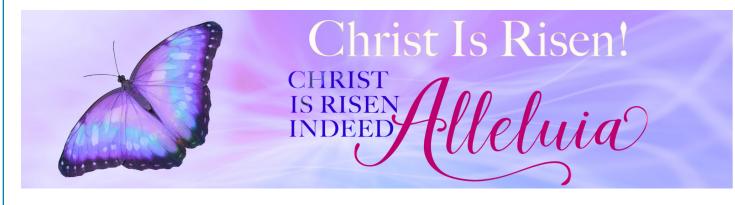
The work on the Christian Life Building's roof and the replacement of the Gym's HVAC system started in late February, **3-4 months ahead of the original schedule.** We're targeting completion just before Holy Week!

You should have already received a report listing your 2023 contributions in the snail-mail. If not, please feel free to reach out to me at 713.229.2970 or <u>rlacy@trinitydt.org</u> and we will forward a replacement immediately.

Here's a quick summary of "visible results" for January 2024:

January 2024 Summ			
Average (non-Christmas) Worship Attendance	In-person 237	Online 154	<b>Jan. 2023</b> 411
	Adults	Students	Jan. 2023
Avg. Discipleship Hour Attendance	148	77	193
Contributions	Actual	Budgeted	Last Year
January 2024 tithes and offerings	\$124,965	\$105,000	\$121,524
Total 2024 tithes and offerings	\$124,965	\$105,000	\$121,524

May God deepen our faith this Lenten season, Ron Lacy, CFO



### **Trinity Ladies Ministries**

Mark your calendars, ladies! Our monthly meetings are a special time to connect and share. Join us for our upcoming meeting on March 7<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m. in the Gathering Space. Fellowship time will begin at 9:45 a.m. For more information, feel free to reach out to Trinity Garrett (info at #LinkinBio) or 281.300.5660.

Following our short business meeting, our speaker, Sally Davis, from Amazing Place Houston will begin around 10:30 a.m. The Amazing Place is about equipping families who are impacted by the challenges of Dementia and Alzheimer's. They have a day program in Houston and also offer family caregiver support (education, support groups, counseling, etc.) as well as brain health education.

March will also feature a "cold dish" potluck luncheon to celebrate January - March birthdays. (Eating extra salad at this luncheon will negate the calories from your dessert, in effect making you healthier.\*)

All ladies are welcome to join in the camaraderie and conversation. Looking forward to seeing you there! Bring a friend!!!

\*This statement has not been validated by any source and is for comedy effect only.

### Saddle Up and Save Lives

Our next Blood Donor Sunday will be held March 17, 8 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in the gym. If you would prefer a special time, please sign up online at <a href="https://www.commitforlife.org/donor/schedules/drive\_schedule/373088">https://www.commitforlife.org/donor/schedules/drive\_schedule/373088</a>. While scheduling an appointment ahead of time gives us an estimate of how many donors to expect and the Blood Center sends out the appropriate number of workers; an added bonus is we take scheduled appointments prior to walk-ups. Donors will receive a free "Rodeo" T-shirt.

We look forward to a very successful drive. Double red cell and combination whole blood and plasma machines will be available for those wishing to donate that way. Both count for two donations.

Save time with the DIGITAL DONOR APP. The App makes it easy to find a blood drive, schedule your donation and answer the CFL Express Pass health history interview before you arrive.

REMINDER!! The minimum donor age requirement to give blood is 16 years old with a parent's permission. Weight must be 122 lbs. (still 110 lbs. for 17 and older) and in general good health.

REMEMBER: One unit of blood can save as many as three lives as it is broken down into three components – red blood cells, platelets and plasma.

Jim Baccus	iimbaccus@comcast.net	
	timlgrady@aol.com	
	csonneb@gmail.com	
	<u>nasasterling@gmail.com</u>	
-		





## Trinity Ladies Circle Gifts Quilting Materials to Lady Fishers

The Ladies Circle has decided to suspend assembling quilts for Lutheran World Relief. As a result, the Ladies Circle deployed remaining quilting materials to the Lady Fishers of Fishers of Men Lutheran Church in Sugar Land, TX.



Trinity ladies sort quilting materials (pictured above). Lady Fishers receive materials (pictured below).







Thank you again for your GENEROUS donation of fabrics, sheets and sewing supplies. Our gals already put a quilt together from one of the tops that you gifted us (pictured right). What a beautiful blessing.

Tracie Hollis, Lady Fishers Fishers of Men LCMS



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### **Bundle of Love Drive**

Thank you to those that contributed gifts to the Bundle of Love Drive. On Tuesday, February 27<sup>th</sup>. In partnership with LEAH Downtown Academy, we delivered over 30 boxes of diapers, a crib, a stroller, dozens of onesies, tons of toiletry products, 18 blankets, wipes and pacifiers to the BlueBlossom Pregnancy Center! They were very thankful and said the donations represented a month of supplies.





### Sunday, March 17, 2024 at 3p.m. Trinity Downtown, 800 Houston Ave. 77007 Janwin Overstreet-Goode and Neena Taylor, Artistic Directors **Tickets at https://casulana.org**

Trinity members may purchase discount tickets at the Welcome Center before noon on March 17th.

## More Than Just Fun!

The Orphan Grain Train hosted an "Under Construction" fundraiser Saturday, January 27 in Pasadena.

We couldn't have asked for a better mix of guests aged 20 into their 80's - there was no generation gap as they bid over each other at the silent auction tables. Interactive riddle solving and hunting for crazy clues kept the room in motion as guests



Relief for Human Need Worldwide

grazed by the appetizers and refreshed their drinks at the beverage counters prior to a catered dinner by Gringos.

Orphan Grain Train appreciates all who sponsored the fundraiser and all the guests who came from as far as Katy and Sugar Land to learn more about OGT and provide their backing for the build of a Servant Center/Warehouse in Pasadena. Corporate sponsors: ADCO Forestry, Pinnacle Pasadena, Martin/Black Real Estate, Capital Bank Pasadena, Kiwanis Pasadena. Individual sponsors: Susan Jacobs and Zach Rathje.



Board member Erika Adams spearheaded the planning team and Board member Jeff Bibler presented the history, mission, and goals of the organization which resulted in a successful evening raising nearly \$20,000 with pledges still coming in for the Houston Branch of Orphan Grain Train. To God be the Glory!

Visit <u>ogt.org</u> to watch video clips; read about the 4-Star rating OGT receives from Charity Navigator or to make a donation to the Houston Branch.

Contact Mike Rathje, Branch Manager 281.723.4989 for information about how you can help make a difference in the lives of people in need.







presents

### "Song of the Shadows"

#### by Joseph Martin



#### Sunday, March 17th, 4:00 p.m. at Immanuel Lutheran Church 306 East 15th Street & Houston, Texas 77008 & in the Heights parking lot entrance off Arlington Street

Song of the Shadows is a solemn remembrance of Christ's final days and an invitation to contemplate the love and sacrifice of Christ this Lenten season. Join us for this special worship. All are welcome.

Artwark by Theresa Breuer used with permission from Barbara Breuer Scott. All rights reserved.

# Children, Youth and Adult Bible Studies

Please consider joining one or more of our Bible studies. It's a wonderful way to begin a new spiritual discipline. Virtual login information is available on Trinity's website <u>www.trinitydt.org</u>. Children and youth classes are in person unless indicated otherwise. Adult classes are either virtual, in person or hybrid.

#### **SUNDAYS - CHILDREN** (10:15 - 11:15 AM)

Nursery (Infants - age 2) - Room 234 Kingdom Quest 2 & 3 year olds - Room 233 Kingdom Quest 4 & 5 year olds - Room 232 Kingdom Quest 1st Grade - 4th Grade - Kingdom Hall (basement)

#### **SUNDAYS - YOUTH**

First Communion Class (5<sup>th</sup> grade & up) - 10:15-11:15 AM - Meets 2/4, 2/18, 3/3 & 3/17 Foundations 56 (5<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> grades) - 10:15-11:15 AM - Room 207 Confirmation (7<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grades) - 10:15-11:15 AM - Room 208 High School (7<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grades) - 10:15-11:15 AM - Underground

#### **SUNDAYS - ADULT**

#### Discipleship Bible Study - The Whole Story - Creation to Jesus

Led by Group of Members - 10:15-11:15 AM - Room 125 - In Person

This Bible study series covers creation through the redemptive story in the Old Testament. It is perfect for people interested in learning a simple and reproducible model to study Scripture in a group setting. The study is sponsored and facilitated by a committed group of members at Trinity Downtown. Participants can come and go throughout the series.

#### **Ephesians**

Led by Jim Cleary - 10:15-11:15 AM - Room 205 - Hybrid

Join us as we study Paul's letter to the Ephesians. In this class, we'll get heavenly glimpses as to how things really are, and get a better understanding of God's plan to unite everyone and everything in Christ. You will renew your hope! Discussion-oriented.

#### History of Church Controversies

Led by Thomas DeVries and Anthony Flaviani - 10:15-11:15 AM - Room 206 - In Person

The Church is Christ's perfect bride, until you involve people. As soon as Christ left the Earth, that's what happened and over the next 2,000 years we have jumped from one controversy or heresy to the next; dividing ourselves along the way. Each week will be a stand-alone lesson on a controversy starting with the book of Acts and moving towards the present day. Learn from their mistakes not only as a church, but as individuals in our own lives and our own controversies.

#### <u>Joshua</u>

Led by Pastor Paul Dorn - 7:00-8:00 PM - Virtual

In the book of Joshua is recorded the history of God fulfilling His promise to His people Israel. It is part of God's plan for the salvation of the world. Joshua is an example of a leader faithful to the Word of the Lord. The book displays God's continuous grace to sinful humanity.

Please email Paul Dorn (pbdorn6@gmail.com) and he will send you his class notes and a link to the class session on Zoom. You will need a computer, laptop, or phone.



#### The Bible Alive ... God In Action

Led by John Reisig - 10:15-11:15 AM - Room 124 - In Person

In this study, each Sunday offers a single, stand-alone topic. The material covered each week will provide a meaningful experience for regular participants, visitors to Trinity Downtown, and for those simply looking to get back into a routine of attending Bible study. The single topic format insures that no one will be lost or feel behind during the study, and will feel welcome and encouraged to attend at any time. Bibles will be provided and utilized each week. Providing historical context to the scriptural message, and modern application of His word, the Bible will "Come Alive," and show that God has been working throughout history, and is still working today out of love for His people.

#### The Gospel of Mark

Led by Bill Fischer - 10:15-11:15 AM - Room 201 - Hybrid

The Gospel of Mark is the shortest of the four Gospels and is thought to be the first one written. It tells the story of Jesus Christ from the foretelling of John the Baptiser through Jesus' life, death, resurrection, and ascension into heaven. There is less detail than in the gospels of Matthew, Luke or John and it has a feeling of urgency in telling the good news. The word "immediately" appears many times. Join us either in person at Trinity or remotely through Zoom as Mark introduces Jesus to the world as both God and Man and the salvation for all people.

#### The Spiritual Life - A Study on 1st Corinthians

Led by Pastor Jose Flores of Casa 'de Oracion - 10:15-11:15 AM - Room 211 - In Person (Spanish Speaking)

Paul writes to the Church in Corinth instructing them regarding spiritual life in the context of the local church. The Church is called to live a life empowered by the Spirit of God.

#### Young Adult Bible Study - Book of James

Led by Class Members - 10:15-11:15 AM - Gathering Space - In Person

Young adults, please join us as we study the book of James using the 'Sword Method'. Each week we will read a chapter ahead of time and use the 'Sword Method' on Sunday to better understand what the passage says to do, what not to do, who man is, who God is, and lastly how we take these things into the week. We look forward to seeing you there!

#### TUESDAYS - ADULTS

#### Tuesday Morning Women's Bible Study - LifeLight: Ruth & Esther

Led by Karen Maynard - 10:00-11:30 AM - Room 205 - Hybrid

This study is part of the LifeLight Bible study series of in-depth studies of Bible books. The goal of LifeLight is that through a regular program of in-depth personal and group study of Scripture, more and more Christian adults may grow in their personal faith in Jesus Christ.

#### WEDNESDAYS - ADULTS

#### **Ephesians**

Led by Mary Oliver - 6:30-7:45 PM - Virtual

This winter Women's Wednesday Night Bible Study will dig into the book of Ephesians. We would love for you to become a part of this small but joyful group.

In Ephesians, the Apostle Paul describes followers of Jesus with words such as predestined, sealed, made alive, brought near, reconciled, citizens, equipped, mature, one body, and children of light. Then, he describes the tools God graciously gives us to live this life.

Please join us. We meet Wednesday evenings on Zoom from 6:30 to 7:45 p.m. and in person the last Wednesday of the month.

#### Virtual Midweek Spiritual Check-in

Led by Jim Cleary - 7:00-8:00 PM - Virtual

#### **THURSDAYS - ADULTS**

#### Sonrise Bible Study

Led by Bill Fischer, Pastor Black and individual class members - 7:30-8:30 AM - Virtual

This member-led virtual class primarily discusses the Scripture readings assigned for the following Sunday. The class is open to men and women. For more information contact Bill Fischer at 832,459,3241 or the church office.

### Flowers at Our Altar

If you are wanting to dedicate flowers for a special occasion or just because you love to see the beautiful flowers at the altar, please sign up on the Flower Chart that is hanging in the foyer by the Welcome Desk. You may also call our hostess (713.229.2950) to sign up.

Sue Clark, a florist in our congregation, will design two arrangements for \$75. Simply make a donation to the "Flowers for Sanctuary" fund at https://www. trinitydt.org/online- aiving/ or submit a check with "Flowers" in the memo line. You may also use your own florist if you prefer. You may take your flowers home with you after the service.



When signing up for flowers, please give a two-week notice. If you have a special request, Sue will attempt to accommodate your request but it will depend on flower availability. A two-week notice is required for any special request.

Thank you so much for helping provide flowers for our Sanctuary. If you have any questions, please contact Stefanie Bowman at 713.229.2950.

### **Thrivent Choice Dollars**

Looking for an easy way to support and strengthen Trinity Downtown? Participate in Thrivent Choice®, Thrivent's charitable outreach program.

Through Thrivent Choice, you can contribute to organizations and causes you care about and influence how Thrivent distributes some of its charitable funding.

Thrivent Choice® Making generosity easy



thrivent<sup>.</sup>

Thrivent Choice provides an online giving platform where you can make personal donations. And Thrivent pays the processing fees, so 100% of your donation goes to help make an impact.\*

Eligible Thrivent clients with membership can also recommend where Thrivent distributes some of its outreach funding by directing Choice Dollars® to any of the thousands of enrolled churches and nonprofit organizations, including Triity Downtown.

If you previously made a donation or directed Choice Dollars to us, we thank you for your support! If you haven't yet participated in Thrivent Choice but would like to do so or learn more about it, visit thrivent.com/thriventchoice. You can also contact your Thrivent advisor.

Thank you for supporting our important work and helping to make good things happen.

## **Membership Report**

The following are the changes to membership approved at the February 3<sup>rd</sup> Governing Board meeting.

#### **MEMBERSHIP IN**

#### **Baptisms**

- Emma Cordelia Blaine (12/27/2023)
- Charlotte Marie Rodriguez (01/14/2024)

#### **MEMBERSHIP OUT**

#### Transfers

- Kyle & Coleen Richter to Christ the King LCMS Kingwood, TX (12/15/2024)
- Eric, Kathryn and Carter Sparks to Trinity LCMS Leavenworth, KS (01/29/2024)

### Life Quotes - March 17

"God loves everybody. God loves people that are big and small. God loves people that are every age. God loves people no matter where we live. All people are special to God. The Bible says, 'For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand' (Ephesians 2:10). God has good things for each of us."

Timothy, a sixth grader from southern Minnesota, who has Down syndrome – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • <u>lutheransforlife.org</u>



EPHESIANS 2:10, ESV

#### **STAFF DIRECTORY**

SENIOR PASTOR Michael P. Dorn.....713.229.2940 <u>mdorn@trinitydt.org</u>

ASSOCIATE PASTOR OF OUTREACH Lonnie Gonzales .....713.229.2905 Igonzales@trinitydt.org

VISITATION PASTOR Donald G. Black .....713.229.2917 <u>dblack@trinitydt.org</u>

CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER Ron Lacy......713.229.2970 rlacy@trinitydt.org

DIR. OF MUSIC AND WORSHIP Mary Voigt ......713.229.2922 <u>mvoigt@trinitydt.org</u>

DIRECTOR OF YOUTH AND CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES Haley Davisson.....713.229.2910

hdavisson@trinitydt.org

DIRECTOR OF ACCOUNTING Roseann Gamez .....713.229.2962 rgamez@trinitydt.org

COMMUNICATIONS COORDINATOR Pam Schroeder .....713.229.2944 pschroeder@trinitydt.org

CONTRIBUTIONS MANAGER Angela Avant......713.229.2963 aavant@trinitydt.org

HOSTESS (MONDAYS - THURSDAYS) Stefanie Bowman . . . .713.229.2950 sbowman@trinitydt.org

HOSTESS (FRIDAYS) Sarahai Flores.....713.229.2950 <u>sflores@trinitydt.org</u>

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Trinity Downtown 800 Houston Avenue • Houston, TX 77007

713-224-0684



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Contact Pam Schroeder at 713.229.2944 with any questions about this publication.

