

Trinity Tidings

February 2024

Trinity Lutheran Church and School

John 16:23-24 In that day you will ask nothing of me. Truly, truly, I say to you, whatever you ask of the Father in my name, he will give it to you. Until now you have asked nothing in my name. Ask, and you will receive, that your joy may be full.

Greetings and God's richest blessings to you as we travel even more deeply into winter. Interestingly, as I write this, it seems more like Spring! The sun is shining, the temps are delightful and the deep snow is melting, melting melting. Kind of funny though, that melting snow. When it came, it was the source of much consternation and concern. Some were even quite upset by the weather we had a month ago. The cold and the wind were certainly problematic... but that glorious snow! Now, as most of you know, I do love the snow, I make that no secret. But, that's not really why I say this. To set the stage, let's think back to summer and how we prayed and prayed for moisture for our land. God sent some in the form of rain, now He has sent even more in the form of snow. Prayers answered right?

John 16: 23-24 reminds us that we can indeed ask the Lord for anything and He will answer our prayers. After Jesus died, He rose again and ascended. Until He returns, we can turn to the Father for all of needs. We have open access to ask anything in Jesus' name. And in Jesus' name according to God's will, He will answer us and turn our sorrow into joy. We simply need to remember that it is according to His will and His ways. They are higher and broader than we could ever imagine and will provide us with what we need, not necessarily what we want. You see, God has already done all that we need for us. And so whatever happens in this world, we can turn to Jesus. And we know He's there for us. We simply ask the Father in Jesus' name to answer our prayers so that he might turn our sorrow into joy. That he might turn our trial into victory. For we know the

Are we weak and heavy laden cumbered with a load of care?
Precious savior still our refuge take it to the Lord in prayer. Do thy
friends despise, forsake thee take it to the Lord in prayer in his arms
He'll take and shield thee thou wilt find a solace there.

Let us pray to our gracious Lord, our Heavenly Father that we might find solace, comfort in knowing that we can turn to Him. And in Jesus' name, He answers our prayers according to His good and gracious will. He promises to comfort us, to strengthen us and be with us both now and forevermore.

In Jesus' name we pray. Amen. God's blessings to you all.

Pastor Todd

NEWSLETTER HIGHLIGHTS

Message from Pastor

*

Stewardship

*

Finance Notes

*

Parent Teacher League

*

School Board Minutes

*

LHNE News

*

Birthdays, Anniversaries,
Baptisms

*

Volunteers

*

Calendar

Trinity Tidings

Published Monthly by:

Trinity Lutheran Church

508 South Jackson St.

PO Box 367

Madison, NE 68748-0367

Phone: 402-454-3532

Fax: 402-454-3476

e-mail: trinitylutheran

madison@gmail.com

website:

trinitylutheranmadison.com

Pastor

Todd Kollbaum

660-221-8973

Trinity Lutheran School

705 West Sixth

PO Box 969

Madison, NE 68748

Phone: 402-454-2651

Fax: 402-454-3476

e-mail: trinmad@esu8.org

Principal

Emily White

402-270-3734

Cherish What God Has Given

In the Small Catechism, Luther follows a pattern when explaining the Ten Commandments. With each commandment, there is something prohibited, and something commanded. There is something wrong which must be avoided, and there is something right which must be done. The one time this pattern is not followed is with the Sixth Commandment.

“You shall not commit adultery. What does this mean? We should fear and love God so that we lead a sexually pure and decent life in what we say and do, and husband and wife love and honor each other” (SC I).

Here, the catechism focuses solely on the positive: we should live in a chaste and decent manner in both word and deed, and husbands and wives should cherish and honor one another.

Keeping this commandment, and all of the commandments, is a lot easier if you see your chastity and your spouse as a gift from God that is to be protected and cherished. In the same way, you will find keeping the Fourth Commandment easier if you see your parents and other authorities as a gift from God, given to you for your blessing.

This is the key stewardship insight that runs through all of the Christian life: Everything that we have has been given to us by God. We deserve none of it. All of it comes to us by God's fatherly kindness and open-handed generosity. If I know that everything I have — every possession, every relationship, every ability — is a gift from God, then my perspective changes. All of these things are both gifts to be cherished, and things that I should direct towards God's purposes. My possessions should be shared generously according to how God has called me in my family, church and community. My spouse should be cherished, loved and encouraged in faith. My children are on loan from my own Heavenly Father, and I have but a brief time to show them the path of righteousness. My neighbor is a gift from God so that I can imitate His kindness toward me.

No matter the gift, everything has been given to me by God so that I may participate in His own goodness and open-handed generosity.

Finance Facts – a note from your Treasurer

Trinity had strong end-of-year giving and was able to close the year with a surplus to reduce the overall debt to \$35,000 which is a carryover from previous years. At the end of January, Trinity is behind for the year by approximately \$5,000.

YTD Deficit \$5,000 (shortfall of meeting annual expenses)

YTD Debt \$40,000 (overall debt)

God's Blessings in the New Year!
Jennifer Zessin

**Trinity Lutheran School
School Board Minutes
Thursday, December 14, 2023**

- I. Present: Mrs. White, Diane Cattau, Jean Blank, Kristen Orlowski
- II. Absent: Kristen Wolken, Rod Zessin
- III. Guests: None
- IV. Minutes: Reviewed and Approved.
- V. Financial Report: Reviewed and Approved.
- VI. Parish Ed Report: None
- VII. Old Business:
 - a. Background checks – Will start January 1st , ready to go.
 - b. Consider tuition increase and assistance program for 2024-2025 – Tabled
 - c. Staff evaluations – Will do them in Jan. after Mrs. White finishes her class so she can apply more of what she has learned. Mrs. White will be doing the evaluations of the rest of the staff.
- VIII. New Business:
 - a. 2024 agenda - Approved
- IX. Principal's Report – December 2023 Calendar:
 - December 15 – Dress rehearsal Arbor Care visit
 - December 17 – School Christmas Service
 - December 18 – Cookie baking
 - December 19 – Cookie delivery
 - December 20 – Pizza hot lunch
 - Classroom Christmas parties
 - 1:30 dismissal (End of 2nd quarter)
 - Advent meal for food pantry
 - January 4 – School resumes
 - January 8 – Hot lunch program starts
- 1. Danica and her mom, Renee are working on developing a schedule for our co-ed basketball team.
- 2. The students visited Northside Senior Center yesterday and sang for and with them.
- 3. We will be baking and delivering cookies to area businesses next week. I have about 6-7 volunteers who will be helping with this.
- X. Other: Mrs. White shared information on Opportunity Scholarship Nebraska.
- XI. Next Meeting – Tuesday, January 16, 2024 @ 6:00 pm
- XII. Lord's Prayer – Meeting adjourned and closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Diane Cattau

There were no needy persons among them. For from time to time those who owned lands or houses sold them, brought the money from the sales and put it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to anyone as he had need." Acts 4:34-35



Feb 2 Victoria Wolken
 Feb 4 Omar Rodriguez
 Feb 5 Olyvia Nykodym
 Feb 6 Rod Zessin
 Feb 8 Betty Eucker
 Feb 9 Tom Hekrdle, Makena Steensnes
 Feb 12 Judy Bickley
 Feb 13 Roger Acklie, Anne Blank, Levi Gall
 Feb 15 Andrew Freudenburg,
 Cassie Sprague
 Feb 16 Anthony Bartak, Marilee Reeves
 Feb 17 Jeana Millan
 Feb 19 Dan Albus
 Feb 21 Bill Wetjen
 Feb 22 Beth Ray, Trent Sommer
 Feb 23 Dawn Dykstra
 Feb 24 Kaylyn Kucera
 Feb 26 Tammy Holdorf
 Feb 27 Gavin Drahota, Tayzlee Witzel,
 Blake Zessin
 Feb 28 Al Sorensen



February Baptism Anniversaries

Feb 1 Ryan Bartak, Ray R. Robertson
 Feb 2 Arlo Zessin
 Feb 7 Carol Robertson
 Feb 8 Margo Dawson, Dan Fullner
 Feb 9 Luke Gall
 Feb 10 Kerria Wright
 Feb 13 Breegen Schmidt
 Feb 14 Werner Blank, Levi Gall
 Feb 15 Donna E. Knapp, Ariya Schmidt
 Feb 17 Larry Dittberner
 Feb 18 Sidney Kucera
 Feb 19 Mark A. Freudenburg, Mike Wetjen
 Feb 21 Jerry Miller, Zack Nykodym
 Feb 24 Tami Fredrickson
 Feb 25 Jeffery Wetjen
 Feb 26 Mary Sorensen
 Feb 27 Rod Zessin
 Feb 28 Myles Rakowsky



February Wedding Anniversaries

Lawrence & Janel Klawitter February 1, 1973
 Tim & Sue Hoffman February 21, 1976
 Verlyn & Emily White February 22, 2003

February Volunteers

Elders on Duty

Ryan Kollbaum
Don Knapp

Scripture Readers

4	Bill Masters
11	Roger Acklie
18	Scarlet Blank
25	Karen Freudenburg
Mar 3	Regan Kucera

Greeters

Feb	Bobbi Koss Sheila Koss
Mar	Don & Donna Knapp Merlin & Ruth Oswald

Countryside Home Volunteers

4	Al & Mary Sorensen
11	Lyle & Sue Jurgens
18	Margo Dawson
25	Merlin & Ruth Oswald
Mar 3	Don & Donna Knapp

Screen Team

3	Pam Busteed
4	Sharon Wright
10	Vicky Demmel
11	Sheila Koss
14	Lareesa Greunke
17	Pam Busteed
18	Sharon Wright
21	Vicky Demmel
24	Sheila Koss
25	Lareesa Greunke
28	Pam Busteed
Mar 2	Sharon Wright
Mar 3	Vicky Demmel

Altar Guild Servants

Feb	Sue Jurgens/Mary Sorensen
Mar	Bev Wolverton/Sharon Wright