

TRINITY TIDINGS

A Congregation of the
Evangelical Lutheran Church In America

February 2021

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*God said to Moses at the burning bush, "Come no closer! Remove the sandals from your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground."
Exodus 3:5*

Dear Members of the Trinity family,

Looking back over this past year there have been many times when I was aware that I was standing on holy ground. Holy ground moments are those times and spaces in life when the curtain between the ordinary and the extraordinary is lifted and we see with new eyes. It's those times when we recognize the sacred in our midst, the times when we have clarity of vision, a sense of peace, evidence that God is in our midst, that God is cheering us on. During holy ground moments we know that we are not alone, that God is taking past hurts and old wounds and bringing healing, wholeness, life, reconciliation, and meaning.

I have experienced these holy ground moments at the bedside of a dying parishioner, around my family's dinner table, on a Zoom call with a beloved colleague, visiting with our neighbors at Towers East, gathered with friends around the firepit in our backyard, early mornings spent with God in prayer and meditation, preaching a sermon that I knew was challenging and unpopular, a front porch visit at my home with two youth members of Trinity, and discovering new, meaningful, surprising relationships that are bringing joy and light.

During these months of pandemic life, when have you found yourself standing on holy ground? How have you experienced God's presence in these chaotic times? How has God revealed God's self to you? When have you felt closest to God? During Lent several members of our congregation will be answering these questions through meditations that will be included in our weekly mid-week Lenten services. It will be a time for us to be challenged, encouraged, strengthened, and sustained by the stories and experiences of our siblings in Christ at Trinity. I look forward to sharing these worship experiences with you. Keep an open mind and heart to God's presence and be expectant for those moments when God invites you to stand on holy ground.

Peace, love, and joy,



Pastor Susan Crowell

COUNCIL NOTES

At the January meeting of the Congregation Council, the council...

- participated in an Epiphany devotion to embrace an intention for the coming year;
- received an annual report from the Foundation Committee noting that grants totaling \$100,000 were made to community, synodical, and churchwide organizations;
- received a year-end financial report noting that expenses for 2020 were \$119,119 less than projected and offerings were \$109,475 less than anticipated, resulting in an increase of \$9,644 in the net-working fund from January 1, 2020;
- received a report from the COVID19 Transition Team;
- received a report on the progress of the organ rebuild project;
- authorized Terry Morgan to be added as an additional person to sign checks in 2021;
- registered Trinity member, Pastor Donald Miller, for candidacy in the SC Synod of the ELCA;
- affirmed the following meeting schedule for 2021: February 21, March 14, April 18, May 23, August 15, September 12, October 10, November 14, and December 12; and
- noted that council members and officers will be installed at worship on Sunday, January 31

FEBRUARY WORSHIP

Sunday morning services will be premiered at 10:00 am on February 7, 14, 21, 28.

ASH WEDNESDAY WORSHIP

An Ash Wednesday service that includes holy communion and the imposition of ashes will be premiered at 6:15 pm on February 17. Ashes and other Lenten materials will be available at the congregational drive-through event on Sunday, February 14 from 4:00 to 5:00 pm and available in the breezeway on Tuesday, February 16 and Wednesday, February 17 from 8:30 to 4:30 pm.



LENTEN MID-WEEK WORSHIP

Holden Evening Prayer featuring meditations from members of the congregation on their experience of standing on holy ground will be premiered at 6:15 pm on February 24, March 3, March 10, March 17, and March 24.

GIVING TO TRINITY

Please help us to continue to shine the love and light of Christ into our community and world by supporting Trinity's ministry through your regular giving and special offerings. Online giving is available by texting TLCGIVE to 73256 or by following the *Online Giving* link on the homepage of our website, www.trinitylutheran.ws. Offering may also be mailed to the Church Office at 421 N. Main St., Greenville, SC 29601. Please contact Kay Cook in the Church Office if interested in signing up for automatic bank draft.



CONFIRMATION

Confirmation is a program offered by Trinity to help eighth and ninth graders explore their faith before they choose to affirm their baptism and become an adult member of the congregation. Students and their parents attend classes and workshops over the two years where they participate in study and discussion of what it means to be a Lutheran Christian.

Because of COVID, our format and schedule has changed significantly. Until it is safe to meet in person, classes will be held via ZOOM. Potential participants received print and email brochures about the program, and any additional questions should be directed to Deacon Amy Brown at the Church Office.

Sunday, February 21, 12:30 - 2:30 via ZOOM: Catechism Workshop

Sunday, March 21, 12:30 - 2:30 via ZOOM: Worship Workshop

Over the summer: Family Service Event

Confirmation Camp: June 27-July 3 OR July 18-July 24

Sunday, September 19, 12:30 - 2:30 via ZOOM: We Are Lutheran Workshop

Sunday, October 24, 12:30 - 2:30 via ZOOM: Ninth Grade Ready to Affirm Event

Reformation Sunday, October 31: Confirmation of Ninth Graders

FAITH FORMATION

TLC Kids is our Faith Formation venue for Trinity children in preschool and elementary school. It meets via ZOOM on Sunday mornings from 9:15 to 9:45 am. The gathering includes video, Bible stories and learning activities. The ZOOM invite is emailed out each week, and the recorded event is posted in our private FB group weekly to be viewed at any time. For more information, contact Deacon Amy Brown at the Church Office.

Adult Faith Formation begins with Coffee and Conversation at 8:45 a.m. via ZOOM on Sunday mornings, followed by a discussion oriented class. The class ends by 9:45, so participants can be ready for worship. This spring, the class will continue their discussions of current events using the FaithLink and The Wired Word curriculums. All adults are invited to join the ZOOM meeting. Contact Deacon Amy Brown at the Church Office to be included on the email list.

LUTHERAN CHURCH YOUTH

February 7 - LCY drive thru, 4:00 - 5:00 pm in the lower lot on the trophy case side of the Activities Building (enter and exit via Townes Street). Circle through and pick up a bag of goodies to enjoy while you watch the Super Bowl!

February 14 - no LCY due to holiday weekend

IF IN PERSON

Youth in grades 6 through 8 will meet at 5:00 pm and youth in grades 9 through 12 will meet at 6:30 pm on Sundays February 21 and 28 in the Multipurpose Room. Masks must be worn the entire time, so youth should eat before or after attending. The events are each limited to 8 youth & a weekly RSVP is required.

IF STILL VIRTUAL

February 21 - Youth in grades 6 - 12 are invited to attend an LCY ZOOM gathering at 5:00 pm. The group will enjoy virtual games, conversation and break out rooms.

February 28 - Youth in grades 6 - 8 will meet on ZOOM at 5:00 pm and youth in grades 9 - 12 will meet on ZOOM at 6:30 pm. The groups will enjoy games and conversation.



Lutheran Church Youth

LENTEN MID-WEEK SMALL GROUP

A Lenten small group facilitated by Pastor Crowell will meet via ZOOM during the Lenten Season on Wednesdays, February 24, March 3, March 10, March 17, and March 24 from 9:30 to 10:30 am to build and nurture community and to discuss [A Good Life: Benedict's Guide to Everyday Joy](#) by Robert Benson. Copies of the book will be available through the Church Office for \$10.00. Please register through the Church Office by Wednesday, February 17.

DAILY LENTEN ELECTRONIC DEVOTION

For each of the forty days of Lent (the forty days do not include Sundays) a Lenten devotion featuring a word related to the season, a scripture passage, and a meditation written by a member of the Trinity family will be emailed to the congregation at 6:00 each morning and included on Trinity's Facebook page. All are invited to participate with the Trinity family each day for this daily Lenten experience.

TLC4TLC

TLC4TLC (Tender Loving Care for Trinity Lutheran Church) is continuing to write notes and cards for members who are ill, grieving, or unable to attend worship, as well as for those who are celebrating joys. The group is not meeting in person, but writing notes from home. If you would like to participate in this group please contact Debbie Farstad at debfars@att.net or Susan Burton at susan.burton@dhg.com.

Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p style="text-align: right;">3</p> <p>6:30 CHOIR REHEARSAL VIA ZOOM</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">4</p> <p>6:00 WOMEN'S BOOK GROUP VIA ZOOM 6:30 WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY AND FELLOWSHIP VIA ZOOM</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">5</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">6</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">10</p> <p>9:00 MOMS WITH YOUNG CHILDREN VIA ZOOM</p> <p>12:30 NOURISHING NEIGHBORS</p> <p>6:30 CHOIR REHEARSAL VIA ZOOM 7:00 LAUNCH VIA ZOOM</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">11</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">12</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">13</p>
<p>ASH WEDNESDAY</p> <p style="text-align: right;">17</p> <p>6:15 ONLINE ASH WEDNESDAY WORSHIP</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">18</p> <p>7:00 BOOK GROUP VIA ZOOM</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">19</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">20</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">24</p> <p>9:30 LENTEN SMALL GROUP VIA ZOOM</p> <p>6:15 ONLINE HOLDEN EVENING PRAYER</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">25</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">26</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">27</p>

MUSIC MINISTRY

Members of the adult choir and instrumentalists are preparing and recording music for virtual performances to enrich the services of Transfiguration Sunday (February 14) and Ash Wednesday (February 17).

Adult choir will rehearse on Wednesday's February 3 & 10 at 6:30 via ZOOM.

Children's Choir will meet for a ZOOM meeting in February on a date to be worked out with families.

FEBRUARY FOOD COLLECTION

During February Trinity is collecting non-perishable food items to help our neighbors at Towers East and to help stock the pantry at Triune Mercy Center. Items of special need include:

Peanut Butter
Canned Meat
Canned Fruit
Dried Beans
Rice
Pasta
Pasta Sauce
Canned Vegetables
Individually packages snack items
Toilet Paper



Donations to support this effort will be collected at the red canopy door on Sunday afternoon, February 14 from 4:00 to 5:00. Items may also be brought to the breezeway, Monday through Friday from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm.

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY AND FELLOWSHIP GROUP

The Women's Bible Study and Fellowship Group will meet on Thursday evening, February 4 at 6:30 pm by ZOOM. Participants will continue their study of the book *Liturgy of the Ordinary* by Tish Harrison Warren. Contact Terry Morgan at 230-6252 or tfmorgan101@gmail.com for the ZOOM invite.

THEOLOGY ROUNDTABLE

Theology Roundtable is a group that meets several times a month to discuss theology and faith. In January the group will meet Sundays, February 7, 14, 21, 28 at 4:00 pm. Currently the group is discussing the book *The Hidden Life of Trees* by Peter Wohlleben. If you would like to join this group, which is meeting by ZOOM, please contact Peggy Schotsch at schotsch@bellsouth.net.

TRINITY LUTHERAN FOUNDATION GRANTS

The Trinity Lutheran Church Foundation Committee met in December to consider grant applications for 2020. Thirteen grants totaling \$100,000 were awarded to the following recipients:

- Center for Developmental Services - \$9,800 for operating funds to support services during the pandemic.
- Evangelical Lutheran Church in America - \$10,000 to support the International Women Leaders program.
- Greenville Homeless Alliance - \$7,500 to help establish an Advocacy Training Academy.
- Lutheran Homes of South Carolina Foundation - \$5,000 to help fund hospice care for low income patients in Greenville and the surrounding areas.
- Novus Way - \$10,000 to provide a COVID 19 grant to help sustain the ministry.
- Pendleton Place - \$8,000 to provide funding for comprehensive “step-down” housing for young adults aging out of foster care.
- Pride Link - \$5,000 to help launch a Host House Program for youth in the LGBTQ+ community.
- South Carolina Lutheran Retreat Centers - \$8,000 to replace an HVAC unit at Camp Kinard and provide a COVID 19 grant to help sustain the ministry.
- Sustaining Way - \$5,000 to support the Steward Youth Program in the Nicholtown Community.
- The Family Effect - \$10,000 to purchase supplies for the program for Infants and Children at Serenity Place.
- The Homeless Period Project - \$5,000 to help fund period packs for women and girls in need in Greenville.
- Trinity Lutheran Church - \$8,700 to support a revised version of Trinity’s Nourishing Neighbors food ministry.
- United Ministries - \$8,000 to provide rent on three apartments for homeless people.

FEBRUARY 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday
	1	2
	7:00 BONHOEFFER STUDY VIA ZOOM	
FIFTH SUNDAY OF EPIPHANY 7	8	9
8:45 ADULT FAITH FORMATION VIA ZOOM 9:15 TLC KIDS VIA ZOOM 10:00 ONLINE WORSHIP 1:30 OUTREACH COMMITTEE VIA ZOOM 4:00 - 5:00 LCY DRIVE THROUGH EVENT 4:00 THEOLOGY ROUNDTABLE VIA ZOOM		
TRANSFIGURATION OF OUR LORD 14	15	16
8:45 ADULT FAITH FORMATION VIA ZOOM 9:15 TLC KIDS VIA ZOOM 10:00 ONLINE WORSHIP 4:00 - 5:00 CONGREGATIONAL DRIVE-THROUGH EVENT 4:00 THEOLOGY ROUNDTABLE VIA ZOOM	CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED	
FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT 21	22	23
8:45 ADULT FAITH FORMATION VIA ZOOM 9:15 TLC KIDS VIA ZOOM 10:00 ONLINE WORSHIP 12:30 CONFIRMATION - CATECHISM WORKSHOP VIA ZOOM 1:30 CONGREGATION COUNCIL VIA ZOOM 4:00 THEOLOGY ROUNDTABLE VIA ZOOM 5:00 LCY GRADES 6 -12 VIA ZOOM		7
SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT 28		
8:45 ADULT FAITH FORMATION VIA ZOOM 9:15 TLC KIDS VIA ZOOM 10:00 ONLINE WORSHIP 4:00 THEOLOGY ROUNDTABLE VIA ZOOM 5:00 LCY GRADES 6-8 VIA ZOOM 6:30 LCY GRADES 9-12 VIA ZOOM		

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

In an effort to stay connected, please consider extending birthday greetings to the following members. If you would like the church to know your birthdate please contact the Church Office to submit this information through Realm.

Mark Allen - February 14
Jeff Balck - February 22
Marilyn Boeker - February 10
Mary Cantrell - February 5
Ann Coon - February 26
Charlotte Darby - February 8
Ronny Dillard - February 3
Mia Dillon - February 18
Heather Fanning - February 15
Floralei Fenske - February 12
Pendleton Fenske - February 6
Andrea Fisher - February 5
Stacy Fisher - February 10
Calvin Harmon - February 12
Teresa Harrington - February 11

Don Hensley - February 28
John Janssen - February 21
Janna Kelley - February 3
Maddox Kirk - February 14
Clark Lawrence - February 6
Angie McCormack - February 6
Ian Milionis - February 24
Kaitlin Moose - February 27
Victoria Nguyen - February 13
Pastor Jim Parham - February 6
Stefani Robinson - February 28
Alice Smith - February 4
Stephen Troutman - February 5
Susan Troutman - February 9
Jan Willis - February 15



BOOK GROUP

The Trinity Book Group, which is open to all readers, meets regularly to discuss books of all genres. The next meeting will be on February 18 at 7:00 pm via ZOOM to discuss *The Book of Longings* by Sue Monk Kidd. Other upcoming selections include *The Glass Hotel* by Emily St. John Mandel on April 15, *This Tender Land* by William Kent Krueger on June 17, and *The Lions of Fifth Avenue* by Fiona Davis on August 19. Email Deacon Amy Brown at arbrown@trinitylutheran.ws to receive a ZOOM invite to the meetings.



MOMS WITH YOUNG CHILDREN

Moms with children ages birth through 12 are invited to attend a ZOOM gathering on Wednesday, February 10 at 9:00 am. The group will share highs and lows and have some devotional time. For more information, or to be included in the emails, please contact Deacon Mandi.

SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP LEADERS FOR FEBRUARY

Lay Assistants

February 7

Sue Boeker

Philip Wessinger

February 14

Penny Bostain

John Otten

February 21

Bryan Cegelis

Chris Sorenson

February 28

Patrick Preacher

Dora Welch

NOURISHING NEIGHBORS

Trinity will host our neighbors at Towers East for Nourishing Neighbors, a monthly event held on the front lawn that includes a bagged lunch, fresh produce, pantry staples, and fellowship, on Wednesday, February 10 from 12:30 to 1:30 pm.

LAUNCH GROUP

LAUNCH is Trinity's Young Adults Group for people in their 20s to early 30s. The group will meet via ZOOM on Wednesday, February 10 at 7:00 pm. Contact Mandi Whitley with questions.



PRAYER GROUP

Even though the prayer group is not meeting in person, group members are praying at home. Any prayer requests may be emailed to Merry Mulcahy at marmulcahy@icloud.com or Terry Morgan at tfmorgan101@gmail.com.

COLUMBARIUM CONSTRUCTION

During the construction of the columbarium, the breezeway doors on the red canopy side of the building will not be in use. Visitors to the Church Office should access the building via the lot adjacent to the playground and accessible via Townes Street.

WITHIN THE TRINITY FAMILY . . .

HOSPITAL PATIENTS

Marie McLachlan - Discharged
Maribeth Finley - Greenville Memorial
Clarence Koerber - Greenville Memorial
Joyce Weiner - Discharged
Margaret Wyatt - Pelham Medical Center

DEATHS

Ralph Born on January 14
the mother of Susan Park
John Wood on January 24
the sister of Carolyn Wyatt

ATTENDANCE FOR JANUARY (DOES NOT INCLUDE JANUARY 31)

	<u>1/3</u>	<u>1/10</u>	<u>1/17</u>	<u>1/24</u>
Onsite	5	6	4	5
Online devices	<u>524</u>	<u>526</u>	<u>517</u>	<u>472</u>
TOTAL	529	532	521	477

OFFERING SUMMARY FOR JANUARY

(DOES NOT INCLUDE OFFERING FROM JANUARY 31)

	<u>JANUARY</u>	<u>YTD</u>
Needed for Budget	\$86,990	\$86,990
Given to Budget	<u>\$154,762</u>	<u>\$154,762</u>
Difference	\$67,772	\$67,772
Given to World Hunger	\$10,867	\$10,867

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
421 North Main Street
Greenville, SC 29601-2090

CHURCH STAFF

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Beth C. Oswald
Nursery Attendant

CONGREGATIONAL DRIVE-THROUGH EVENT

Please Join the Trinity family
for a

Lenten Drive-Through Event
in the parking lot adjacent to the red canopy door

Sunday, February 14
4:00 to 5:00 pm

The following items will be distributed:

Ash Wednesday/Lenten worship bags
Ashes for Imposition of ashes on Ash Wednesday
Children's Lenten Activity Bags
Small home-baked loaves of communion bread
Shrove Tuesday/Mardi Gras Treats

Bags and worship materials will also be available
in the breezeway
on Tuesday, February 16 and Wednesday, February 17
from 8:30 to 4:30 pm.