

THE TRINITY LUTHERAN

February, 2024



Annual meeting

**The Annual Meeting will be this Sunday, February 4th.
The following members were nominated by the church council to serve on the board.**

**Beth Saler
Peggy Brookheart
Autumn Ryden
Brooklyn Diel**

The seated council members are:

**Nancy McClenathan
Babbs Pitts
Becky Holstrum
Matt Powell
Kevin Scherer
John Scherer**

The retiring council members are:

**Bob Fehrenbacher
Rosemary West**

**Pastor Kathi Boland
Mike Kurtz, Church Treasurer**

THE CONFIRMATION STUDENTS will be having a 'Chili Cook-off' before the annual meeting. The judges will sample the chili prepared by the students and will determine a winner. Thank you for your continued and incredible support of the Youth Gathering Trip!

NEW BOOK AVAILABLE TO CHECK OUT FROM CHURCH LIBRARY

For the month of February the church library is featuring I Found Jesus!: A Seek and Discover Book by Theresa Richter. This seek and find book features scenes from the New Testament of the Bible. You can search for Jesus in each scene as well as other symbols related to Jesus' life and scripture. Each picture also features the Bible story related to the picture (such as Zacchaeus in the tree) using scripture and teaches a lesson. This book will be displayed and available for checkout in the narthex throughout the month of February.



SPECIAL CARE MEMBERS (as of 2/01/2024)

Patricia Roberts	Stonebridge, 1304 N. East St. Olney
Jean Miller	Rock Castle, 145 Newcombe Ave, Room 238, Bed 1, Mt Vernon, KY 40456
Mary Lou Sager	c/o Colonial Assisted Living Community, 1622 S Hart St. Room 133, Vincennes, IN 47591
Don Fritschle	Stonebridge, 1304 N East St., Olney, IL 62450

AT HOME MEMBERS:

Audrey Scherer	600 S Christy Ave. Sumner, IL 62466 618 936-2169
Gary Cowan	1525 Cypress Rd. Olney, IL 62450 618 838-2300
Floyd Meentemeyer	202 E. Franklin St., Olney, IL 62450



Bowling for the Kids ~ Bowlers Needed

5 Member Teams

(The funds raised will be supporting the non-profit youth mentoring agency of Richland County.)

One Weekend ONLY

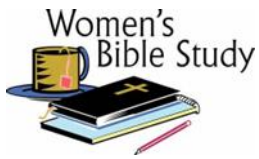
February 24 & 25

Each bowler with \$40 in donations receives:

Free Bowling, Pizza & Drink, Free Shoe Rental, Lane Prizes

Sign up Today!!!

Register by calling the Mentor Richland County office at 618 392-3863



“PEOPLE OF FAITH”, meets the 1st Thursday of the month at 10 am. Join us on Thursday, February 1, 2024.

TRINITY IS IN NEED! We are currently looking for folks who are interested in taking a turn to teach our young people. We need two adults in any classroom environment, and as of this moment we have one teacher. The hope is that we have teams of people taking turns so that no one teaches every week. There are curriculum lessons that go along with our lectionary texts, and a fun craft for them to do as well. Please let Mark Scherer or Pastor Kathi know if your heart is longing to bring the younger generation into a closer walk with the Lord Jesus.

COFFEE HOUR: We have coffee and donuts every Sunday morning immediately following the worship service.

VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED: Weekday Childrens Ministry Board is seeking volunteers to serve on the WCM Board. The board meets the first Tuesday of the month at 6:30 p.m.

A NOTE FROM WORSHIP COMMITTEE: If there is a hymn you would like to hear, or if you would like to hear setting 8 through the week, you can go to YouTube. For example, do a search for elw 412 and you will find "Come, Join the Dance of Trinity,". Elw setting 8 will take you to that setting. If a hymn or setting is in your head or heart, you can find it online. Also, if there are hymns you would like us to sing, please let Beth Saler know: bsaler@hotmail.com or 618.395.1152.

JESUS TOLD US HE WOULD REMEMBER when we visit those in prison, as if we were visiting Jesus Himself. If the Holy Spirit is nudging you to do this, please contact Pastor Kathi or Jarron Smith.

PLEASE CALL JOHN SCHERER (618-354-0774) or email him (scherer@wabash.net) if you have a PRAYER REQUEST. If you wish to receive prayer chain notifications, please sign up at Sign-up Central in the narthex.



Good Samaritan always welcomes unexpired nonperishable food items such as canned beans, canned vegetables, dry spaghetti etc. If shopping is not convenient for you, please remember that monetary donations go a long way as Good Samaritan is able to purchase in bulk from the USDA and Feeding America. Bring or mail your donations to Trinity and they will be delivered to Good Samaritan.

Shampoo (not conditioner) is especially needed

ECLIPSE WEEK-END: Please start saving your cereal boxes and small amazon boxes for the Eclipse. They can be brought into the parlor. We will making eclipse glasses out of them for the viewing in April. Thank you.

THANK-YOU CARDS have been received from the two families that Trinity adopted for Christmas this year. They are posted on the bulletin board in the narthex, along with a thank you note from Adopt-A-Family. The new logo for Adopt-A-Family was designed by Trinity member and artist Barb Stiff.

GIVING ENVELOPES FOR 2024 are sitting on a table in the Narthex. Please pick yours up when possible. Thank you.

ASH WEDNESDAY service is on Wednesday, February 14th at 7:00 p.m.

MAY GOD COMFORT the family of Peggy Brookheart on the death of Peggy's brother, Alan Davis, age 76, from Greenfield, Indiana.

MAY GOD COMFORT the family of Mary Armstrong who passed away on Thursday, January 18, 2024. Mary was the niece of Trinity's preschool director Brooke Wheeler.

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Rosemary West, Council Secretary
 Bob Fehrenbacher, President
 Babbs Pitts, Vice-President
 Nancy McClenathan
 Becky Holstrum
 Matt Powell
 Kevin Scherer
 John Scherer
 Brooklyn Diel ~ Youth Representative
 Mike Kurtz ~ Church Treasurer

January Council Minutes

* Council members present: Bob Fehrenbacher, Rosemary West, John Scherer, Kevin Scherer, Becky Holstrum, Matt Powell, Nancy McClenathan, Brooklyn Diel, and Pasti Kathi. Mike Kurtz also attended. Absent: Babb Pitts.

* The proposed budget for 2024 was reviewed with amendments and approved

* Replacing the stage curtains expense will be discussed at the annual meeting

* A big thank you to Lee Scherer for manning his equipment all day to lower the cost of gutter installation.

* Good Samaritan days were January 3rd & 5th. Our next time to help is March 20 & March 22nd.

* The preschool breakfast was a success with around 300 people served despite the cold temps. The pie auction brought in \$597 profit.

* Confirmation students and families are meeting after Sunday service to learn to 'Love Our Neighbor'. All are invited. Chili Cook Off at congregation meeting on Feb 4th as a fund raiser. Four students are attending the Youth Gathering in July.

* Paul's Cleaning service is taking over the janitorial services at Trinity

*Bob Fehrenbacher and Rosemary West are going off the church council this year.

STAFF:

Pastor ~ Rev. Kathi Boland
 Pianist ~ Keegan Tucker
 Choir Director ~ Andrew Flynn
 Sunday School Coordinator ~
 Altar Guild ~ Steve Berry
 Church Secretary ~ Rhoda Slichenmyer
 Financial Secretaries ~
 Custodians ~ Adam/Hilary Donaldson

WEEKDAY CHILDREN'S MINISTRY:**Board Members**

Bob Crum, Treasurer,
 Sandy Britton, Secretary
 Mike Kurtz, President
 Doug Slagley
 Jeff Pipher

TRINITY PRESCHOOL

Director ~ Brooke Wheeler
 Teacher ~ Peggy Brookheart
 MMO ~ Brooke Wheeler
 MMO ~ Peggy Brookheart

COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS:

Prayer Chain ~ John Scherer
 Convalescing Meals ~ Becky Holsturm
 Funeral Luncheons ~ Carol Diel, Sharon Kurtz
 Learning ~ Nancy McClenathan
 Memorials & Special Gifts ~ Sarah Kincaid
 Property ~ Kevin Scherer, Bob Fehrenbacher
 Service ~ Rosemary West
 Stewardship ~ Brooklyn Diel (liaison)
 Witness ~ Becky Holstrum
 Worship ~ Beth Saler
 Finance ~ Mike Kurtz
 Youth~ Matt Powell

GROUPS: Remember When
 Ed & Darlene Fritschle

Our Mission Statement

Trinity Lutheran Church strives to reach and welcome all with the love of Christ



FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS!

3	Addison Ryden	
3	Autumn Ryden	
3	Gracie Warren	
4	Leslie Warren	
8	Avery Mehl	
10	Drake Holdren	
12	Larry Cartmill	
14	Thelma Schwartz	
18	Owen James Petty	
23	Lynsie Weiler	
23	Jim Thomas	
20	Gary Cowan	
20	Don Kincaid	
21	Mark Scherer	
22	Ethan Mehl	
25	Janet Dawson	
26	Mary Jane Hanes	
26	Mary Jane Slinkard	
27	Linda Miller	
27	Martha Johnson	
27	Daniel Warren	

DID YOU NOTICE THAT IN MID-DECEMBER, part of our church building had new gutters installed? A BIG THANK YOU goes out to Lee Scherer, for donating the use of his equipment all day, which he also manned the entire day. This gift of time and equipment for the entire process really helped to lower the costs associated with a two-story installation! Thank you again, Lee, and everyone who helped out with this major project.



PLAY IN THE PARK

Members and friends of all ages, let's meet in Trinity's Park (Fellowship Hall) the third Saturday of each month at 5:00 p.m.. Join us on Saturday, February 17th.

DO YOU LIKE TO FEED PEOPLE? Do you have the gift of hospitality in welcoming sisters and brothers, and do you really enjoy cooking? Please consider joining our Fellowship Team as they plan menus and prepare meals for various occasions for events at Trinity. With many hands working together the activity becomes joyful and is accomplished quicker! If you have been called on in the past to fill various needs and wish to continue in this role, please let Pastor Kathi know your wishes. If we hear from you that you want to help out on the Fellowship Team, you will be called on!

LENTEN DINNERS: Please sign up to host a Lenten dinner on February 21, February 28, March 6, 13, & 20th. The service will follow the meal beginning at 7:00 p.m. Our Presbyterian siblings will be joining as well.

LENT IS THE FORTY-DAY SEASON (excluding Sundays) of penitence and preparation for the Three Days of Holy Week and Easter. Lent gives us time for repentance, prayers, almsgiving. These 40 days are a season to reflect and remember, to look forward and ahead. These are not easy times for many of us. We know the challenges our world faces. Yet the season of Lent reminds us that God is not yet through with us or our world. Amid our own dependence on God, we know by faith that God is even now at work, drawing us toward the resurrection and restoration of the world.

This Lent we are studying what the author of the book of Revelation had to say to seven churches of its time. Our lessons will be adapted from the book, *Revelation for Lent*, by Donald H. Neidigk. Our Ash Wednesday service begins at 7pm on February 14. The following 5 Wednesdays (February 21 and 28, March 6, 13 and 20) our mid-week services also begin at 7pm, but we also have Lenten Dinners at 6pm. You are welcome at any and all of these gathering times!

During Holy Week, (Palm Sunday on March 24 – Holy Saturday, March 30) we will have services on Maundy Thursday (March 28) and Good Friday (March 29) - both at 7pm.

Easter Sunday (March 31) we will celebrate the Resurrection of Christ with an Easter breakfast and our service at 9am

Congratulations to . . .

Maddy was student of the month in December. She is in an elite math group, doing advanced math. She is on a 9th grade reading level while in the 4th grade.

Drake, as well as 2nd place in the school spelling bee, has all A's.

Ellison won 1st place in "Keep Christ in Christmas" coloring contest.

Mary Scherer met or exceeded all expectations in all subjects.

Daniel's team came in 2nd place at Brain Games. They are moving on to regionals.

Ben Powell was Student of the month twice in Term 2. He also made straight A's.

Carolyn Powell made the Dean's List at University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point.

Kylie Holdren made Honors at school

CONGRATULATIONS to these students for achieving **High Honors** at school:

Autumn Ryden Savannah Ryden

Liam Ryden

Ethan Mehl

Congratulations to Justin Ryden for Honorable Mention Honors:

Brycen Fehrenbacher Honors

Drake Holden High Honors

Has a student in your life received an award or reached a milestone? Please let us know at the office so we can all rejoice!



Trinity Newsletter for February 2024, from Pastor Kathi

Hebrews 10:22-25, from *The Message*, by Eugene Peterson

"So let's *do* it—full of belief, confident that we're presentable inside and out. Let's keep a firm grip on the promises that keep us going. God always keeps God's word. Let's see how inventive we can be in encouraging love and helping out, not avoiding worshiping together as some do but spurring each other on, especially as we see the big Day approaching."

February is upon us! We are already living into the second month of this year. As we have been going strong and growing in faith, let us continue to, as Peterson said in his paraphrase of the Bible, "spur each other on"! Gathering together in the name of the Lord Jesus helps us to urge each other upward; we remind one another of God's word and promises. We are cheered by the presence of God's people who love God as much as we do. Since Lent begins halfway through February it is especially important to be present for one another.

Our Annual Congregational Meeting is the first Sunday of February, February 4th. If you are able, please plan to attend so we can take care of business that Council has for us. And (as far as I know, this is new for our Annual Meeting!) our Confirmation Students will be hosting a Chili Cook-Off Contest as our last fund raiser for the Youth Gathering. Council will get to vote on who has the best chili and then we can all have a bowl or two or three of our choice of chili, giving whatever you are able to give.

No one is left out of this; if anyone is unable to donate, they are still welcome to warm up with some chili! With warm, full bellies we will be ready to vote on the business that is necessary this year.

Lent does begin on February 14. It is a day of prayer and fasting. At 7pm that evening, we remember that we are dust, and to dust we will return. Our siblings from First Presbyterian are invited to join us this Lenten season for all our services, as they are in the process of searching for a new pastor. Let us welcome them with open arms and loving hearts.

The Midweek Lenten services will begin at 7pm, after enjoying a meal in the Fellowship Hall at 6pm. Again, all our Presbyterian friends are invited to eat and study with us. We will look at the book "*Revelation for Lent*" by Donald H. Neidigk. The readings and sermons will be related to the letters in Revelation written to the different churches. Come and learn what these words hold for us today.

Throughout the month of January, all twelve of the Confirmation students and their families (and anyone else that wanted to) met in the Fellowship Hall to learn more about "Love Your Neighbor." February 4th is the Annual Meeting, so there will not be any Confirmation class that day. The older Confirmation class will again be meeting on Wednesdays at 4pm, and the younger class will meet on Sundays after the service - beginning on February 11. The time we had together was enjoyable and worthwhile, *and* it will be good to get back in our groove again.

In January at our Play in the Park, we enjoyed food and watched the first half of the movie *The Ten Commandments*, directed by Cecil B. DeMille, starring Charlton Heston, Anne Baxter, and Yul Brynner, and many more stars as well! This month, on February 17 at 5pm we will again enjoy Play in the Park (inside)! This time we will meet downstairs, so bring a dish to share, something to drink and let's watch the action-packed second half of the movie!

Thank you, Trinity Lutheran church, for all that you do to demonstrate your love for God and each other!~ Blessings, Pastor Kathi



Coming soon – Eclipse Weekend Extravaganza!

Our festivities begin Saturday, April 6 and run through Monday, April 8, 2024 in the afternoon. Our Synod siblings have been invited to stay with us (camping outside or in the church), including Bishop Greg Busboom, who will be staying in the area and will join us. Please plan to attend as much as you are able and pray for the good Lord to send us clear skies and warm April weather!

- Saturday, April 6

Folks arrive in the afternoon to get settled and acquainted with surroundings.

(In Olney there will be music, food, games, crafts, etc.) 5-K race

5pm Play in the Park, with carry-in and also featuring music and fun and games!

7pm Holden Evening Prayer Service devotions

Afterward, Stargazing with Ranger John (viewing of the heavens!)

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- Sunday, April 7

7:30am Carry-in Breakfast with Bishop and Synod guests

9am Service, Bishop Busboom preaching

9am during the service, 5 Students will be Confirmed

10:30am Reception for Confirmands

3pm Walk-With-a-Doc at Trinity

5pm Confirmation Students' time with Bishop Busboom (pizza provided)

6pm Ranger John headlines in the Sanctuary, featuring:

Explanation of viewing and photographing the eclipse

Construction of viewing boxes

And much more!

Closing with song and prayer

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- Monday, April 8

Preschool Breakfast Fundraiser

Preschool Luncheon (Porkburger) Fundraiser

Eclipse begins at 12:46pm

Total Eclipse 2:02pm – 2:06pm

Eclipse ends at 3:21pm