

Trinity Lutheran Church
ANNOUNCEMENTS

March 8-14

Exodus 17:1-7 (page 49 of the Old Testament)
Romans 5:1-11 (page 118 of the New Testament)
John 4:5-42 (page 72 of the New Testament)

Live Stream Worship Service—A reminder that both Sunday services are live-streamed on our website (tlcmidland.org), available on You Tube (TLCMid3701), and Facebook (facebook.com/MidlandTLC). Please be aware that you may be seen on camera as you go up for the children's message or communion.

The flowers on the altar are given by Cathy Bloomfield in honor of her daughters, sons-in-law and grandchildren.



On February 25 we welcomed our new **N/W Lower MI Synod Bishop Julie Schneider-Thomas** to our soup dinner, education time (where she led a Q&A session), and she concluded her time with us by preaching during our initial Wednesday Lent worship. Following the Q&A session, a number of attendees were interested in signing up to receive on-going synod publications, including weekly and monthly newsletters. For those interested, you can access the synod's website and subscribe to the synod's mailing list at the following link:
<https://www.mittensynod.org/resources/publications/>.



Today--Sunday, March 8 we will have a brief **Acolyte Training** after the 11am service. This is geared towards 4th grade and older - **adults can acolyte too!** Any questions, see Melanie or Vicar Tim.



Mark your calendar for a Service of Healing and Wholeness to be held on Sunday, March 22, between worship services. Join us in the chapel for this special worship service.



Last Sunday the Women's Ministry group collected and prayed over donations for The Legacy Center. We also wrote motivational notes to their learners encouraging them to complete their educational goals! The ladies also collected over \$150 in cash from donations and participation fees that allows The Legacy Center to disperse funds as needed. It was a wonderful day of fellowship and fun!

Our next event is scheduled for May 31st. We will be learning from a local floral designer how to assemble floral bouquets from grocery store "build your own bouquet" flowers! Bring your own empty small vase to take home filled with beautiful flowers from God's creation! Pretty cupcakes and cookies will be served. Ladies of all ages are welcome! Sign-ups will begin May 1st.



Order your Easter Flowers—You can order tulips, daffodils, hyacinths, mums, azaleas, hydrangeas and lilies. Each plant can be purchased in honor or in memory of someone. Order forms are available on the last page of the announcements or at the Welcome Desk. Please return to Cathy or Jeri Lynne by March 15.



THANK YOU for your generous support of our 21st annual Trinity Youth Christmas Greens fundraiser! This was our third highest sales year since we started this fundraiser in 2004 (only behind 2018 and 2019) - and for the first time, our Trinity Pre-School families also participated! During the past Christmas season, we sold 205 greens items totaling \$6,278 in sales and/or donations resulting in a profit of \$1,973 distributed to individual Youth Accounts, to Mission Trip / ELCA Youth Gathering Funds, and to the Pre-School. For those who enjoy “fun facts”, since 2004 we have had a grand total of \$95,295 in greens sales and/or donations with profits of \$35,800 (approx. 30-35% of sales) supporting our youth and/or youth programming. Well done good and faithful servants!



Summer Elementary Camp

A classic camp experience designed for your child to discover the love and grace of Christian community as they also begin to discover who they are as children of God.

For: Kids entering grades 3-5

When: Sunday, July 5 - Friday, July 10

Where: Stony Lake, New Era, MI

Register: ASAP for Discoverers at elcalivingwater.com (registration link for

Tidings: <https://www.ultracamp.com/clientlogin.aspx?idCamp=1063&campcode=LWM&lang=en-US>)

Questions? Melanie - mlonsway@tlcmidland.org



Community Assistance Needed—At our Community Assistance meeting this past Thursday, I was made aware of a need members of Whispering Pines Mobile Home Park have had for the past few months. As you may have read in the paper, most of the park is without water. Several groups have helped with large orders of water but an ongoing problem for the residents is the task of laundry. I would like to do a laundry detergent and coupon drive for those residents affected by this ongoing issue that will probably not be resolved for weeks. Laundry coupons can be picked up at Colby's Totally Clean (on Saginaw Rd near the Secretary of State's Office). You may drop them off at the church office, or if you prefer donating cash I will buy them for you. I'll have a bin to hold any laundry detergent donations, starting Monday, in the Narthex near our food pantry. Please consider a donation to help these residents. Most are at or below poverty level income and this is a huge strain on their meager budgets. If you have any questions please see or call Pam Fagan at 989.859.0409.

Everyone loves a good soup!! It's time for Lenten soup suppers. Please look for the sign-up on the bulletin board across from the Food Pantry shelves and bring your favorite soup to share. Your soup should serve 10 to 12 people. We ask that you also bring bread, rolls or chips that will go along with your soup. We will have ladles and bread baskets to use so there is no need to bring your own. If you can't make soup, please consider bringing a dessert. Thank you for participating in this wonderful fellowship! If you have any questions, feel free to contact Holly Hellebuyck (989) 859-4033 or hahelleb@aol.com.



Desert Wandering and Wondering--During Lent, we turn inward for reflection. It is a time to sit with those things that have deeply shaped who we are and who we are becoming. Throughout scripture, God's people retreat to desert wildernesses as the place to do this kind of inward turning. On his recent trip to Egypt, Vicar Tim spent time in some of the wildernesses described in scripture. This Lent, he will give a homily series on the wanderings of God's people in the desert. How has God been active in the desert places you've experienced?



Rummage Sale, April 25 from 9:00-2:00---Items for our spring rummage sale may be dropped off beginning March 1. You can get the key to the building from Jeri Lynne or Cathy at the Welcome Desk.

Volunteers are needed to set-up for the sale. You are free to come and work at any time that is convenient for you. Just stop and get the key from Jeri Lynne or Cathy. Volunteers will also be needed on the day of the sale. If you have any questions you can contact Sandy Avery at 989.600.8702. **Please do not leave anything outside the door.**



Easter is coming! Mark your calendar:

Palm Sunday worship—Saturday, March 29, 5:00pm and Sunday, March 30, 8:45 and 11:00am
Maundy Thursday—Thursday, April 2, Noon and 7:00pm
Good Friday—Friday, April 3, 7:00pm
Easter Vigil—Saturday, April 4, 5:00pm
Easter Sunday—Sunday, April 5, 8:00, 9:30, and 11:00am

Plan on joining us for Easter Brunch—watch for details soon.



Children of all ages are invited to join us for our ***First Communion Class***, a joyful and meaningful time to learn about the gift of Holy Communion and what it means to gather at the table of grace. This class is family-friendly, and we encourage a parent or guardian to attend alongside their child. Learning together helps spark conversation, deepen faith, and make this milestone even more meaningful.

We will be meeting on Sunday afternoons, **March 15 and 22, from 1:00 – 2:00/2:30**. If these days or times do not work for your family, please let Pastor Jeff know.

Whether your child is just beginning to ask questions or feels ready to receive Communion, all are welcome to come, learn, and grow together.

We look forward to sharing this sacred journey with you and your family.



Road Trip Vacation Bible School June 22 – 25 9 am - 12 pm

Embark on a journey with God through the Bible! Join us for a thrilling road trip adventure where kids explore exciting destinations with the Navigator and their pup, Scout! Through Bible stories, games, and fun challenges, we will discover that God is always with us.



Holy Land Pilgrimage - January 18–28, 2027. We invite you to pray about joining a Holy Land Pilgrimage in January 2027. This sacred journey will take us to the places where Jesus lived and taught—Galilee, Bethlehem, Jerusalem, and more—combining worship, learning, and reflection along the way. Led by Pastor Jeff, this pilgrimage is an invitation to walk the land of the Bible and let scripture come alive in new and meaningful ways. Questions are always welcome.

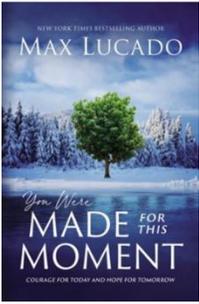


Visioning Trinity's Future: We have created a spot on the church's website to keep you updated with our process of visioning and strategic planning. You will find meeting minutes, what is happening and what is next. On the website, look under the heading "About" for "Mission and Vision". Check back often to keep up to date on what is happening.



Need a prayer? We all go through circumstances from time to time where we could use an extra prayer or someone to listen. Trinity Lutheran has Stephen Ministers throughout the congregation who are trained to provide prayer, care, and comfort. If you find yourself needing a little extra care today, please stop in the Hearth Room after the service. A Stephen Minister will be there to share a prayer with you.

One of the many ways we make connections with God and with others is through the gift of Bible Study! Consider joining one this week.



Antioch Circle is studying "You Were Made for This Moment" by Max Lucado. All women are invited to join them at 1:00 pm on the third Tuesday of every month in the Hearth Room. Contact Judy Richardson for details.



Trinity Men's Ministry All Men Welcome! Last Thursday of the month at 7:30am. The next meeting will be held on Thursday, March 26, in the church conference room.



WEDNESDAYS

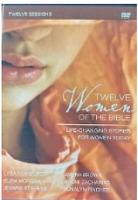
- **Sunday's Coming Bible Study** meets on Wednesday. Come join us as we look at lessons for the coming weekend and enjoy a lively discussion. This group meets at 10:00 am in the hearth room.



Sunday School –Meet at 10:00-10:45 am (between the two services). “Children ages 4-5th grade will meet in the Activities Room downstairs (outside the Youth Room). Please contact Melanie Lonsway with any questions.”

The Adult Sunday School class will meet on Sunday, March 8, at 10 am (between services) in the Hearth Room. Please join us. As stated earlier, the Adult Sunday School class will NOT meet on March 15 or March 22.

Confirmation Class meets on Sundays at 10:00am and Wednesdays at 6:00pm.



Trinity Women's Life Group-- All women are invited and encouraged to join us as we continue our journey of learning about a new woman from the Bible each week. Come when you can! The nature of this study allows you to join us for fellowship, prayer, and discussion as your schedule allows. Questions? Please call or text Heidi Lang, 517.930.5037.

Open Door – We are looking for help with making and serving lunch on Wednesday, March 11 and 25. We arrive about 9:30, make lunch, and serve it. We are usually done around 1:30pm. If you are interested in helping, please contact Lee Smith at (989) 415-5020.



Food Donations—Don't forget that Trinity helps support the food pantry with non-perishable food, paper products, or personal care items on the 1st Sunday of each month. Your donations can be brought to the church at any time during the month and placed on the shelves near the elevator. Thank you!



Calling all Preschoolers! Trinity Lutheran Preschool is accepting applications for the 2026-2027 school year for all church members, including current and returning preschool families. Class offerings will be for 3–5-year-olds, with a Lunchtime Learners program from 12-1 pm for the 4 & 5 year olds. Our preschoolers are constantly learning, laughing and growing as they explore art, math, science, and more while socializing with children their own age in a loving & caring environment. Stop in

and see why Trinity Lutheran Preschool is one of the most honorable and highly recognized organizations offering early childhood education in the Midland area! Call Andrea at 989-631-0692 for information, a registration packet, and a tour of our facility. Email: trinitylutheranpreschool@gmail.com for more information.



HEY, YOU GUYS (yes YOU)!!! This Sunday (**YES THAT'S TODAY**), Middle School and High School Youth meet at Valley Lanes @2pm. The Church has reserved that cool private area in the bowling alley for a church-wide get-together, so let's take advantage of this opportunity and have some fun! We can bowl, see who can win the biggest prize in the arcade, do laser tag (middle school vs high school? I heard somebody talking trash (and his name rhymes with Calvin Stangland...wait)), bumper cars, or we could just walk around singing "Golden" at the top of our lungs (Sam loves that song). There is a \$15 fee to attend, but if that's going to be an issue, we can either take it out of your youth accounts or I'll cover you, so don't worry about it. If anyone needs a ride, let me know! Looking forward to seeing you all there! **PS High Schoolers**, this will be our Youth Group meeting today.

-Hey Middle and High School Youth: Let's play 'Killer Bunnies' (and possibly other games). Alright guys, Aaron Tate has been trying to get us to play a game called 'Killer Bunnies' for months, and I've finally run out of excuses so LET'S DO THIS!!! We'll meet on Sunday, March 22nd in the gathering room from 3-7pm. Aaron says the game takes four hours to play, so we'll probably need that time. **HOWEVER**, if that's not your cup of tea, or you can't be there for the whole time, we'll have other games set up in the gathering room (and we'll hook up the Switch 2 to the big screen). Pizza and drinks will be provided around 5pm.

-Youth Group will be **Cancelled March 29th** (for spring break).

-Easter and Apologetics: A discussion for Middle School and High School Youth (interested adults are welcome to join). Have you ever heard that Easter is actually a pagan holiday? Or that the events of Easter Sunday didn't really happen? Or maybe you just want to know what the deal is with all the mutant bunnies running around laying eggs in hard-to-find places (I mean, bunnies don't lay eggs, what in world is going on with that?)? If so, come to Youth Group on April 5th (yes that is Easter Sunday) from 5-7pm for a presentation and discussion on the subject. Bring your questions (or just yourself) and we'll discuss the historical evidence for the life and resurrection of Jesus, the origin of the Easter holiday as we know it today, and we'll get to the bottom of whatever is going on with those weird rabbits!

-Middle and High School Youth Lock-In Rescheduled for April 11th starting at 5pm (you can come later if you want). Same great fun, slightly different month! And just to be clear, if you want to come, but don't want to stay all night, that's ok! You're not actually locked inside!

Confirmation Camp

All the fun camp activities plus bonding time with Joe & Pastor Jeff. It is an invaluable time for creating memories and growing in faith.

For: Kids entering grades 6-9 When: Sunday, June 14 - Friday, June 19 Where: Lutherwald, Howe, IN

Register: lomik.org (registration link for Tidings: https://lomikadmin.com/cr/register_selectsite.php)

Questions? Joe - jjohnson@tlcmidland.org

High School Youth Group Mission Trip | July 13-19

This summer, our High School Youth Group is hitting the road and heading to **Gaylord, Michigan** to make a real difference! We'll be serving a community still rebuilding after major ice storms last winter, along with other recent challenges—and we're THRILLED to be part of that work.

We're teaming up with **Pastor Megan Crouch of Peace Lutheran Church** (yes, *that* Pastor Megan—she's BACK!), and we've got some incredible service projects, meaningful moments, and plenty of fun in the works. If you're currently in high school—or *will be next year*—**this trip has your name on it**. Come serve, grow, laugh, and make memories that actually matter.

More details coming soon... you won't want to miss this!



The BEST Christmas Gift. Imagine the challenges of overcoming homelessness and addiction. You're so close to starting fresh, then a devastating hurricane threatens to rip everything apart.

Comfort, O comfort my peoples, says your God. Isaiah 40:1 NRSV

This was the story of our neighbors living in a shelter in Asheville, North Carolina, when Helene struck—flooding the residence and leaving them without power for days and water for months. Many of the men felt defeated. Then, just in time for Christmas your love surrounded them with the warmth of quilts reminding them how much others cared.

The gratitude was palpable,” one volunteer said. “Time and time again we were told, ‘This is the nicest Christmas I have ever had in my life.’”

Trinity (and many other U.S. Lutheran churches) is a partner with Lutheran World Relief, making quilts that are distributed locally, nationally and world-wide. Additionally, the offering you give to ELCA World Hunger on the second weekend of the month helps support the work of Lutheran World Relief. You may use the envelopes in the pew racks or put loose change in the offering plate to help support the work of ELCA World Hunger and Lutheran World Relief.



PRAYER REQUESTS

Remember in your prayers this week: Adam, Carol, Kelly, Finn, Tricia, Deborah, Toni, Theresa, Karen, Don, Elwood, Joe, Charly, Connie, Annie, Christopher, Phil, Andrea, Marj, Lori, Julie, and Cristian.

Remember in your prayers those with Cancer: Joe, Terry, Craig, Sara, Ann, Pam, Greg, Tom, Sharon, Ray, Andrea, Mason, June, and Grace.

Stewardship Update

Attendance for February 28/March 1: 321 in person 529 live-stream

Attendance for Lenten Worship: 105 in person 151 live-stream

Received: \$ 14,381.00

Unified Fund Income (from Offerings & Donations) &

Expenses (aligned to the budget - Operations, Benevolence, Resources, Education, etc.):*

January 2026 (Unified Fund Only*)		YTD through January 2026 (Unified Fund & YTD Investment Return*)	
Income:	\$ 49,735	Income:	\$ 49,735
Expenses:	\$ 90,772	Investment Return:	\$ 71,942
	\$ (41,037)	Expenses:	\$ 90,772
			\$ 30,905

*Not included: Dedicated Fund and Trinity Trust Fund balances

If there are any questions, please contact Council Treasurer, Peder Danielsen.

2026 EASTER FLOWER ORDER FORM

The following flowers may be ordered for Easter and picked up after the last service. Please leave a check or cash with your order and return this form to Jeri Lynne or Cathy by **March 15, 2026**. Thank you.

- | | |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------|
| _____ Tulip \$9.50 | _____ Easter Lily \$12.00 |
| _____ Daffodil \$9.50 | _____ Hyacinth \$9.50 |
| _____ Mums \$11.75 | _____ Azalea \$17.00 |
| _____ Double Lily \$24.00 | _____ Hydrangea \$17.00 |
| _____ Jumbo Lily \$34.00 | _____ Pansy Bowl \$6.00 |
| _____ Mini Daffodils \$3.90 | |

The bulletin will list **memorials** or **"in honor"** (please specify) of a loved one on Easter Sunday: **(Please print clearly)**

In memory of _____

In honor of _____

Name _____

Please Print Names

Phone _____

Please List Area Code

