

TRINITY *news*

MARCH 2020

VOLUME 26 ■ ISSUE 3

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



Instagram

trinityyouth203
trinitylutheransg

Office hours:

Mon, Tue, Thu, Fri: 10 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

Listen live on KVIK 104.7 FM
www.kvikradio.com

Saturday Worship

5:00 p.m.
1st and 3rd Saturdays each month

STAFF

Elizabeth Hermeier, Lead Pastor
trinitysr@springgrove.coop

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lane.zaffke@gmail.com

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and Family Ministry
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Lorilyn Dehning, Bookkeeper
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Gary Wilhelmson, Custodian
Scott Solberg, Choir Director
Rachel Storlie, Organist/Pianist
Willy Leafblad, Handbell Director
Jean Ellingson, Pianist/Organist
Linda Gjerdrum, Pianist
Mark Udstuen, Praise Band leader

In the early church Lent was a time of intense preparation for those to be baptized at the Easter Vigil. This focus on the meaning of faith is at the heart of our Lenten journey to the baptismal waters of Easter. Hungry for God's mercy, we receive the bread of life to nourish us for the days ahead.

MID-WEEK LENTEN MEALS

Wednesdays ▪ 5:30-6:30 p.m.

March 4: Sloppy Joes ▪ hosted by Support Team ▪ proceeds to Good Samaritan Fund

March 11: Tater Tot Hotdish ▪ hosted by Mission in the World Team

March 18: Taco "Bells" ▪ hosted by Trinity Handbell Choir

March 25: Spaghetti ▪ hosted by Care Ministry Team

April 1: Breakfast for Dinner ▪ hosted by Puerto Rico Mission Trip attendees

MID-WEEK LENTEN SERVICES

Becoming a disciple

Wednesdays ▪ 7:00 p.m.

Holden Evening Prayer

March 4: Called ▪ Luke 9:23-27

March 11: Equipped ▪ Luke 22:24-27

March 18: Sent ▪ Luke 10:1-6

March 25: Supported ▪ John 14:18, 25-27

April 1: Prepared ▪ Matthew 28:18-20

MAUNDY THURSDAY

April 9 ▪ 7:00 p.m.

First Communion for 5th grade youth

GOOD FRIDAY *Tenebrae* Service

April 10 ▪ 7:00 p.m.

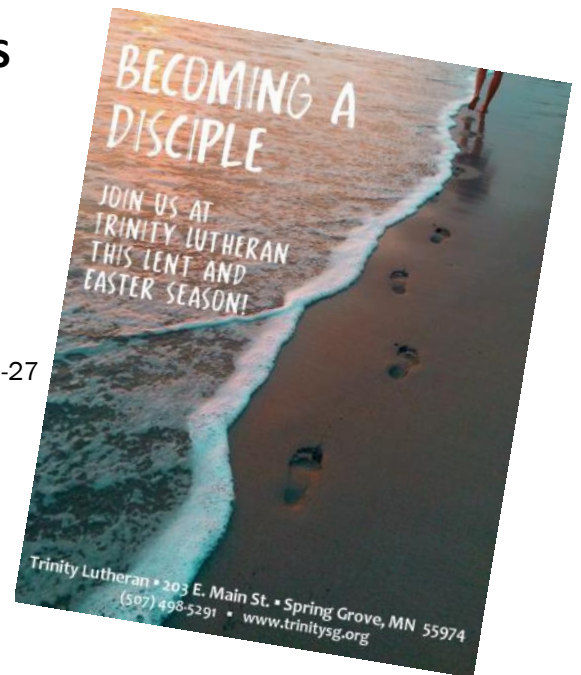
EASTER SUNDAY ▪ April 12

Full Breakfast ▪ 8:00 - 9:00 a.m.

Festival Worship ▪ 9:15 a.m.

Continental Breakfast 10:15 - 10:45 a.m.

Festival Worship ▪ 10:45 a.m.

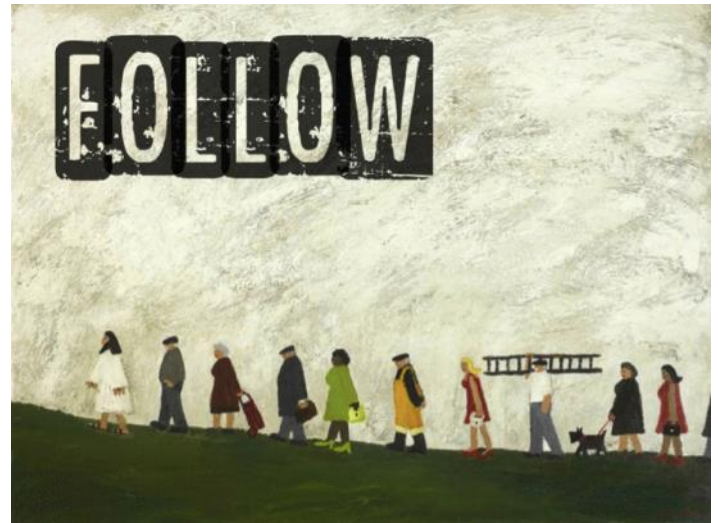


*And Jesus said to them, "Follow me, and I will make you fish for people." Matthew 4:19, Mark 1:17 ...
Then Jesus said to Simon, "Do not be afraid; from now on you will be catching people." Luke 5:10b ...
The next day Jesus decided to go to Galilee. He found Philip and said to him, "Follow me." John 1:43*

Dear friends in Christ,

The gospel writers – Matthew, Mark, Luke and John – each record particular aspects of Jesus' life and ministry. Some of the stories and parables appear in much the same form in one or more of the gospels. But only the calling of the disciples appears in each of the four gospels.

And each of the stories begins with similar words: "Follow me." "Don't be afraid."



The disciples could have had no idea what their lives and commitments would be like when they first dropped their nets to follow Jesus. We read the gospels and it seems like they must have been stronger than us, or more gifted than us, or braver than us. How many of us would leave our jobs and families and homes to follow someone, after all? How many of us are likely to face martyrdom because of our faith?

But stories about the original disciples are not meant to intimidate us or scare us. They are not meant to make us feel inadequate. And they are even only partially meant to inspire us. The original disciples who followed Jesus were and are examples for us. But the term "disciple" really just means "one who engages in learning through instruction from another." Discipline is "to study, learn, train, and apply a system of standards." So we disciples of Jesus are called to learn – from Scripture and from other disciples – what Jesus is calling us to do in the world.

This year during our Wednesday evening Lenten services we will follow the Holden Evening Prayer service and study what it means to become a disciple based on five key texts:

Called. Luke 9:23-27: What does it mean to take up our cross daily and follow Jesus?

Equipped. Luke 22:24-27: What does it mean to be a servant of Christ?

Sent. Luke 10:1-6: What does it really mean to be a lamb amongst the wolves?

Supported. John 14:18,25-27: How can we learn to rely on the Holy Spirit?

Prepared. Matthew 28:18-20: How can we remind ourselves that Jesus is with us always?

We are all modern-day disciples of Christ. Our mission looks different depending on the gifts we've been given through the Holy Spirit. But we share a baptism and a fellowship and a leader. We are called to follow Jesus. Don't be afraid!

God bless you all!

~ Pastor Elizabeth

WELCOME GARY WILHELMSON Gary has been hired as the custodian at Trinity. He is a life-long member of Trinity and Spring Grove. While not working, his favorite hobbies are his family, fishing, bowling, hunting, and farming. Previously, Gary worked 24 years for Mayo Health System in La Crosse as a nurse. He and his wife, Lori, have six children and nine grandchildren. We're glad to have you as part of Trinity's staff, Gary!



MINNESOTA FOOD SHARE MARCH CAMPAIGN: MARCH 1-APRIL 20



Some people face food insecurity every day, while others struggle after an unexpected expense or decrease in income. Hunger can lead to poor health or illness in addition to poor performance at school or work.

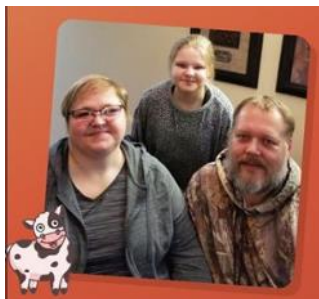
The annual Minnesota Food Share March campaign promotes the collection of food and funds to stock food shelves across the state. As an official participant, Semcac's Houston County Food Shelf will receive a percentage of the undesignated statewide March Food Share funds. The allocation depends on the amount of food and money raised during March and on the number of people served during the remainder of the year.

The Care Team at Trinity encourages donations of food and money to help with this campaign. Donations must be received by April 12 to count toward the March Food Share campaign.

Respond to food insecurity in our community by filling a grocery bag with much needed food and household items for our local Food Shelf. Trinity also has a Little Free Pantry (not to be confused with Houston County Food Shelf in Caledonia) that is located at the bottom of the stairs of the south entrance (closest to the parking lot). This Little Free Pantry is available for anyone to use.

Often needed items: proteins (canned meat, fish, and beans; nuts, nut butters), dried herbs and spices, gluten-free flours and flour blends (ex. Coconut, oat, rice, almond, tapioca, chickpea, sorghum, cassava, amaranth, buckwheat, teff), personal care items (shampoo, soap, deodorant, toothpaste, feminine hygiene, diapers, toilet paper), household supplies (laundry detergent, dish detergent, kitchen and bathroom cleaners, paper towels).

JENNIFER WEDMANN BENEFIT ▪ SATURDAY, MARCH 7 ▪ 1PM AMERICAN LEGION



Silent Auction: 1-3 p.m. Live Auction: 3 p.m.

Food: Fat Pat's pulled pork, salads, bars – Freewill donation

Live music following live auction: Shay & Bri Cody, Buck & Abby Towne

Jennifer and her husband, Fred, and 12-year-old daughter live in Spring Grove and are active members of Trinity. Jennifer was diagnosed with Inflammatory breast cancer March 2015. She underwent chemotherapy, surgery and radiation. Her cancer went into remission and she enjoyed continuing to teach Special Education and work towards her master's degree in the Special Education field. After many months of headaches, it was discovered in February 2018, that the cancer had metastasized

to her brain, preventing her from being able to complete her master's degree. Jennifer underwent brain surgery resulting in a semi-paralysis of her right side and speech difficulty, along with chemo and radiation once again. In November 2019 she was once again told her cancer had returned and had invaded her bones. Surgery has been done to stabilize her right leg, while chemo and radiation have begun to tackle the cancer in the affected bones.

PHOTO A DAY FOR LENT Check out our Facebook page and Instagram page as we take the challenge to post a photo-a-day for Lent. Want to join us in the challenge? Below are the words for March (our April newsletter will have those words). Your post should illustrate how you perceive each word, no explanation needed. Share a photo, poem, or thought. #Lent2020 #photoadaychallenge #rethinkchurch

March 1-celebrate, 2-signs, 3-enter, 4-spirit, 5-teacher, 6-testify, 7-saved, 8-celebrate, 9-journey, 10-drink, 11-spring, 12-seeks, 13-work, 14-ripe, 15-celebrate, 16-revealed, 17-light, 18-sent, 19-able, 20-see, 21-listen, 22-celebrate, 23-glory, 24-awaken, 25-go, 26-live, 27-heard, 28-believe, 29-celebrate, 30-answer, 31-release.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS! THE GUSTAVUS WIND ORCHESTRA TO PERFORM IN SG

The Gustavus Wind Orchestra will perform a concert at Spring Grove Public School on Wednesday, April 8 at 7:00 p.m. as a part of their 2020 Mid-America Spring Tour. Admission is free and the public is invited.

The group is in need of host families for the college musicians! If you are interested in hosting a small group of musicians Wednesday evening after the concert to Thursday morning, please email Willy Leafblad, willy.leafblad@springgrove.k12.mn.us.

The Gustavus Wind Orchestra, founded in 1878, is the premiere and official touring wind ensemble of the Department of Music at Gustavus Adolphus College in St. Peter, MN. Gustavus Wind Orchestra (GWO) holds the distinguished honor of being the oldest touring collegiate band in the United States west of the Mississippi River.

The Gustavus Wind Orchestra has toured annually within the United States and Canada, traveling internationally every four years. These tours bring GWO's music and service model to all corners of the globe and have reached thousands of communities and hundreds of thousands of people world-wide. Their esteemed touring tradition began in 1881.

The 65 members of the GWO, represent almost all academic majors on campus. Founded in 1862, Gustavus Adolphus College is a highly selective, private, coeducational, residential liberal arts college affiliated with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA).

**LUTHERAN CAMPUS CENTER UPDATE: OUR STUDENTS IMPRESS ME ALL THE TIME**

When they looked at their calendars and noticed they didn't have classes on Tuesday, they decided to spend the afternoon outside, hiking on the trails behind Holzinger Lodge. That morning, we awoke to a fresh blanket of snow in Winona, the kind that leaves a frosty line upon each and every branch in the trees. As we hiked, we had to stop (not just for physical breaks,) but because the beauty of God's creation around us was *breathtaking*. We broke the trail ourselves at times, which meant extra work for our boots, but also an extra layer of silence—that special kind that comes when the world is muted by snow. The students embraced the quiet respite from screens, schedules, and stress. Sometimes we talked; sometimes we simply walked together in the woods.

Well, you and I both know we weren't just walking in the woods; we were praying. Praying with our boots, breath, each remark on the beauty all around, and in our being together in the present moment.

This seemingly simple hour is one I hope our students will carry with them beyond Tuesday. I hope they carry an appreciation for God's creation, for silence and breaks, relationships, and embodied prayer. And, when I stop and think about it, that is pretty radical considering how often we're told to keep going, producing, posting, and proving ourselves; how often we're surrounded by noise and distraction.

I am thankful for a hike in the snow-covered bluffs, and I am thankful for each and every one of you who supports such a moment for our dear students. May you, too, find a moment for appreciating the simple profound gift of today.

With joy, Pastor Corrine Haulotte (Lutheran Campus Center Winona State University)

DEATH CAFÉ GROUP AT FRANCISCAN SPIRITUALITY CENTER We all know that death is an inevitable part of life, but how often do we really think about it – much less talk about it? Please join us Thursday, March 5 from 5-6:16 p.m. for a meaningful and open discussion about death and dying. All are welcome. Nursing students from Viterbo University will facilitate this group-directed discussion with no agenda or pre-determined objectives. *It's important to note that this is a discussion group rather than a grief support or counseling session.* Refreshments will be provided. There is no cost to attend, but freewill donations toward the cost of refreshments are appreciated. Registration is required; please call 608-791-5295 or visit www.FSCenter.org to reserve your spot. The first "Death Cafe" was offered in the United Kingdom in 2011, and the idea has since spread throughout the globe. According to the official website, deathcafe.com, the purpose is "to increase awareness of death with a view to helping people make the most of their (finite) lives."

TRINITY U

Trinity U offers people of all ages the opportunity to gather for education, faith development, and mutual growth — youth, parents, grandparents, friends.... **EVERYONE is welcome!** The purpose of Trinity U is to create

a relational confirmation program where students (and other members) understand that they can live out their faith in everything they do with their lives. Please register ahead of time. Registration form is on the website or stop in the office for a paper form. Questions? Contact the office, trinity@springgrove.coop or 498-5291.

MARCH CLASSES:

Baking Bread, March 1, 8:30-9:15 a.m. and 11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m. in the church kitchen. Learn how to mix and bake bread (and eat it, too!) as well as learn about this teacher's faith journey.

Introduction to Latin, March 15, 22, 29, 10:30-11:30 a.m. at Trinity Center. Meet the ancient Romans and learn a bit about their language, culture, religion (mythology), where they meet the Christian church, and end with a traditional Roman banquet — complete with togas!

Lutheran World Relief School Kit and Layette packing, March 28, 10:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Help the women of Trinity pack baby layettes and school kits that will be sent around the world to help those in need.

OTHER ELECTIVES: Middle School Game Night, 3:16s Youth Group, Praise Band, Choir, Sunday School help.

3:16S AND MIDDLE SCHOOL GAME NIGHT will be meeting at the **Trinity Center in March**. Middle School Game Night will meet March 6 & 20 at 7:00 p.m. 3:16s will meet March 4 & 18 at 8:00 p.m.

DO YOU HAVE THRIVENT CHOICE DOLLARS? “With Thrivent Choice, you can recommend where some of Thrivent Financial's charitable outreach funds go. Since 2010, more than \$330 million has been distributed to churches and nonprofits nationwide.” (www.thrivent.com) Trinity Lutheran is one of the options for which to direct Choice Dollars. If you have Choice Dollars to direct, consider Trinity as an option. Thank you!

FEBRUARY 12, 2020 CONGREGATION COUNCIL MEETING HIGHLIGHTSMotions approved:

- To appoint Milly Halverson as Congregation Council Vice President.
- To move the Rosendahl fund from the Heritage Endowment umbrella into a separate fund in a Thrivent account. The Rosendahl bequest is dedicated for a ground floor addition to the existing church building.
- To hire Gary Wilhelmson to fill the custodial position at Trinity. This position will consist of maintenance and cleaning. Trinity will pay Gary to obtain a boiler license.

Updates:

- Current office computers are out-of-date and their capacity is not adequate for updated software needs. Judy Tollefsrud is working with Ryan at Spring Grove Communications to develop a plan to determine replacement computers. Ryan will be attending the Finance Team meeting in March with recommendations.
- Pastor Elizabeth gave an update on the meeting with Jeff Wieser and his architect, Greg Cashman. Feedback forms were filled out by special committee and presented to the architect. Results from the architect are expected to be present on or before the second week of March.
- Spring Grove Chamber of Commerce invited Trinity council members to their visioning meeting on February 19. Lara Wold Mendez and Dean Wiste will attend the meeting.
- Pastor Elizabeth would like to schedule an All Team Retreat this summer where each team would focus on where they would like to spend their time and attention regarding our Lutheran identity. More details to come.

Next Meeting: March 11 at 7:45 p.m. in the Gathering Room. Complete minutes are on Trinity's website, at sanctuary entrances, and in the office.

PRAISE BAND Singing contemporary Christian music along with hymns, the Praise Band includes instruments such as percussion, guitar, violin, piano, and more. Praise Band is open to anyone from 7th grade on up through adult! We sing the second Sunday of each month September through May. Practice is in the sanctuary at 10:00 a.m. the Saturday before we sing. Questions about Praise Band? Contact Mark Udstuen, 498-5536 or udstuenm@gmail.com.

CHOIR We would love to have you join us! Our choir sings an anthem each Sunday morning September through May plus a Christmas concert in December. Practices are Wednesday evenings at 8:00 p.m. in the sanctuary. All ages from 7th grade through adult are invited to come and be a part of this vocal group. Don't worry if you can't commit to every single Sunday; we'd love to have your voice when you can be here! Questions about Choir? Contact Scott Solberg, 498-5472, or sjsol@springgrove.coop.

HANDBELL CHOIR A handbell choir is different from a vocal choir in that each person is responsible for certain specific notes. The group works together as a "team" as they each play rhythms and notes singly but together form a universal musical sound. Intrigued? Join us for practice in the sanctuary on Wednesday evenings at 7:00 p.m. We'd love to have you! Questions about Handbell Choir? Contact Willy Leafblad, willy.leafblad@springgrove.k12.mn.us.

LOVE DAY INVITES YOU TO PARTICIPATE! 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 stay for the day. There will be "stand-up" projects and "sitting" jobs; something for everybody. If you haven't attended before, or if you would like to come back again after an absence, you are welcomed! **We look forward to seeing you!**

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 as respected elders at the Arusha Lutheran Medical Center and church in Tanzania. Contact the church office to reserve a date.

RADIO BROADCAST SPONSORSHIP Trinity's service is broadcast on KVIK 104.7 in Decorah each Sunday and also streamed on their website, kvikradio.com. The broadcasts are sponsored for \$100 each week. Do you have a loved one you would like to sponsor the broadcast in memory or in honor of? Just let us know in the office and we can find an available week.



PHOTOS



-1-



-2-



-3-



-7-



-4-



-6-



-5-

- Clockwise from far left:
- 1) Noisy Sunday with children collecting noisy money.
 - 2) Baby Theodore receives ashes for the first time at Ash Wednesday service.
 - 3) A Sunday School class parade.
 - 4) Love Day quilters.
 - 5) Many attended and enjoyed the delicious food at Empty Bowls event. \$1,169 was raised!
 - 6) Breads at Empty Bowls.
 - 7) So many soups to choose from at Empty Bowls.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 8:30am Trinity U: Baking Bread 9:15am Worship/Communion 10:15am Fellowship 10:30am Sunday School, Property Team, Mission in World 10:45am Worship Team 11:30am Trinity U: Baking Bread 2:00pm Root River Conference Assembly in Chatfield	2 7:00pm Narcotics Anonymous, Trinity Center	3	4 2:00pm Release Time (K), TC 6:00pm Lenten Meal, Confirmation Core 7:00pm Lenten Worship 7:30pm Handbell Choir 8:00pm Choir; 3:16s @ TC	5 9:00am Finance, MR 5:30pm Education, MR	6 7:00pm Middle School Game Night, Trinity Ctr	7 10:00am Praise Band practice 5:00pm Worship/ Communion with Holy Baptism of Grant Eiken
8 9:15am Worship/Praise Band 10:15am Fellowship 10:30am Sunday School, Stewardship, Outreach 11:30am Tweenen Care Ctr. Service	9 7:00pm Narcotics Anonymous, Trinity Center	10 9:00am Deborah Circle 7:00pm Support Team, GR	11 9:30am Adah Circle 1:00pm Release Time (1 st), TC 6:00pm Lenten Meal 7:00pm Lenten Worship 7:30pm Handbell Choir 7:45pm Council 8:00pm Choir	12	13	14 10:00am Praise Band practice
15 9:15am Worship/Communion with Holy Baptism of Theodore Leafblad 10:15am Fellowship 10:30am Sunday School, Trinity U: Latin	16 7:00pm Hannah Circle; Narcotics Anonymous, Trinity Center	17 2:30pm Phoebe Circle	18 1:00pm Release Time (2 nd), TC 6:00pm Lenten Meal 7:00pm Lenten Worship 7:30pm Handbell Choir 8:00pm Choir; 3:16s @ TC	19 9:30am Communion at The Manor 5:30pm Staffing, GR	20 12:00pm Newsletter Info due 7:00pm Middle School Game Night, TC	21 5:00pm Worship/ Communion
22 9:15am Worship 10:15am Fellowship 10:30am Sunday School, Trinity U: Latin	23 7:00pm Narcotics Anonymous, Trinity Center	24	25 12:30pm Release Time (3 rd), TC 6:00pm Lenten Meal 7:00pm Lenten Worship 7:30pm Handbell Choir 8:00pm Choir	26 9:30am Communion at Tweenen Apartments 10:30am Communion at Assisted Living 2:00pm Newsletter mailed	27 9:00am Love Day	28 10:00am Trinity U: Pack Kits & Layettes
29 Servant Sunday 9:15am Worship with Holy Baptism of Brianna and Taylor Lewis 10:15am Fellowship No Sunday School	30 7:00pm Narcotics Anonymous, Trinity Center	31				

VOLUNTEERS — *Thank you for all that you do!*

	March 1	March 8	March 15	March 22	March 29
LECTOR	Janna Myrah	Carlyn Kraabel	Jean Ellingson	Bev Nelson	Karen Gray
ACOLYTE(S)	August Allen Isaac Vick	Eliot Bartell	Haley Ellingson Ben Udstuen	Alison Frydenlund	Claire Solberg
COMMUNION SERVERS	Deb Spence Ruth Johnsrud Mark Schroeder		Betty & Mark Dokken Bill Fried		
COMMUNION BREAD	Sue Wiste				
ALTAR GUILD	Jan Kraabel (chair), Bev Nelson, Cindy Thorson, Jan Lochner, Lori Wilhelmson				
USHERS	Kim Sherburne (captain), Steve Landsom, Chris Petersen, Greg Petersen, John Storlie, Rick Sundet				
FELLOWSHIP HOSTS	Linda & Steve Kemp Marcia Holland	Lorilyn Dehning Danielle & Jeremy Myhre Stephanie Jaster	Steve & Peggy Landsom Deb Landsom Lawson Kris Olson	Mark Schroeder Sara Kroshus	Jackie Parker Trisha Myrah
498-AMEN	March 1-14: Kari Alstad		March 15-28: Roxanne Finnesgard	March 29-April 11: Bev Nelson	
MEALS ON WHEELS	March 2-3: Mark & Betty Dokken; March 4-5: Barb & Steve Morken; March 6: Laurie & Mike Moen				



Have you kept us up-to-date with a new mailing address?
Phone number? Email address?

Please let us know of any changes so that we have accurate records.

Thank you !!

ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATION..... A weekly email on Fridays.....This monthly newsletter.
Would you like to be on either of these email lists? Just let us know in the office.



Facebook: Trinity Lutheran Church Spring Grove



Instagram: Youth account = *trinityyouth203*

Trinity Church account = *trinitylutheransg*

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

St. Patrick's Day – the rest of the story...

Though he is the patron saint of Ireland, Patrick was actually born in what is now Wales in the year 389. At age sixteen, Patrick was kidnapped by Irish pirates and sold into slavery in Ireland. He escaped after six years, returned to his family in southwest Britain, and began to prepare for ordained ministry. He later returned to Ireland, this time to serve as a bishop and missionary to the people that once held him as a slave. Patrick bravely and freely spread Christianity all through the land where he was once held captive. He died on March 17, 461. His famous baptismal hymn is still sung today, "I Bind unto Myself Today."

I bind unto
myself today the
power of God to
hold and lead...

from the
Breastplate of St. Patrick

