



**Trinity
Lutheran
Church**
LCMS

MARCH

Tidings

Vol. 25 Issue 3

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SPECIAL DATES

- **March 2- 8:00 a.m.**
Men's Club Breakfast Mtg
- **March 8- 2:00 a.m.**
**Spring Forward- Daylight
Savings Time Begins**
- **March 15 – 4:00 p.m.**
**Martin Luther High School
Choir Concert**
- **March 24 – 1:00 p.m.**
LWML Monthly Meeting
- **March 28 – 11:00 a.m.**
Friendship Luncheon

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

Be A Churchman (or woman)!

When Richard “Doc” Oster transferred his church membership from Louisiana to the then-new Trinity Lutheran Church here in Summerfield, his pastor wrote: “There are times when a Pastor wishes he could transfer certain people to another church. There are also those he wants to keep. Dr. Richard Oster is a ‘keeper.’ You are receiving a *true churchman* who loves his Lord and over the years has given evidence of his discipleship.” What wonderful words to describe a church member! I think the term “churchman” has fallen into disuse these days and would almost be thought of as a “throwback” term. If that is true, I hope we can revive it.

What is a churchman (or woman)? Being a “true churchman” goes beyond simply joining a church or being a member or attending worship services. It goes beyond serving on a committee or being an usher or helping with church maintenance. Being a true churchman speaks more to an attitude or approach to church membership. It is the positive, supportive attitude of a Christian who sees the church as the organization which is *the* hope for a dying world and understands the importance of making sure that the church always puts it’s “best foot forward” no matter the circumstances.

We’re all familiar with people who easily criticize and find fault with things at church, or who like to share gossip under the guise that they are “spiritually concerned.” People like this make it difficult for a church to move forward, because pastor and leaders are always tending to little fires and trying to bring them under control. People who insist that everything must be acceptable and pleasing to them, and complain when things are not, are not churchmen or women. People who leave one church for another because they don’t like this or that are not churchmen or women. People who are a part of the inevitable “problems” of a church are not churchmen or women, either.

I remember a voters’ meeting years ago at a church I served. One of our members spoke extensively and passionately about a direction he wished the congregation would take. The congregation voted decisively against his position. After the meeting, he came up to me and said “I want you to know that, personally, I was in favor of the position I proposed. But I also want you to know that, now that the congregation has decided, I am with the congregation.” That’s a churchman. That’s a person who is willing to put him or herself aside for the greater good. That’s a person who wants the church to succeed no matter what. And when that happens, the church becomes an effective witness to the life-changing message of the selfless Gospel of Jesus Christ.

There can never be too many “true churchmen” in a congregation. We have many of them here, people who put themselves and their desires aside for the good of everyone. I am thrilled and proud to serve with them. But there can never be too many “churchmen” at Trinity. Would you be willing to check your heart and motivations and commit yourself to being a “churchman” or “churchwoman?” We will be blessed, and so will you, if you do!

Overwhelming grace keep you,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Pastor Dan" with a stylized flourish at the end.

SUNDAY

O Lord God Almighty I praise and magnify You, for you are a gracious and merciful God. I praise You, Lord, for you are my mighty rock and I stand firm on the foundation you have laid for me. There is no other as great as you are Father. Praise and glory be to our Lord and Savior. **Isaiah 45:5** "I am the Lord, and there is no other, apart from me there is no God. I will strengthen you, though you have not acknowledged me."

MONDAY

Lord God, heavenly Father, I am so grateful You are the Ruler of heaven and earth. The rulers of today have no power except what you have given them. It gives me peace knowing all things are in Your hands. I pray in the name of Jesus, you would raise up a voice in our nation who would stand firm for Christian values and restore us to a higher morality.

James 1:21 "Therefore, get rid of all moral filth and the evil that is so prevalent and humbly accept the word planted in you, which can save you."

TUESDAY

Thank You, Lord, for this day. May I accomplish the task You have prepared for me to do. Grant me the energy, the joy and peace as I work, knowing all I accomplish is to Your glory. I thank you Lord, that even if I am unable to do much physically, I can always pray for others and in this way share the joy and peace which I enjoy. **Colossians 3:23** "Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for men."

WEDNESDAY

Lord, help me to handle your answers to my prayers. Open my eyes to see your answers, as I know they often come in a way I least expect them. I want to recognize them and give You all the glory. Let me not get discouraged when Your answers do not come as fast as I expect them. Grant me a spirit of patience, knowing without a doubt all my prayers are answered according to Your will, Your way and in Your time. **Mark 11:24** "Therefore I tell you, whatever you ask for in prayer, believe that you have received it, and it will be yours."

March Prayers



THURSDAY

Gracious God, our families are in Your care. Continue to bless them, as You have blessed me in Your Son. I pray for the parents of the world to treat their children in a loving way. To encourage, and not discourage with bitter words bringing pain. To comfort in a loving way, and not bring upon them more discomfort. To always encourage them to walk in the ways of the Lord, which is Your desire for all mankind. **1 Thessalonians 2:11:12** For you know that we dealt with each of you as a father deals with his own children, encouraging, comforting and urging you to live lives worthy of God, who calls you into His kingdom and glory.

FRIDAY

Heavenly Father, help me to grow stronger each day in my faith. I know I need daily growth in faith and it is not where it should be. When hard times and heart ache come my faith begins to sway. Help me to persevere in all circumstances. I only need to remember to trust in the One who loves me. Keep me strong so I will never give up or give in to whatever I am dealing with in my life. Thank you Father, for forgiving my failures and for granting me strength to persevere.

James 1:12 "Blessed is the man who perseveres under trial, because when he has stood the test, he will receive the crown of life that God has promised to those who love Him."

SATURDAY

O Lord, please bless those individuals who are unhappy this weekend due to circumstances beyond their control. Bless those who are struggling with heart ache, loneliness, and other situations which are draining them. Fill them with love and grant them a new supply of hope. Bring into their lives loved ones and grant them new friends. Supply for all their needs according to Your gracious will. May they also use this time in getting to know You better, Father.

Psalms 145:14 "The Lord is near to all who call on him, to all who call on him in truth."



From the Committee on Global Missions, Board of Evangelism

**WORLD DAY OF PRAYER will be observed on
Friday, March 6 from 3:00-6:00 p.m.**

Our church doors will be open for you to stop by for any length of time during this event to enter the sanctuary and pray. Everyone is encouraged to take time out of their busy schedule to pray with Christians around the world. Materials will be provided. Fellowship will be in the lobby. So, mark your calendars and don't miss this rewarding experience.

ORIGINS OF WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

The origins of World Day of Prayer date back to the 19th century when Christian women of the United States and Canada initiated a variety of cooperative activities in support of women's involvement in mission at home and in other parts of the world. Women had a strong sense of identification with the needs of women and children and searched for ways to provide support. Despite strong resistance from all-male mission boards, beginning in 1861 women founded many women's boards for foreign and home missions where they could work directly with other women and children.

Women were encouraged to engage in personal prayer and take leadership within their mission auxiliaries and associations. This emphasis on prayer led to annual days and weeks of prayer. In 1887 Presbyterian women called for a day of prayer for home missions and Methodist women called for a week of prayer and self-denial for foreign missions. A Baptist day of prayer for foreign missions began in 1891. Women had a vision of Christian unity that was essential to their exercise of mission. By 1897 six denominations had formed a committee for a united day of prayer for home missions. In 1911 women celebrated the 50th anniversary of women's missionary activity by organizing a series of speaking engagements across the US providing other women with a powerful experience of ecumenical cooperation and fellowship. Women of the six participating denominations wrote a common worship service on a rotating basis and in 1912 called for a united day of prayer for foreign missions.

After the devastation of World War I, women incorporated the conviction that world peace was intrinsically tied to world mission and renewed their efforts for unity. The first Friday of Lent was established as a joint day of prayer for missions and celebrated for the first time on February 20, 1920. Due to the enthusiasm of denominational and interdenominational women's groups, world spread rapidly throughout the USA. In 1922, Canadian women who had begun celebrating a day of prayer in 1895, took up the same date.

In 1926 women in North America distributed the worship service to as many countries and partners in mission as they could. The worldwide response was enthusiastic. By 1927 the call to prayer was issued for a World Day of Prayer for Missions. The title was shortened to World Day of Prayer in 1928 and that same year, this statement came from the World Day of Prayer Committee: It is with deep gratitude that we recognize the growing power inherent in our World Day of Prayer. A very decided expansion of this prayer fellowship has come during the past year. The circle of prayer has expanded literally around the world. We have learned the great lesson of praying with, rather than for, our sisters of other races and nations, thus enriching our experience and releasing the power which must be ours if we are to accomplish tasks entrusted to us.



MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR
a joyous afternoon with the
Martin Luther High School Concert
Choir and Troubadours
CONCERT OF SACRED MUSIC
Sunday, March 15th at 4:00 p.m.

This concert blends both *traditional and contemporary music* into a unique and powerful worship experience. Audience participation is incorporated with the inclusion of several hymns for all in attendance and the choir.

The 35-voice *Concert Choir* will perform a wide variety of sacred music including works by Kenneth T. Kosche, David Von Kampen, and Karen Marroli.

The Troubadours, a group of 17 select singers specializing in contemporary Christian music and vocal jazz, will perform the middle portion of the program with songs from some of today's most popular Christian artists.

The *public is invited* to attend this performance as we walk together in faith during this Lenten season.



Tickets are not required, but a free-will offering will be received to help the students defray the cost of their tour.

**Let's give these young Christian adults a warm
Trinity Lutheran welcome!**

MARCH MUSIC NOTES

ANOTHER HUGE SUCCESS: Our BGD Night at Trinity! (Bluegrass, Gospel, Dessert). The dessert room looked like a Thanksgiving dessert buffet! It was unbelievable. The little cards telling about the desserts made it so interesting. Folks who visited and have seen me since the BGD event mentioned the cards, the generosity of the desserts provided, and, of course, our wonderful musical groups.



We could all be proud that, with so many visitors, Trinity provided a fun evening. **I send heartfelt thanks to ALL THE BAKERS OF TRINITY – FOR EVERY BEAUTIFUL, TASTY, and BOUNTIFUL DESSERT** that adorned our tables. **AND**, an extra ‘thank you’ to Patti, to all the kitchen crew, the cleanup crew, the Set-up crew – our evening worked out so well because so many hands and hearts generously helped to make it special.

MOVING ON to LENT, PALM/PASSION, Holy Week, and RESURRECTION SUNDAY:

I have special music planned throughout the season. However, Palm/Passion Sunday is dramatic and stirring, with the blessing of the palms, the procession into the sanctuary, the reading of the Passion account, and the music of the ‘Antique Brass’ and timpani, organ, choirs, and bells.

New this year: our Trinity Bells will ring on Good Friday, as well as Palm and Easter Sundays.



EASTER SUNDAY:

Our choirs, brass, timpani, bells – leading worship at BOTH SERVICES. **COME EARLY** to worship to hear the high trumpet play ‘I know that my Redeemer lives!’ and our Trinity bells Playing the Mozart ‘Alleluia!’ Our Easter choral anthem is a rarely-sung gem. It is titled ‘EASTER HYMN,’ by Pietro Mascagni. Mascagni was An Italian composer, 27 yrs. old, when his opera premiered in Rome, 1890, from which this Easter Hymn originates.

In the opera, the first part of the Easter service has begun, in the church, and one hears the solo organ and a small choir singing. The procession into the church has yet to begin, for the villagers waiting outside. The Easter service is central and vital to the life of this small village, as it is central and vital to the life of our small community of believers here at Trinity.

Musically, the distant organ and the small choir grows to a grand, massed ensemble; with dynamic contrasts in the pitch and volume. The lyrical melody keeps rising and rising, higher and higher, phrase by phrase – as though depicting in sound ‘Jesus is risen from the grave, ascending to Heaven.’ There is increasing urgency as the choirs and instruments joyously proclaim, ‘Alleluia, alleluia! The Lord is risen indeed!’

A side note: I did not have any brass parts for this anthem. They are only available from one rental company, at a huge expense. I listened on YouTube to the EASTER HYMN, the version sung by South Church, Boston. I contacted the music director at South Church, and asked where I could purchase brass parts.’ They can only be rented,’ he said, but he had composed his own brass parts.

He was so thrilled that we were bringing this outstanding anthem to Central Florida, that he GAVE ME his brass parts. Frank Kelly, who is our timpanist on big Sundays, generously created percussion parts. These kind acts have made it possible for me to go ahead, and to prepare the music with the choirs and the instrumentalists.

We have four young artists coming from Deland, Florida – who are also very enthusiastic to participate in this unique choral opportunity – to sing the Choir 2 parts. I am rehearsing them separately from our own choirs at Trinity. They will be staying overnight with us, to be certain they are up and ready to go for our 8 AM worship on Easter. Our own choirs are working diligently on the anthem, at Thursday rehearsals.



**You will hear all of this glorious musical praise,
to our risen Lord, on Easter Sunday.**

Chorister’s Prayer (which our choir prays every Sunday before worship)

*‘Grant, Lord, that what we sing with our lips,
we may believe in our hearts;
And what we believe in our hearts,
we may show forth in our lives,
Through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.’*

Rocket

LUTHERAN WOMEN'S MISSIONARY LEAGUE



Lutheran
Women
in Mission

The Lutheran Women's Missionary League is the official women's auxiliary of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod (LCMS). All women of Trinity Lutheran Church are members and are encouraged to serve others through mission, education, inspiration and service. We invite you to attend our meetings and learn what we are all about as we "Serve the Lord with Gladness" Psalm 100:2 our motto.

In March, we have a program planned from the Stirrups 'n Strides Therapeutic Riding Center in Citra, FL. Their mission is to provide therapeutic horseback riding and carriage driving to anyone with physical, mental, or emotional challenges. Please plan to join us at our monthly meeting on **Tuesday, March 24th at 1:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall** to learn more from Betty Gray their executive director. They rely on volunteers and host several community centered events during the year, including a special event for veterans. Learn more about the relationships these individuals have with horses that provide them with support and physical growth.

We begin our meetings with a short devotional message, followed by a business meeting. Come and learn what the L.W.M.L. has planned for the rest of the year, and get involved with the women of the congregation. We conclude each meeting with refreshments and chance for fellowship.



Lori Yahr, Pillowcase dress ministry coordinator, with Lois Shaffer from the Mission Haiti Ministry.



LWML President Robbie Myers (L) and Vice President Wendy Davis present a check for \$1,500 to Lois Shaffer of the Mission Haiti Ministry. This represents the donations made at the Red Boot Tea in December.



LWML Mite Box Collection

The next Mite Collection will be on **Saturday, February 29th and Sunday, March 1st**. Your contributions are very important in supporting many various mission projects/grants. One of these is as follows:

God's Grace for This Generation - \$100,000

LAMP Ministry, Inc., has been serving the nearly one million indigenous people that live in remote and unreachable villages in northern Canada. Approximately one half of this population is under the age of 14, and 15 percent of this population will take their own lives, out of despair and hopelessness. Through this mission grant, LAMP will fulfill their mission of sharing the Gospel by expanding their staff of full-time missionary pilots. They will recruit and train 100 to 200 additional volunteer missionaries committed to serve at least five years and help LAMP reach their goals.

Always remember that A LITTLE CAN HELP SO MANY!



**REMINDER—MARCH 31 DEADLINE
TO DIRECT CHOICE DOLLARS®**

Attention Thrivent members:

Your 2019 “Choice Dollars” are now available for your charitable direction. Through March 31st, you can allocate these monies to non-profit organizations.

The Board of Stewardship encourages, 1. Make your choice for these dollars, 2. Consider Trinity as recipient for some if not all dollars. All funds directed to Trinity go toward our mortgage repayment. **Note:** If you take no action, your “Choice” is for Thrivent home office to distribute as they see fit. Please act, you earned it!

-Board of Stewardship

MEMORIALS

*A gift was given for the Bell Choir in memory of
Kathryn Linklater (Sister of Jim Jacobson)*

Gifts were given to Building Debt Reduction in memory of the following:

Ron Barr

Dr. Richard Oster

Jim Hess

*A gift was given for the Board of Human Care in memory of
Dr. Richard Oster*

*A gift was given to the Music Fund in memory of
Dr. Richard Oster*

*A gift was given to the Board of Elders for Ushers in memory of
Jim Hess*





PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

HELP WANTED

NO PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE NECESSARY

WILL PROVIDE ON THE JOB TRAINING

BENEFITS INCLUDED

HOURS FLEXIBLE

MULTIPLE POSITIONS AVAILABLE

The March 23, 2020 prayer shawl meeting at 9:30 a.m. will determine the future of this ministry. We meet in Room #1.

If you have any interest in knitting or crocheting prayer shawls, please attend this meeting or contact Wanda or Darlene regarding your interest. It is imperative that additional persons participate in this ministry as the requests outnumber the ability to keep prayer shawls available. Our ministry participants have changed over the years with illness, moving away, etc so our group has diminished greatly with only a couple of persons presently being actively involved

It has been documented that knitting is a good stress reliever so if you want an inexpensive way to relieve stress and want to learn this simple pattern we will teach you. Yarn is provided and is available to anyone who has an interest in making a shawl. The actual shawl can be done at home without a need to come to regular meetings.

The feedback we have gotten back from this ministry is very positive and we would hate to see it end.

Please contact Wanda David at 219-508-5847 or Darlene Baney at 419-367-0373, if you have any questions.

Thank you in advance for your interest, your concern and hope to hear from you soon!

HEY, VILLAGERS in PICNIC GROUPS 7 AND 8 !!!
We are having a combined picnic on:

WHEN: Sunday, March 22 from 5:30 until 8 PM at the Canal Street Recreation Center!

Wouldn't it be great to get to know people from Trinity North and South who live in your area of The Villages. We'll be dining on yummy **Appetizers and Desserts**, and playing games as we get to know our fellow Trinity neighbors.

Please put that date on your calendar. More information will appear in the weekly bulletins. If you want more information or would be willing to help, please call Kay Jacobson at 352-430-1577 or kayalene43@comcast.net.

Group 8: Villages of:

Amelia, Bonita, Caroline, Hadley, Lake Sumter Landing, Largo, Mallory Square, Sabal Chase, and Virginia Trace



Group 7: Villages of

Ashland, Belvedere, Bonnybrook, Bridgeport at Lake Miona, Bridgeport at Lake Sumter, Bridgeport at Miona Shores, Lynnhaven, Mission Hills, Polo Ridge, Summerhill, Tall Trees, and Winifred.



SAVE THE DATE:

JOINT GROUPS 9, 10 & ALL VILLAGES SOUTH OF 44 for a PICNIC/ GATHERING:

on Saturday, Mar. 14th at Sterling Heights Recreation Center at 5:30 p.m. – 8:15 p.m. Cost per person \$7.00. Food for the evening will be Jersey Mike's

Subs, chips and dessert. Coffee, Tea, water and ice is provided or BYO. Please come and socialize with your fellow Trinity members. To help us plan, please let us know if you're **coming or not by signing the clipboard in the Narthex at Trinity North. For those at Trinity South sign on the sign up sheet at the table. You may also call Paula Zumaris 309-235-4666. Deadline is by Sunday, March 8th.**

Villages for Group 9: Buttonwood, Duval, Hemmingway, Liberty Park, Pennecamp, Poinciana, St. Charles, St. James, Sunset Pointe, & Tamarind Grove.

Group 10: Charlotte, Collier, Dunedin, Fernandina, Gilchrist, Hillsborough, LaBelle, Lake Deaton, Osceola Hills, Osceola Hills at Lake Deaton, Pine Ridge, Pine Hills, Pinellas, & Sanibel.

All Villages South of Hwy 44 to Village of Fenny.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

February 23, 2020



Checke, Cynthia
1029 Autumn Leaf Cir
Parkwood Oaks
Wildwood, FL 34785
801-678-1565



Gaynor, Barbara
1504 SW 160th St
Summer Glen
Ocala, FL 34473
352-693-4706



Gaynor, Christian
1504 SW 160th St
Summer Glen
Ocala, FL 34473
516-672-3465



Iverson, Stewart & Victoria
930 Incorvaia Way
Pine Ridge
The Villages, FL 32163
515-250-9353



Meissner, John & Lynn
17034 SE 115th Ter Rd
Stonecrest
Summerfield, FL 34491
810-623-6436



Welcome
Our New
Members



Minier, K D. & Shirley
1316 Guerra Ave
Santo Domingo
The Villages, FL 32159
352-205-3550



Puckhaber Allen & Berta
2132 Odessa Circle
Tamarind Grove
The Villages, FL 32163
843-708-1795



Ringelman, Rose
17714 SE 119th Ave. Rd
Stonecrest
Summerfield, FL 34491
352-552-4510



Rohweder, Andrew & Sharon
7134 SE 173rd Arlington Loop
Chatham
The Villages, FL 32162
352-753-0774

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

February 23, 2020



Saladino, Carmine & Mary Ellen
9448 SW 66th Loop
Stone Creek
Ocala, FL 34481
352-425-4213



Squadere, Connie
16765 SE 104th Terrace
Summerfield, FL 34491
954-605-9853



Tertocha, Ray & Carol
10904 SW 69th Circle
Oak Run
Ocala, FL 34476
352-274-9559



Walther, Robert
1309 De La Garza Place
Santiago
The Villages, FL 32162
352-603-6969



Yokuty, Patsy
9345 SE 170th Humphreys Lp
Woodbury
The Villages, FL 32162
352-406-9061



Yuras Stephen & Delores
11435 SW 69th Circle
Oak Run
Ocala, FL 34476
941-374-1802

Trinity Welcomes 23 New Members!



Thank you to Bill Miller for the great job with the pictures!

ARNIE AAGESEN TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH MEN'S CLUB



The monthly meeting of the Men's Club was held in the fellowship hall of Trinity Lutheran Church with 37 members present. One new member, Stewart Iverson joined us and was welcomed. The meeting was opened by President Jeff Stutler at 8:00 a.m.

Andy Anderson provided a brief meditation and prayer before breakfast was served. The Secretary's report of the meeting held on January 6, 2020 was read and accepted.

The treasurer's report was presented by Nick Boch indicating we have a balance on hand of \$3044.55. His report was accepted.

A report from the Committee on Global Ministries was summarized for the members and is made part of these minutes. There will be a Vigil on March 6th from 3:p.m. to 6:p.m. at Trinity Church. All are invited to attend.

Larry Dolan presented an update on changes in IRA issues and offered to be a resource for anyone who needed more information. Information was also presented regarding the offer from Thrivent to provide \$250 twice each year as seed money for events being held by the church.

A motion was made and agreed to by the members to provide \$500 to help with expenses and as a gift to Martin Luther High School when they come to Trinity on March 15th to provide a musical program. Members were asked to help with boarding students for one night when the teens are here. Information was shared about a golf tournament being sponsored by Amazing Grace Lutheran Church.

Skip Sattler passed out Valentine's Day cards to all the members lest they forget to do something for their spouse, girlfriend, or significant other on Valentine's Day, February 14th.

Ed Sellers thanked Gary Eckoff for his help providing ushers and greeters for the Bluegrass, Gospel, and Desserts event held on 1/31/20. Some 600 people attended the event and a love offering of \$1500 will be shared by the churches involved in the program. He reminded members that future events sponsored by the men's club would be excellent fund raisers.

President Jeff Stutler thanked the kitchen crew for providing breakfast. Andy Anderson providing the benediction and the meeting ended at 8:45 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Ed Sellers
Secretary



TRINITY BOOKWORMS

Trinity Bookworms is reading Judy Singer's fascinating book, ***IN THE SHADOW OF ALABAMA*** for the month of March.

“Judy Reene Singer’s newest novel is a masterful story of the American experience. Between the past and present, between love and war, between the burdens of race and hope, a woman returns home to discover her father and a history she had never known...”

Now reading this above description makes you want to read it, right?

So, plan to join us on **Tuesday, March 10 at 2:00 p.m. in the Narthex .**

Call Geri Wilt if you have any questions (812-343-1020)

Baby Bottle Drive



On February 9th, Lori Chamblin, Executive Director, of the Alpha Center for Women, will speak to our congregation prior to our 8 am and 10:30 am service. **This date will begin our 2020 fundraising campaign which will run until March 8th.**

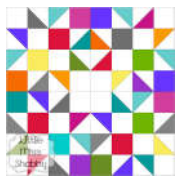
Located in Ocala , this organization exists to offer life affirming choices to those experiencing unplanned pregnancies. They are supported by the time, talents and treasures of caring churches, businesses and individuals in the community. Their mission is to educate, support, restore and empower moms and dads to choose life.

A” Big” Thank You for your continued support from Barb Hunter and Ellen Rentola with the Board of Human Care, Sanctity of Life Committee. Lets make it another banner year of donations.



If you have any submissions for the Trinity Tidings or if you just have comments or suggestions, please email us at staff@trinitysummerfield.org

The deadline for the April 2020 Newsletter is ** Saturday, March 15th ******



SCRAPPY QUILTERS

In February, we celebrated God's Love for us and spread His love to many children, furry friends, and Senior citizens through the sewing and distribution of 22 pet beds delivered to Marion County Humane Society. Three crib sheets were delivered to the Infant and Toddler Pantry. One baby blanket was given to a baby who was recently baptized in the church. 173 drawstring bags were delivered to Kid Central. Five quilts were given to various people needing comfort. In addition, 3 walker bags were given to people who needed them.

What is Kids Central? Kids Central is a place for people to go to help children in need. They have an office in Wildwood, Leesburg and Ocala. I was warmly welcomed by Dayana at the Wildwood office where I delivered the drawstring bags. She graciously explained to me how the drawstring bags would be used. One of the uses is for foster children who are moved from place to place to carry what few personal belongings they have. Drawstring bags take up much less space than suitcases. Another use is to send items children need to relatives who are taking care of children when the parent is not available or incapable to care for their own. This is called the Kinship Program. These kindhearted relatives can often barely scrape by to take care of their immediate family so assistance is given to help when they open their homes to these children in need. Thirdly, at Christmas time they provide Christmas to 150-250 children in need. Items are taken home by the parents to wrap. A drawstring bag is a great way to keep the gifts disguised until they can wrap them. I asked her how long the drawstring bags we brought to date would typically last. She said they would be gone in 4 months' time! We have plenty more to sew for them and will continue to provide them with bags. Our goal is to make sure they will have plenty to make it through the summer.



Kids Central provides many other services. At the center, there are computers for people to use to apply for jobs, etc. They hold workshops to help people hone their parenting skills, resume writing skills and job hunting skills as well. They have a bulletin board with pictures of the smiling faces of people who were assisted in being gainfully employed. They also help those who need help applying for government assistance or referrals for other resources.

Other reasons for rejoicing: We are now only 5 quilts away from the amount of quilts we need for the April 1st honor flight. We have many children's and baby quilts accumulating and expect a major distribution to our children's charities in March. Sandy Horne stepped up to the plate and learned how to sew our walker bags. We had a gap there since Evelyn Schultz and Sharon Smith moved away. New member Tami Campbell has been instrumental in our drawstring bag production, turning them right side out and putting the drawstrings in. She has a friend who has designed a tool to use that makes it much easier and quicker than using a safety pin. Former Scrappy Quilter Betty Cleal made a major donation of materials and sewing supplies. Praise God from whom all blessings flow!!!!



We always welcome new people to our fellowship. We meet in Room 1 on Fridays from Noon until 3. No sewing skills necessary! Know someone who needs the comfort of a quilt or would benefit from a walker bag? Office staff would be glad to show you where we keep them. Questions? Comments? Suggestions? Call or text Sue Lehota 330-414-8406 or email me suelehota@aol.com



FROM THE BOARD OF STEWARDSHIP

When you're at a restaurant and you get timely service, great tasting food, the place is clean and you're enjoying all of this with friends or family, how much should you tip the server and/or others for good service?

Have you noticed that the suggested amount of tip percentage based on the total bill is being printed for your convenience? 15% or 20% or even higher now at 25%. Do you feel even slightly guilty if you choose the old standard 10%? I know I do.

There has been a creeping up of the percentages for some time now. Great service should be rewarded, Right! And since this is a stewardship piece, can we apply this to our Christian lives today and use an analogy to tip for good service? Let see!

1. Food in the fridge/cupboards at home? Good service? Yes!
2. Having family and friends to love and cherish. Good service? Yes!
3. Everything you own, ex. car/home/savings etc. Good service? Yes!
4. Eternal salvation through Jesus Christ's death and resurrection. Awesome good service?

Suggested Tip: A charitable heart!

We get enormous service and love from our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. There is no comparison. To tithe is to simply thank the Lord for his personal service and love he shows to each of us. Using the restaurant tip analogy, you could say, "We are truly getting off on the cheap".

Maybe this message isn't the strongest comparison between tipping for food service and for that what we receive by God to sustain our lives, but again this is only an analogy.

Here at Trinity, we encourage members to tithe which biblically is 10%. Just think if the same percentages currently shown as a suggested tip on our restaurant bill was used, 15%, 20% or even 25%? WOW! Could his ministry grow? Tipping for great service is a good thing. Does Christ's ministry deserve any percentage less?

Strings of Soul Concert

Supporting:

**Young Performing Artists (YPAs), Inc.
501 c) 3) Corporation**



**YPAs, Inc. Young Artist Members with
Camerata String Ensemble Members**

A Gala featuring.....

- YPAs, Inc. young artists members
- Camerata String Ensemble of Central Florida
- Guest Vocalist- Katie Taylor Hall



**Trinity Lutheran Church
17330 US Highway 441, Summerfield, FL 34491**

**Saturday, March 28, 2020
4PM- Reception Hour; 5PM- Show time
\$35 person; Semi- Formal Attire**

**Live & Silent Auction items
Signature Sponsor: Trinity Lutheran Church**

For tickets & information: 352-748-0260 or Camerata @ at 352-234-3280

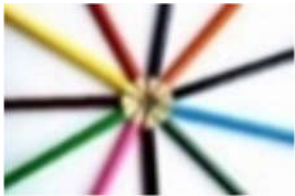
On-Line: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/annual-strings-of-soul-scholarship-concert-tickets-96232133903>

Volunteer in our Office

VOLUNTEER NEEDED!!!

A volunteer is needed for about an hour on Monday mornings ! This will be a great way to serve Trinity and can also be a way for husband and wife to do together! If you like details, this is for you! If interested and would like more information, please call Sandy Starr at 352-561-6141. Thank you!

COLOR BOOK GROUP



I want a date with you.

When: First and Third Tuesdays of the month. (March 3 and 17)

Time: 1:00 p.m.

Location: Room 1

Purpose: Coloring

Object: Friendship

Bring your coloring books and pencils/pens and join us for a fun afternoon!
Contact Janice Collins at 352-750-4042 for questions.

Thank you letter from Exec. Director of Operation Homebound

February 13, 2020

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

It is with sincere thankfulness and deep appreciation that this letter is written to you for your generosity to Operation Homebound, for your recent donation in the amount of \$1, 100. Operation Homebound provides approximately 50,000 meals per year to shut ins and other that cannot shop or cook for themselves. Of that total, approximately 30 clients receive free meals in our scholarship program. Operation Homebound and North Lake Presbyterian Church are committed to raising the yearly \$46,000 that it costs to provide those meals. Your generous donation has made our job easier.

Our recipients are genuinely appreciative of the opportunity to receive a nutritious meal each day and our volunteers are happy to cook and deliver it. Some of our drivers and kitchen volunteers have been with the program since its inception and the community relationships that have formed are cherished.

For over 20 years, Operation Homebound has worked with individuals and groups throughout the area. It is an honor to serve His Kingdom with our fellow worshippers.

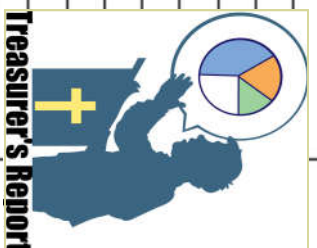
*Thank you,
Terry Carroll
Executive Director, Operation Homebound*

TREASURER'S MONTHLY REPORT

January, 2020

GENERAL FUND

INCOME	CURRENT MONTH				YEAR-TO-DATE			
Envelopes	\$97,037.	Over Budget	\$4,579.	5.0%		Under budget		
Special Services	\$60.	Over Budget	\$55.	1200.0%		Over budget		
Plate Offering	\$8,631.	Under Budget	(\$484.)	(5.3%)		Under budget		
Interest	\$254.	Over Budget	\$36.	116.4%		Over budget		
Memorial gifts						Under budget		
Gifts & bequests						Under budget		
Other Misc. Income						Under budget		
TOTAL INCOME	\$105,982.	Over Budget	\$4,186.	4.1%		Under budget		
		Over last year	\$8,714.	9.0%		Under last year		
EXPENSES								
Board expenses	\$61,991.	Under Budget	\$6,473.	9.5%		Over budget		
Mortgage interest	\$8,754.	Under Budget	\$68.	0.8%		Over budget		
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$70,745.	Under Budget	\$6,541.	8.5%		Over budget		
		Under last year	\$724.	1.0%		Over last year		
CASH FLOW ITEMS								
Mortgage Principal	\$12,699.	Over Budget	(\$69.)	(0.5%)		Under budget		
Capital Expenditures	\$0.		\$0.			Under budget		
TOTAL CASH FLOW ITEM	\$12,699.	Over Budget	(\$69.)	(0.5%)		Under budget		
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	\$83,444.	Under budget	\$6,472.	7.2%		Under budget		
Net Income vs. Expense	\$22,538.							
DEDICATED ACCOUNTS								
Receipts	\$9,076.							
Disbursements	(\$4,161.)							
CASH ON HAND	\$218,572.	Up this month	\$27,694.			CAPITAL RESERVE w/ EDWARD JONES		
		Up since Jan 1	\$27,694.			CD's		
						Money Market Acct		
CD's w/LCEF						\$32,496.		
MORTGAGE DEBT								
Loan #1	\$542,650.	Down this year	\$6,779.					
Loan #2	\$1,751,455.	Down this year	\$5,920.			\$ 53,257	ENDOWMENT	



TRADITION

For some, tradition means a Thanksgiving dinner of turkey or ham, mashed potatoes, candied yams, bread stuffing or corn bread dressing, cranberry sauce, green bean casserole, and a host of family favorites. And, lest I forget, pumpkin pie, apple pie, or mincemeat pie, or maybe all of them or a combination of the three. Christmas dinner may look the same as Thanksgiving. In 1987, I took my wife for her first trip to Key West, Florida. With few exceptions we have made the journey each year. Our favorite time to go is Thanksgiving. Why? Because it is the end of the summer season when there are fewer people. Our traditional dinner on the fourth Thursday of November is to have a New England clam bake to include Maine lobster, clams, corn on the cob and little red potatoes. No turkey for us.

Our English word “tradition” comes from the Latin verb *tradere*, which literally means ‘to hand on.’ When we speak of tradition, we mean those things that are passed along from one generation to another as important and essential to our identity. To some, tradition is something that cannot and should not be changed. To others, it is living and growing and changeable. Who is right? Well consider, there are churches that refuse to change and adapt. Their motto is “We’ve never done it like that before.” When I was in seminary I was taught that those are the last seven words of a dying church. I was also taught that the words “let’s try it and see what happens” are the words of a church that more than likely will survive and thrive.

Back to food. This year, my wife and I did not get to go to Key West. We spent Thanksgiving with my family in California. The plan was to have a traditional Thanksgiving dinner. And plans were made for such. However, my brother and his wife were both in the hospital, so we decided to do something different. As the head chef, I made the strategic decision that the Thanksgiving meal this year would be hot dogs. You could have a chili dog, a chili cheese dog with or without onions. There were at least ten toppings for you to choose from. A new tradition? Probably not. Just a break from the old.

Consider worship, there are denominations whose liturgy is the same each and every week. You do not need a worship guide to keep up with what is going on. When it is time to pray for the confession of our sins, it is the same week after week. At Trinity, it is different each week, the absolution is the same but the confession is different. In some congregations worship seems to be a series of one act plays. That is their tradition. At Trinity, our worship flows without mini breaks. In most liturgical churches, there is a procession down the center isle and at Trinity, sometimes the procession comes from the right side of the stage. Static or changing?

I believe Trinity has one very good static tradition. I offer the following. Each Sunday, with few exceptions, people start arriving for coffee and conversation by 6:30 am, an hour and a half before the service. Why? Because we are family wanting to communicate with other family members. There is nothing better. However, sometimes we get so wrapped with those we know that we may overlook those we do not know. Perhaps they have come looking for family members at Trinity. Let’s show them they have come to the right place, greet our new family members, and introduce them to a caring and loving family. They might just say “hot dog.”

*Douglas Mussey
Board of Christian Education*



Council Meeting Notes February 18, 2020

TREASURER'S REPORT (copy attached): Gary Eckoff presented the Treasurer's report for January 2020.

FINANCIAL SECRETARY'S REPORT (copy attached): Rusty Ryan presented the Financial Secretary's Report for January 2020.

Patti Paxton made the following **MOTION**: *Council shall accept the Treasurer's Report and the Financial Secretary's report as presented.* Gary Eckoff seconded the motion. Motion carried.

PASTORS' REPORT: Pastor Dan ran through the Pastors' Report (copy attached) noting that there has been a lot of activity in all areas.

The Long Range Planning Committee (LRPC) has put together a report that was taken from the surveys that the Congregation completed. The LRPC is preparing for Cottage Meetings. There was a question at the end of the survey asking about major areas of concern. Pastor Dan is not proposing that any action be taken at this time, but would like us to think about a couple of things. His suggestion is that, as we are in a place and time to move forward, we consider a one-year capital campaign for (1) a new organ and (2) staffing for Trinity South for a year. Then we would immediately follow up with a three-year capital campaign to (1) reduce current mortgages and (2) acquire land for Trinity South.

Regarding the new organ, Chuck Wilt, Head Elder, reported that Rocket met with the Elders earlier this month. The current electronic organ is 25 years old and was purchased, used, in 2004. Breakdowns are happening more often and we have spent about \$3,000 per year over the last five years for repairs. The Board of Elders is responsible for the maintenance and replacement of the organ. An independent consultant came in to discuss options. He gave Rocket a report which she passed on to the Elders. The Elders recommend we establish an organ replacement fund and a committee to begin reviewing options for the future.

At the recommendation of the Board of Elders, Chuck Wilt made the following two motions:

MOTION: *Church Council shall approve the establishment of an Organ Replacement Fund to receive future member donations.* Patti Paxton seconded. Motion carried.

MOTION: *Church Council shall approve the collaboration of Council President and the Chairman of the Board of Elders to appoint a committee to study the future replacement options and funding for the church organ, with the help of an independent consultant. This committee will report back to the Board of Elders and the Church Council with their recommendations.* Martha Mitchell seconded. Motion carried.

Discussions then turned to a capital campaign for associate pastoral staffing at Trinity South. It was suggested that we look at all possibilities. This is the beginning of the process! There are a lot of details to be worked out.

Pastor Blair reports that small groups are underway and he is hearing very positive comments. This session will go through April.



BUSINESS MANAGER'S REPORT:

Jill Esposito informed Council that the carpets in both buildings are being cleaned on Feb. 24th and that the vinyl floors in both buildings are being cleaned on the 29th. New member orientation is Thursday, Feb. 20th. She urged each Board to make sure there is a representative present. There will be 20-22 new members. Also, a Financial Review Committee needs to be formed.

NEW BUSINESS:

Bob Behrends moved: **MOTION:** *Council shall approve Operation Barnabas Chapter to solicit donations from the congregation for the 4th of July event.* Gary Eckoff seconded. Motion carried.

BOARD REPORTS:

Elders (report attached): Chuck Wilt reported that they are still in need of communion assistants and ushers.

Evangelism (report attached): Bob Behrends reported that the Creation Studies seminar is being rescheduled. No new date at this time. Scripts have been written and approved for a radio schedule to begin in March 2020. Details of the 4th of July Veteran's event are well into the planning stage. They plan to ask the congregation for donations, pending approval of Council. "You Are the Jury" play is tentatively scheduled for the April 1st Lenten service. The web site was discussed and it was decided that they take a more active role in keeping it current.

Fellowship (report attached): Patti Paxton reminded us that new member orientation is Thursday, February 20th. Breakfast for new members, between services, is on February 23rd. Lenten soup and sandwich supper menus have been distributed. Desserts need to be provided by the Board(s) assigned to that particular date.

Human Care: Martha Mitchell commented that they might have to disband the prayer shawl ministry. They are having difficulty finding people who knit or crochet.

Stewardship: Dennis Esch distributed a brochure from the FL-GA district, "***Veterans of the Cross Retreat***" (copy attached). He also handed out a copy of the "***Gift Planning Newsletter: Transfer the Blessings***" (copy attached). He discussed the philosophy behind this gift planning process. This is not financial planning. There is a gift planner available to assist folks in developing a "Lifetime Plan for Giving". He would like to see our congregation become more aware of this process. He will continue to be involved and report back to the Council.

Our next meeting is scheduled for March 17, 2020 at 1:30 PM. Gary Eckoff moved that the meeting be adjourned, Rusty Ryan seconded. Meeting was adjourned. Pastor Dan closed the meeting with prayer.



Trinity Lutheran Church
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Web: www.trinitysummerfield.com

God's Blessings to...

Come & Worship With Us

North Campus

Saturdays at 4:00 p.m.

Sundays at 8:00 & 10:30 a.m.

South Campus:

Sundays at 10:30 a.m.

at Harbor Chase

(1477 Huey St. Wildwood)

-Take Elevator to the 3rd Floor

Come & Learn With Us

Saturdays

8:00 a.m. Men's Bible Study

Sundays

Adult Bible Study: 9:15 a.m.

South Campus

9:15 a.m. Sunday Adult Bible Class

9:30 a.m. Tuesday Women's Bible Study



Remember to "Spring Ahead" on the eve of **March 7th** by turning your clocks ahead one hour.