

Trinity Tribune

Trinity Lutheran Church ✠ Paola, Kansas

2015



Pastor's Message for Lent

In the Gospel Reading this year for the Second Sunday in Lent, our Lord proclaims: *"If anyone would come after Me, He must deny himself and take up his cross and follow Me. For whoever wants to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for Me and for the Gospel will save it"* (Mark 8:34-35).

The world saw the most dramatic example and illustration possible of Jesus' words last month, when 21 brave Egyptian Christian young men were beheaded because of their faith by Islamic terrorists, who posted on the Internet a sickening video of their barbaric atrocity.

Those men could have saved their lives, even at the last moment, by renouncing Christ and their Christian faith. All they had to do to abandon Christianity and convert to Islam was to recite three times the "creed" of Islam, "There is no God but Allah, and Mohammed is his prophet." That simple act would have made them Muslims, and given them the protection rather than the persecution of their Islamic captors.

But, instead, on their lips as they were executed were only prayers to Jesus as their Savior and Lord. Many of them at the very moment they were beheaded cried out in faith, "Lord Jesus Christ."

This incredibly brave witness was made not by ministers, or theologians, or seasoned leaders of the faith. These were young men in their 20's, simple, poor fishermen, who had gone to Libya from their Egyptian village of Al-Our in order to find work, so that they could send money back to support their families.

These brave young men have now received the gracious reward promised in Scripture:

"Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds

A few days after their martyrdom, it caused a sensation throughout the Middle East when Beshir Kamel, a Christian musician and brother of two of these martyrs, appeared on a popular satellite television program and said something truly amazing. "This only makes us stronger in our faith" he said. The terrorists actually "helped us strengthen our faith" by not editing out of the video the victims' final prayers and cries to Jesus. He said his brothers, Samuel and Bishoy, who were 23 and 25, were "a badge of honor to Christianity." And, he even said his home village, where most of the victims were from, is privileged to have "so many from our village die as martyrs."

"Whoever wants to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for Me and for the Gospel will save it." As those Egyptian young men so dramatically bore witness last month, nothing in this world, no honor, no position, no wealth or prestige, not even life itself, is worth forsaking Jesus Christ.

Lutheran Service Book includes two appropriate prayers:

For Persecuted Christians

Lord Jesus Christ, before whom all in heaven and earth shall bow, grant courage that Your children may confess Your saving name in the face of any opposition from a world hostile to the Gospel. Help them to remember Your faithful people who sacrificed

much and even faced death rather than dishonor You when called upon to deny the faith. By Your Spirit, strengthen them to be faithful and to confess You boldly, knowing that You will confess Your own before the Father in heaven,



This beautiful icon was created by Virginia artist Tony Rezk to honor the martyrdom last month of 21 Egyptian Christian young men, beheaded because of their faith by Islamic terrorists. It movingly depicts them kneeling down on a beach, as in the video of their beheading, the ocean stained red with their blood, Jesus welcoming them into paradise, and the angels bestowing upon them their crowns of eternal life.

of evil against you because of Me. Rejoice and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven"(Matthew 5:10-12)

"Be faithful until death, and I will give you the crown of life" (Revelation 2:10).

with whom You and the Holy Spirit live and reign, one God, now and forever. Amen.

For Our Enemies

Almighty, everlasting God, through Your only Son, our blessed Lord, You commanded us to love our enemies, to do good to those who hate us, and to pray for those who persecute us. Therefore, we earnestly implore You that by Your gracious working our enemies may be led to true repentance, may have the same love toward us as we have toward them, and may be of one accord and of one mind and heart with us and with Your whole Church; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Pastor Kevin Vogts

Youth Director



Janette Reinke of Lenexa notified us last week that she has accepted the contract extended to her by Trinity to

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March, 2015

serve as a youth part time worker. She will be installed during the worship service on Sunday, March 8.

Originally from Topeka, Janette is a 1998 graduate of Concordia, Seward with DCE certification. After working as a DCE in several congregations she took time off when she had two daughters, and to obtain a master's degree in marriage and family counseling. She currently has her own counseling service in Lenexa, which will accommodate her also working for us part time. She said in her acceptance letter:

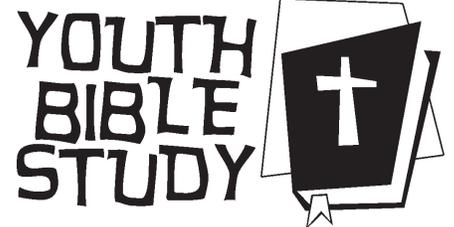
"Thank you very much for such a warm welcome on Sunday, February 8! My daughters and I very much enjoyed our visit with you! I also appreciate your patience as I have been deliberating and praying about this youth director position. I have decided to accept your invitation to serve as your youth director and very much look forward to working with the youth of Trinity Lutheran Church. As my daughters are now youth group age, I realize even more than ever before how important it is to have a strong youth group, so that the youth can grow strong in their faith, know how much Jesus loves them—especially through the tough times of adolescence, and hopefully reach those youth that have yet to learn about Christ's forgiveness for them. I look forward to working with you all. In Christ, Janette Reinke"



Youth & Family Meeting March 8

During the Sunday School hour on March 8 from 9:00am-10:00am all youth and their families are asked to meet in

the Youth Room (upstairs behind the Choir Loft) to visit with our new Youth Director, Janette Reinke, about getting started with some exciting new youth activities!



Youth Bible Study Begins March 15

Beginning Sunday, March 15 our new Youth Director Janette Reinke will be leading a Youth Bible Study on Sundays from 9:00am-10:00am in the Youth Room, upstairs behind the Choir Loft. All youth are invited and urged to attend!

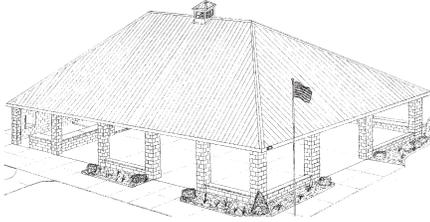


Lenten Dinners on Wednesdays in March

The Relay for Life invites you to enjoy spaghetti at the Lenten Dinner, in Trinity's Fellowship Hall before worship this Wednesday, March 4. Remaining dates for Lenten services and dinners are March 4, 11, 18, & 25.

The Blocktoberfest Committee will be serving brats and hot dogs on March 11; Generations a beef noodle dinner on March 18; and the Ladies Aid hot beef sandwiches on March 25.

Thank you to all those hosting these fun fellowship events!



Shelter House Plans Proceeding

Plans for the new Trinity Lutheran School Memorial Shelter House are finally completed! You can see them in the cry room.

The Voters Assembly in January gave approval to solicit bids for its construction. A special meeting of the Voters Assembly to consider the bids is being held after the worship service on March 1. Depending upon the decision of the Voters Assembly, construction could begin in March and be completed by late June.

Anyone who is willing to serve on the committee to overview the building and landscaping please notify congregational chairman Greg Windler.



Nursing Home Services March 22

You are invited to help Trinity provide brief worship services for nursing home residents at Country Club Estates and Vintage Park on March 22. The simple services are approximately 20 minutes in length at each home. We begin at 1:30pm at Country Club Estates and then go to Vintage Park for the second service.

The Characters of Lent



2015 Lent Services Wednesdays, 7:00pm

February 18 – Ash Wednesday

Judas & Peter

March 18 – Lent Service V

*Thief on the Cross
& Roman Centurion*

February 25 – Lent Service II

*Caiaphas &
Pontius Pilate*

March 25 – Lent Service VI

*Joseph of Arimathea
& Mary Magdalene*

March 4 – Lent Service III

Herod & Barabbas

April 2 – Maundy Thursday
Communion Service

Given and Shed for You
1 Corinthians 11:23-25

March 11 – Lent Service IV

*Simon of Cyrene
& Virgin Mary*

April 3 – Good Friday Tenebrae Service

Stricken, Smitten, and Afflicted
Isaiah 53:14

The residents really enjoy these services, especially singing their favorite hymns. It's great to have church members there to greet the residents and sing along. We have a faithful few members who help but we could use your help too!

Our other nursing home services scheduled for 2015 are:

April 26—North Point and Medical Lodge

May 31—Country Club Estates and Vintage Park

July 12—North Point and Medical Lodge

August 16—North Point and Medical Lodge

September 20—Country Club Estates and Vintage Park

October 25—North Point and Medical Lodge

November 22—Country Club Estates and Vintage Park

December 20—North Point and Medical Lodge



Could you—individual, family, or group—serve snacks sometime after worship during 2015? Most of the second half of the year remains open. Consider signing up for special occasions such as birthdays or anniversaries.

There is a sign-up sheet for the New Year on the table with the snacks. Our Generations group has generously agreed to provide and prepare the coffee and juice each week, so those signing up are only asked to provide some treat. Thank you to all those providing snacks for Coffee Hour!

March 1
Phyllis Trickett

March 8
Karen Brack
March 15
Jake & Ally Henry
March 22
Arnold Debrick Family
March 29
Need Volunteers



New Bible Class “These Are a Few of Our Favorite Hymns” Begins April 12

We will conclude our current study of Holy Week, *The Week That Changed the World*, in Adult Bible Class on Palm Sunday, March 29. There will be no class on Easter Sunday, April 5 due to the Easter Breakfast.

On April 12 we will begin a new study, *These Are a Few of Our Favorite Hymns*, looking at the background and meaning of—and singing!—beloved hymns. Join in Sundays at 9:00am in the Overflow beginning April 12 to get a deeper appreciation for your favorite hymns!



March Acolytes

March 1 Evan Kettler
March 8..... Karlie McMullin
March 15 Luke Elkinton
March 22 Lance Elliott
March 29 Olivia Mitchell



Our congregation helps support these missionaries sent out by The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod through our mission contributions. Each month we remember in prayer in our worship services—and you are encouraged to remember in your personal prayers—specific missionaries around the world who are supported in this way by our congregation.

March 1
Rev. P.A. Richard-Wokoma
Nigeria

March 8
Ruth Pollex
Dominican Republic

March 15
Rev. Ryan & Emily McDermott
Ghana

March 22
Julie Lutz
Papua New Guinea

March 29
Rev. Peter & Kristie Kolb
Hong Kong



Holy Week begins with Palm Sunday on March 29. A special service of Holy Communion commemorating the Last Supper will be held on Maunder Thursday, April 2, at 7:00pm.



On Good Friday, April 3, at 7:00pm we will have a traditional Tenebrae Service. "Tenebrae" (TEN-uh-bray) is the Latin word for "darkness" or "shadows." The Tenebrae Service is marked by a gradual extinguishing of candles and other lights, symbolizing the death of our Lord, interspersed with readings, prayers, hymns, and other musical selections related to His Passion. Our Tenebrae Service will feature seven candles, gradually extinguished as we read Christ's seven last words from the cross.

Bring your family to meditate upon our Savior's sacrifice for your salvation.



In our Church Library in the Overflow we have recently added a set of seven volumes of *The Sermons of Martin Luther*.

The first four of these volumes are an English translation of the "Church Postil," a collection of Luther's sermons designed to assist pastors in preparing their own sermons, or to be read in worship if a pastor is not available. Many of our ancestors would have had well-worn copies of these volumes, and it was often customary for the families to hold devotions on Sunday evening for which the father would read the sermon for the day from Luther's Church Postil.

These sermons are from an older English translation with some old-fashioned language, but they are still gems!

The last three volumes in this collection are a modern English translation of Luther's "House Postil." These shorter, more informal messages were not originally intended for publication. They are verbatim records of devotional messages Luther delivered in his own home, to his own family and the many colleagues, students, visitors, and friends who would gather there on Sunday evenings.

To check out a book from the Church Library just note your name and the book title and date borrowed on the check-out sheet on the clipboard which is on the library shelves.



We list birthdays and anniversaries in the newsletter each month and the bulletin each week. However, our records may not be complete. If your information is missing or inaccurate, please accept our apologies and notify the Church Office at 849-3344 or email Church Secretary Stacey Elkinton at blocktlc@midwest-connections.com.

- Devan Boydston—March 1
- Vera Kaiser—March 1
- Guylene Klein—March 1
- Johnny Prothe—March 1
- Dave Trickett—March 1
- Lance Elliott—March 2
- Justin Hieber—March 3
- Addison Kettler—March 3
- Lorranda Baldrige—March 5
- Billy Green—March 5
- Joshua Pemberton—March 5
- Aaron Maisch—March 5
- Gary Prothe—March 6
- Sandra Schultz—March 6
- Andrew Thompson—March 7
- Jackie Thompson—March 7
- Megan Prothe—March 8

- Faith Ordonez—March 9
- Jim Mueller—March 10
- Betty Oberheide—March 10
- Diana Deering—March 11
- Dylan Shoemaker—March 12
- Karen Garrison—March 13
- Darrel Rodewald—March 14
- Allyssa Henry—March 15
- Jacob Henry—March 15
- Kyle Kettler—March 15
- Judy Parks—March 15
- Randy Rausch—March 15
- Steve Cook—March 17
- Breanna Prothe—March 17
- Marcia Raines—March 17
- Roger Smith—March 17
- Robyn Weatherbie—March 17
- Emersyn Chapman—March 17
- Johnny Grother—March 18
- Jennifer Rethman—March 18
- Chris Smith—March 18
- Jordan Harper—March 19
- Paul Haley—March 20
- Rusty Morton—March 21
- Harry Stubbs—March 21
- Becky Stutzman—March 21
- Arnold Debrick—March 23
- Karla Debrick—March 23
- Elizabeth Kettler—March 23
- John Schlegel Jr.—March 23
- Laura Prothe—March 25
- Loren Windler—March 26
- Joyce Brown—March 28
- Zach Holtz—March 28
- Justine Prothe—March 28
- Tyler Tesar—March 28
- Wilda Bunch—March 29
- Lauren Wood—March 29
- Alvin Thoden—March 31

March 6—Steve & Bobbi Debrick (16 years)

March 7—Dave & Suzie Prothe (23 years)

March 9—Rich & Sally Wood (24 years)

March 10—Jim & Shelisa Mueller (36 years)

March 20—Mike & Linda Giager (29 years)

March 21—Sean & Robyn Weatherbie (17 years)

March 28—Tom & Nancy Green (36 years)

March 28—Arlin & Venita Prothe (50 years)

March Sunday School



March 1—Today the students study the account “Jesus Calms a Storm.” Just as Jesus calmed the storm with His Word for the frightened disciples, so He calms and ends the storm of sin and death by taking our sin upon Himself and dying in our place so we may live eternally. *Consider discussing, “What did Jesus do to calm the storm? How does Jesus calm the storms in our life?”*

March 8—Students today explore the story “Jesus Clears the Temple.” Jesus’ cleansing of the temple carries a twofold message for the Jews and for us: first, that the true Lord of the temple was here in the flesh and, second and more important, that Jesus is the true temple, who houses and perfects us, raising our bodies to be like His. *Parents could ask, “Why did Jesus clear the temple? How is Jesus our temple?”*

March 15—Today we study the account “Jesus Walks on Water.” Jesus was gracious to Peter when he feared drowning. Jesus is gracious to us and is ready to catch us as we sink in sin and unbelief; His hand is always strong to save us. *Consider asking, “How did Jesus rescue Peter? How does Jesus rescue us?”*

March 22—“The Widow’s Mite” serves as the focus of the lesson for today. Just as the widow gave all she had to God, trusting Him to provide and care for her, so Jesus gave His all for us, who fail to trust in God for all things. *Consider discussing, “How was the widow’s offering different from the others? How has God given us His greatest treasure?”*

March 29—The Sunday School lesson today focuses on “Jesus and Zacchaeus.” Like Zacchaeus, we are among the lost whom the Son of Man seeks and forgives. We are called to forgive those who sin against us, no matter how Zacchaeus-like they may be in their sins. *Parents might ask, “How does Jesus seek you? How has God forgiven you?”*



Sweetheart Dinner
February 21



More Photos
Online at
www.trinitycms.org

