

March 2023 Newsletter



Welcome to the Trinity Church newsletter. This publication will be sent out at the beginning of each month. We appreciate your comments by emailing us at: trinityugoffice@gmail.com

Upcoming Events:

- **March 5** Last chance to sign-up for Easter flowers to beautify the altar.
- **March 12** Outreach Bowling 1-3pm at Old Settler's
- **March 13** WOW Meeting - Ladies please join us! 7:00pm
- **March 31** Teen's Game Night. Bring a game. Food provided!
- **April 2** Palm Sunday service & children's Easter for Kids
- **April 9** Easter services with breakfast between services
- **May 21** Confirmation
- **June 2023** Camp Oak Ridge camping weekend - date TBD.

WEDNESDAY Evening Lent Services **5:45pm dinner, 7pm service**

Leading us in worship:

Feb. 22 Pastor Justin Pomije, Trinity Union Grove
Mar. 1 Pastor Dustin Bergene, Zion Bristol
Mar. 8 Pastor Jim Fischer, Peace Wilmot
Mar. 15 Pastor Justin Pomije, Trinity Union Grove
Mar. 22 Pastor Ed Ungemach, Faith Antioch IL
Mar. 29 Pastor Art Faught, St. John Saldes Corners



April 2

Sunday School children will be singing in the
9:00am service

Easter for Kids event for all Sunday School
children after service

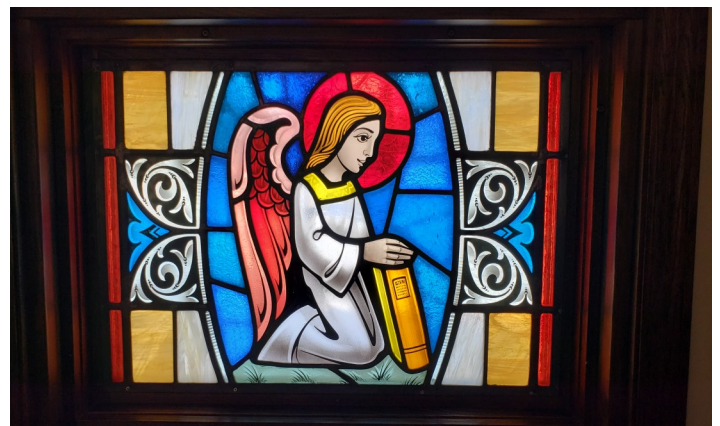
TRINITY'S STAINED GLASS WINDOWS

In the next few months, the newsletters will highlight the stained glass windows in our church that were custom made and installed in 1986.

Note: The Triune God (Father, Son & Holy Spirit) are on the south side of the sanctuary. Gospel writers Matthew, Mark, Luke & John are on the north side of the Sanctuary.



GOD THE FATHER is the “maker and preserver of life.” By his loving hand he provides all that we need to sustain our body and life.



The gospel writer **MATTHEW** wrote primarily to the Jews. His Gospel emphasizes Jesus as the fulfillment of God's promises, in the Old Testament era, to send a Savior.

Parent's Night Out — Babysitting Event Feb 10

We had 25 children in attendance! A large number of children were from our local community, as well as our own congregation. Games, crafts, pizza & movies to entertain all ages. This is a great outreach event for our church!

A huge **THANK YOU** to the 10 adult and teen volunteers that dedicated their evening to make this a fun event for everyone!





The Connections
We Make:
a Shoreland Event

Saturday, March 25

Keynote Speaker
Shawn Sotter
CEO of Clean the World
Shoreland Alum 1994



Time: 4:30PM - 8:30PM

March 25, 2023

"The Connections We Make" Dinner Auction Event



Daily Devotions & Worship Help

Check out www.WELS.net to sign up for daily devotions & worship help. You can also download the WELS Daily Devotion app on your cell phone.

Is something troubling you? Are you overwhelmed? Stressed out? Take a time out and see what God's Word has to say about it. <https://wels.net/serving-you/devotions>

Spring Ahead!

DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME

MARCH 12 2:00am

Spring begins on March 20



March 1

Sunrise 6:29am / Sunset 5:42pm

March 31

Sunrise 6:37am / Sunset 7:17pm

HIGHLIGHTS from January 22, 2023 VOTER'S MEETING

From Pastor's Report - Membership

- Gained 6 total members. Lost 12 members, including 6 deaths. Baptisms 2. Net changes: loss of 6 communicant members.
- Average worship attendance in 2022 was 77 per week.

Maintenance

- Concrete work that was done with the parking lot repair needs to be redone. The steps do not pass inspection as it was done.

New Business

- Church Website: We need volunteers to learn to do updates on the website.
- Scholarships. \$3,000 is allocated for scholarships for Christian education this year with \$1,000 maximum per person.
- It was discussed that we should look into security cameras for the church grounds.

HIGHLIGHTS from February 9, 2023 CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING

Pastor's Report

- The choir will resume rehearsal 2/18/23 and will sing during Holy Week.

Maintenance

- Swing set repair is waiting for spring.

Unfinished Business

- Parking lot update: Concrete steps and wall will be done by Kurk Concrete and will cost \$18,500. The railing will be put in by AWI for \$9,385.
- The new church website is more changeable than the old site, but still needs people to be trained to use the site and to add pictures.

Children's Ministries

- Teens retreat at Camp Phillip was February 3-5 with 6 teens and 7 adults attending.
- Bibles and Catechisms for 5th - 8th graders will be given at the end of the Sunday school year.

PRAYER

Thanks in Being Forgiven

Thank you, Lord, for convincing us that our sins are forgiven and for letting us praise you today. Fill us with your love, and keep it bright throughout the coming week. Watch over us and our loved ones, and bless our work, rest, and activities in the days ahead. Amen.

Pastor's Corner —

Worship

The season of Lent begins with Ash Wednesday worship on February 22 at 7pm. This midweek series titled, "His Final Steps", explores Jesus' final days before, during, and after his crucifixion using different location as themes for each service. signup sheet is set up in the narthex for those groups and families who would like to sign up to prepare and serve a meal.

Adult Bible Study

We have started a Bible History series on the book of 1 Samuel. These 8 lessons cover the birth of Samuel, the establishment of King Saul, David and Goliath, and more. Beginning this April, we will begin a series called, "Timely Topics: Timeless Truths." These timely topics include global warming, gender identity, close communion, and our dual citizenship. (Can my Pastor talk politics?) Our goal with these lessons is to equip ourselves to speak intelligently on these topics while also remaining faithful to what God's Word says.

Catechism Class

We have completed our study of baptism and continue with a unit on the Keys and Confession. Concerning forgiveness and reconciliation, Scripture reminds us, "And all these things are from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation.

Adult Choir

Our choir season will resume Feb. 18th and continue until Easter. We will practice two pieces which we will sing for Holy Week. (Good Friday and Easter) Practices take place every Saturday from 5-5:45. (Before Saturday evening worship) Even if you won't be here for Easter this year, I would like to invite you to come and go as you are able. This is a great fellowship opportunity around an activity so many of us enjoy.

Council Meeting Devotion - February

⁹ Jesus told this parable to certain people who trusted in themselves (that they were righteous) and looked down on others: ¹⁰ "Two men went up to the temple courts to pray. One was a Pharisee, and the other was a tax collector. ¹¹ The Pharisee stood and prayed about himself like this: 'God, I thank you that I am not like other people, robbers, evildoers, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. ¹² I fast twice a week. I give a tenth of all my income.' ¹³ "However the tax collector stood at a distance and would not even lift his eyes up to heaven, but was beating his chest and saying, 'God, be merciful to me, a sinner!' ¹⁴ "I tell you, this man went home justified rather than the other, because everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, but the one who humbles himself will be exalted." (Luke 18:9-14 EHV)

Two guys walked up to the temple. No, it's not the start of a lame joke. I promise. Two guys walked up to the temple fully convinced of something. The Pharisee was fully convinced he was perfect. In his mind, he didn't get caught up in all kinds of temptations like others did. In his mind, he was a model citizen. His acts of service to God were a part of his weekly routine. The Tax collector was also fully convinced of something concerning himself. He was a sinner. He beat himself up just thinking about all the times he had fallen into temptation. He was fully convinced he was not a model citizen. (Remember how the Pharisee gave thanks he wasn't like the tax collector) Two guys were fully convinced. One was fully convinced of his own righteousness. The other fully convinced of his own unworthiness.

In his first epistle, John reminds us, "If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. ⁹ If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." (1 John 1:8-9) These words match the parable Jesus told quite nicely, don't they. It will never do for mankind to declare themselves righteous or to deem themselves the cream of the crop; better than the rest. Such thoughts of grandeur or perfection must be squashed by the fact that "All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God." (Romans 3:23) The season of Lent especially serves as a season to reflect on our sins and our deep need for help. Don't deceive yourself. Don't cover over your sins or try to excuse them. See the weight Jesus carried as he carried your sins, every last one of them. See the punishment he endured to atone for your sins. Like the tax collector, stand at a distance, humble and contrite; fully convinced you are a sinner.

The tax collector was fully convinced of another thing. Not concerning himself, but concerning God. "The sacrifices God wants are a broken spirit. A broken and crushed heart, O God, you will not despise." (Psalm 51:17) The tax collector brought his crushed heart to God confident in the Lord's mercy and forgiveness. Even if the whole world condemned him, he trusted the Lord would forgive him and bless him with a new heart and a new spirit. The same is true for you too. Be fully convinced of God's mercy. Confess your sins to him and be fully convinced that your sins are forgiven. Jesus, who bought you back with his blood, makes this point certain. The tax collector prayed, 'God, be merciful to me, a sinner!' Jesus reassures us, "this man went home justified." Just as you are fully convinced you are a sinner, be fully convinced that God is merciful and that he has cleansed you from all unrighteousness.

- Pastor Justin Pomije

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MARCH

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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26 9am- WORSHIP 10:15am SS and Bible Study	27	28	1	2	3	4
		7pm Catechism	Midweek Lent 5:45pm dinner 7pm service	6:30pm Elder's Meeting		5-5:45pm Choir 6pm- WORSHIP w/ Holy Communion
5 9am- WORSHIP w/ Holy Communion 10:15am SS and Bible Study	6	7	8	9	10	11
		7pm Catechism	Midweek Lent 5:45pm dinner 7pm service	6:30pm Council Meeting		5-5:45pm Choir 6pm- WORSHIP
12 9am- WORSHIP 10:15am SS and Bible Study Teen's Meeting	13	14	15	16	17	18
		7pm Catechism	Midweek Lent 5:45pm dinner 7pm service			5-5:45pm Choir 6pm- WORSHIP w/ Holy Communion
19 9am- WORSHIP w/ Holy Communion 10:15am SS and Bible Study SS Meeting	20	21	22	23	24	25
		7pm Catechism	Midweek Lent 5:45pm dinner 7pm service			5-5:45pm Choir 6pm- WORSHIP
26 9am- WORSHIP 10:15am SS and Bible Study	27	28	29	30	31	1
		7pm Catechism	Midweek Lent 5:45pm dinner 7pm service		5pm Teen's Game Night	5-5:45pm Choir 6pm- WORSHIP w/ Holy Communion