

# TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH AND SCHOOL NEWSLETTER APRIL 2020



*Trinity Lutheran Church*  
*We exist to share the good news of  
life through Jesus with the world  
and to nurture believers in their  
faith, all to the glory of God.*

*Trinity Lutheran School*  
*We exist to help families in Aberdeen  
and the surrounding communities by  
providing children with quality  
academic and Christ-centered  
education, in a loving and caring  
environment.*



## **As Always, the Word Is What We Need**

We are in the midst of a pandemic the likes of which none of us has ever seen. Many are worried and afraid. Some have contracted the virus and wonder, "What now?" Others are fearful of contracting it and wonder, "What if?"

What do we do when we are fearful and worried? What can we do to overcome our worries and quiet our fears? One answer has been repeated over and over: "You need to have faith. If you are going to make it through this, you need to have faith." But that bit of encouragement also leads to another question.

Just what does that mean? How can we have a faith that will enable us to calm our troubled hearts and remain confident and feel secure in spite of what is happening in our lives and in the world around us?

The answer is simple. Go back to the Bible, the Words of God. The Holy Spirit works through the Words of the Bible to

give us faith. If we want to have faith that will enable us to quiet our fears, we need to be using the Word of God. As always, the Word is what we need.

In his second letter the Corinthians Paul says that "...we make every thought captive so that it is obedient to Christ" (2 Corinthians 10:5 EHV). If I truly want to have the hope, the comfort, and the encouragement the Bible gives, I need to shape my thoughts and beliefs around what it says. That's how I can have a faith that will help me through difficult times like these.

So, when you catch yourself being afraid of something, face that fear honestly and then focus on a Bible passage that will help you deal with that fear. Then shape your thoughts and beliefs around what that passage says.

You are afraid of getting the Coronavirus? Then remind yourself of the passages that tells us Jesus can do all things and is ruling all things for the good of his church, that is his believers (Matthew 28:18; Ephesians 1:20-23). Nothing will happen unless he allows it to. Tell yourself God's promise that he

will never give you more than you can handle (1 Corinthians 10:13) and that he will give the strength you need to make it through (Isaiah 41:13). "If I get this, God will help me deal with it." Then tell yourself the truth that God really will use all things to work for your good (Romans 8:28).

Are you afraid of what might happen to your loved ones? Then tell yourself God's truth that he always loves them (Jeremiah 31:3; Romans 8:38-39) and he is always with them (Hebrews 13:5), and Jesus is ruling all things for their good too (Ephesians 1:20-23; Romans 8:28).

Are you afraid of dying? Then admit that fear honestly and tell yourself God's truth. He is in control of all things. The Lord can do anything (Matthew 28:18). He has almighty power to protect you. Nothing happens unless he allows it (Matthew 10:29). If he would allow you to die, then remember Christians never die (John 11:25-26). Going to heaven is better by far for us (Philippians 1:21-23).

Having faith means looking at everything in light of what God says in his Word. It means we evaluate our lives and our circumstances in light of what he says in his Word. It also means that we shape our thoughts, our attitudes, and our beliefs around what God says in his Word. That's what will help us to deal with our worries and overcome our fears.

True, that's not always easy. But with God's help we can do this. Remember the Holy Spirit is in God's Word with his power. The more you tell yourself God's promises, the more the Holy Spirit will work through them to help you to be more certain of them. The more certain you are of those promises, the better

you will be to look at your life in light of them and the better you will be able to shape your thoughts, attitudes and beliefs around what they say. That's what will help you to overcome your fears and find comfort and strength. That's what we mean when we say you need to have faith.

It all goes back to God's Word. As always, the Word is what we need.

Pastor Rawerts

### **ONLINE SERVICES**

Worship services will be posted on our website, on YouTube, and our Facebook page, each Sunday and on April 1.

### **HOLY WEEK SERVICES**

You may also watch Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, Easter Sunrise and Easter Festival services online at our website, on YouTube and on our Facebook page.

### **CALL RECEIVED**

Miss Cassandra Schwark has received a Divine Call to teach grades 1-2 at St. Bartholomew's Lutheran School in Kawkawlin, MI. We pray the Lord will guide Miss Schwark as she considers this Call.

### **HYMNAL FUND**

Northwestern Publishing House will be introducing a new hymnal in the fall of 2021. To prepare for the purchase of the new hymnal and other new materials that will also be available, we have started a hymnal fund. If you would like to make an offering toward the purchase

of the new hymnal, please write "Hymnal" of your offering envelope.

### **OFFERINGS**

Even though many church and school activities are being canceled, the ministry of our church and school is continuing. We are still making our contributions to missions. Teachers are still preparing lessons for students. Salaries, utilities, and mortgage payments still need to be paid. We respectfully ask you to continue to set aside your regular firstfruits offerings. You may wish to mail them in or drop them off at church when you are able. You may also wish to do your giving online. The following announcement gives information on how to do that.

### **ONLINE GIVING**

For those who wish to, you can make your offerings online! Giving online is easy and allows you to set up automatic recurring contributions and view your complete online giving history from anywhere you have access to the Internet. Simply follow these easy steps:

- 1) Visit the church website at [www.trinityaberdeen.org](http://www.trinityaberdeen.org),
- 2) Click on the orange "Online Giving" box,
- 3) Click on the "Create Profile" button, then
- 4) Follow the onscreen instructions to create an online profile and to schedule your recurring contributions.

If you have any questions, contact Al Kjenstad.

### **RECIPES NEEDED**

We are making a cookbook for our church. We will continue to take recipes until April 30. The book will contain only *salads* and *desserts*. We have someone who will print and bind it for us at no charge. If you are interested in contributing to the cookbook, please turn your recipes in to Penny. The recipes may be typed, printed, or emailed to her. You may contribute more than one recipe in each category.

### **2020-2021 PRESCHOOL ENROLLMENT**

It's not too early to think about signing your child up for the 2020-2021 school year. We have already had inquiries and even several pre-registrations. We would like to be sure our members have enough time to sign up first. We offer a 5-day preschool, 3-day preschool and a 2-day preschool and your choice of morning or afternoon preschool. Aftercare will also be available. Please call the school (605-229-4697) to register your child.

### **CONFIRMATION CLASSES**

Junior Confirmation classes have been cancelled until further notice. Pastor Rawerts will be posting a confirmation class online every Wednesday. Students have been given their lessons for the rest of the year. Every week they can go online and watch the confirmation class and follow along on their lesson sheets. If students or parents have any questions they may call Pastor Rawerts.

### **ADDITIONAL SCRIP AVAILABLE**

Scrip is available from Ken's and Kessler's. Ken's and Kessler's will give

us 5% of the scrip, and they will continue to give the 1% on the grocery receipts. If you have any questions, please let Peggy Martens know.

### **EASTER FOR KIDS**

Easter for Kids originally scheduled for April 4, will not be held due to COVID-19.

### **AMAZONSMILE**

If you shop at Amazon.com, there is a way you can support Trinity Lutheran School at the same time!

- Amazon donates 0.5% of the price of your eligible AmazonSmile purchases to the charitable organization of your choice.
- AmazonSmile is the same Amazon you know. Same products, same prices, same service.
- Support Trinity Lutheran School by shopping AmazonSmile!

You must START your shopping at this website: <https://smile.amazon.com> and follow the directions to get started. Our organization is listed as "Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church." Make sure to select the Aberdeen address, as there are many "Trinity" listings. If you have any questions, please feel free to ask Jessica Kjenstad.

### **GROCERY RECEIPTS**

A special "thank you" to those of you who have already turned in their receipts for Ken's and Kessler's. Please keep saving the receipts through the end of May.

### **BOX TOPS FOR EDUCATION**

We would like to encourage all of you to continue to save Box Tops for Education for the school. They can be saved all year round. Please clip them out and drop them off to Penny. Box Tops for Education has also started a new program whereby you scan your store receipts from your cell phone, from *any* place of business, for scan-able box tops. The new and improved Box Tops mobile app uses state-of-the-art technology to scan your store receipt (within 14 days of purchase), find participating products and instantly add Box Tops to our school's earnings online.

### **PANTHER CAMP & CAMP LUTHER**

Information is available on the GPLHS website [www.gplhs.org](http://www.gplhs.org) about Panther Camp and Camp Luther. Click on the "Latest News" tab to see the brochure.

### **E-MAIL ADDRESSES**

On the bulletin table we have a sign-up sheet for our members' email addresses. This information will be used to send out mass emails of church announcements and updates. This will allow us to get information out to the congregation in a more timely manner. If you have any questions, please speak with Ben Dunsmoor. You may also call Penny at the church office and give your email address to her.

**TRINITY  
LUTHERAN SCHOOL  
NEWSBYTES**

*God continues to richly bless Trinity Lutheran School! Here are some recent notes and news related to our school.*

**TRINITY LUTHERAN SCHOOL**

In accordance with the Governor's mandate, Trinity Lutheran School will be closed at least through May 1. We started flex at-home education as of Wednesday, March 25, for grades K-8. If you have any questions, comments, or concerns please contact Mr. Behm.

**NIGHT OF MUSIC/ART FAIR/  
CLASS PLAYS**

Trinity Lutheran School's Annual Night of Music/Art Fair and class plays have been cancelled.

**LENTEN REFLECTIONS**

Jesus loved us so much that....

He chose to be captured and bound by the Jews to set us free—we who had been bound by the chains of sin—and to save us from eternal damnation.

He was accused by false witnesses in the presence of the assembly so we would not be accused on account of God's law by Satan.

He was condemned on earth so we would be absolved in heaven.

He who committed no sin, was silent when accused of sins so that we would not be forced to be silent when are brought into the judgment of God because of our sins.

He sustained the weight of the cross to remove from us the weight of eternal punishment.

He cried out that he was forsaken by God so he could prepare an eternal cohabitation with God for us.

He was judged to free us from the judgment of God.

He was prosecuted as a criminal so we criminals could be pardoned.

He called out in pain to save us from eternal wailing.

He felt the pains of hell through and through so we would never feel them.

He was crowned with thorns to obtain for us the heavenly crown.

He suffered for all to furnish salvation for all.

He was darkened in death to give us the light of heavenly glory.

He heard disgust and contempt so we could hear angelic jubilation in heaven.

Do not despair then, O faithful soul. You have offended the infinite Good with your sins, but an infinite price has been paid. You ought to be judged for your sins, but the Son of God has already been judged for the sins of the whole world, which he took upon Himself. Your sins ought to be punished, but God already punished them in His Son.

The above are excerpts from Sacred Meditations by Johann Gerhard first published in 1606. These portions are taken from the translation done by Wade Johnston published in 2008 by Magdeburg Press, pages 40-42.

I hope.....

I hope it won't snow anymore this spring!  
I hope I'll pass the test!  
I hope I stay healthy!  
I hope this pandemic will eventually die out!

Hope is a funny thing. All my hopes are really just wishful thinking, aren't they? After all, I have no power on my own to turn my hopes into reality.

Which is why we need Jesus. When we put our "hope" in him, we have his sure promises.

He loved you so much to die to ensure you have a home in heaven forever! Surely he will keep you through time until you join him in eternity.

So your hope in Christ is not just wishful thinking. It's a future reality you will most certainly experience...

But we're not with Jesus in heaven yet, so it is called hope!

Remember singing at Christ-mas,

"The hopes and fears of all the years  
are met in thee tonight"?

Jesus came once fulfilling the hope of every believer of the Old Testament. His promises do come to complete fulfillment now, as they did then!

Pastor Jonathan Schultz  
Calgary, Alberta

All who hope in you  
will never be put to shame.  
Psalm 25:3

## **HOLY COMMUNION**

We are scheduling times where small groups of people may come to receive the Lord's Supper. We will offering the Lord's Supper on April 8, 9, 10, and 11.

We will be having brief Communion services every 20 minutes at various times throughout those days. We will conduct these services in the Fireside Room. We will invite 7-8 people to join us for each service. We are asking members to call the church office and choose a time when they would like to come to receive the Lord's Supper. We will be having Communion services at the following times:

Wednesday April 8  
5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Thursday April 9  
5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Friday April 10  
5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Saturday April 11  
1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Sunday April 12  
9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

Please call the church office at 225 -6081 to arrange a time for you to come and receive the Lord's Supper.

May we also suggest that if you come to receive the Lord's Supper, this would also be an opportunity to bring your offering envelopes.

Please continue to check our website for more church and school information.