

Trinity Lutheran Church & School



Tidings

February, 2022

Douglas Adams—Pastor
Mike Shembarger—Principal

From the “Retired” Pastor’s Desk...

“Be still before the Lord, and wait patiently for Him!”
Psalm 37:7

Dear Family in Christ,

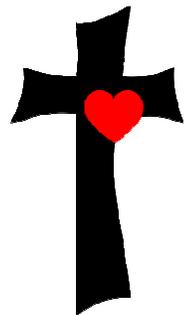
Those are great words to live by, aren’t they? But unfortunately, patience is not one of our outstanding qualities! We, as a people, have been called the “now generation”! Fast foods, instant pudding, and immediate results are watchwords of our times. But the problems of life don’t always have immediate answers, quick fixes, or immediate solutions!



It’s tough fighting the battles of life. We may become weary and lose heart when we’re surrounded by difficulty and uncertainty. Threats of terrorism, economic and political upheaval, COVID variants, crime, and injustice seems endless. We may wonder if God will ever answer our prayers! And to complicate matters, even the cold, snowy, and dreary weather of a typical Southwest Michigan February, make us feel down, longing for better days.

You know, during His life on earth, Jesus’ patience was tried too. He suffered, was tempted, and endured many hardships. He felt rejection, pressure, and anger from others. Sound familiar? But He was patient! Our Heavenly Father never failed to strengthen Him!

Through Christ’s suffering we who are unworthy of God’s love, have received all the blessings of His rich grace. Christ is our hope and our source of patience. In the Old Testament, God was the hope of His chosen people. ***He is still our hope today as well!*** He preserves us and helps us rest in Him, as we patiently await the day of Christ’s return. In the meantime, we know, beyond a shadow of a doubt, that in bad times, as well as good, He is always with us! We are never alone!



Dear Family, being patient does not mean being idle! In fact, the best way to wait on our Lord, is to be busy in His service, telling everyone about Him and His great love. Why not turn these dreary days of February into Spirit filled days of hope, patience, and love, as we boldly look for ways to share Christ with others, and remember the importance of having Him in our lives!

Have a great Spirit-guided, blessed month with the Lord! See you in Church!!

Pastor Bassett
Pastor Emeritus

From the Principal's Desk...

Third party income

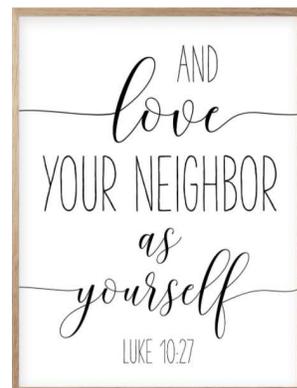
The board of education is continuing to look for ways to access nontraditional funds to improve the school and church. Income from sources other than the membership and parent tuition is consistently being targeted in our overall school improvement plan. We have written multiple grants targeting specific areas of improvement. We have been fortunate to qualify for thousands of dollars in grant money. Each grant has its own special set of criteria that defines exactly how it can be spent. Most grants are well defined specifically how they can be used, but some parts of each grants can be used freely. We cannot simply spend the money as we choose and are limited with funds that can be moved to the church or other programs in our ministries.

Starting next month I will be adding an additional article each month to our Tidings publication to keep you specifically informed on how these funds are coming in. I will also list how the funds are specifically benefitting the school and the church each month. It is important to keep the church membership informed each month as we continue to improve our overall financial picture.

Below is our current list of projects we have accomplished to directly improve the church. The list of improvements to date is:

• Purchased germ killing units in each classroom (assist with church loan project)	\$9,800
• Technology upgrades for the church sanctuary for music and video	\$7,000
• Grant income for heating project at the school approved by voters (supplant for loan)	\$32,000
• Drinking faucet in the foyer	\$2,850
• Upgrade phone system for church and school	\$3,000
• Upgrade Pastor's office (Future project)	?
• Additional income to assist the church finances (Future study)	?
Total amount to date spent directly to assist the church	\$54,650

The school's enrollment is staying consistent and is at 90 students. We are anticipating a significant drop in overall costs of the school for the church again next fall based on current projections.



Drinking Fountain
in church Gathering
Place

Mike Shembarger
Principal



NATIONAL LUTHERAN SCHOOLS WEEK
January 23-29, 2022

Nation-wide in 35 Districts of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

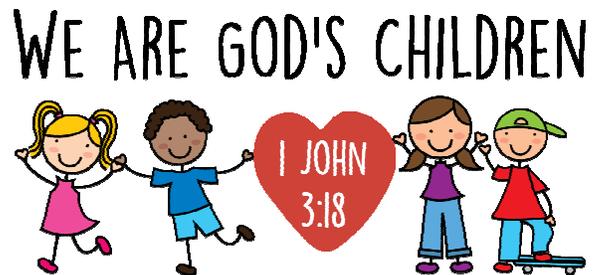
- ◆ 200,000 Lutheran Students
- ◆ 1,885 schools (High Schools, Elementary Schools, Preschools)
- ◆ 21,222 teachers

Locally at Trinity Lutheran, Berrien Springs

- ◆ 157 students and children
- ◆ 1 complex (Daycare, Preschool, Grades K-8)
- ◆ Dedicated teachers and staff

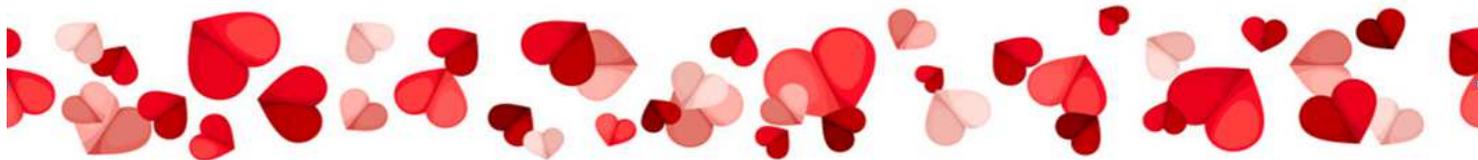
Activities during the week include:

- ◆ Sunday, January 23 worship service
 - ◇ TLS students singing and playing recorders for *"Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow"*
- ◆ Dress Up Days
 - ◇ Career Day
 - ◇ Sport Day/Hat Day
 - ◇ Dress Your Best
- ◆ Daily Activities
 - ◇ Gym Games
 - ◇ Pizza Party
 - ◇ Movie and Popcorn
 - ◇ Virtual Chapel with Christ Lutheran School in Stevensville and Trinity Lutheran in St. Joseph



Students celebrating the fact that they know and can learn more about their Savior, Jesus every day while receiving a great academic education in "their" Lutheran school.

THANK YOU – The TLS students and staff would like to thank Trinity Lutheran Church and the entire Trinity Lutheran community for supporting the school for the past ninety-six years through prayer, financial support, and volunteering in various areas when needs arise. May God continue to bless Trinity in the days ahead as He has each day in the past.



A Note from the Board of Elders

Talking to God

Have you ever thought “How do I talk to God”? Essentially, how do I pray?

Jesus gave us a wonderful prayer for anytime—chances are you know it by heart—

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen



Nowhere in the Bible does God tell us we get everything we ask for. God calls us to believe in Him, through our Savior Jesus Christ and led by the Holy Spirit, and we will receive everlasting life. Not by what we want or what we do, but by faith.

But what about praying for things WE want? There’s a time and a place, when it’s in God’s will. Shouldn’t most of our requests be for others? A family going through problems...a troubled teen...a church member who is suffering an illness. A single mom, struggling to get by. What about Christians in Afghanistan, fearful for their lives? Or for missions to the unreached in China or India? Yes, all of those. Ask God to help them, to intervene, to strengthen their faith and give them peace.



One of the hardest things to do in prayer is to listen. Listen for His voice in your heart. Listen in His word as you read. Listen for His direction. It begins with reflection, quiet pauses, and time in His word. Been there lately?

Remember to pray (talk) with God often, beginning the way he leads through the Lord’s Prayer, and ask for His help for others in need. Praise Him, thank Him, and make requests for others...and most importantly, listen to Him.

The elders want to wish you all a great 2022. For any help or information you need, please contact an elder, and we will be there to help.

Trinity Lutheran Church is here to Preach (the word of God), Teach (the word of God) and Reach (the community and those that don’t know God).

Have a blessed month.

Board of Elders Contact Information:

Tim Krieger	313-2545	Don Zandarski	921-1761	Dan Knuth	876-7434
Jeremy Priest	357-3987	Steve Schlutt	449-8827	Steve Jackson	208-6090



February Birthdays & Anniversaries

01—Luke Carlson
Frank Shoop

02—Amy Cowart

03—Christa Bartley

10—Shelley Newman
Alverda Rudlaff

11—Faith Bartley

14—Patty Klug
Deb Wedde

15—Stephanie Dillon
Sharon Harner

Carl Jenkins

Cindy Rose

18—Wyatt Armstrong
Sam McElligott

19—Gloria Bell

Jean Koebel
Steve Reitz

20—Berklee Armstrong
Lance & Tory Parrish
Gene & Pat Schmaltz

21—Nancy Carpenter
Kara Wissing

22—Nathan Marschke

26—Erna Rudlaff

28—Pastor Adams
Karen Burkhardt



Memorials & Special Gifts

Through January 21, 2022

- Thomas & Kathryn Marks
- Mellie Schultz
- Diane Skibbe
- Rita Hokenson
- Mark & Karen Vanderboegh
- James & Rosemary Bounds
- Barbara Priest
- Dick & Carol Lockman
- Greg & Carol Schinske
- Jon & Sharon Harner
- Don & Michele Zandarski
- Bill & Sue Knuth
- Karen Warda
- Bill Strunk
- Jeanne Shelton
- Roy & Sally Forraht
- Jean McNitt



- Pam Dillion & Gary Christner
 - Alverda Rudlaff
 - Ross & Susan Rogien
 - Peter & Virginia Palis
 - Delores Hildebrand
 - Steve & Julie Schlutt
 - Gene & Patricia Schmaltz
 - Paul & Peggy Bailey
 - Ron & Evelyn Keigley
 - Miller-Davis Company
 - James & Amy Felgner
 - Rod & Beth Prillwitz
- ...in memory of Jerrie Schinske*

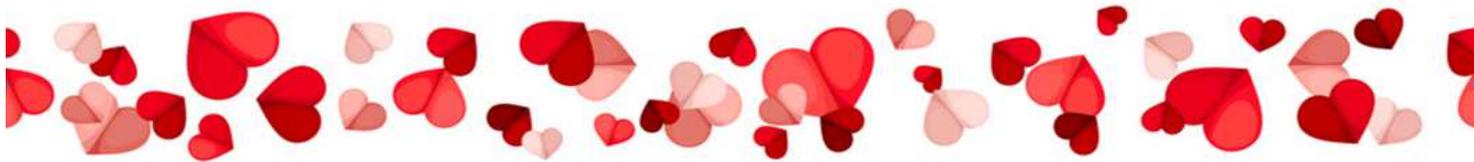
- Barbara Priest
- ...in memory of Darlene Rector*



Please feel free to contact the office at 471-7013 with any of the following questions or concerns regarding:

- * Baptism
- * Prayer Requests
- * Hospitalizations
- * Need to reach Pastor
- * Know someone in need or ill





10 Ways to Say "I Still Do" After 40 Years

By Rob Hernandez

This year my wife, Teresa, and I will celebrate 40 years of marriage. Forty years! Add to that five years of friendship before we married, and I've had a soul mate for 45 years.

Over those years, we've supported U-Haul on 17 occasions. We've raised two sons, tolerated three cats, and experienced three careers.

Looking back, only God could have scripted the story of us so beautifully. No one can claim to have the perfect marriage—we certainly don't. But we can claim to strive daily to walk closely with God to have a marriage that's not perfect, but God glorifying.



Here are some of the ways we've sought to glorify God and say, "I still do," in our 40 years together.

10 ways to say "I still do"



1. Say yes to daily worship and no to indifference toward God.

We've agreed to make knowing Christ and personal transformation our daily agenda. We've discovered a deep connection with the living God makes for a more authentic connection with each other. We lovingly hold each other accountable by establishing daily rhythms that allow time for reading and memorizing Scripture and worshipping our beautiful Creator.

2. Choose oneness over isolation.

The study of Genesis 2:24 reveals how much God longs for us to experience oneness in our marriages. And rightly so.

Oneness is establishing a vision for our marriage, it's connecting deeply and regularly, and being all-in with our covenant relationship. If oneness is pursued, isolation results, leading to dark roads that we're unwilling to travel.

3. Tenderly point out blind spots.

Let's admit it, we're defensive and fragile people.

We embrace the truth that God wants to use our spouse to help shape us to look more Christlike, but we'll only hear about those blind spots if the suggestion door is gently cracked open.

Continued on next page...



4. Prioritize weekly date night.

When our children were little, date night was established and became essential. It was so refreshing we've never stopped.

Friday nights are reserved for trying new eateries, entertaining fun questions, and dreaming together. Difficult conversations are off limits.

5. Fight the war but not your spouse.

In our marriage, it's not that I don't love Teresa enough, it's that I don't love God enough. There's a war between the kingdom of God and the kingdom of me.

There's a mental picture we use amidst conflict. I imagine a sticky note on Teresa's forehead that reads, "I AM NOT YOUR ENEMY." Try it. If you don't want to imagine it, post a real one on her forehead (or not).

6. Hold regular budget meetings.

We look forward to budget meetings like conversations around identity theft. They somehow raise our heart rate. But we press on.

Incredible peace happens in our home when we both agree on how to give, save, and spend. We've learned it's the secret of limiting debt and identifying needs above wants. Simplifying our finances and holding a weekly budget meeting slams another door to isolation and promotes celebration.

7. Get physical.

Working out together boosts our friendship quotient. We've enjoyed tennis, hiking, cycling, skiing, and simply exploring nature together. Even tried '80s aerobics together.

I'd say our workouts are about so much more than burning calories. It's about how we can shift our minds and bodies away from stress and toward feeling good about life and body movement. It's become another form of worship.

8. Recognize your heart is a fixer-upper.

This is an advance marriage move. We're learners here. Society tells us to follow our hearts, but God warns that the heart is desperately sick, wicked (Jeremiah 17:9).

We're working on renovating our hearts—restoring, fixing, refurbishing to a better condition. It takes deep soul searching and honesty. What wife wouldn't want a husband with a Christlike heart made new daily?

Continued on next page...



If we only change on the outside, Jesus calls that hypocrisy. Inner transformation doesn't happen through a formula. It's slow progress, but we're committed to it. It reminds me of the words on Ruth Graham's gravestone: End of construction, thank you for your patience.

9. Make intimacy a calendar event.

We're serious. Don't criticize it if you haven't tried it. Every other "important meeting" gets put on our calendars.

Beware if you share Google calendars with co-workers. This important meeting must be coded. Enter a code like, "Heaven & Back" or "Family Meeting."

10. Propel your marriage missionally.

A couple in the early church who won Paul's heart and the heart of churches everywhere is always mentioned together. Aquilla and Priscilla served together and taught together and even risked their lives for Paul himself (see Acts 18).

For other articles on marriage visit www.familylife.com

Altar Guild News

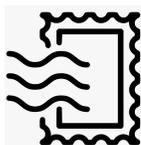
Attention Altar Guild Members! There is a new schedule for 2022 posted in the Sacristy. Please be sure to sign up for the months you are available to serve.

Thank You!

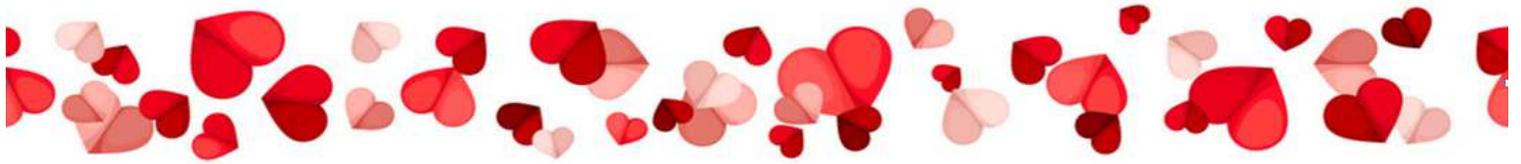


Ladies Aid Update

The Ladies Aid Society sent 58 quilts away this past fall to be sent to our Lutheran World Relief headquarters in Baltimore, Maryland to be distributed all over the world as the need arises. In addition to quilts, the LWR collects and distributes Personal Care Kits. Last year more than 70,000 Personal Care Kits were distributed in 13 countries – Angola, El Salvador, Haiti, and Lebanon to name a few. We may be providing some of these kits in the future. The quilting group meets every Wednesday morning downstairs in the church basement. We'd love to have more helpers join us.



Also, start saving your used postage stamps again. We collected stamps a few years back and we are going to do that again. They will be sent to the Michigan District LWML and be sold. No flag stamps please. Do not cut the stamps off the envelope. There needs to be a little "border" of paper around the stamp. We will have a collection container available soon.



February 2022



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1 10:30am Women's Bible Study 4pm Ladies Aid Meeting 7pm Trustee Mtg.	2 10:30am Men's Bible Study 7pm Worship Service	3	4	5 7pm Vesper's Prayer Service
6 9:15am Worship 10:30am Adult Bible Class & Youth Groups	7	8 10:30am Women's Bible Study	9 10:30am Men's Bible Study 7pm Worship Service	10  Church Council 7pm Council Meeting	11	12 Trustee Workday 7pm Vesper's Prayer Service
13 9:15am Worship 10:30am Adult Bible Class & Youth Groups	14 <i>HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY</i> 7pm Elder Meeting	15 10:30am Women's Bible Study 6:30pm Christian School Board Meeting	16 10:30am Men's Bible Study 7pm Worship Service	17 TLS Evening Parent/Teacher Conferences Tidings Articles Due by noon	18 TLS—Half day of School	19 7pm Vesper's Prayer Service
20 9:15am Worship 10:30am Adult Bible Class & Youth Groups	21 TLS—No School Offices Closed <i>Presidents' Day</i>	22 10:30am Women's Bible Study 7pm Quarterly Voters' Meeting	23 10:30am Men's Bible Study 7pm Worship Service	24	25	26 7pm Vesper's Prayer Service
27 9:15am Worship 10:30am Adult Bible Class & Youth Groups TLS Participation	28					



Trinity Lutheran Church and School
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 Berrien Springs, MI 49103
 Phone: 269-473-1811
 Fax: 269-471-7013
 Email: churchoffice@trinityberrien.org
 Website: www.trinityberrien.org

Matthew 24:14a
 "This Gospel of the kingdom shall be
 preached in the whole world as a testimony
 to all the nations."



REMEMBER OUR SHUT-INS

The following is a list of our shut-ins and those currently unable to come to church. If you would like to write them a note or drop a card in the mail, they will enjoy and appreciate your thoughtfulness. If there is a name you think is missing from the list, please contact the office or Pastor Adams.

Donna Marschke
 2277 E. Linco Road
 Berrien Springs, MI 49103

Wilma Marschke
 5292 Long Lake Road
 Berrien Springs, MI 49103

Norma Stover
 114 N. Kimmel Street
 Berrien Springs, MI 49103

Nancy Whetstone
 Parkside Village
 730 N. Spring Road Room 198
 Westerville, OH 43082

Macina Hoge
 Pine Ridge
 4368 Cleveland Avenue
 Stevensville, MI 49127

Marilyn Lentz
 Golden Age Manor
 4167 N. Roosevelt Road
 Stevensville, MI 49127

Jean Koebel
 1699 E. John Beers Road
 St. Joseph, MI 49085

Martha Wray
 11427 M-140
 Niles, MI 49120

Barb Radewald
 1117 Broad Street Apt. 6D
 St. Joseph, MI 49085

Elaine Hoover
 9300 M- 140
 Berrien Center, MI 49102

Karen Koebel
 111 Lexington Point Dr. #1
 Niles, MI 49120

Marlene Mitchell
 13028 Burgoyne Road
 Buchanan, MI 49107

Alverda Rudlaff
 5743 Orchard Drive
 Berrien Springs, MI 49103

John & Kate Hebner
 5807 Daniel Boone Trail
 Berrien Springs, MI 49103

*Articles and Calendar
 dates for the March
 Tidings are due by
 February 17, 2022 at noon.*



Service Person for
 February—



Alex Robison
 CMR 454 Box #2739
 APD
 APO AE 09250
 United States

*Please consider sending Alex a note of
 encouragement during this month.*