

TRINITYnews

APRIL 2018

VOLUME 24 ■ ISSUE 4

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

203 East Main Street
PO Box 188
Spring Grove, MN 55974

507.498.5291
www.trinitysg.org



Trinity Lutheran Church Spring Grove

Office hours:

Mon, Tue, Thu, Fri: 10a.m. – 4 p.m.

Wed: Noon – 6:00 p.m.

Sundays at Trinity

9:15 a.m. Worship

10:15 a.m. Fellowship

10:30 a.m. Sunday School,
Babel in Belfry

Listen live on KVIK 104.7 FM.

STAFF

Jim Scaife, Interim Pastor
trinitysr@springgrove.coop

Lane Zaffke, Visitation Pastor
lane.zaffke@gmail.com

Bekah Leafblad, Youth & Family Coord.
bekah@trinitysg.org

Marlene Deschler, Admin. Pro./
Communications
trinity@springgrove.coop

Stewart Storlie, Admin. Pro./
Bookkeeping
stewart@trinitysg.org

David Myrah, Custodian
Scott Solberg, Choir Director
Rachel Storlie, Organist
Jean Ellingson, Pianist

HOLY WEEK

Maundy Thursday worship, March 29, 7:00 p.m.

Good Friday Crosswalk, March 30, 5:30 p.m.

Easter Sunrise Service, April 1, 7:00 a.m.

Easter Breakfast, April 1, 7:45 a.m.

Easter Festival Service, April 1, 9:15a.m.



Holy Week

CROSSWALK

On Good Friday, March 30 members of the Trinity Lutheran Church community will gather in the afternoon for a Crosswalk. This Crosswalk is symbolic of the walk Jesus took to his crucifixion and is intended as a public witness of faith.

We will begin at Trinity Church and make our way to different places/stations in the community representative of Holy Week events and ideas.

During the Crosswalk, all participants, young and old alike, will be given a chance to share in carrying the cross.

Along the way, we will stop for short times of prayer, reading, and singing.

Please note that stations will be handicap accessible. Folks may drive between each station if they prefer. All ages are welcome. All are welcome!
(You do not need to be a Trinity member to participate.)

Following the Crosswalk, join us for a simple soup supper in the Fellowship Hall.

"Then he handed him over to them to be crucified. So they took Jesus; and carrying the cross by himself, he went out to what is called The Place of the Skull, which in Hebrew is called Golgotha."
John 19:16-17





People frequently ask me this question; “why do you serve as an interim pastor instead of taking a permanent call?” Usually they add the phrase, “like a normal pastor,” to the end of that question. There is an answer to this question. Here it is:

I believe God gives each congregation a special gift during the time between pastors. It is the gift of faithful, Spirit filled leaders. In every congregation I have served, these leaders rise up during the interim period to guide and strengthen the congregation. They bring stability, creativity and joy. The reason I am an interim pastor is I love working with these people. Their skills amaze me. Their generosity of time

astounds me. Their spirits of service humble me. Their deep faith challenges me.

God has given Trinity this gift in great bounty. This makes me joyful even though leaving is bitter-sweet. God has blest Trinity with a legion of Spirit-filled leaders. They have been a blessing to me. They will be a wonderful blessing for my sister pastor, Elizabeth, as she begins her ministry here.

Also, as I leave, there is a gift I would like to give you, the members of Trinity, and Pastor Elizabeth. Here’s my gift: As of April 2, I will mind my own business and not interfere in the ministry of Trinity. It is the gift of a good, solid boundary. This gift also comes from our Bishop out of his experience and love for the congregations of Southeastern Minnesota. My boundary gift may be difficult to keep. We have shared a lot over the last 17 months. However, I am certain it is the best thing for Trinity.

Practically speaking, this means that after April 1, I will not be available to take any pastoral role in the life of the people of Trinity. This would include any pastoral role with extended family who may not officially be members. It also includes pastoral services for Trinity related families which are not at the church building.

I don’t live far away, so we will certainly see each other—and I look forward to it! I frequently see people from all the churches I have served. I enjoy every minute of conversation with them. It is a delight to visit. But the boundary must stay firm. This is one part of ensuring Trinity’s ministry continues to be the joyful, faithful ministry it has been while I have been here.

God be with you till we meet again,
Pastor Jim

FAREWELL FELLOWSHIP

Sunday, March 25 following worship we will have a special Farewell Reception for Pastor Jim. Come and worship with us and stay for treats and conversation!

FINAL WORSHIP SERVICES

Easter Sunday will be Pastor Jim’s final worship services at Trinity.

PASTORS' PEN



WE ARE EXCITED TO WELCOME PASTOR ELIZABETH TO TRINITY!

Pastor Elizabeth Hermeier graduated from Luther College with a BA in English and French and a minor in Religion. She went on to obtain a Master's in English from the University of Minnesota and she recently received a Master of Divinity from Luther Seminary in Saint Paul.

Ministry is Pastor Elizabeth's second career, and to her it is "a long awaited and sole vocation." Her decision to enter the ministry was in part, a result of her engagement in her current congregation, Lutheran

Memorial, where she has been an active member for 20 years. It was in this diverse parish of Swedish Lutherans, African, Hmong, and Hispanic Americans that Pastor Elizabeth had the "privilege of practice preaching" and leading worship, long before her seminary internship. It was also at this congregation that she became interested in stewardship and was involved in raising money for individual projects and developing programs to encourage regular stewardship.

Pastor Elizabeth completed her seminary internship at Nokomis Heights Lutheran Church in Minneapolis. During her internship she was engaged in worship planning, preaching, visitation and youth ministry. Experiences included preaching at Sunday and Lenten services, participation in staff and council meetings, community outreach missions, leading confirmation classes and a confirmation retreat. She strengthened her ministry with the elderly, which began with Bible study and visitation in her congregation, at Nokomis, and during her Clinical Pastoral Education course. This course involved 400 hours of spiritual ministry at Ebenezer Central, a senior living community. She continues to provide spiritual care there as a volunteer.

She previously worked as a writer, creative director, and in marketing and advertising for more than 30 years. She has many unique gifts from these experiences which complement her ministry. She has experience in administration, strategic planning, staff supervision, mentoring, and working collaboratively with teams. She has also managed large and small budgets for projects and client accounts. Pastor Elizabeth believes that "Christians are called to serve God in a variety of vocations," she did that for many years; she is now called to serve God as a minister of the Word and Sacrament and brings these valuable life experiences into her ministry.

Pastor Elizabeth is the daughter and niece of Lutheran ministers. She shared that her "upbringing both reinforced her faith and prepared her for the realities of ministry." She grew up in the small towns and rural areas of Iowa and feels a call to serve in the rural Midwest.



Trinity members recently attended Pastor Elizabeth's ordination service. ▲

WE JOYFULLY WELCOME PASTOR ELIZABETH TO TRINITY!

Her first Sunday is **April 15**.

Her Installation Service is **April 22**
followed by a Welcome Reception.

Join us for these special events!

WELCOME PR. ELIZABETH!

SPECIAL PROGRAM AT CINEMA—HUMAN TRAFFICKING...EVEN IN A SMALL TOWN

Living in a small town, you may feel safer than you would in a large city. However, human trafficking has been occurring closer to home than you may think. On Thursday, April 19 at 7 p.m. at the Spring Grove Cinema, Laura Sutherland, Safe Harbor Regional Navigator from Olmsted County, will give an educational presentation on Human Trafficking.

Everyone – parents, children, grandparents, aunts, uncles, etc. - is encouraged to attend this presentation. However, use discretion in bringing young children, as some material is explicit. The “not in my back yard” mentality is a boon to human traffickers, as many are moving their “business” beyond big cities and into unsuspecting rural communities. Human trafficking is a crime involving the exploitation of someone for the purposes of force, fraud or coercion. It affects every community in the United States across age, gender, ethnicity and socio-economic backgrounds. Trafficking happens because it’s highly profitable, hard to detect, and traffickers feel the punishment is often “worth the crime.”

Spring Grove Community Education and Wilmington Lutheran Church will co-host the event, with support from Thrivent Financial. .



David and Kathy Overland ▲

WELCOME TO TRINITY!

All of these wonderful people recently joined Trinity! We welcome them and invite everyone to help them feel at home.

Next month we will get to know more about our new members. Stay tuned!



Jeff Rud (with his wife, Kris) ▲



Nick Clark ▲
(and children)



Tom Pecinovsky ▲



Carla and Charley Hahn ▲



Jenny St. Mary
(and husband Derek and son) ▲



Adell Twite ▲

EASTER BREAKFAST—Trinity Youth will be serving Easter Breakfast on Sunday, April 1 from 7:45-8:45 a.m. Come and enjoy egg bakes, muffins, fruit, and beverages. Cost: freewill donation that will go toward furthering youth ministries at Trinity.

YOUTH — did you get your letter in the mail about helping with the Easter Breakfast? If not, please contact Bekah right away, bekah@trinitysg.org or 498-5291. Thanks!

CONFIRMATION STUDENTS— Our regular Confirmation Classes recommence after Lent on April 4. This is a service night so we will not be having supper. We will spend our entire time making layettes and school kits for Lutheran World Relief. **Please bring a 9-12 month size t-shirt** (no onesies, please) to be used in the layettes.

YOUTH GATHERING PARTICIPANTS— We will have a team building meeting on Sunday, April 8 at 11:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

As we are quickly approaching our trip in June, it is very important that all participants attend these meetings. Please let Bekah know if you are unable to attend. Thank you!



INTRODUCING OUR SENIOR HIGH YOUTH GROUP— THREE SIX TEENS!

3:16s is a group of 9th—12th grade youth that meets every week on Wednesdays at 8:00 p.m. at Bekah's house. We discuss questions the youth have about their faith, the church, God, and everything else!

After discussion, we have a time of fellowship — playing games (ping pong, air hockey, board games), doing homework, practicing yoga, and of course....having FUN! If you have any questions about this Youth Group, please contact Bekah, at the church office 498-5291 or by email: bekah@trinitysg.org



High school youth at 3:16s having a great time together in crazy games of ping pong!



YOUTH NEWS

FIFTH GRADE YOUTH PRACTICE THEIR FIRST COMMUNION



Please hold our 5th grade youth up in prayer as they prepare for their First Communion on Maundy Thursday.

Prayer for those preparing for First Communion:
Holy God,

Through the sacrament of Holy Communion you nurture your people in your grace and love. Open the hearts of all those who kneel before you to receive the sacrament for the first time, that they may be aware of the love, peace and forgiveness that comes to us through the body and blood of your Son, Jesus Christ. Amen.

5TH GRADE YOUTH

Eliot Vance Bartell	Emerson Camilla Ingvalson
Bryce Patrick Berns	Brandon Gary Jahnke
Kohl Eugene Betcher	Jordis Nicole Neeley
Caleb Daniel Eiken	Gavin Dennis Ostern
Ezra Luke Griffin	Claire Elizabeth Solberg
Joelle Kate Halverson	Benjamin Luke Udstuen
Jacob Paul Hernandez	Isaac Timothy Vick
Sydney Marie Holland	Olivia Gayle Wennes

WELCA ROOT RIVER CONFERENCE SPRING GATHERING is Saturday, April 14, at the new Henrytown Lutheran Church. The program, "Stitch Together in Love," is by Joyce Abernathy, a quilt artist and inspirational speaker. Pre-registration is appreciated, but walk-ins are welcome. The \$10 cost includes morning coffee and lunch. Contact Judy Bratland. 498-5147, to pre-register.



THANK YOU TO OUR LENTEN WORSHIP MUSICIANS

Thank you to all who have shared their musical talents during our mid-week Lenten Worship services. Willy Leafblad, Mark Schroeder, Bree Murphy, Wyatt Murphy, Bekah Leafblad, Lara Mendez, Olivia Mendez, Barb Arnold, Nolie Kapplinger, Jean Ellingson, and Rachel Storlie.

DO YOU LIKE TO DECORATE PLANTERS? The Worship Team is looking for someone interested in keeping the planters at Trinity's entrances beautiful throughout the year. Interested? Contact the church office, 498-5291, trinity@springgrove.coop.

ANYONE CAN SPONSOR THE LIGHTING OF THE MISSIONARY FOR A DAY CANDLE!

It can be in memory of, in celebration of, or in honor of, a loved one or a special event. A sponsorship is \$40 per Sunday. The funds collected support Dr. Mark and Linda Jacobson who serve the Arusha Lutheran Medical Center in Tanzania. Contact the church office to reserve a date.

TIDBITS



Thanks for all of the support for our Lenten Suppers!



One of the two baptisms we had in March. ▲



Blessing of our new members. ▲

March at Trinity in photos



Praise Band always makes our worship joyful! ▲

PHOTOS

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 EASTER 7:00am Easter Sunrise 7:45am Easter Breakfast 9:15am Easter Festival	2	3 6:30pm Staffing, GR 7:00pm Finance, MR	4 1:00pm Release Time, TC 5:30pm Confirmation Service Night (no supper) 5:45pm Worship, MR 7:00pm Handbells 8:00pm Choir	5 5:30pm Education, MR 7:00pm Stewardship, GR	6	7 5:00pm Worship/ Communion (Pr. Lane)
8 9:15am Praise Band Worship 10:15am Fellowship 10:30am Sunday School Babel in Belfry Property, pastor's office 11:30am Tweeten Care Ctr. Service	9	10 7:00pm Support, GR	11 2:00pm Release Time, TC 6:00pm Confirmation and supper 7:00pm Handbells 7:45pm Council 8:00pm Choir	12	13	14
15 9:15am Worship/Communion 10:15am Fellowship 10:30am Sunday School Babel in Belfry Outreach, pastor's office	16	17	18 2:00pm Release Time, TC 6:00pm Confirmation and supper 7:00pm Handbells 8:00pm Choir	19 9:30am Communion/ Manor	20	21 5:00pm Worship/ Communion
22 9:15am Worship—Installation of Pastor Elizabeth Hermeier 10:15am Fellowship 10:30am Sunday School Babel in Belfry	23 4:00pm Newsletter deadline	24	25 1:00pm Release Time, TC 6:00pm Confirmation and supper 7:00pm Handbells 8:00pm Choir	26 9:30am Communion/ Tweeten Apts. 10:30am Communion/ Assisted Living 2:00pm Newsletter mailed	27 9:00am Love Day	28
29 9:15am Worship 10:15am Fellowship 10:30am Sunday School Babel in Belfry	30					

VOLUNTEERS

	APRIL 1 EASTER SUNRISE 7am	APRIL 1 EASTER FESTIVAL 9:15am	APRIL 8	APRIL 15	APRIL 22	APRIL 29
LECTOR	Jim Gray	Judy Bratland	Melissa Wold	Scott Solberg	Jim Hunzeker	Karen Gray
ACOLYTE(S)	Brody Christiansen, Dane Edgington	Haley Ellingson, McKenzie Fisch	Alison Frydenlund	Isaac Gengler, Caleb Griffin	Isaac Griffin	Caden Grinde
COMMUNION SERVERS	Mary & Howard Deters, Jean Ellingson	Kari & Dan Alstad, Steve Nelson	N/A	Karen & Gary Bristle, Kathy Rosendahl	N/A	N/A
ALTAR GUILD	Linda Pierce (chair), Marcia Holland, Gloria Oakes Speltz, Gloria Sagdalen, Betty Johnson, Doris Sherburne					
USHERS	Mark Udstuen, Jonah Udstuen, Ben Udstuen, Howard Deters	John Jaster, Bruce Anderson, Carolyn Kraabel, Steve Landsom	Phil Griffin (leader), John Jaster, Mike Solum, Steve Hagen, Len Myrah, Ron Onsgard			
COFFEE HOSTS	Happy Easter!	Happy Easter!	Geri Worden, Judy Ruehmann, Mark Engebretson, Carol and Curt Rustad	Janna and Lenny Myrah and team	Welcome Reception for Pastor Elizabeth Hermeier	Sue and Dean Wiste, Betty and Mark Dokken
498-AMEN	April 1-14: Bev Nelson		April 15-28: Jan Lochner			April 29-May 12: Lara Mendez

HAVE YOU....moved? ...changed phone numbers? ...changed email addresses? Let the office know! Thanks!

LET US KNOW.....If you have a loved one ill or hospitalized, have a new baby, would like a pastoral visit, or if any pastoral need arises.

CONTACT TRINITY (507) 498-5291, trinity@springgrove.coop



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The background of the Easter card features a dramatic sky with a mix of blue, orange, and yellow hues, suggesting a sunrise or sunset. In the foreground, the silhouettes of three crosses are visible against the bright, glowing horizon. The overall scene is peaceful and evocative of the Easter story.

He is Risen

DEATH COULD NOT HOLD HIM.

Rejoice in the resurrection of

Jesus Christ.

WISHING YOU A BLESSED AND JOY FILLED EASTER!