

# TRINITYnews

FEBRUARY 2018

VOLUME 24 ■ ISSUE 2

## 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:** 9:00 a.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.*  
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*Stewart Storlie, Admin. Pro./*  
*Bookkeeping*  
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*David Myrah, Custodian*  
*Scott Solberg, Choir Director*  
*Rachel Storlie, Organist*  
*Jean Ellingson, Pianist*

## LENT WITH KING DAVID

This year Ancient Israel's  
most faithful king,  
King David, will lead us  
through Lent as we reflect on  
our own relationship with God.



### Ash Wednesday

February 15, 7 p.m., Imposition of Ashes, Communion  
Meditation on Psalm 51

### Sundays of Lent

February 18–March 18, 9:15 a.m. Worship  
Lessons from King David's Life

### Wednesdays of Lent

February 21–March 21, 7:00 p.m.  
Meditations on Psalms of David, Holden Evening Prayer service

## LENTEN MEALS

Wednesdays, 5:30 p.m., Fellowship Hall, all are invited!

- February 21: Pizza Bar
- February 28: Breakfast for Dinner
- March 7: Soup and Sandwich Supper
- March 14: Taco Bar
- March 21: Baked Potato Bar

All meals served by Trinity Youth.

Freewill donation

Monies raised go to Youth Gathering and Youth activities



## EASTER BREAKFAST

Sunday, April 1, 7:45 a.m., Fellowship Hall

Served by Youth, Freewill donation

**LENTEN DEVOTIONAL BOOKLETS** will be available soon! Watch for  
them in the sanctuary or ask a member of the Worship Team.



Remember King David from the Old Testament? These days, scholars usually say his reign started in 1000 B.C. and went until 962 B.C. He was the second king of the new nation of Israel (King Saul was first). He was a warrior. He expanded and secured the borders of the tiny nation. He was a musician. He played the lyre. He wrote or authorized the writing of many of the Psalms in the Bible. He had a strong commitment to God. He has been known as Israel's most faithful king for the last 3000 years.

## KING DAVID

There is, however, another side to David. He was a sinner. Remember the Bathsheba incident? He faced many sorrows from the brokenness in his family. He faced times when he felt like God was very far away. Many of the Psalms with which he is associated are Psalms of Lament: outpourings of his aching heart in times of discouragement.

This year King David is going to be our guide through Lent. We, like David, live lives of up and down. We have successes and we have failures. We are virtuous and we are sinners. Through it all, like King David, God continues to love us and call us to faith.

One of the great things about the Biblical presentation of David is its honesty. You might suppose that since he was called Israel's greatest king, the Biblical writers would only focus on his success and his strength. They do not. They show all sides of his character. They show that through the good and bad times, David stayed faithful (not perfect, but faithful). In like manner, through the good times and bad times, God stayed faithful to David.

Lent is our church season of honesty. It is time to reflect and examine ourselves as children of God; our sinfulness and our faithfulness. It is the time to reflect on God's relationship with us; God's faithfulness in the midst of our sinfulness.

This year we will stray from our normal lectionary readings. On Sundays, Pastor Lane and I will preach on various events of David's life and the implications for our relationship with God. On Wednesdays, we will have a time of silent meditation and then a short homily on one of David's Psalms that show aspects of his life with God.

Join us for this special Lenten worship on Sundays and Wednesdays as we look to King David and look honestly at our own lives of faith

~ Pastor Jim

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*<sup>11</sup>Now when Job's three friends heard of all these troubles that had come upon him, each of them set out from his home—Eliphaz the Temanite, Bildad the Shuhite, and Zophar the Naamathite. They met together to go and console and comfort him. <sup>12</sup>When they saw him from a distance, they did not recognize him, and they raised their voices and wept aloud; they tore their robes and threw dust in the air upon their heads. <sup>13</sup>They sat with him on the ground seven days and seven nights, and no one spoke a word to him, for they saw that his suffering was very great. Job 2:11*

We need to give Job's friends credit for visiting Job in his time of need. He had, at this point, lost everything. We need to give them credit for not saying anything. It is difficult to sit in silence. Too often we feel like we should say something, but if we do it usually isn't the most helpful. Eventually Job's friends do offer advice and it isn't the best. But they were there in time of need.



Visiting people is something everyone can do. As Visitation Pastor, I have a prayer, devotions, and Holy Communion that I can bring as well. When visiting I represent all of you. In a sense I am bringing the whole congregation, but only sitting in one chair. It tells the person that Trinity thinks about them and loves them especially in their time of need.

Some visiting has gotten rather difficult though and the pastors of Trinity need your help. Because of health laws and the need to keep some things private, we don't always hear when people go into the hospital. **Please let us know if there are people who need visits from us because we can't always know that without your help.**

~ In Christ, Pastor Lane

PASTORS' PEN

**THANK YOU “STOCKHOLDERS”!** Trinity youth going to the Gathering in June called many members of the congregation on three evenings in January to see if they were interested in buying “shares of stock” in Trinity’s youth program. The youth sold more than 300 shares of stock! THANK YOU!!

**THANK YOU!**

The youth did their best to contact as many people as possible, but were not able to get to all of the names on the lists; if you were not contacted and would like to purchase “stock,” please contact Bekah, [bekah@trinitysg.org](mailto:bekah@trinitysg.org) or 498-5291. Each share of stock is \$15. “Stockholders” will be invited to a meal served by the youth at which time they will share stories of their adventures to the Gathering.



**YOUTH GATHERING MEETING**—Sunday, February 11 at 11:30 a.m. for youth and adult leaders only. These monthly meetings are a time for the youth and adult leaders to prepare for the Gathering by building relationships and community amongst the group. See youth attendees and adult leaders there! (Parents of youth do not need to attend.)

**LENTEN SUPPERS AND EASTER BREAKFAST** Trinity youth will be helping with the upcoming Wednesday evening suppers during Lent. Watch your mailbox for more information on what your job duties will be to help make these meals a delicious success!



**CONFIRMATION CAMP MEETING** — Confirmation Camp at Good Earth Village for seventh grade students is scheduled for June 10-15. This camp experience is a part of the Confirmation curriculum at Trinity. Bekah will be contacting seventh grade families soon about an informational meeting to learn more about camp.

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS!** VBS for 3-5 year olds and Day Camp for youth entering 1st–6th grades will be June 18-21! More details and information will be coming in the upcoming months

## TEXAS IN JANUARY? YOU BET!

### BEKAH TELLS ABOUT HER TRAVELS FOR CONTINUING ED

I recently had the privilege to travel to Houston, Texas to take part in the ELCA Network's Extravaganza for Children, Youth, and Family Ministries. I learned so much about various aspects of youth ministry including new ways to teach confirmation, how to recruit adult leaders, becoming a resilient leader in turbulent times, faithful metrics, and even yoga and body prayer.



I also had the opportunity to take part in the new Discipling Cohorts Initiative, at which, in the next year, I will meet with other people with my vocation and create a 3-year plan for Trinity's Youth Ministry Program. After attending the Extravaganza, I feel spiritually fed and renewed to continue to grow Trinity's Youth programs with new resources in my back pocket and the support of a team of 950 colleagues. I would be delighted to share any of my experiences with you! Please reach out if you want to hear about the Extravaganza or any of the sessions I attended. I will also be leading an Adult Forum on February 11 after our worship service to inform members of the congregation about the upcoming ELCA Youth Gathering in Houston this June.

YOUTH NEWS

## SPECIAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING UPDATE

The recommendation of Trinity's Finance Team to place the second parsonage for sale was approved by a vote of the congregation at a Special Congregational Meeting on Sunday, Jan. 7. Anyone interested in viewing the property can contact the church office.

An appraisal was completed on the second parsonage (135 2nd Av. NE) in August. The value of the home from the appraisal is \$104,000. There are no outstanding loans on the property. The 2,655 square foot home sits on a large lot with mature trees. It has four bedrooms, 1-3/4 bathrooms, a large 2-car newer garage, hardwood floors and carpeting. It is newly painted. A dishwasher, refrigerator, and range are included.



**GENEROUS GIFT** Recently, Trinity received a generous gift of \$50,000. This money can only be used in pastoral ministry; it is to aid the Call Committee in calling a pastor. In January, the Council approved a proposal to disperse these funds. This proposal was also approved by the donors, who wish to remain anonymous. A full copy of this proposal is attached to January's council minutes. Copies are also on our website, trinitysg.org. We pray that this beautiful gift will enhance the ministry here at Trinity and will equally bless the givers.

**NEW BULLETIN BOARDS** Have you noticed there are two new bulletin boards near the sanctuary entrance by the elevator? Posted on the bulletin boards are the volunteer lists to make it easy for everyone to check when they will be volunteering. Also posted will be church-related news and a youth spot. Check it out!

## SCOUT SUNDAY AND SCOUT ANNIVERSARY WEEK

"The Boy Scouts of America designate Sunday, February 4, 2018 as Scout Sunday. The first week of February is often referred to as Scouting Anniversary Week to commemorate the founding of the Boy Scouts of America and the issuing of our National Charter from Congress." (BSA website) Scout Sunday is also a good time to reinforce that "a Scout is reverent."

**Boy  
Scout  
Sunday**



The Boy Scouts and Cub Scouts thank Trinity Lutheran Church, as the chartered organization, for their support of Scouting.

The current **Cub Scout membership** roster is as follows: Lion – Gavin St. Mary, Sawyer St. Mary, Ryland Moen; Tiger – Ethan Rask, Oliver Cornella; Wolf – Alex Gleason, Ezra Konkel; Bear – Gabe VanMinsel, Avery McMillan; Webelos – Tysen Moen, Cashton Newgaard, Carter VanMinsel, Bryce Berns, Jackson Moen, Austin Gleason. The current **Boy Scout membership** roster is as follows: Josh Newgaard, Brody Christiansen, Isaac Gengler, Zach Folstad, and Chris Lamm.

**TOP NEEDS FOR FOOD SHELF** The winter has been a cold one and many folks need our help. Items needed include: canned soups, canned fruit, saltine crackers, scallop or au gratin potatoes, cream of mushroom soup, cream of chicken soup, tomato sauce, diced tomatoes, stewed tomatoes, pancake mix, sugar.

Items for the Houston County Food Shelf can be left in the tubs near the church entrances. Trinity also has its own Little Free Pantry near the south entrance (closest to the parking lot). Items can also be placed in our pantry for people to have. The Pantry can use similar items as the Food Shelf plus items like granola bars, beef sticks – items that don't need preparation. Thank you for your generosity!

**COMING SOON — A NEW WAY TO REGISTER FOR COMMUNION!** In the upcoming weeks we will be registering for Communion in a slightly different way. There will be small binders in each pew for people to sign. This will be a way to help keep the pews more tidy.

NEWSWORTHY



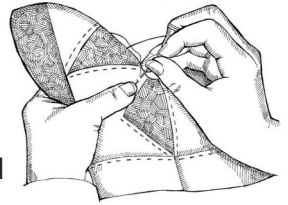
**TRINITY'S GREAT CHOCOLATE CHIP COOKIE EXTRAVAGANZA!**

All are invited to experience Trinity's Great Chocolate Chip Cookie Extravaganza, on **February 11** during Coffee Fellowship. It has long been talked about, but we have been told to "tell no one" who has the best recipe for chocolate chip cookies! Some of Trinity's greats will be bringing cookies for coffee fellowship and letting you "Taste and See." All are welcome and invited to bring a sample of their favorite chocolate chip cookie. We want you to make your cookies small, so people can taste many!

Come and see what this is all about! Tell your kids, invite the grandparents, bring the neighbors! We will have coffee and milk, but you bring the cookies! Questions? Contact Mary Zaffke, 498-5823, or [zaffkes@springgrove.coop](mailto:zaffkes@springgrove.coop).

**LOVE DAY INVITES YOU TO PARTICIPATE!** January began a new year of quilting and LWR kit-making with new ideas and goals! We meet the fourth Friday of each month at 9:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

**Love Day is for EVERYONE** – quilters and non-quilters! You are welcome to come and watch, stay for a little while, or pack your noon lunch and stay for the day. There will be "stand-up" projects and "sitting" jobs; something for everybody. The company is great! There will be a morning coffee break, noon lunch break, and afternoon catered lunch. Throughout the year there will be short W-ELCA business meetings. If you haven't attended before, or if you would like to come back again after an absence, you are welcomed! Love Days are held once a month. **We look forward to seeing you!**



Love Day

If you are a Thrivent member, we encourage you to apply for a \$250 Thrivent Action card for the benefit of Love Day supplies. Your card might be used to purchase diapers, towels, school bags and school supplies or any number of items for baby care kits. If you need assistance to apply, contact Marilyn Sylling, 498-5649.

**TRINITY LUTHERAN WELCOMES ALL TO BECOME MEMBERS** The Outreach Team is working on gathering names of persons who might be interested in joining our family at Trinity. If you or someone you know are thinking about membership or if you have questions about it, please call the church office and let them know. We would love to talk to you about the joys of being a member at Trinity Lutheran and will be excited to welcome you as a brother or sister in Christ.

**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.



**WINTER WEATHER IS HERE!** Worship services will be held each Sunday unless weather conditions are so severe around Spring Grove that travel is unsafe. Decisions will be made by 7:30 a.m. Sundays and broadcast on KVIK 104.7 FM, KQYB 98.3 FM, KTTC-TV 10, and WXOW TV-19. Saturday service decisions will be made by 3:30 p.m. and broadcast as above. Please stay safe when considering traveling in bad weather.

**RENEW! 2018 IS AN EVENT FOR EVERYONE!** The event will be **Saturday, February 24** from **10 a.m.—3 p.m.** at Trinity Lutheran in Owatonna. The theme is "The Dance of Radical Hospitality" and will focus on being radically hospitable to our global brothers and sisters we find right here in our little corner of Minnesota. Hear stories of radical hospitality, and engage in conversation about how you can welcome the other in your congregation and community. The cost is \$15 and includes lunch. **Registration deadline is February 14.** Visit the Synod's website for more details and to register, [www.semnsynod.org/renew](http://www.semnsynod.org/renew).

TIDBITS

# SOUTHEASTERN MINNESOTA SYNOD



MINISTRY REPORT HIGHLIGHTING 2017

**191** leaders participated in the  
Fall Theological Conference

**22** individuals in the  
candidacy process  
across six seminaries

**3** synod  
representatives  
attended Ecumenical  
Advocacy Days

**39** congregations were in  
the call process

**18,822**  
online views  
of our  
quarterly  
magazine,  
River  
Crossings

**512** people participated  
in the Synod  
Assembly

**3** Synodically  
Authorized Ministers  
were approved

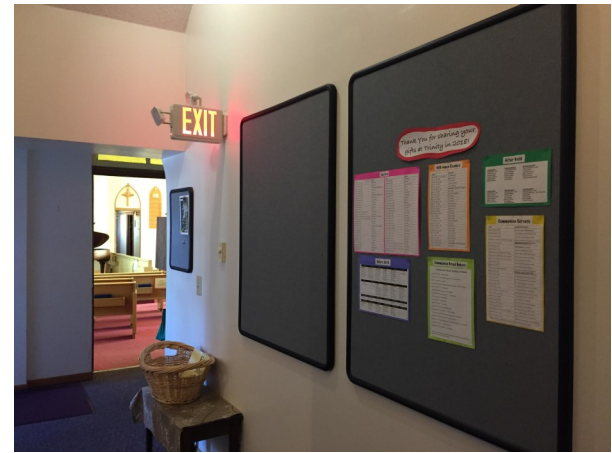
**258** congregational  
leaders  
participated  
in RENEW!

**3** all three of our global partner countries  
(Tanzania, Colombia, and South Sudan) were  
visited by synod delegates

SYNOD REPORT



A delicious meal at the Empty Bowls event. ▲



Check out the new bulletin boards. ▲

## January at Trinity in photos



Love Day meets the fourth Friday of each month. ▲



Just some of the items from the Reverse Advent Calendar donations. ▲

photos

### Dear People of God,

Lent will begin in two weeks and again you will hear discussions of fasting, or giving something up for Lent. This year consider a family fast. Families can fast together - especially from luxuries. Some things you might consider giving up:

- phones at mealtimes
- cable television
- meat or soda or eating out

An alternative is to add a family practice during Lent:

- evening or morning devotions
- Wednesday evening worship
- volunteering together somewhere

Whatever you do - embrace the Lenten season together and see how a shared practice can bring you closer together and closer to God.

Peace—Bekah, Youth & Family Coordinator





SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1 2:00p newsletter mailed 5:30p Education, MR	2	3 5:00p Worship/ Communion
4 9:15a Worship/Communion 10:15a Fellowship in sanctuary 10:30a Annual Meeting, Sunday School kids Activity Stations, FH	5	6	7 1:00p Release Time, TC 4:15p Staffing, GR 5:00p Worship, MR 6:00p Confirmation and dinner, FH 7:00p Handbell Choir 8:00p Choir	8 7:00p Prayer Shawl Ministry, Vivien Mathsen's home	9	10
11 9:15a Praise Band Worship/ Communion 10:15a Fellowship 10:30a Sunday School, Babel in Belfry , Extravaganza presentation by Bekah 11:30a Tweeten Care Center service 11:30a Gathering mtg, GR	12	13 5:30p Finance, GR 6:00p Stewardship, MR 7:00p Support, GR	14 Ash Wednesday 2:00p Release Time, TC; Tweeten Care Ctr Imposition of Ashes 6:45p Confirmation meet with mentors 7:00p Ash Wed Worship 7:45p (following worship) Choir, Council	15 9:30a Communion/ Manor 5:30p Prayer Team, Pr Jim's office	16 12p newsletter info deadline	17 11:30a-1:00p visitation for Pauleen Bratland 1:00p Celebration of Life service 5:00p Worship/ Communion
18 9:15a Worship/Communion 10:15a Fellowship 10:30a Sunday School, Babel in Belfry, Outreach, Pr Jim's ofc	19	20 2:30p Phoebe, GR	21 2:00p Release Time, TC 5:30p Lenten Supper 6:45p Confirmation meet with mentors 7:00p Lenten Worship 7:45p Choir	22 9:30a Communion/ Tweeten Apts 10:30a Communion/ Assisted Living 2:00p newsletter mailed	23 9:00a Love Day, FH	24
25 9:15a Worship 10:15a Fellowship 10:30a Sunday School, Babel in Belfry	26	27	28 1:00p Release Time, TC 5:30p Lenten Supper 6:45p Confirmation meet with mentors 7:00p Lenten Worship 7:45p Choir			



## VOLUNTEERS

	FEBRUARY 4	FEBRUARY 11	FEBRUARY 14 Ash Wed	FEBRUARY 18	FEBRUARY 25
<b>LECTOR</b>	Rob Gross	Fred Arnold	N/A	Kathy Rosendahl	Joyce Landsom
<b>ACOLYTE(S)</b>	Maggie Lile, Jakob Myrah	Ava Olerud	Brielle Neeley, Kylie Standahl	Madilyn Ostern, August Allen	August Allen
<b>COMMUNION SERVERS</b>	Laurie Moen, Carolyn Olson, Al Lochner	N/A	Glorianne Mulvenna, Deb Spence, Steve Morken	Jean Ann and Lonny Tweeten, Bill Fried	N/A
<b>ALTAR GUILD</b>	Terry Holland (chair), Karen Bingham, Bonnie Solberg, Marilyn Sylling, Deb Spence, Geri Worden				
<b>USHERS</b>	Lee Hoekstra (Leader), Steve Morken, Bob Finnesgard, Bruce Hegge, Rick Staggemeyer, Andy Anderson				
<b>COFFEE HOSTS</b>	Annual Meeting Special Treats	Great Chocolate Chip Cookie Extravaganza	N/A	Steve and Peggy Landsom team	Rob and Amy Gross team
<b>498-AMEN</b>	Jan 28-Feb 10: Judy Bratland	Feb 11-17: Jennifer Wedmann		Feb 18-24: Joyce Landsom	Feb 25-Mar 3: Jean Ellingson

**HAVE YOU.....**

....moved? ....changed phone numbers? .....changed email addresses?

If so, please let the office know so that we can update our records. Thank you!

**LET US KNOW.....**

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

**REMEMBER.....**

We have a prayer chain. If you have a prayer request, please call the church office and we will start the prayer chain. (Please make sure you have permission from the person being prayed for before calling.) There is power in prayer!

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



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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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