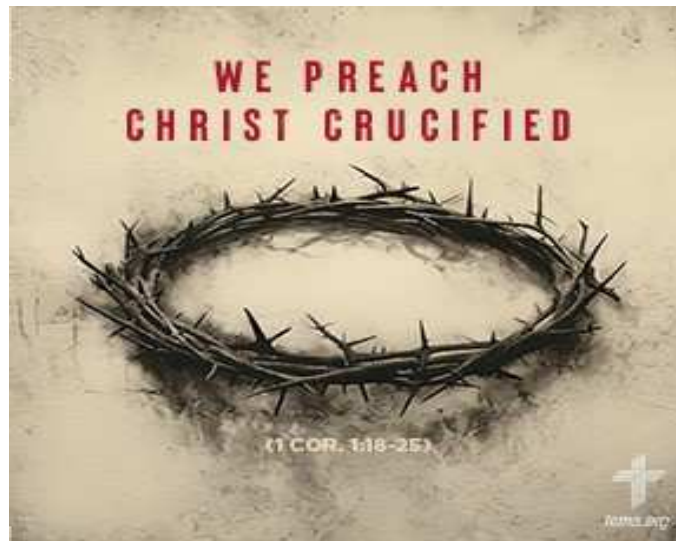


Trinity Lutheran Church & School
300 Broad Street
Menasha, WI 54952

The Season of Lent



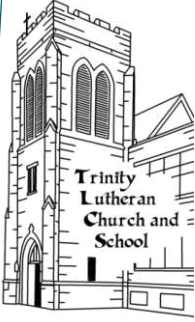
March 2024 Newsletter

"And we know that the message of Jesus Christ is for every single person. Christ hung on the cross ... for you. Christ took His last breath ... for you. Christ conquered sin and death and was raised to life ... for you" - LCMS President Rev. Dr. Matthew C. Harrison

Lenten Services in March

Mid-Week Wednesday Services, March 6, 13 & 20 with NO communion @ 9:00 AM and 6:30 PM (no service on Wed. March 27).
Lenten meals on Wednesday 6,13 & 20 @ 5:15 PM hosted by various church boards.
Maundy Thursday, March 28 @ 9:00 AM and 6:30 PM with communion.
Good Friday Services March 29 will be 12:00 PM-Tre Ore and 6:30 PM-Tenebrae, no communion.
Easter Vigil Saturday, March 30 @ 7:30 PM with communion with Prayer Vigil to follow.
Easter Sunday, March 31 @ 6:30 AM Sunrise Service with communion, 7:30 AM Easter Breakfast, and 9 AM Easter Sunday Service with communion.





Trinity Lutheran Church and School

300 Broad Street
Menasha, WI 54952

March 2024

Church Phone: (920) 722-2662 School Phone: (920) 725-1715
Church Office Hours: Monday-Friday, 8:00 am to 3:00 pm
Website: www.trinitymenasha.com

Worship Services:
Saturday – 5:00 pm; Sunday – 9:00 am
Education Hour: Sunday - 10:30 am

Services will continue to be available for streaming on Trinity's Facebook page and for later viewing on YouTube. Check the church website for more details.

IMPORTANT DATES IN MARCH

- March 5: 6:30 PM Board Meetings
- March 6: 9:00 AM Mid-Week Lent 3 Worship (no communion)
5:00 PM Catechism
5:15 PM Lenten Meal Hosted by: Board of Outreach
6:30 PM Mid-Week Lent 3 Worship (no communion)
- March 7: 6:00 PM Choir Rehearsal
- March 9: 9:30 AM Food Pantry
- March 9 & 10: Fourth Week of Lent
- March 12: 6:30 PM Board of Directors Meeting
- March 13: 9:00 AM Mid-Week Lent 4 Worship (no communion)
5:00 PM Catechism
5:15 PM Lenten Meal Hosted by: Board of Education
6:30 PM Mid-Week Lent 4 Worship (no communion)
- March 14: 6:00 PM Choir Rehearsal
- March 15: 6:30 PM Spring musical
- March 16 & 17: Fifth week of Lent
- March 17: 11:00 AM Spring Musical
- March 19: 6:30 PM Ladies Aid Meeting
- March 20: 9:00 AM Mid-Week Lent 5 Worship (no communion)
5:00 PM Catechism
5:15 PM Lenten Meal Hosted by: Board of Stewardship
6:30 PM Mid-Week Lent 5 Worship (no communion)
- March 21: 6:00 PM Choir Rehearsal
- March 23: 9:30 AM Food Pantry
- March 23 & 24: Holy Week
- March 28: 9:00 AM Maundy Thursday Worship
6:00 PM Choir Rehearsal
6:30 PM Maundy Thursday Worship – Choir Sings
- March 29: No School
12:00 PM TreOre Service
7:30 PM Tenebrae, Good Friday Vespers
- March 30: 7:30 PM Easter Vigil
Prayer Vigil to follow
- March 31: 6:30 AM EASTER Sunday Sunrise Worship
7:30 AM EASTER Breakfast ? / TBD
9:00 AM EASTER Sunday Worship – Choir Sings

A memorial gift was given to Trinity in memory of Don Gehrt.

Our Mission Statement:

Trinity Lutheran Church and School, Menasha, is a fellowship of Lutheran Christians being empowered by the Holy Spirit through the Word of God and His Sacraments to encourage, refresh, and strengthen both adults and children in the redemptive work of Jesus Christ, while sharing His love with those who do not yet know their Lord and Savior.



Senior Pastor:

✠ Rev. Steven S. Billings

Assoc. Pastor/Principal:

✠ Rev. Keith E. GeRue

Director of Music:

Mrs. Connie Henkel

Organist:

Mrs. Nancy Lephart

March 2024



Trinity Lutheran Church & School
 Church Phone: (920) 722-2662
 School Phone: (920) 725-1715

Church Office Hours:
 Monday-Friday, 8:00 AM – 3:00 PM
 Email: ChurchAdmin@trinitymenasha.com

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1	2 5:00PM Worship
LENT 3 3 9:00 AM Worship 10:30 AM Ed Hour	4 Rev Billings' Sabbath 9:00 AM Sewing 6 :00 PM Home Prayer Time 6:30 PM Women's Bible	5 6:30AM Ladies Bible Study 6:30 PM Board Meetings Adult information Class 5-6 PM	Mid-Week 3 6 Worship Services: 9:00 AM & 6:30 PM 5:00 PM Catechism 5:15 PM Lenten Meal 6:30 PM Worship	7 6:00 AM Men's Bible Study 6:00 PM Choir	8	9 9:30 am Food Pantry 5:00 PM Worship 7-8 th Grade Fundraiser Carry-Out dinner 3-5 PM
LENT 4 10 9:00 AM Worship 10:30 AM Ed Hour Daylight Savings Starts	11 Rev Billings' Sabbath 9:00 AM Sewing 6 :00 PM Home Prayer Time 6:30 PM Women's Bible	12 6:30AM Ladies Bible Study 6:30 PM Board of Directors	Mid-Week 4 13 Worship Services: 9:00 AM & 6:30 PM 5:15 PM Lenten Meal 6:30 PM Worship	14 6:00 AM Men's Bible Study 6:00 PM Choir	15 6:30 PM Spring Musical	16 5:00 PM Worship
LENT 5 17 9:00 AM Worship 11 AM Spring Musical	18 Rev Billings' Sabbath 9:00 AM Sewing 6 :00 PM Home Prayer Time 6:30 PM Women's Bible	19 6:30AM Ladies Bible Study Tom's Dining Out Night 4-8PM 6:30 PM Ladies Aid	Mid-Week 5 20 Worship Services: 9:00 AM & 6:30 PM 5:00 PM Catechism 5:15 PM Lenten Meal 6:30 PM Worship	21 6:00 AM Men's Bible Study 6:00 PM choir	22	23 9:30 am Food Pantry 5:00 PM Worship
Palm Sunday 9:00 AM Worship 10:30 AM Ed Hour	25 Rev Billings' Sabbath 9:00 AM Sewing 6 :00 PM Home Prayer Time 6:30 PM Women's Bible	26 6:30AM Ladies Bible Study	27	Maundy Thursday Worship Services: 9:00 AM & 6:30 PM Noon School Dismissal 6:00 PM choir practice Choir Sings-6:30 PM Svc	Good Friday 29 Cross Walk ? / TBD Worship Services: 12:00-3:00 PM Tre Ore Svc 6:30 PM Tenebrae Svc	Holy Saturday 30 Worship Service: 7:30 PM Easter Vigil Prayer Vigil to follow
Easter Sunday 31 6:30 AM Easter Svc 7:30 AM Easter Breakfast ? /TBD 9:00 AM Easter Svc 9:00 AM Choir Sings						



Anniversary Blessings
March 2024

03/01 Noelle & Merle Webber
 03/03 Carl & Christine Kohler
 03/05 Timothy & Teresa Wray
 03/19 Linda & Christian Kohler
 03/30 Dawn & Todd Henrickson
 03/30 Marc & Sandy Guiley

March 2024
Birthday Blessings!

03/01 Paul Collingwood
 03/01 Anne Dahms
 03/01 Alexander Kamprath
 03/01 Larry Olsen
 03/01 Britney Voigt
 03/02 Lawrence Schewe
 03/02 Daniel Siebert
 03/02 Jodi Wendler
 03/03 Hunter Ross
 03/04 Nicholas Corrente
 03/04 William Diesch
 03/05 Richard Burrows
 03/05 Shirley Erdmann
 03/07 Alan Manteufel

03/10 Tyler Kamprath
 03/12 Lorena Hintz
 03/12 Cecelia Street
 03/13 Isaac Gast
 03/14 Rebekah Neuman
 03/15 Darrell Krause
 03/18 Tim Jandrey
 03/19 Margaret Dahms
 03/20 Bonnie Brill
 03/20 Gabrielle Callan
 03/21 Jane Thoman
 03/22 Linda Ratzburg
 03/23 Deborah Bartelme



03/24 Steve Sexmith
 03/25 James Boss
 03/27 Russell Borchardt
 03/27 Gabriel Mlodik
 03/28 Eve Rausch
 03/29 Scott Kohler
 03/30 Lee Colby
 03/31 Scott Gutzmann
 03/31 Oliver Ross



✝ *Trinity Membership Update* ✝

New Members/Transfers In:

Released/Transfers Out: Baptisms: Weddings:

Members Who Have Passed:

²⁵For I know that my Redeemer lives, and at the last He will stand upon the earth. ²⁶And after my skin has been thus destroyed, yet in my flesh I shall see God. Job 19:25-26

Serving Our Lord with Gladness – March 2024

Senior Pastor: Rev. Steven S. Billings
Associate Pastor/Principal: Rev. Keith E. GeRue

Worship Date/Time	Acolyte	Elder on Duty	Communion Assistant	Usher Captain	Greeter	Altar Guild
March 2: 5:00 PM March 3: 9:00 AM March 6: 9:00 AM March 6: 6:30 PM	Mirella Taschner Maya Torres N/A Sydney Gast	Robert Allen Craig Thomas To Be Determined To Be Determined	Vance Pues Paul Collingwood No Communion No Communion	Jerry Maynard Steve Sexmith Maynard/Sexmith Maynard/Sexmith	Barbara Kester Jane Nielsen	Jean Zeinert Gail Burrows No Communion No Communion
March 9: 5:00 PM March 10: 9:00 AM March 13: 9:00 AM March 13: 6:30 PM	Payton Lenth Simon Kroes N/A Emma Schmidt	Robert Allen Craig Thomas To Be Determined To Be Determined	Bruce Buksyk Lee Weinig No Communion No Communion	Lee Colby Dave Collingwood Colby/Collingwood Colby/Collingwood	Dan & Peggy Dahms Rosemary Collingwood	Jean Zeinert <i>Volunteer Needed</i> No Communion No Communion
March 16: 5:00 PM March 17: 9:00 AM March 20: 9:00 AM March 20: 6:30 PM	Richie Sprouse Mirella Taschner Maya Torres N/A	Robert Allen Craig Thomas To Be Determined To Be Determined	Lee Colby Blaine Henkel No Communion No Communion	Roger Voigt Jim Wittmann Voigt/Wittmann Voigt/Wittmann	JoAnn Schultz Connie Henkel	Jean Zeinert <i>Volunteer Needed</i> No Communion No Communion
March 23: 5:00 PM March 24: 9:00 AM March 28: 9:00 AM March 28: 6:30 PM March 29: 12:00 PM March 29: 6:30 PM	Sydney Gast Axle Hurst Robbie Kohler Simon Kroes ~ 6:30 PM Payton Lenth ~ 6:30 PM	Robert Allen Craig Thomas To Be Determined To Be Determined To Be Determined To Be Determined	Ian Thomas Dave Collingwood To Be Determined To Be Determined No Communion No Communion	Tom Harrmann Lee Weinig Harrmann/Weinig Harrmann/Weinig Harrmann/Weinig Harrmann/Weinig	Betty Allen <i>Volunteer Needed</i>	Jean Zeinert <i>Volunteer Needed</i> Jean Zeinert Jean Zeinert No Communion No Communion
March 30: 7:30 PM March 31: 6:30 AM March 31: 9:00 AM	Levi Kroes Emma Schmidt Richie Sprouse	Robert Allen Craig Thomas Craig Thomas	Dan Siebert Steve Sexmith Steve Sexmith	Jerry Maynard Maynard/Sexmith Steve Sexmith	Barbara Kester Jane Nielsen	Jean Zeinert Jean Zeinert <i>Volunteer Needed</i>

Trinity Altar Guild Volunteers Needed:

Serving the Lord means being completely devoted in all service to the Lord and His people. It means obeying and enjoying our relationship with God as our Heavenly Father. To serve the Lord with our whole being means that the spirit, soul, and body all participate in the service to the Lord. All believers are called on to serve the Lord.

One way to serve the Lord, and Trinity is in setting the Lord's Table. This is truly an honor and blessing. Please contact Mary Conradt (920) 882-8676 or Jean Zeinert at (920) 722-2662 and let us know if you would like to help. In March, need coverage for Sundays.





Catechetical Comments

A Series

THE APOSTLES' CREED

This month we continue our look at The Apostles' Creed and consider the following question: *Who is the only true God?*

94. *Who is the only true God?*

The only true God is the triune God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, three distinct persons in one divine being (the Holy Trinity).

The *Small Catechism* (1986) answers the question *Who Is the only true God?* by saying very simply:

The only true God is the triune God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, three distinct persons in one divine being (the Holy Trinity).

The 2017 edition says it this way:

The true God reveals Himself in Jesus Christ, crucified and raised from the dead for us. Jesus shows us the Father. The Father and Son give the Holy Spirit, who always points us to Jesus Christ, the Father's only Son. Thus, the only true God is the triune God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit—three distinct persons in one divine being (the Holy Trinity).

It then suggests the following Scripture passages for further study, directing the reader to note how the three persons of the Trinity are present and active:

Genesis 1:1-3 – ¹In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. ²The earth was without form and void, and darkness was over the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters. ³And God said, "Let there be light," and there was light.

Matthew 3:16-17 – ¹⁶And when Jesus was baptized, immediately he went up from the water, and behold, the heavens were opened to him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and coming to rest on him; ¹⁷ and behold, a voice from heaven said, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased."

John 1:1-3 – ¹ In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ² He was in the beginning with God. ³ All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made.

It also adds these passages:

Matthew 28:19 – Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

2 Corinthians 13:14 – The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

Numbers 6:24-26 – ²⁴ The LORD bless you and keep you; ²⁵ the LORD make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you; ²⁶ the LORD lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace.

Clearly, though the word "Trinity" is not found in the Bible, the doctrine of the Holy Trinity is attested all over the place, in both Testaments. More on this next month. ✚

Humbly in His service,
Rev. Steven S. Billings
Senior Pastor

FROM THE SCHOOL PRINCIPAL

“Smile”

John 18-19; Isaiah 52:13-53:12; Hebrews 4:14-16; 5:7-9

I think Jesus smiled on the cross. Not the whole time, of course. There was much pain and agony. Agony of body with the nails. Agony of soul, being forsaken by His Father and being forsaken and mocked by His people. You heard the reproaches tonight. No smiling there.

But other times, I think He did. I think He did when the thief on the cross next to Him asked for Jesus to remember him in His kingdom. Words of faith. A sinner turned from his wicked way to see in Jesus his Savior. Words that were music to Jesus' ears. As beautiful to Him on the cross as the songs of the birds are to us on a warm spring day. So, I think they brought a smile - just a little one - to Jesus' lips, right before He assured that newest child of God that He would, in fact, remember him, and he would, in fact, be with Him in His kingdom. A little joy in the midst of the pain.

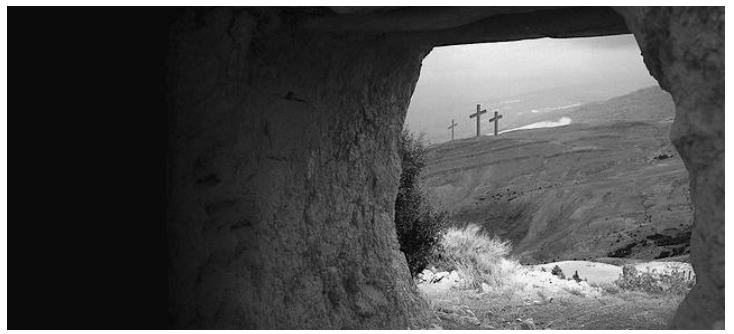
And then, I think, there was another time. At the end of the long, cruel hours on the cross. After the scourging, mocking, and taunting were past. When it was dark and still and everyone there was just waiting for death, and Jesus said, It is finished.

Little children smile when they are finished working on a project or a drawing and bring it to their parents. Look! It is finished! School children smile when they finish an assignment or a test, or at the end of a school year. It is finished! Adults smile when a project at work or at home is completed. It is finished! It is a good feeling to have completed the work you started; you were given.

So, too, for Jesus. All that He came to do for you is completed. There is nothing left to be done for your forgiveness and salvation. For Jesus, it was about a 33-year project. His conception and growth in the womb. His birth in Bethlehem. His flight into Egypt and childhood in Nazareth. Obedient to His parents in every way. His completely perfect life. Then His Baptism and public ministry. His miracles and teaching. Healing, feeding, raising, praying. He knew it would end this way. He kept telling His disciples. No one would take His life from Him - He would lay it down of His own accord (John 10:17-18). Thus, the Scriptures said, and thus He would do.

So, He allows Himself to be arrested. He showed first that they had no power over Him. At His word they all helplessly fall to the ground. But then He withdraws His power and allows it. The Lamb must be bound and led to the slaughter. And so, like that Lamb, He opens not His mouth. He is silent, not defending himself or accusing others. On Him all the sins of the world laid. On Him your sins are laid. He is stricken, smitten, and afflicted. By man or by God? Yes. By man in hate, by His Father in love for the world. He is despised and rejected by men, but not by His Father. He is forsaken, but not rejected. For just as at His Baptism (Matthew 3:17), and just as at His Transfiguration (Matthew 17:5), this is His beloved Son, and with Him He is well-pleased. For in all this is the salvation of the world.

He is the High Priest who has become the sacrifice. The Shepherd who has become the Lamb. The one who spared from death all the firstborn of Israel in Egypt is the firstborn slaughtered in their place. No blood would protect Him. His blood would protect us.



He is pierced, not stoned, for He would be lifted from the earth in His death. For cursed is everyone hung on a tree (Deuteronomy 21:23). He is crushed for our iniquities, by our iniquities. Crushed for every careless word you utter; every lie or word hurled to inflict pain. For every vile, hateful, lustful thought. For every time you passed by another in need and looked the other way, and for every selfish action. For your heart blackened by sin and evil desires. For your bearing His name and then living like you didn't. For every sin we think no one knows, and that, we think, doesn't hurt anyone. How wrong that is.

So, He who was Israel's water in the wilderness is given sour wine to drink. The one who is the bread of life is starved of His life. He who is the Light of the world hangs in the darkness of death. He who clothed Israel for 40 wilderness years is plundered of His clothing. He who gave Israel a home and land of their own is laid in a borrowed tomb.

Now, it is done. It is finished. The sacrifice, the atonement. He dies, you live. You are redeemed. You are saved. And He wouldn't have it any other way. It is worth it to Him. You are worth it. All the pain, all the agony, all the mocking, the death. If it means life for you, if it means your crushing load on Him not you, if it means that today, you will be with Him in Paradise . . . it's worth it. Take all the love of all who love you in this world all together - and this love is more than all that. Far more. Magnitudes more. The love of Father, Son, and Spirit for you. The Father who gave His Son for you. The Son who laid down his life for you. And the Spirit who gives the life of the Son to you. It's all for you. It always was.

Now the promise made to Adam and Eve in the Garden is fulfilled. And as great as this sacrifice, the damage inflicted upon Satan is worse. Far worse. Magnitudes worse. And with that, this tree of death has become a tree of life. Life for you.

And so, I think, Jesus must have smiled when He said: It is finished. He hangs there victorious. This is why He came, for this moment. You are His! So, He breathes His last, hands over His Spirit for you, and entrusts Himself into His Father's hands.

And because He did, you can. You can breathe your last in confidence and entrust yourself into your Father's hands.

And this, too: you can smile. Even, no especially, on this day. This is a very good Friday.

In the Name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen. Pastor GeRue

What's Happening around the school?

					1 9:00 am School Opening	2
	4 9:00 am School Opening Chess Club	5 Boys Volleyball Practice 9:00 am School Opening	6 9:00 Chapel	7 Boys Volleyball Practice 9:00 am School Opening	8 9:00 am School Opening	9 3:00 – 5:00 pm 7th-8th Pork Dinner
10 Daylight Saving	11 9:00 am School Opening Chess Club	12 Boys Volleyball Practice 9:00 am School Opening	13 9:00 Chapel 10:15 am 1st Grade Flags	14 Boys Volleyball Practice 9:00 am School Opening San Jose Taiko PAC 12:30 4th - 8th Grades	15 End of 3rd Quarter School Musical 9:00 am School Opening	16 Divine Service 5 pm
17 St. Patrick's Day Divine Service 9 am School Musical 11:00 am	18 NO School	19 Boys Volleyball Practice 9:00 am School Opening Tom's Dining Out 4-8pm	20 Vernal equinox 9:00 Chapel	21 Boys Volleyball Celebration @ Home 9:00 am School Opening	22 9:00 am School Opening	23 Food Pantry Divine Service 5 pm
24 Divine Service 9 am Bible Study 10:30 am	25 9:00 am School Opening Chess Club	26 Boys Volleyball Celebration @ Celebration 9:00 am School Opening	27 9:00 Chapel	28 Maundy Thursday Noon Dismissal	29 Good Friday NO School	30 Easter Vigil Service 7:30 pm
31 Easter 6:30 AM Easter Sunrise 7:30 AM Easter Breakfast 9:00 AM Easter Sunday						

7th – 8th Grade Pork Dinner Fundraiser: March 9th from 3:00 – 5:00 pm. Carry outs only. The dinner will include 2 Pork Sandwiches, Coleslaw, and Mac n' Cheese for \$15. A smaller version of 1 Pork Sandwich, Coleslaw, and Mac n' Cheese is available for \$10. See a 7th or 8th grader to order or stop by the school office. Profits go towards the DC Trip in May.



NEW YORK YANKEES

VS

MILWAUKEE BREWERS

SATURDAY | APRIL 27 | 6:10 PM

PURCHASE TICKETS ONLINE

<https://fevogm.com/event/Lutheranschools24>

Or visit the SWD website – swd.lcms.org



SCAN ME

\$15-\$59

Terrace, Loge Outfield/Infield Box

Field Outfield/Infield Box

Order tickets by April 12.

For groups of 10+ or other ticket questions, contact
Teddy Sibilsky | Milwaukee Brewers
414-902-4657

Event Questions? Robin | SWD | mueller@swd.lcms.org

SOUTH WISCONSIN DISTRICT
THE LUTHERAN CHURCH-MISSOURI SYNOD
SWD.LCMS.ORG



Mar 2024 Stewardship Message – Altar Guild

Last month, your Board of Stewardship explained why we focus these talks on using our Time and Talents as our Lord guides us. And, for good reason! It is through these activities that He not only blesses us individually, but also blesses our Trinity Family who benefit through the use of our time in His service.

Case in point – our Altar Guild. How is it that we gather together weekly for our Lord’s Supper? We certainly need our Pastors who consecrate and serve the sacrament. But we also need to have the elements made ready prior to each worship service. Our Altar Guild provides that needed part of the communion service. They have prepared the following message:

Greetings Brothers and Sisters in Christ! 1st Peter 4:10-11 states “each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God’s grace in its various forms. Do not be slothful in zeal, be fervent in spirit, serve the Lord.”

Here at Trinity, we have such an opportunity to serve the Lord in the setting of the Lord’s Table as a member of the Altar Guild. We are in dire need of additional servants like you, our Brothers and Sisters. We have small numbers and would ask you to please, prayerfully, consider joining our team of servants. We help set the table for each worship service; and we would appreciate your help, especially for Sunday’s worship.

As an Altar Guild member, you will be thoroughly trained on how to set up and take down the communion vessels in the appropriate way, including the names of each vessel and correct placement of each on the Altar.

We are thankful for both the husband & wife teams, as well as the individuals, that give this important offering to our Lord and to Trinity. Please pray to God, asking his guidance on joining our Altar Guild team; and, if moved to find out more, please contact the Church Office.

Thank you Altar Guild! What a blessed way to give of your time and talent!
Thanks be to God!

Runaway Slave, Mystic, Miracle-Worker: The Real St. Patrick

via the1thing.com, ChurchPOP



St. Patrick is, without a doubt, one of the great hero-saints in the history of the Church. Forget the green beer and Leprechauns with rainbows: this guy was seriously spiritual with God's grace running through his veins.

Born to a Catholic family in Roman Britain, his father was both a Catholic deacon and a local Roman ruler, and his grandfather was a priest. But Patrick himself didn't take his faith too seriously. And why should he have? He had a comfortable life and a bright future with endless possibilities.

That is, until a nightmare scenario descended on him when he was just 16 years old: he was violently captured by pirates. Ripped from his native Britain, they took him back to pagan Ireland where he was sold into slavery, reduced to nothing more than someone's property. He was humiliated and terrified. Would he ever see his family again? Would he ever regain his freedom? Would he die in this strange and God-forsaken land? In utter hopelessness, Patrick turned to one of the few things he had left: the Catholic faith his parents had taught him.

He tried praying, seriously praying, perhaps for the first time in his life. He was ordered to shepherd his master's flock, which allowed him to pray throughout the day. And what a change it brought about for him! This was a turning point for his whole life, as he later [explained](#) in an autobiography:

"More and more did the love of God, and my fear of him and faith increase, and my spirit was moved so that in a day I prayed... a hundred prayers, and in the night a like number; besides I used to stay out in the forests and on the mountain and I would wake up before daylight to pray in the snow, in icy coldness, in rain, and I used to feel neither ill nor any slothfulness, because, as I now see, **the Spirit was burning in me at that time.**"

Then, one night – after several years in which he was forced into hard, dirty work, but his spirit was growing ever closer to God – he had a mystical experience. A voice supernaturally spoke to him saying, "You do well to fast: soon you will depart for your home country." What did it mean? Looking at his circumstances, there certainly didn't seem to be any way out. But during another night not much later, he heard another voice, "Behold, your ship is ready."

A ship? He was 200 miles from the nearest harbor. But he stepped out in faith, and trusted that God would lead him. So, after six years of slavery, he made a run for it. Guided only by faith, he somehow made it to the harbor. And just as he did, he found a ship getting ready to leave for Britain.

Unfortunately, they went off course and landed in a rural area of Britain. After nearly a month of traveling on foot, they had run out of food and were nearly starving. Patrick had been trying to convert them, and so they lashed out at him, wondering why his God wasn't helping them. He implored them to give themselves to Christ, which they finally did – immediately after which they came across a herd of wild boar.

These men were perhaps Patrick's first, of many, converts. And Satan couldn't stand it. Patrick [wrote](#) that "the very same night while I was sleeping Satan attacked me violently, as I will remember as long as I shall be in this body." He says at one point during the struggle, a giant rock fell on top of him, pinning him with incredible force. He called out for help and something strange happened: a bright light from the sun suddenly fell upon him and shook him free. Patrick credited Christ for having miraculously saved him.

He finally made it home. But God didn't let him rest for too long: he had another supernatural vision during the night in which he [heard](#) the people of Ireland cry out to him, "We beg you, holy youth, that you shall come and shall walk again among us." Another night soon after, he received another message: "He who gave his life for you, he it is who speaks within you." After all he had been through, all his mistreatment and hardship, God was calling him to return to land of his slave-owners.

He devoted himself to studying the faith and was soon ordained a deacon, then a priest, and finally a bishop. And, obedient to God's call, he set off for Ireland.

And that's when the miracles started – lots of them.

Soon after he landed in Ireland, he was met by a druid king. Seeing that he had come to preach the Christian Gospel, the king [tried](#) to kill him – but, miraculously, his arms stopped moving. He lifted his arm to strike him, but he could not move it down to hurt him. Only after he had decided to be friendlier to Patrick did his arm move normally again.

One biography [claims](#) that Patrick regularly healed people, and even brought people back from the dead:

"For the blind and the lame, the deaf and the dumb, the palsied, the lunatic, the leprous, the epileptic, all who labored under any disease, did he in the Name of the Holy Trinity restore unto the power of their limbs and unto entire health; and in these good deeds was he daily practiced. **Thirty and three dead men, some of whom had been many years buried, did this great reviver raise from the dead...**"

The same biography also [recounts](#) an incredible standoff between Patrick and a powerful druid king. The local ruler had declared that no one would light a fire on the eve of Easter. Following liturgical custom, Patrick defied the king's order and lit a paschal fire. Furious, the king ordered 27 chariots to go and arrest him. Patrick could see the soldiers coming, but calmly said, "May God come up to scatter his enemies, and may those who hate him flee from his face." Within sight of the king, suddenly, all the soldiers fell down on the ground. Terrified at Patrick's power, the king prostrated himself before Patrick. The next day, the king converted to Christianity.

These are just a few examples of thousands of miracles attributed to the great saint, which helps to explain the greatest miracle God worked through him: his astonishing evangelistic success. Some sources [estimate](#) he established over 300 churches and personally baptized 120,000 people. Praise the Lord! At the end of his life, the Christian faith was firmly established in Ireland – and it has remained so to the present day.

If only we have faith and give ourselves completely over to Him, imagine what God could do in all of our lives!



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.
Winnebago County
Health Department

STEPPING ON

Falls prevention class
for men and women 55+



Strength and balance exercises.

Learn how to identify and remove fall hazards.

Learn how vision, hearing, and more affect your risk of falling.

Learn how to get back on your feet if you fall.

March 5 - April 16 | Tuesdays 10am - 12pm

Menasha Library

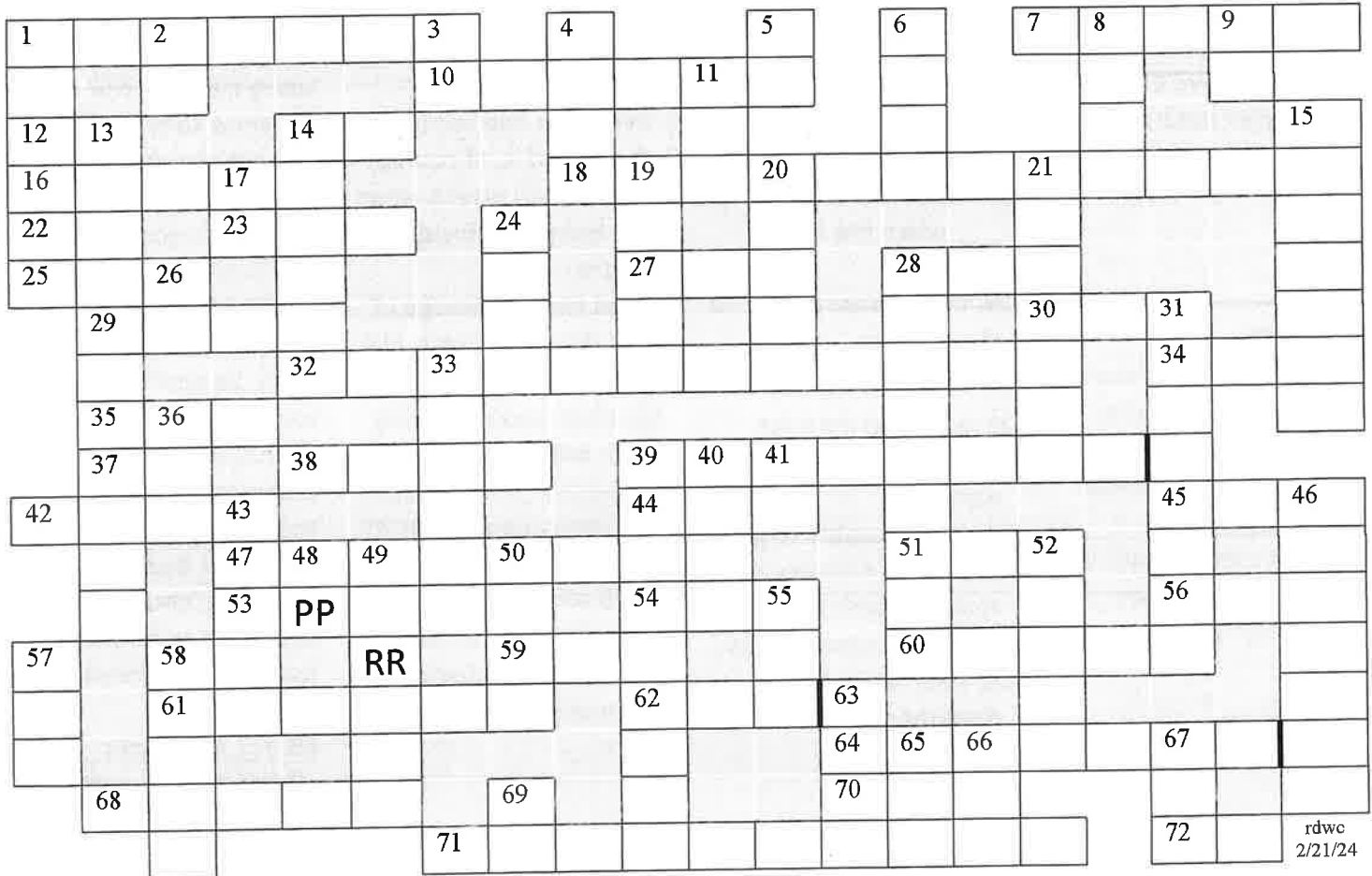
440 1st St - Gegan Room

For more information or to register call the
Winnebago County Public Health
920-232-3000

Suggested donation of \$15 for the session

CROSSWORD - The Joy of Babies ...

PARENTS AND GRANDPARENTS (AND GREAT GRANDPARENTS)



ACROSS

- | | | | |
|---|--|--|--|
| <p>1. the event involving a baby, water & the Word</p> <p>7. this and ___</p> <p>10. the place we worship God every week</p> <p>12. to be</p> <p>14. "oh we're going ___ the hospital and we're gonna have a baby..." 🎵</p> <p>16. to taste or smell especially with relish</p> <p>18. that time after worship when the kids go to class to learn more about Jesus</p> <p>22. Sweet Visions</p> <p>25. to urge/scold constantly</p> | <p>27. don't let a little one ___ you into something wild or weird!</p> <p>28. "All I need is the ___ that I breathe and to love you!" 🎵</p> <p>29. did you choose this before the birth or after? Is there a legacy? ... ☺</p> <p>30. little ones of all ages cry EXTREMELY BIGLY</p> <p>32. by kindergarten, sign your kid up for this - with glove, hat, bat and ball</p> <p>34. remember: always tell the truth; do not ___</p> <p>35. be careful not to ___</p> | <p>on others whilst they change diapers</p> <p>37. to exist</p> <p>38. the sister of one of the parents ...☺</p> <p>39. Grandparents aren't just here for \$\$ & gifts; we're here to be __, too</p> <p>42. one of the best toys</p> <p>44. sit too long in one spot and we just might ___ (just kidding)</p> <p>45. another word for child</p> <p>47. one of those mouth "thingies" that keep them rather quiet</p> <p>51. to catch</p> <p>53. to set against one</p> | <p>another</p> <p>54. fetch</p> <p>56. instead of coffee, would you like this: black or green?</p> <p>58. ___ and 57D</p> <p>59. indefinite period of time</p> <p>60. well, babies don't wear these until they walk, but it's great fun to buy them (in all sizes!)</p> <p>61. be sure to ___ in your children now! It's cheaper!! \$\$</p> <p>62. I don't want ___ more, thank you.</p> |
|---|--|--|--|

64. these will happen as they grow to be in school – music (piano, flute, voice, etc.), dance,
68. see your little people as often as possible ♥
70. **Over Active Energy** (a toddler syndrome) ☺
71. need a ___? Call us! (the great-grandparents)
72. us

DOWN

2. 3.1416...
3. **Master of Ceremonies**
4. it's so wonderful to give and get ___ & kisses!
5. exclamation expressing delight
6. what's this about? ☺♥
8. this is the way we ___ the baby ... ___ the baby...
9. yes or ___?

11. I ___ do anything with the help of God!
13. savings bond
14. it's worth whatever it takes to ___ to see our new little people!!
15. always by baby ___ a size bigger than their age
17. don't leave the lights ___ when the baby sleeps
19. the brother of one of the parents ... ☺
20. "shall we ___?" "♪"
21. a special chair for babies/toddlers to sit in vehicles
24. it's enjoyable to give presents to babies and toddlers, isn't it?
26. a short name for Dad
28. a somewhat loud disagreement

31. warm, fuzzy piece of cloth to cover up/bundle
33. the bestest sport that every kid should begin to learn at the age of 5 years ... ☺
36. a talk to make everyone happier (when they need it, of course)
39. those 40 weeks when the baby lives inside the mother ... ☺
40. all the knowledge of a particular subject, like nature
41. when you're playing with baby and there's someone ___ the door, let someone else get it!
43. baby's first "weapon" with which to eat
46. baby's first under wear, usually disposable
48. application (short)

49. sometimes several people think they're right; so then it must be determined which one is ___
50. don't babies have really cute ___? ☺
52. since they can't read yet, we should read ___ to babies/toddlers
55. what's your favorite ___? Trains, dolls, puzzles?
57. 14A & ___
58. no need to be ___ (shy), be confident and love that baby! ♥
63. no, no one is planning a ___ against you to hold the baby more than you! Really ... ☺
65. ooh ... chocolate covered zucchini & toasted cantaloupe! Let's ___!
66. I ___ London! I ___ France! I ___46D!
67. welcome to a ___ world! A wonderful world of wackiness! ♥
69. do re mi fa ___ ti do ♪