

# TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH MARCH 2024

*Pastor Mike's Mash*



Beloved in Christ, Trinity Lutheran Church, Grace and peace to you from God our Father and from our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

The past three years have been some of the most challenging, difficult, and rewarding of any of my 27+ years of ordained ministry. Together we have faced the challenges that the pandemic of 2020 and 2021 brought. We have stumbled through the bold ministry experiment of collaborating with Immanuel for our youth ministry, something that virtually no one else in our synod has even attempted in the ways we have. You prayed me and my family through my cancer treatments in 2022. Together we weathered the challenges that came with maintaining, selling, and transitioning out of Trinity Crossing in 2023.

But I am weary and burned out. I continue to wrestle with the nagging discomfort of neuropathy in my feet and fatigue in my entire body, consequences of 2022's treatments. All of this bubbles daily in my heart and soul and has caused me to wrestle long and hard with the question as to whether I am or can even be the pastor and leader I once was and think our congregation needs as we transition out of our past into new ways of being church in these crazily shifting times. Since my return from medical disability leave in August of 2022, I have found myself continuing to flag in the will, energy, heart, and creativity our congregation needs. All the while, YOU have continued to pour energy, prayer, participation, leadership, work, creativity, and dollars into Trinity's mission.

Quite unexpectedly, I was given an opportunity to interview for a part-time interim position as an associate pastor at Zion Lutheran Church in Anoka. The main competencies needed for this position are preaching, teaching, and visitation without the responsibilities of overall administration or visioning. The contract offered to me provides the same level of income and benefits as what you currently provide for me here. This position provides the income I and my family need; the time I need to hopefully continue my recovery process; and eliminates the burden of responsibility of having to be (or feeling like I have to be) "the guy."

With all the issues named above and after weeks of prayerful wrestling, I have decided to accept that contract. I and my family will be traveling to Texas for my dad's memorial service the week after Easter—his service is Wednesday, April 3—and pulpit supply has already been lined up for Sunday, April 7. My last day in the office will be Friday, April 12. Tentatively, my last Sunday with you will be Sunday, April 14, after which I will end my tenure here as your pastor with a week of vacation to provide for my transition from Trinity to Zion in Anoka. Bishop Amy Odgren and her staff have been alerted to this transition for both of us and will soon be in touch with council president Char Kramersmeier to help shepherd this process.

None of this has been an easy or quick decision, but I am sure this will seem quite unexpected and surprising to many of you. As I suggested above, I do not think I can be the pastor I once was or the pastor that Trinity needs. This is a heart-breaking conclusion and yet one in which the Lord has provided an answer for me and, I am certain, will provide an answer for you. I will hold you in my prayers, as I ask you to hold me in yours.

In Christ's name and promises, Pastor Mike

# LENT

## A Season of Renewal



### Lent 3—Wed., March 6 (Holden Evening Prayer) “...With our Neighbor”

Pastor Kevin Fox—Freshwaters United Methodist, Princeton  
Mark 2:1-2 “A community comes together to bring a neighbor to Jesus”

Tonight’s reading, the story of the paralyzed man brought to Jesus through the roof of a crowded room, highlights one way a community cares for one another.



### Lent 4—Wed., March 13 (Holden Evening Prayer) “...With All the Saints”



Pastor Shari Routh—God’s Greater Glory Lutheran Parish, Glendorado and Greenbush Township

Mark 9:2-8 “Jesus is in conversation with those who have gone before him.”  
Whether we think of it or not, our faith is intertwined with those who have gone before us.

The understanding of community expressed in our creeds extends beyond our present time to include those whose faith has influenced our own and those we influence after us. We hear this connection to what has been established before us even echoed in tonight’s reading, the account of Jesus’ transfiguration, where Moses and Elijah appear.

### Lent 5—Wed., March 20 (Holden Evening Prayer) “...With Christ Himself”



Pastor Bill Marschall—First Congregational, Princeton

Mark 10:32-45 “Jesus reminds that we are walking the way of the cross.”  
When we are at the limits of our own power, overwhelmed with guilt or shame, or confronted with death, we find ourselves in the company of Jesus, who IS our community, even when all else fails. Tonight Jesus reminds the disciples and us that our call will lead us to the cross.

# Holy Week 2024



On this Sunday we mark Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem. The crowds welcomed him as a conquering hero, which attracted the attention both of the Jewish leaders (who thought Jesus to be a dangerous heretic) and the occupying Roman authorities, seeking to keep the peace in their empire.



The word "Maundy" is related to the word we know in English, "mandatory." It's on this night we hear commands (also related to the word "mandatory") from Jesus: "Do this in remembrance of me," with regard to the Lord's Supper and "Wash one another's feet," with regard to the posture of our servanthood to each other and the world.



It seems odd to call this day "good," for it is nothing but violence, abuse, humiliation, and injustice for Jesus. And yet, it is even with all this horror in view that we bear witness with John's Gospel, "Jesus Christ is the Light of the Word, the Light NO darkness can overcome."



Easter commemorates the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the tomb, occurring three days after His crucifixion. It fulfills the prophecy of the Messiah's persecution, death for our sins, and resurrection, as foretold.  
**Alleluia! He is Risen!**



In lieu of the April Hotdish Luncheon - Trinity Women are sponsoring an Easter Breakfast & Caramel Roll Fundraiser on Easter **Sunday, March 31st from 7:30-9am. All proceeds will go to Living IT Youth for camp which is quickly approaching!**

Can you help make this event a success? Trinity Men, Women and Youth - sign up today or call the office to:

- Provide an Egg Bake for that Sunday
- Provide Fruit
- Work the event by serving or helping clean up
- Attend breakfast and Donate
- Buy and enjoy some yummy Caramel Rolls
- Donate Directly to the Trinity Women

The menu will consist of Egg Bake, Fruit, Caramel rolls, Orange Juice, Coffee and water. Caramel rolls will also be for sale after during the event while supplies last!

# 1st Communion & 1st Bible Classes

**1st Communion Instruction Recognition of Completion:** *Maundy Thursday Service*, April 28th, 6:30pm

**1st Communion Instruction Session 1**—Wed., March 6 OR Sun., March 10, whichever fits your schedule best.

**1st Communion Instruction Session 2**—Sun., March 17 OR Wed., March 20

**1st Communion Instruction Session 3**—Sun., March 24, *PALM SUNDAY*

**Please plan on attending ALL 3 SESSIONS.** ( Can mix and Match Sundays & Wednesdays )

1st Communion Instruction is offered to ALL YOUTH (and their families) who have not yet received 1st communion instruction. Please speak with Pastor Mike to help decide whether or not your child is ready.

Please get these dates on your calendars:

**Gifting the 1st Bibles:** Sun., April 7th - During our 9am service

**1st Bibles Session 1**—Sun., April 7th or Wed., April 10th, whichever fits your schedule best.

**1st Bibles Session 2**—Sun., April 14th or Wed., April 17th, whichever fits your schedule best.

**Please plan on attending BOTH Sessions 1 & 2.**

1st Bibles & Instruction is offered to all youth (and their families) K-3rd grade who have not yet received either the Spark! Picture Bible or instruction—some have received Bibles but not instruction—and 5th grade and older who have not yet received their Spark! Study Bible or instruction.



**-LIVING IT YOUTH MINISTRY-**

# Easter

## BASKET FUNDRAISER

**Easter Basket Drop off: Sunday, February 25 - March 3rd.**

Anyone is welcome to donate a basket, theme of your choice. Baskets for all ages welcomed. Please use new items. Please indicate total purchase value of your donated basket to help with the selection of a "starting bid" on the silent auction sheet that we will make.

Living IT Confirmation youth can earn a 1/2 hour of church service time for each basket they donate. Please fill out a service form indicating number of baskets donated for credit towards service.



Bidding Ends on March 24th

Q: livingitdirector@gmail.com

Baskets can be dropped off on the designated basket tables at Immanuel and in the office at Trinity. Basket auction is taking place at both churches.

**Easter Basket Bidding Begins: Sunday March 10**  
**"Highest Bid Wins The Basket!"**  
**Pick Up Easter Baskets: Sunday, March 24th - 31st**

This is a Fundraiser for Living IT Youth Ministry; Which supports our youth to attend camp, and special trips 10 percent of our fundraised money goes back to the youth in our community—such as Princeton Student Services, Youth Pantry.

## A Walk Through



**Holy Week**

**Hey Kids (or Parents/Grandparents)**  
**Sunday, March 24th 3pm-4pm @**  
**Trinity Lutheran Church**

Here's a great way our children to learn more about our faith while having fun with crafts & games (and candy!). We will have a story, a craft and a related game for each of the four main days of Holy Week: Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter Sunday.



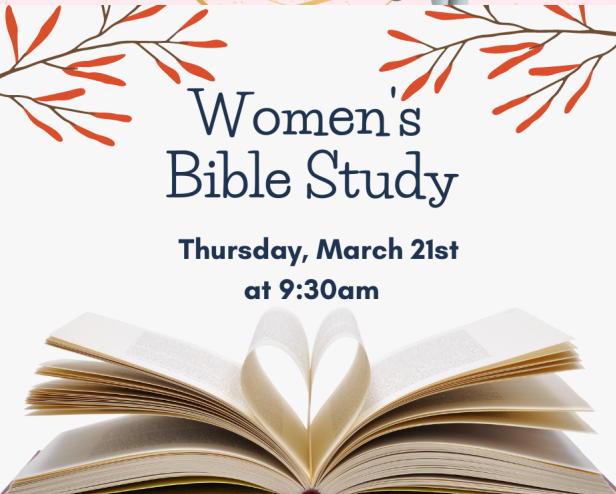
## Easter Baskets



**Basket drop off:** Feb 25th-March 3rd

**Bidding Starts:** March 10th





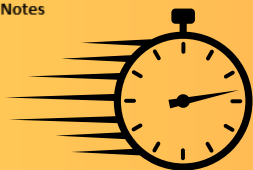
**Bible & Brews Study**—Our next gathering is: **Tuesday, March 12th at 6:30pm**. Under our main topic of "All About Healing," If you have any questions, you can submit by email or in writing, either to Pastor Mike ([pastormike@trinity-princeton.org](mailto:pastormike@trinity-princeton.org)) or to Pastor Paul ([pastor@immanuelprinceton.org](mailto:pastor@immanuelprinceton.org)).

**Wednesday Evening Women's Study**—This group meets on the second Wednesday of the month. The next meeting will be **Wednesday, March 13th** at 5:30pm. We will have started a new book, "The Well-Watered woman" by Gretchen Saffles. It can be found on Amazon If you have any questions please contact Jeanette Priess at [jeanette.priess@yahoo.com](mailto:jeanette.priess@yahoo.com)

**Thursday Morning Women's Study**—We meet on the 3rd Thursday of each month—our next gathering will be **Thursday, March 21st, 9:30am**. We use the Gather Magazine resource published by Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

**Men's Breakfast**—Usually, the LAST SATURDAY of each month, due to the Christmas holiday, we'll be meeting on **Saturday, March 30th, 8am** here at the church. We are watching the FANTASTIC made-for-television miniseries "The Chosen."

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
25	26	27	28	Feb 29	1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
9:00 AM Worship Service 9:30 AM Sunday School After Kids Time 10:00 AM Coffee Hour 2:00 PM Camp Onoma Annual Mtg	Pastor Mike's day off 8:00 AM WWW 6:30 PM Cubs Scouts	8:00 AM Staff Meeting 10:00 AM Tuesday Morning Bible Study 10:30 AM Elm Home/Caley House Lutheran Worship & Communion (Pastor Sari) 1:00 PM Community Meal Planning 6:00 PM Eagle Scouts	Bulletin Deadline Lent 4 9:00 AM TOPS 10:30 AM Elm Home Wednesday Chapel 5:30 PM First Communion Class: Session 1 +3 more	11:30 AM Princeton Area Ministerial Association 5:30 PM Troop 96 7:00 PM AA	1:00 PM Sterling Point Communion	
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
9:00 AM Worship Service 9:30 AM Sunday School After Kids Time 10:00 AM Coffee Hour 10:00 AM First Communion Class: Session 1	Pastor Mike's day off 8:00 AM WWW 5:00 PM Laundry Love 6:00 PM Finance Meeting 6:00 PM Worship & Music Meeting 6:30 PM Cubs Scouts 7:00 PM Council Meeting	8:00 AM Staff Meeting 10:00 AM Tuesday Morning Bible Study 1:00 PM Community Table 6:30 PM Bible & Brews	Bulletin Deadline Lent 5 9:00 AM TOPS 5:30 PM Soup Supper 5:30 PM Women's Bible Study 6:30 PM Worship on Wednesday @ Trinity 7:15 PM Living IT Mentors	7:00 PM AA		
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
9:00 AM Worship Service 9:30 AM Sunday School After Kids Time 10:00 AM Coffee Hour 10:00 AM First Communion Class: Session 2 12:00 PM Pathfinders Lunch	Pastor Mike's day off 8:00 AM WWW 6:00 PM District 5 AA	8:00 AM Staff Meeting 10:00 AM Tuesday Morning Bible Study	Bulletin Deadline Lent 6 9:00 AM TOPS 5:30 PM First Communion Class: Session 2 5:30 PM Soup Supper 6:30 PM Worship on Wednesday @ Trinity 7:15 PM NO Living IT High School	Trumpet Deadline 9:30 AM Heartland Conference Pastors Gathering 9:30 AM Women's Bible Study 7:00 PM AA		
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
Palm Sunday 9:00 AM Worship Service 9:30 AM Sunday School After Kids Time 10:00 AM Coffee Hour 10:00 AM First Communion Class: Session 3 3:00 PM Walk Through Holy Week	Pastor Mike's day off 8:00 AM WWW 5:00 PM Laundry Love 6:30 PM Cubs Scouts	8:00 AM Staff Meeting 10:00 AM Tuesday Morning Bible Study 12:30 PM Princeton Area ELCA Ministerial Gathering	Bulletin Deadline 9:00 AM TOPS 1:00 PM Community Meal Prep* 5:30 PM NO Living IT Dinner 6:30 PM NO Worship on Wednesday @ Trinity 7:15 PM NO Living IT Mentors	Maundy Thursday Service First Communion Trumpet is mailed. 6:30 PM Maundy Thursday Service 7:00 PM AA	Good Friday 6:30 PM Good Friday Service	8:00 AM Men's Breakfast
31	Apr 1	Notes				



**Time Change AHEAD!!**  
**Sunday, March 10th- 1hr Forward**

Thank you for supporting Trinity in 2023 and sharing your time and talents! If you have any questions please email the office or our bookkeeper Scott Hendrickson at [swh008@msn.com](mailto:swh008@msn.com)

**There are multiple ways for you to give:**

- **By Mail**
- **On-line**— This is THE most efficient way of signing up for Simply Giving, which is administered by Vanco, one of the most secure e-commerce companies in the industry.
- **Automatic Withdrawal**—Contact your bank.
- **By App**—Both the Apple and Google Play app stores have a free app called "GivePlus." Once downloaded to your device, simply search for "Trinity Lutheran Church, Princeton, MN"; follow the directions for registering; and set-up your giving in whatever way works for your faithful generosity, one time, recurring, or whatever.

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!!**



# Council Members 2024



**Linda Baumann**

Hospitality  
lmbaumann@msn.com  
(612)390-2771



**Kenny Christenson**



**Ralph Egbert**

Council member  
egbertstill48@gmail.com  
(763)389-5860



**Tiffany Elness**

Living IT Youth  
tiffanyelness@gmail.com  
(651)235-7442



**Char Kramersmeier**

Council President  
charsweb@q.com  
(763)639-2220



**Heather Lee**



**Becky Porter**

Finance  
becky.porter1959@gmail.com  
(612)747-0204



**Gene Reiersen**

Property  
griereison@gmail.com  
(612)735-0604



**Joan Zeug**



## Prayer List

Margaret Braun  
Jeri Ann Bredemus  
Jeanne Bromberg  
Erin & Jake Cuta family  
Jan Dery  
Jim Dery  
Katey Donais  
Tammy Donner  
Bob Duncan  
Marlys Hanson  
Bill Hilliard  
Bruce Lacher  
Del Liestman  
Donna Liestman  
Nona Mahlum  
Chellis Matz  
Jean Miller  
Curt Moe  
Mary Newton  
Ed Peterson  
Bev Reed  
Warren Reed  
Todd Reineccius  
Dina Scandinato  
Arlan Schroeder  
Carol Skare  
Brenda Smith  
Anne Stevenson  
Jackie Strandberg  
Curtis Strombeck  
Doris Strombeck  
Joyce Tessmer  
Marie Torgerson  
Ardy Tourville  
Russ Wicktor  
Dean Winslow  
Ginny Winslow

# Prayer List

## Family Members & Friends

Peter Berry (Mary Berry's son)  
Shel Christenson (Kenny Christenson's brother)  
Mag Deglmann (friend of Becky Porter)  
Jan Gale's daughter Jamie  
Jan Gerth's daughter  
Joanne Hammerstrom's sisters, Bonnie and Jane  
Evelyn Kingma (June Kunkel's sister in-law)  
Randy Lee (Kyle Lee's brother)  
Jim Malcolm (brother of Kent Malcolm)  
Esther Neussendorfer (Danette Scepurek's grandmother)  
Rob Rittenour (Friend of Mike & Linda Baumann)  
Ada Ritz (Dorene & Greg Carlson's granddaughter)  
John Rova (Chuck & Carol Warner's brother inlaw)  
Roy Schmidt (Jan Gerth's son in-law)  
Brex Timmer (Nephew of Kent & Sharon Malcolm)  
Mauricio Trujillo (friend of the Patnode and Miller families)  
Scott Wallin (Char Kramersmeier's son)  
Ronda Wetzel  
(daughter of Andrea & Ron Sandusky)

## Serving in the Military

Andrew Anderson  
Eden Betzler  
Lacee Broding  
Riley Broding  
Ronald Duresky  
Riley Forland  
Derek Hanson  
Hunter Lestrud  
Anthony Mandt  
David McCarney  
John McCarney  
Zachary Morisset  
Ben Noard  
Mike Tolerico  
Benjamin Roth  
Jaden Thimmesch