

February 2024



*From the
Pastor*



Dear Friends,

I love Lent. Even though it adds stress. Even though it requires more work, planning, recruiting, and practice. Even though by Easter I will be exhausted. I love the ritual of Ash Wednesday that reduces us to dust in order to grow a new person, a new opportunity, a new life of God's making. Last year we were guided through the faith practices of VOCARE. This year we will proclaim and study God's Word through the book of Acts. We may delineate from the regular lectionary but sometimes trying something new brings new insights, new words, and new wisdom to our spiritual growth in Lent. Join us on Sundays and Wednesdays.

Trinity hosted a leadership retreat on Saturday, January 20, 2024. It was great to share the space with our siblings in faith from First Presbyterian, St. Paul's Lutheran, and Fisher/Bygland Parish. We face an interesting future as church together. While it would have been easy to commiserate about shared problems, our work was about looking forward, identifying values, forming value statements, providing a framework for future decisions and work. Being in the same space allowed us to hear what others are thinking and doing. We identified an openness to exchanging pulpits to hear different voices. We look forward to identifying future opportunities to share ministries for our community.

We are looking to restart our lay visitation ministry. Due to an unexpected delay, we are hopeful that there are those of you who would like to be a part of visiting someone who is homebound or residing in a care facility. We will provide a brief training, instruct you as to bringing and serving communion, as well as answering your questions about conversation, prayer, and expectations. If you or your family feel called to share in this ministry opportunity, please call the church office or talk to the pastors about your interest. Together we can extend our sense of community to those may not be able to participate yet want to stay connected with their church.

See you in church,
Rev. Gregory Isaacson



For a number of people, weekends are filled with family activities, work, and other obligations. A trend in some churches has been to offer Wednesday evening programming throughout the year. The schedule usually begins with a meal followed by a 30-45 minute worship then moving to confirmation and other programs. We have a tradition of doing this during Lent. People are encouraged to use this Wednesday faith opportunity to help Trinity gauge if this is something we should continue to offer throughout the year.

Since moving all faith formation for youth in grades 7, 8, 9, 10 to Wednesday nights, we have seen an increase in attendance for classes. We have also noticed a decrease in families in Sunday worship from this age group. Regular worship attendance reminds us of God's presence in our lives, teaches us the essentials of the Christian faith, brings us together as a community of believers, and encourages inter-generational relationships. Our preaching series in Lent, *Altered By The Spirit*, provides us a unique opportunity to proclaim a message on Sunday and then go deeper on Wednesday. Please make a special effort to attend on either Sunday or Wednesday or both.

Special thanks to Dan and Christine Erdman who have agreed to cook our Wednesday evening meals and our Trinity serving groups for serving and clean up. If work keeps you from serving a funeral reception, this Wednesday opportunity can engage you in an easy way and attend worship. Please say "yes" when your serving group leader calls.



How To Reach Us

FOR PRAYER CHAIN REQUESTS: Please contact a Prayer Chain Coordinator: **Shirley Bakken at 218-687-2107 or Judy Dragseth at 218-281-2550** or the Church Office at 218-281-4276.

PASTORAL EMERGENCIES: Please call church office @ 218-281-4276 for on-call phone number.

HOSPITALIZED? The only way the church knows that you're hospitalized is if you, a loved one, or friend notifies us. Please call the church office at 218-281-4276 and let us know so that Trinity can support you with prayer and with presence.



“But speaking the truth in love, we must grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by every ligament with which it is equipped, as each part is working properly, promotes the body’s growth in building itself up in love.” Ephesians 4:15-16

“Love and Growth” those are the values we are called to lean into together, according to our “Congregational Vision and Values” retreat. Members of FPC, along side 4 other congregations, gathered to do some serious discernment work in order to arrive at these seemingly simple words.

“Love and Growth” in 2024 doesn’t feel so simple though. How does the body of Christ faithfully continue to “build itself up” when the energy and bodies we once had only seem to be decreasing? In Ephesians 4, Paul is using the analogy of growth in God’s body to describe exactly this. To experience growth and love isn’t to become bigger or more powerful, it’s to allow the connections between each part, the ligaments and bones, to become more firm and complete. A “building up” that only happens through love.

“Love and Growth” isn’t doing nice things so more people will join the church, it’s becoming more connected and caring, understanding and present in each other’s lives so that anyone who does, knows they belong and are missed when they don’t.

In this next season I want us to be focusing on this kind of “Love and Growth”. Thinking and trying out new ways to strengthening our connections to each other, especially those who cannot physically be at worship each week.

“Love and Growth” in the following news letter articles is going to look like some new ways of communicating and getting information out about each other’s lives, who could use a visit and special moments like birthdays and anniversaries. In the coming months you will also be hearing about some special events meant to connect with more of our home bound members as well as resources to help you do so on your own time.

I am so thankful for those members who gave their Saturday to wrestle and discern together last week. Not only for their perspectives but also their wisdom that guided us to this focus which seems obvious in hindsight. If God is love and love is connection than of course that is where we must begin any kind of growth. Between each other, the body of Christ.

Grace & Peace,
Pastor Michael Ozaki




First Presbyterian
CROOKSTON, MN.

**Lenten
FOOD &
REFLECTIONS**

Wednesdays @ 5:30-7:00pm
Feb 21 - March 20

Join for a simple meal and reflections time throughout the lenten season in the FPC Social Hall.

BUT FIRST!

We need to know who is willing to help provide food each week.
If you can bring a pot of soup/ chili or other goodness let us know on the sign up sheet outside the sanctuary or let the office know ASAP!



Congregational Report on Visioning Meeting February 25th after worship

On January 20th members of FPC and 4 other congregations attended an all day retreat to help discern the values and direction God is calling each of our communities this year and beyond. To share all the details and insights that came out of that time we will offer a presentation during the social hour after worship on Feb. 25th. Please join us and bring your questions and ideas too.

**Lenten
Meals**

Free Will donation to cover costs, excess will go to general fund



**Wednesday
Lenten Services**

5:30pm - Dinner

6:30pm - Worship

7:10pm - Programming

Feb 14th - Ash Wednesday

Choice of Chicken Wild Rice Soup or Beef Stew
Fresh Baked Dinner Rolls
Chocolate Cake with Red Frosting (for Valentines)

Feb 21st

Lasagna Hotdish
Lettuce Salad w/assorted dressings
Garlic Toast
Chocolate Chip Cookies

Feb 28th

Chicken Alfredo Pasta
Mixed Veggies
Dinner Rolls
Apple Crisp

March 6th

Chili
Ham/Cheese Macaroni Salad
Corn Bread
Spiced Cake with Cream Cheese Frosting

March 13th

Hearty Vegetable Soup
Ham and Cheese Sandwich
Bumpy Bars

March 20th

Pork Carnitas Hotdish
Mexican Pasta Salad
Corn Chips
Strawberry Cake



Lent 2024 : "Altered by the Spirit"

Lent is a time of self-reflection, spiritual discipline, commitment, and community. This Lent we are going to look at a kaleidoscope of stories from the Book of Acts. We'll see the ways the Spirit alters our perspective, transforms our communities, and consistently blazes a trail ahead of us. Because the Spirit is alive in, with, and under our ordinary lives, always calling us forward into transformation, nudging us into wholeness, and beckoning us forth into an alternative way.

The writer of Luke and Acts clearly desires to tell the story of God's redeeming and saving love in Jesus Christ. Acts continues on from Luke, giving a systemic presentation of the growth of the Christian church from its beginnings in Jerusalem. This account is presented with many details about people and places.

The writer, trying to do more than tell the history of the early church, offers a defense of faith in Jesus Christ, including arguments that the faith is meant for both Jews and Gentiles. The stories and speeches by key leaders demonstrate how quickly Christianity spread beyond Jerusalem. The writer also seeks to show the work of the Holy Spirit in the lives of the early believers as they face persecution and opposition to their witness.

SUNDAYS

Feb. 18 Altered Through God's Creativity
Acts 2:1-13

Feb. 25 Altered on the Edge of Belonging
Acts 8:26-40

Mar. 3 Altered Alongside Our Enemies
Acts 9:1-22

Mar. 10 Altered by Disruption
Acts 10:10-16, 34-35, 44-47

Mar. 17 Altered through Stories We Don't Trust
Acts 12:6-17

Mar. 24 Victory Altered
Luke 19:28-40

Mar. 31 Easter: Life Altered

WEDNESDAYS

Feb. 14 Altered in Witness (Ash Wed.)
Acts 1:6-11

Feb. 21 Deeper with the Spirit

Feb. 28 Deeper with the Ethiopian

Mar. 6 Deeper with Saul

Mar. 13 Deeper with Peter

Mar. 20 Deeper with Rhoda

Mar. 28 Love Altered (Maundy Thurs.)

Mar. 29 Violence Altered (Good Friday)

What is Per Capita?



UNDERSTANDING PER CAPITA AND UNIFIED MISSION GIVING

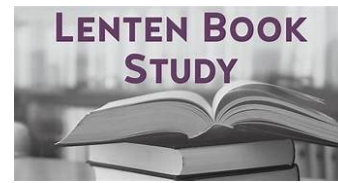
The 2024 Per Capita Apportionment is \$50. This is the amount that our congregation sends for the year, for each church member, to the Presbytery. Then the Presbytery also sends funds to the Synod and to the General Assembly based on each church's membership. To date, twelve of our church members have given their per capita this year.

Our Presbytery of the Northern Plains, in which we have representation, and a voice and a vote, has the responsibility to set the per capita rate each year. This is a policy approved through the General Assembly. Presbyterian records in the US indicate we have been doing a per capita collection since 1734. The US Constitution actually gets some of its wording and structure from Presbyterians!!

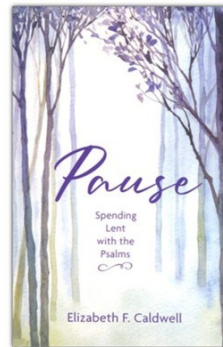
Presbyterians are part of the connectional church. In other words, our Presbyterian congregation is not an island, going it alone. Our denomination has a long history of representative governance that allows us to participate in carrying out the work of Christian discipleship in our church, our region (our Presbytery), our state and neighboring states (our Synod) and nationally and internationally (General Assembly). Being part of expanded groups, we are able to contribute to and support large global missions.

Our congregation also benefits from the resources made available to us as a connectional church. For instance, the large Congregational Leadership Connection (CLC) Program online gives us assistance and access to the applications of pastors searching for a new church. We used the CLC and found Pastor Mike.

If you have not done so yet, but would like to and are able to, please write a check to First Presbyterian Church for \$50 for each member, mark it for per capita, and drop it in the offering plate or send it into our office. Thank you



Lenten Book Study: Thursdays 1:00-2:00



For Lent we will be reading, "Pause: *Spending Lent with the Psalms*"

A book that invites us to take up the spiritual practice of encountering, sinking into, and deeply engaging with one psalm each week during Lent and Holy Week.

The season of Lent encourages Christians to consider a different pace—one of slowing down, noticing, pausing—than what our dominant culture values. The invitation to pause with the Psalms begins on Ash Wednesday, starting with a mark of ashes on our foreheads that reminds us that in spite of our failures—things we have done or failed to do—we belong to God. Readers are then guided into an exploration of Psalm 51 and the theme of a clean heart. Each chapter helps readers to connect an image drawn from that psalm, such as paths, faces, blessing, tables, waiting, thanksgiving, listening, being alone or abandoned, and hands, with their own lives. At the close of each chapter, readers are invited to try a different prayer practice to help them continue to reflect on the theme and psalm each day. This intentional engagement—without feeling burdensome—opens just enough space and time for a creative spiritual practice to flourish, sustaining the life of faith during the Lenten season in ways that can make a difference in God's world.

Keep an eye out for e-mails from our new address office@Crookstonfirstpres.org.

We hope to send out weekly e-mails that will include different resources and information to help make connecting to each other that much easier. These include:

Devotional readings, videos and resources to share with...

- ◆ Friends who would love a visit.
- ◆ Upcoming birthdays and other big life events
- ◆ Prayer Concerns
- ◆ Announcements and calendars
- ◆ and more.



All this info will also be found on our website crookstonfirstpres.org for easy access when you want it. If you think of other ways to help us become stronger in our "love and growth", let us know!

A huge thank you for a successful 2023 Christmas Store! The Children were able to purchase many gifts and judging by the joy and smiles throughout the morning they had a wonderful time!

MANY THANKS FOR:

- ◆ Donations from all of Trinity and First Presbyterian members to help stock our tables
- ◆ Set up crew of Jason Leas, Nancy Hanson, Linda Knutson and Judie Kanten
- ◆ 7-10th Grade – and a few graduates who assisted the Shoppers
- ◆ Sunday School Teachers keeping the Shoppers occupied until their time
- ◆ AWESOME Wrapping Volunteers – many of whom come year after year and a few new faces to join in the fun – THANK YOU SO VERY MUCH time and time again for doing such a great job with the gifts – allowing each Child to go Home with packages all set for Christmas! I apologize if I forget someone-
 - ⇒ Brenda Kaiser, Beth Benoit, Kathy Altringer, Jenna and Emery Benoit, Nancy Hanson, Brittney and Chris Osen, Sarah Pester, Judie Kanten, Jessica Hanson, Lindsay Lessard, Darcy Pester, Lori Ingeman, Sandi and Elizabeth Schmitz, Nate and Angie Smith, Brandi and Ben Nesseth, Sarah Olmstead, Ashley, Justin and Bailey Cameron, Stacy Lanctot, Carrie Clauson, Erin Laplante, Heather and Ryan Palm, Beth and Wally Osen, Jackie Lindsay and Anna Brekken
- ◆ Tear down crew of Nancy Hanson, Jackie and Jerry Lindsay, Beth Benoit, Kathy Altringer, Jenna and Emery Benoit Sarah Pester, Erik and Judie Kanten, Britt, Chris, Kenlea, Kitsyn and Corban Osen, Beth and Wally Osen, Leah Winjum and Jason Leas

A blessed Holiday season to all - Kristy

THANK
YOU



Calendar Items

Repeating Items:

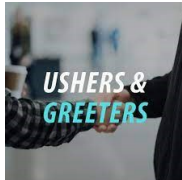
Every Sunday: 10:45am—Worship
11:45am—Coffee Fellowship
First Sunday of Each Month: Communion
Every Wednesday—All Months: 6:00pm—Bell Choir Rehearsal
Every Thursday—All Months: 1:00pm—Book Study

Date Specific Items:

February 14 Ash Wednesday
February 21 5:30pm-7:00pm—Lenten Food and Reflection
February 25 After 10:45 Worship—Report on Congregational Visioning Meeting
March 5 Presidential Primary
March 6 5:30pm-7:00pm—Lenten Food and Reflection
March 13 5:30pm-7:00pm—Lenten Food and Reflection
March 20 5:30pm-7:00pm—Lenten Food and Reflection
March 28 Maundy Thursday
6:00pm—Service at Trinity
March 29 Good Friday
6:30pm—Service at First Presbyterian
March 31 Easter Sunday
8:00am & 10:00am—Services at Trinity
10:45am—Service at First Presbyterian



February 4—Gordia & Monica Terpstra/Marsha Odom
Communion Preparer: Deacon: Gordie
March 3—Glen & Marlys Finkenbinder/Wally Hoselton
Communion Preparer: Deacon: Jeri
March 31—Marlys Mjoen/Marsha Odom/Sandy Perkins
Communion Preparer: Deacon: Vicki S.
April 7—Bill & Gloria Watro/Merrie Nelson
Communion Preparer: Deacon: Gordie
May 5—Wayne & Lori Folkers/Vicki Svedarsky
Communion Preparer: Deacon: Vicki S.



February 4—Wally Hoselton & Dale Charais
February 11—Sandy Perkins & Paula Waters
February 18—Dan & Vicki Svedarsky
February 25—Craig & Connor Morgan
March 3—Mario & Jill Schisano
March 10—Connor & Laura Thoreson
March 17—Glen & Marlys Finkenbinder
March 24—Dan & Vicki Svedarsky
March 31—Jeri Melsa & Lynne Mullins
April 7—Marlys Mjoen & Sandy Perkins
April 14—Glen & Marlys Finkenbinder
April 21—Bill & Gloria Watro
April 28—Wayne & Lori Folkers
May 5—Gary & Lori Hoerner
May 12—Sam & Marley Melbye
May 19—Ralph Pester & Marsha Odom
May 26—Mario & Jill Schisano



February 4— Lynne Mullins
February 11— Marsha Odom
February 18— Lynne Mullins
February 25— Sandy Perkins
March 3— Marsha Odom
March 10— Lynne Mullins
March 17— Sandy Perkins
March 24— Marsha Odom
March 31— Lynne Mullins
April 7— Marsha Odom
April 14— Lynne Mullins
April 21— Sandy Perkins
April 28—Ralph Pester
May 5— Mary Pulkrabek
May 12— Marsha Odom
May 19— Sandy Perkins
May 26— Lynne Mullins

Youth, Children and Family Ministry



J.A.M. (PreK-6th)

Sunday, February 11, During JAM: "Sharing God's Love through Song" 1st-6th graders will be singing songs about God's Love for YOUTH SUNDAY during Trinity's 9 a.m. worship. During J.A.M. we will take a field trip to our Sister Church- First Presbyterian to sing these same songs and share God's love with our Presbyterian friends during their 10:45 a.m. worship. Kids will walk from Trinity and will be picked up at First Presbyterian. Timing TBD.

Sunday, February 18, 10:10-11 a.m.: Little Lutheran Special with Parents – "Called to Serve". We invite PreK-Kind ALONG with their parent/s to share in a special event to learn how we are ALL called to serve! We will be active in ways to serve God and others during our time together.

Sunday, March 17 – JAM Mash-Up - "Easter Movie Event" - Movie TBD 10:10-??? (Time TBD depending on movie) . Our PreK-6th Graders will be going to the MOVIES! There will be no cost for admissions. However, we encourage you to send money for concessions as this will be open. 1st – 6th graders may attend with their teachers. We ask that parents attend with their PreK-Kindergartners. We thank Brian Moore at the Grand Theater for offering these types of events for our church community.

Sunday, March 28 – NO J.A.M. – Easter

Sunday, April 21, 10:10-11 a.m.: Little Lutheran Special with Parents – "Holy Spirit- My Compass". We invite PreK-Kind ALONG with their parent/s to share in a special event to learn more about the Holy Spirit and how we are guided every day.

Sunday, April 28, 10:10-11 a.m. – JAM Mash-Up – "May Day Basket Event"- - Our Prek-6th graders will be together in the Youth Room creating May Day Baskets to share a message of God's love to friends of Trinity or First Presbyterian. If you would like to share a name/address of someone we can deliver to- please submit this information to Leah by Wednesday, April 24.



First Presbyterian Church
Crookston, Mn 56716
Session minutes
December 21, 2023

The Session of the First Presbyterian Church, Crookston Mn met on Thursday December 21 at 6 pm at First Presbyterian Church. Members present were Sandy Perkins, Craig Morgan, Glen Finkenbinder, Gary Hoerner, Marsha Odom and Moderator Pastor Mike Ozaki.
Marley Melbye was excused.
Pastor Mike opened with prayer.

Agenda & Minutes

The agenda was accepted. The minutes of the October meeting were unavailable and will be added for review at the next meeting.

Reports:

Clerk's Report: None

Finance Ministry Team Report: the current financial report was presented and accepted. The apportionment for next year will be \$50 per member. 53 members @\$50 =\$2650
Proposed increase for organist pianist beginning in 2024 to bring compensation in line with other area churches.

Building and Maintenance: leaking roof in hallway next to fellowship hall has been repaired.
Boiler inspection was completed.
Noted the difficulty in cleaning the front sidewalk. Looking into possibilities to alleviate difficulty.

Memorial Ministry Team: A grant from the Handbell funds was issued to Linnea French to attend a Handbell Conference in January.

Worship Ministry Team report: Pastor Mike will contact the Nomination Team to find candidates to fill positions on Session and Board of Deacons in 2024.

Mission Team report: Christmas Eve offering will be designated to fill out the Joy to Rwanda sponsorships. Minute for Mission previous to the Jan 20 Event to raise funds for Care and Share. The Presbyterian Giving catalog was mentioned as a source for other giving possibilities.

Personnel Committee: Our new office administrator is Anne Kopecky. Anne will be working at both Trinity and FPC. A new communications director to serve both churches has also been hired.

Nomination Committee: no report

Unfinished business: None

New Business: Voted to change our email program from 365 to a new more streamlined program.
A Multi Congregational Discernment retreat will be held Jan 20 from 9-3.

J.A.M. Plus and 2W Early Release (7th-10th)

Wed, Feb 7, 14, 21, 28, 6:30-8:30 p.m. : ALPHA- 8th/9th Graders will continue on their ALPHA journey on Wednesdays in February. Please pray for this group as they grow in their faith through listening to special guest speakers and sharing time in small group conversations.

Wed., Feb 7, 6:30-7:30 p.m. – FAMILY NIGHT/Dinner

WEDNESDAYS in LENT (Feb 14-March 20): We will continue to have J.A.M. plus on Wednesdays during Lent. We invite and strongly encourage all families to join us for a lent supper at 5:30 p.m. followed by worship at 6:30 p.m. 7th-10th graders will have small group following worship until 8 p.m. Small group discussion will connect directly to worship, so attendance at worship is expected.

Wed., Feb 14 – JH Early Release 12:30-3 p.m. J.A.M. Plus 6:30-8 p.m. – 9th/10th Only

Wed., March 13– JH Early Release 12:30-3 p.m. J.A.M. Plus 6:30-8 p.m. – 9th/10th Only

10th Grader & Parent Baptism Class/Confirmation Connection following Lent Worship

Wed, March 27 – NO J.A.M Plus – EASTER BREAK

Wed., April 3, 6:30-7:30 p.m. – FAMILY NIGHT/Dinner

Wed., April 10– JH Early Release 12:30-3 p.m. J.A.M. Plus 6:30-8 p.m. – 9th/10th Only



**Sunday, February 11, March 10, April 14–
YOUTH SUNDAYS**

Please reach out to Leah at 218-289-3250 if your child/youth would be interested to read scripture, sing, help with children's time, greet, share musical talent, etc. We love to have our children/youth to have an active role in worship. Our PreK-6th will often sing songs during these Sundays, please stay tuned to texts/notes for specific details.



Summer Youth Mission Trip: We are eager to announce that we will be offering a service-based youth trip for our 9th-12th graders from August 4-8, 2024 to Minneapolis/St. Paul. We are working through Service Learning Camps who will help coordinate 2 service projects each day. We will have time to do evening activities and share in daily team devotionals. Please reach out to Leah at 289-3250 for any questions. Registration, along with \$100 deposit, is due by **Sunday, March 3.**

First Presbyterian Church
Crookston, Mn 56716
Session minutes
January 18, 2024

The Session of the First Presbyterian Church, Crookston Mn met on Thursday January 18, 2024 at 6 pm at First Presbyterian Church. Members present were Sandy Perkins, Craig Morgan, Glen Finkenbinder, Gary Hoerner, Marsha Odom, Marley Melbye and Moderator Pastor Mike Ozaki. Pastor Mike opened with prayer and devotions. .

Agenda & Minutes

The agenda was accepted. The minutes of the October and December meetings were reviewed and accepted.

Reports:

Clerk's Report: None

Finance Ministry Team Report: the current financial report was presented and accepted. Craig reported that he is working on a draft of the 2024 budget and will have 1st draft available at the next meeting. B

Building and Maintenance: Skinner Roofing has fixed the leak in the roof.

Memorial Ministry Team: A year end report will be available next month.

Worship Ministry Team: no report.

Mission Team report: No report. .

Personnel Committee: No report.

Nomination Committee: Checking on bylaws regarding number of Session and Deacon members. Report tabled until next meeting.

Unfinished business: Congregational Discernment retreat will be held Sat Jan 20 from 9-3 There will be a signup for the Lenten soup and devotions.

New Business: None

Motions made

- 1) Approved Agenda
- 2) Approved financial report.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned with prayer.
The next Session meeting will be Thursday February 15 at 6pm

Respectfully submitted,

Youth, Children and Family Ministry



JH Bible Camp: It is a confirmation expectation for our 7th and 8th graders to attend 1 week of Bible Camp. If you were unable to attend the Feb 4 meeting, please reach out to Leah to receive information and get materials for the Papa Murphy's Pizza Fundraiser.



Papa Murphy's Pizza Fundraiser, February 5-26: We will be selling fresh Papa Murphy's Pizza for a fundraiser for our youth attending Bible Camp and our Summer Youth Service Trip. This fundraiser will go from Feb 5- 26. Pizza delivery date will be Thursday, **March 14**. Please contact a Trinity youth participating to place your order or there will be a table to order pizzas on the Wednesdays/Sundays in February. Thank you in advance for your support in helping our youth.



Palm Sunday Brunch Fundraiser, March 24, 10:10 a.m.- 11:30 a.m.- TENTATIVE: We are hopeful that our Trinity youth will provide Palm Sunday Brunch as a fundraiser for future youth trips. Details TBD.



3rd Grade Holy Communion Training and First Communion after Instruction, March 21 & March 28: Parents are to attend a special evening of Holy Communion instruction that is both meaningful and interactive from 6-8 p.m. on Thursday, March 21. Our 3rd graders will receive their First Communion following instruction during the Maundy Thursday worship service at 6:30 p.m.



Common Ground: Stay Tuned for Spring Event



Maxine Rasmusson – for being a vital team member through the summer/fall of 2023 in an administrative role. If you have the chance to thank her – please do, her faithfulness, organization, dedication and hard work were greatly appreciated when we were searching for someone to fill the position.

All those who attended the Leadership Retreat on Saturday, January 20.

Kristy Morris Leas – for her hard work to coordinate an amazing Christmas Store once again!!! A cherished Christmas tradition for many!!!

Advent Candle Lighters/Readers: Lessard/Bridgefjord Family, Hanson Family, Solberg Family

All Generation Advent Celebration: Thank you to ALL who shared their gifts and talents to make our Advent Celebration meaningful and memorable.

Worship & Music Team: Beautiful decorating of the Sanctuary/Church throughout in the season of Advent/Christmas.

Christmas Tradition J.A.M. Event: All who borrowed their Nativity displays, Angie Smith/Megan Hanson, Brandi Nesseth, Chris/Brittney Osen for leading stations and to Wagners and Quanruds for donating cookie supplies.

Joy to Rwanda: All who provided a donation and joy-filled letter to unsponsored children at City of Joy-Rwanda. We were able to send to 40 children/families

Youth Sundays: All children/youth who step up to sing, lead worship, read scripture, greet, etc. We love having young children be active in worship!

Youth Worship: Huge thank you to our Trinity Youth Board and Isaac Thomforde for coordinating and providing a worship experience for our 7th-12th Graders.

All who usher, read scriptures, lead worship & music, share special music, serve communion, serve in tech room, greet, acolyte, serve rolls – all roles are valued for a successful worship – THANK YOU!

Francine Olson & Ruthie Anne – Always love your special visits to Children's Time.

ALPHA: We couldn't provide ALPHA without volunteers, thank you to the following...

Adult Leaders: Erica Allrich, Sarah Olmstead

10th Grade Youth Leaders: Evan Shockman, Garrett Fischer, Logan Brekken, Ashlyn Bailey, Reggie Winjum

Special Guest Speakers: Isaac Thomforde, Karlie Brekken, Kristi Nelson, Pastor Mike & Pastor Greg

Nan & Sam Widseth: Organizing Hope Center Donations for Welcome Baskets

Brad Miller: Providing Tech Support in church office

Sandie Schmitz: Overseeing Children, Youth and Family Ministry Finances

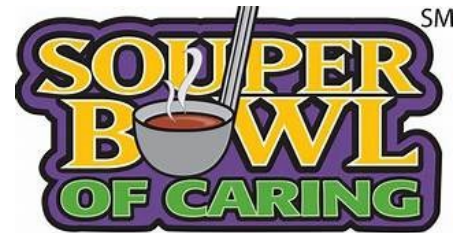
Brandi Nesseth, Jerry/Jackie Lindsay, Rodd/Francine Olson: Participating in our RAY Tank event and sponsoring our RAY projects by using your Thrivent Action Team Dollars.

Brandi Nesseth & Angie Smith: Coordinating our December and January Care and Share Meals

All who have donated to help cover costs for our monthly Care and Share Meal.



"New Year" Offering - Care & Share Monthly Meals- EXTENDED TIME –We will continue to accept donations to help cover the costs of the monthly meals provided to our friends of the Care and Share. The Children, Youth and Family team coordinates this 1x/month meal and appreciates your help in making it possible. So, empty out your change jars, make a special offering as a family, any dollar amount is appreciated. Our goal is \$1,750 to cover the 2024 meals. Please make checks payable to "Trinity Lutheran Church" and write "Care and Share Monthly Meals" in the memo line.



"Souper Bowl of Caring", Sunday, February 11- tacklehunger.org: On Sunday, February 11, we will be joining the movement to transform Super Bowl Sunday into the nation's largest celebration of giving and serving. The offering will help us to reach our goal for the Care and Share monthly meals. If you are unable to attend worship and are wanting to give- please send a check in advance to Trinity or directly to the Food Shelf at the Care and Share- making note it is part of the "Souper Bowl of Caring" initiative.



R.A.Y. Tank Project- FLEECE TIE BLANKETS: On January 17, our 7th-10th graders brainstormed R.A.Y (Random Acts Youth) projects to spread God's love in our community. Trinity members are using their Thrivent Action Team dollars to help fund the different projects. Our 10th graders have proposed to make fleece tie blankets for those in need. If you have extra fleece material at home or would like to donate – please drop by the office during the month of February/March. Thank you so much for your help with this R.A.Y project