

# TRINITY TIDINGS

A Congregation of the  
Evangelical Lutheran Church In America

February 2023

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[www.trinitylutheran.ws](http://www.trinitylutheran.ws)

Friends in Christ,

Our journey through February covers vast spiritual territory. We begin right where January left us, in the fifth chapter of Matthew sitting at the feet of Jesus as he delivers the Sermon on the Mount. This massive teaching event that fills chapters five, six, and seven of Matthew. Here, Matthew establishes Jesus as the *New Moses*, the one who brings a *new Torah*, a new law. Jesus reinterprets Old Testament Torah as found in Exodus, Leviticus, and Deuteronomy, into the new ethic, pattern, and mission of God's unfolding kingdom. Jesus gives a new structure for life as a disciple: radical generosity and service, a pattern of prayer as a cherished child of God, humble sincere piety, political and social dynamics based on forgiveness and mercy, patience and courage in the face of conflict and persecution.

The Sundays after Epiphany culminate on February 19 with a true mountain-top experience. The glorious Transfiguration of Jesus reveals his divine identity and glory. The voice of God reveals Jesus' identity and mission. God identifies Jesus as God's one and only child and as "the Beloved" - God's one and only faithful servant whose suffering saves the world. In an instant, our imaginations are cast forward to Holy Week, to the cross and the empty tomb, but God snaps us back into the present mission of Jesus with these final words, "Listen to him!" As Jesus' transfiguration glory fades, and we follow him back down the mountain, our attention is now fully fixed on Jesus. We are ready to enter the season of Lent.

Ash Wednesday, February 22, is our portal into the 40 days of Lent. Through confession of sin and the ashen cross on our foreheads, we freely embrace our mortality and humanity, opening ourselves to the liberating and life-giving love and grace of God. February concludes with the first Sunday in Lent, drawing us into the raw unsheltered wilderness with Jesus, who, alone and vulnerable, faces down all that seeks to turn us away from God. Now we see the true faith and power of *The Beloved*.

Peace,



Pastor Jim Parham

## COUNCIL NOTES

At the January meeting of the Congregation Council, the council..  
---received a year-end financial report noting that expenses for 2022 were \$5,121 over the projected budget and offerings were \$67,696 less than anticipated, resulting in decrease of \$72,817 in the net-working fund from January 1, 2022;  
---noted that children and youth Faith Formation will resume on January 29; and  
---began initial discussions on issue of budget sustainability

## New Member Class and Reception of New Members



In February, Pastor Crowell will be teaching a new member class via Zoom for anyone interested in exploring the possibility of joining Trinity. These classes will take place from 6:30 to 7:30 pm on Wednesdays, February 8 and 15. Please call the Church Office if you would like to attend these classes that will be taught remotely. New Members will be received on Sunday, February 26 at the 10:00 am worship service.

## GIVING TO TRINITY



Trinity is grateful for all the prayers, contributions, and displays of support from members, friends, and guests. Financial contributions can be placed in the offering plates during worship, mailed to the church, or given electronically by going to [trinitylutheran.ws](http://trinitylutheran.ws), by scanning the QR code, or texting TLCGIVE to 73256.



## FEBRUARY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

### FEBRUARY 5

Worship at 10:00 am in the Gym  
Refreshments and fellowship to follow in the back of the Gym

### FEBRUARY 12

Worship at 10:00 am in the Sanctuary  
Refreshments and fellowship to follow on the Front Lawn

### FEBRUARY 19

Worship at 10:00 am in the Sanctuary  
Refreshments and fellowship to follow on the Front Lawn

### FEBRUARY 26

Worship at 10:00 am with reception of new members in the Gym  
Refreshments and fellowship to follow in the back of the Gym

## NURSERY FOR SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP

A nursery is available during the 10:00 am worship service on Sunday morning, whether we are worshipping in the Sanctuary or the Gym. Practices and protocols follow all DHEC recommendations for daycare centers. All staff and volunteers must be fully vaccinated and wear masks at all times. A copy of the updated guidelines can be obtained through the Church Office. The age requirements for children in the



## FAITH FORMATION

For children: Sunday School at 9:00 am.

We have two Sunday School classes for children. The BEGINNERS class is for children ages 4 through Grade 1. The MIDDLEBELLERS class is for children in Grades 2 through 5. Classes are held on the first floor of the Pence Education Building, across from the nursery. A nursery for younger children will also be available.

For youth: Sunday School at 9:00 am.

Youth in Grades 6 through 12 are invited to meet at the Parlor (Red Canopy door area) to walk downtown for fellowship, devotions and relationship building at Starbucks. The group will return in time for 10:00 am worship. In the event of rain, the group will stay at the church for beverages, conversation and service opportunities.

For adults: Sunday School at 9:00 am in the Multipurpose Room

Adults are invited to come together for coffee, fellowship and study at 9:00 am Sunday mornings in the Multipurpose Room. This class is now being Zoomed live, so at the current time, we will no longer have a separate Zoom class. On Sundays February 5 and 12, the group will meet and discuss current event topics in light of our faith. These topics will be posted and/or emailed out ahead of time. On Sunday, February 19, the class will meet with others in the Multipurpose Room for a *Mardi Gras Pancake Breakfast*, which will include information and learning stations about Mardi Gras, Ash Wednesday and Lent. On Sunday, February 26, a new study will begin. Greg Hamluk will lead the group in a study of *Entering the Passion of Jesus* by Amy-Jill Levine.

## MUSIC MINISTRY

ADULT CHOIR rehearses on Wednesdays at 7:00 pm in the Choir Room on the second floor of the Pence Building. If you are interested in singing with the choir, please e-mail Pastor Parham at the address below.

HANDBELL CHOIR rehearses on the Wednesdays, February 1, 8, and 15 at 6:00 pm in the Handbell Rehearsal Room on the second floor of the Pence Building. This month, the choir will ring on Sunday, February 12. Beginning with Ash Wednesday, February 22, handbells will be on break through April 12.

### TRINITY'S INSTRUMENTALIST COMMUNITY

If you are interested in sharing your instrumental skills in worship, please contact Pastor Parham via e-mail [jcparham@trinitylutheran.ws](mailto:jcparham@trinitylutheran.ws) or phone 242-5702.

## ASH WEDNESDAY WORSHIP

A traditional Ash Wednesday Service with the celebration of Holy Communion and the Imposition of Ashes will take place on Wednesday, February 22 at 6:15 pm in the Sanctuary.



## PLANS FOR LENT 2023

Lent



The Trinity family will enjoy worship and table fellowship each Wednesday during the Lenten Season at 6:15 pm in the Multipurpose Room. Participants will share a meal together and also worship at table. The evening will conclude by 7:30 pm. Dinner will include a simple soup and sandwich meal. Vegetarian and low sodium soups

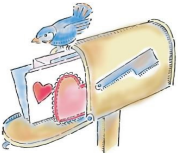
will be provided. Volunteers will be needed to provide crock pots of soup and sandwiches on each of these Wednesdays. Anyone interested in volunteering to provide soup or sandwiches may reach out to Karine Lawrence, chair of the Parish Life Committee, at 864-363-4248 or Kay Cook in the Church Office. These worship and fellowship opportunities will take place on Wednesdays, March 1, March 8, March 15, March 22, and March 29.

## MARDI GRAS PANCAKE BREAKFAST

All are invited to a *Mardi Gras Pancake Breakfast* on Sunday morning, February 19 at 9:00 am in the Multipurpose Room. Not only will participants enjoy good fellowship and good pancakes, there will be opportunities for all ages to learn about Mardi Gras, Ash Wednesday and Lent. This will take the place of Sunday School on that morning. Please contact the Church Office to make a reservation.



## TLC4TLC



TLC4TLC is for anyone who would like 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. If you would like to participate in this group please contact Debbie Farstad at [debvars@att.net](mailto:debvars@att.net).

## QUILTING GROUP



QUILTING GROUP

The Quilting Group typically meets in the Activities Building on Mondays at 9:30 am to make quilts which are distributed by Lutheran World Relief. Participants do not need to know how to sew in order to assemble quilts. Willing volunteers who can cut fabric, iron, thread a needle, or tie knots are welcome. Work is usually finished around noon. Participants can work as little or as long as they would like. There are also at-home sewing opportunities for those who cannot make it to the gatherings. The group will meet every Monday except on days when the Church Office is closed. In February the group will meet February 6, 13, and 27. If you have any questions contact Sarah Weeks at [sweeks14@charter.net](mailto:sweeks14@charter.net) or 864-787-1160.

## PRAYER GROUP

The Trinity Prayer Group will be praying from home during the month of February. If you have a prayer request please complete a prayer card during Sunday worship or email a request to Terry Morgan at [tfmorgan101@gmail.com](mailto:tfmorgan101@gmail.com) or Merry Mulcahy at [marmulcahy@icloud.com](mailto:marmulcahy@icloud.com).

The group is currently reviewing Trinity's prayer ministry with hopes to increase its support of all the ministries of Trinity as well as individual prayer requests from our congregation. Please check for updates on the prayer ministry here in the Tidings.



Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p style="text-align: right;">1</p> <p>6:00 HANDBELL CHOIR 7:00 ADULT CHOIR</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">2</p> <p>6:30 QUEER-LED WORSHIP IN THE GYM</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">3</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">4</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">8</p> <p>6:30 AM MEN'S REFLECTION GROUP</p> <p>6:00 HANDBELL CHOIR 6:30 NEW MEMBER CLASS VIA ZOOM 7:00 ADULT CHOIR</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">9</p> <p>6:00 LOVE WINS</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">10</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">11</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">15</p> <p>12:30 NOURISHING NEIGHBORS</p> <p>5:00 OUTREACH COMMITTEE</p> <p>6:00 HANDBELL CHOIR 6:30 NEW MEMBER CLASS VIA ZOOM 7:00 ADULT CHOIR</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">16</p> <p>7:00 TRINITY BOOK GROUP</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">17</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">18</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">22</p> <p>ASH WEDNESDAY</p> <p>6:15 WORSHIP IN THE SANCTUARY</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">23</p> <p>6:00 LOVE WINS BOOK DISCUSSION</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">24</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">25</p>

## YOUTH MINISTRY EVENT

### SNOW



### TUBING

Trinity's Youth Ministry Group is for youth in grades 6 through 12. The group will meet immediately after worship on Sunday, February 12 to board the bus for an afternoon trip to Black Bear Snow Tubing in Hendersonville, NC. Participants should plan to come to worship and eat lunch together in the Multipurpose Room after worship. Cost per person is \$25 for tubing. Registration and payment is due in the Church Office by Wednesday, February 8. Contact Deacon Amy Brown at the Church Office with questions.

## TLC KIDS



TLC Kids is Trinity's group for preschool and elementary children and their families. The group meets once a month after worship for learning, music and fun activities. On Sunday, February 12 the group will meet after worship for lunch and a celebration of God's love for us and our love for others. The event will include music, activities and snacks. Children should be accompanied by a parent or parents or a grandparent. Contact Pastor Jim Parham or the Church Office to register.

## THEOLOGY ROUNDTABLE

The Theology Roundtable group discusses articles, podcasts and other items of interest. If you like to talk about "deep stuff", this group is for you. New participants are always welcome. Joe Rice will notify the group of the dates and readings. If you are interested in being part of this group contact Joe Rice at 864-704-4616 or [saluda171@yahoo.com](mailto:saluda171@yahoo.com) to receive information.



## SECOND SUNDAY FOOD DRIVE

Trinity's monthly Nourishing Neighbors events continue to be an important source of fresh produce, pantry items, and toilet paper for our neighbors at Towers East. The Trinity Food Pantry is being depleted each month as we are serving more neighbors. In an effort to keep the pantry full, Trinity will host a food drive on the second Sunday of each month throughout 2023. Please consider making regular contributions. You are encouraged to bring your donations to worship. A volunteer will be stationed at the Red Canopy Door from 9:30-10:00 am on the second Sunday of each month to assist in unloading donations. Sunday, February 12 will be our next drive. Upcoming dates are March 12, April 9, and May 14. The following items are most needed: dried beans (16 oz), peanut butter (16 oz), cereal, canned fruit, rice (2 lb bag), pasta, pasta sauce, canned meat, canned vegetables, individually packaged snack items, and toilet paper.



## BOOK GROUP

The Trinity Book Group, is open to all readers and meets on the third Thursday evening in the Church Parlor every other month to discuss books of all genres. The next meeting will be on Thursday, February 16, at 7:00 pm when the group will discuss *The Midnight Library* by Matt Haig. Other upcoming selections include;

- April 20, 7:00 pm - *Becoming Nicole* by Amy Ellis Nutt
- June 15, 7:00 pm - *The Rose Code* by Kate Quinn
- August 17, 7:00 pm - *Lessons in Chemistry* by Bonnie Garmus
- October 19, 7:00 pm - *The Personal Librarian* by Marie Benedict
- December 21, 7:00 pm - *These Precious Days* by Ann Patchett



This is a very casual group, and new participants are welcome at any time. Email Deacon Amy Brown at [arbrown@trinitylutheran.ws](mailto:arbrown@trinitylutheran.ws) for more information.

# FEBRUARY 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday
<p>FIFTH SUNDAY OF EPIPHANY 5</p> <p>9:00 FAITH FORMATION 10:00 WORSHIP IN THE GYM AND LIVE-STREAM WITH REFRESHMENTS AND FELLOWSHIP TO FOLLOW</p>	<p>6</p> <p>9:30 QUILTING GROUP</p>	<p>7</p> <p>10:30 WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY</p>
<p>SIXTH SUNDAY OF EPIPHANY 12</p> <p>9:00 FAITH FORMATION 10:00 WORSHIP IN THE GYM AND LIVE-STREAM WITH REFRESHMENTS AND FELLOWSHIP TO FOLLOW</p> <p>11:30 TLC KIDS 11:30 YOUTH MINISTRY</p>	<p>13</p> <p>9:30 QUILTING GROUP</p> <p>6:00 GOAL MEETING AT TRINITY</p>	<p>14</p>
<p>TRANSFIGURATION OF OUR LORD 19</p> <p>9:00 MARDI GRAS PANCAKE BREAKFAST 10:00 WORSHIP IN THE GYM AND LIVE-STREAM WITH REFRESHMENTS AND FELLOWSHIP TO FOLLOW</p>	<p>20</p> <p>CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED</p>	<p>21</p>
<p>FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT 26</p> <p>9:00 FAITH FORMATION 10:00 WORSHIP AND RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS IN THE SANCTUARY AND LIVE-STREAM WITH REFRESHMENTS AND FELLOWSHIP TO FOLLOW</p> <p>11:30 OUT TO LUNCH BUNCH</p>	<p>27</p> <p>9:30 QUILTING GROUP</p>	<p>28</p>

## 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  
Caroline Brightwell - February 4  
Ann Coon - February 26  
Charlotte Darby - February 8  
Ronny Dillard - February 3  
Mia Dillon - February 18  
Heather Fanning - February 15  
Stacy Fisher - February 10  
Angie Hagar - February 23  
Calvin Harmon - February 12  
Teresa Harrington - February 11  
John Janssen - February 21  
Jana Kelley - February 3

Clark Lawrence - February 6  
Angie McCormack - February 6  
Kaitlin Moose - February 27  
Victoria Nguyen - February 13  
Pastor Jim Parham - February 6  
Kathleen Pusker - February 21  
Steven Pusker - February 27  
Joshua Rhodes - February 23  
Stefani Robinson - February 28  
Alice Smith - February 4  
Stephen Troutman - February 5  
Susan Troutman - February 9  
William Whiting - February 9  
Jan Willis - February 15



## WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY AND FELLOWSHIP GROUP

Women's Bible Study



and Fellowship Group

Women's Bible Study Group meets monthly for fellowship and Bible study. The group usually meets on the first Tuesday of each month. All women of the church are invited to attend on February 7 at 10:30 am in Rooms 12 and 13. Participants will continue the study of women in the Bible utilizing the book *Fierce* by Alice Connor. If you need a copy of the book or have any other questions, please contact Terry Morgan at [tfmorgan101@gmail.com](mailto:tfmorgan101@gmail.com) for additional information.

## MEN'S REFLECTION AND FELLOWSHIP GROUP

# Men's Fellowship

A Reflection and Fellowship Group for men is meeting on the second Wednesday of the month from 6:30 am to 7:30 am in the Church Parlor. Calvin Harmon is leading and facilitating this group with the intent of providing a brave, safe space for mutual sharing and encouragement. The morning includes a light breakfast as well as time for devotions and prayer. Meeting dates include February 8 and March 8.

## LEGOS NEEDED

Do you have Legos around your house that your children or grandchildren no longer use? The children's Sunday School program would like Legos to use in class with their lessons. Contact Deacon Amy Brown if you have Legos you would like to donate.



## 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 15 from 12:30 to 1:30 pm. This is an opportunity to build relationships with our neighbors, make friends, and get to know each other in a relaxed and fun environment. Volunteers pack produce bags, prepare lunches, or serve on the front lawn. Questions may be directed to Anne Harmon at [annerharmon1956@gmail.com](mailto:annerharmon1956@gmail.com) or Patrick Preacher at [pdpreacher@trinitylutheran.ws](mailto:pdpreacher@trinitylutheran.ws).

## OUT TO LUNCH BUNCH

Out to Lunch Bunch is open to all Trinity adults who want to enjoy fellowship and eat lunch together after worship once a month. On Sunday, February 26 the group will meet at *Topsy Taco*, 215 Pelham Rd, Greenville, 29615 at 11:45 am. It is located in the same shopping center as *Publix*. Contact Deacon Amy Brown at [arbrown@trinitylutheran.ws](mailto:arbrown@trinitylutheran.ws) to receive email reminders for this group.



## QUEER AND JUSTICE MINISTRY



Taizé Prayer

Queer-led Worship will continue on the first Thursday of each month at 6:30 pm in the Gym. Upcoming dates include February 2 and March 2. These services will be live-streamed. Please email Patrick Preacher at [pdp preacher@trinitylutheran.ws](mailto:pdp preacher@trinitylutheran.ws) if you are interested. New leaders who identify as LGBTQIA+ are always welcome.

## LOVE WINS FELLOWSHIP GROUP

In February the *Love Wins* group will have two events. On Thursday, February 9 at 6:00 pm the group will have a social gathering at *Gather Greenville*, 126 Augusta St, Greenville, SC 29601. On Thursday, February 23 at 6:00 pm the group will have a book discussion on *Accidental Saints* by Nadia Bolz-Weber, at the home of Lani and Russ Wise, 2 Caliston Ct, Greenville, SC 29615. For more information or to be added to the group contact list contact Angie McCormack at 864-630-4016 or [ramack10@yahoo.com](mailto:ramack10@yahoo.com).

## GREENVILLE ORGANIZED FOR ACCOUNTABLE LEADERSHIP

GOAL researchers have been meeting with social service providers throughout December and January. Problem statements are being formed as the basis for what change will be asked of specific community leaders at the Nehemiah Action event March 28.

**Affordable Housing:** From 2021-2022 rents in Greenville have increased by 86%, the 6th highest increase in the country. In Greenville County, over 50,000 people spend more than 30% of their income on housing and there are 1,200 homeless children.

**Mental Health:** Suicide is the 3rd leading cause of death for people aged 24 and under in SC and while every school in Greenville County has a licensed mental health therapist on site, not all children can utilize their services due to insurance restrictions. Many private counseling services have wait times of 6+ months for children... imagine having to wait this long to have a broken arm casted.

**GOAL gathering:** On Monday, February 13, there will be a gathering at Trinity from 6:00 to 7:30 pm in the Multipurpose Room for all GOAL network members and anyone passionate about social justice in the Greenville community.

# WITHIN THE TRINITY FAMILY . . .

## DEATHS

Bud Mosley on January 11  
the father of Donna Robinson

## HOSPITAL PATIENTS

Ida Blalock - Discharged  
Connie Stieghan - Discharged

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	ATTENDANCE FOR JANUARY			
Sundays	1/1	1/8	1/15	1/22
Online devices	235	209	247	245
In Person	<u>85</u>	<u>107</u>	<u>115</u>	<u>123</u>
Total	320	316	362	368

Queer-led service 1/5 - 38 in person, 147 online devices

## OFFERING SUMMARY FOR JANUARY

*DOES NOT INCLUDE OFFERING FROM JANUARY 29*

	<u>JANUARY</u>	<u>YTD</u>
Needed for Budget	\$ 95,378	\$ 95,378
Given to Budget	<u>\$ 198,087</u>	<u>\$ 198,087</u>
Difference	\$ 102,709	\$ 102,709
Given to World Hunger	\$ 10,405	\$ 10,405

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

NON PROFIT ORGANIZATION  
U.S. POSTAGE  
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GREENVILLE, SC

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