

News of the Son

Trinity Lutheran Church – Columbia, MO



April
2020

*From the
Pastor*



Dearly beloved of the Lord at Trinity:

Let us pray.

Almighty God, merciful Father, Your thoughts are not our thoughts, Your ways are not our ways. In Your wisdom, You have permitted this pandemic to befall us. We implore You, let not the hearts of

Your people despair nor our faith fail us but sustain and comfort us. Direct all efforts to attend the stricken, console the bereaved, and protect the helpless. Bring hope and healing that we may find relief and restoration; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Much of the following information has already been shared with many of you through email, but please read on because there have been some updates since mid-March.

Email is the best way that we have to communicate important information with the congregation quickly. If you have an email address but have not been receiving emails from Trinity, please email church@trinity-lcms.org with your email address so that we can add you to the list.

On Monday, March 16, 2020 the Columbia City Council enacted an emergency declaration in reaction to the COVID-19 pandemic. On Wednesday, March 25, 2020 Boone County and the City of Columbia amended the emergency declaration into a stay-at-home order for all non-essential activities.

After difficult deliberation and consultation with the Board of Elders and other congregational leaders, the following decisions have been made.

- **All onsite meetings and activities at Trinity are canceled for the present.**
- **Wednesday Lenten services and Sunday services will take place with members remaining in their homes connecting through the means described below. Only Pastor(s), an organist, and a designated small choir to sing the hymns will be present.**

Holy Communion:

Out of love for your neighbor, I am asking you to forego what is rightfully yours – the physical presence of Christ in the Supper for which you rightly hunger. I am also asking you to heed the request of the civil authority set over us by God for our good. You have undoubtedly heard the call to not assemble in order to “flatten the curve” so our health care system will not be overrun.

While I ask you to love your neighbor, please contact me at (573) 268-3241 to schedule a time to come to Trinity to receive the Supper. At the appointed time drive up to the front of the church and park. I will deliver the Lord’s Body and Blood to you while you remain in your vehicle.



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**Knowing Christ's Love
Seeking His Will
Spreading His Word**



Pastoral Care:

As always, please contact me if you desire personal pastoral care. I will remain vigilant in assessing ways and means of delivering the Gospel of Christ to you.

Worshiping Together Remotely:



New Worship Times

Service Times:

- Sunday morning service will begin at 8:00 a.m.
- Adult Sunday Bible study will begin at 9:15 a.m.
- Wednesday Lenten service will begin at 12:00 p.m. (noon).

Facebook:

- Go to the Trinity Facebook page facebook.com/trinitylutherancomo/. You do not need to have a Facebook account to join us in the worship service.
- If you go to the page before the live video starts, you may not see it come up. Be sure to go to the page or reload the page shortly after the time the service is scheduled to begin.
- Videos will remain on Facebook for a few days for on-demand viewing.



Bulletins and Prayer List:

- [Bulletins with printed liturgy and hymns](#) as well as the [Trinity Weekly News](#) will be available by clicking the links above and under the “News” tab on the Trinity website, www.trinity-lcms.org.
- For privacy reasons, our prayer list will not be listed in the bulletin. The written list of those in our prayers will be available on the members-only portion of the Trinity website or by contacting the Church Office.



Ava Speech to Text:

- Closed captioning of the worship service is available through the Ava speech-to-text app available from the Google Play Store and Apple App Store or on your computer from www.ava.me.
- Transcripts will remain available on Ava for a few days for on-demand viewing.

Trinity Website:

- Links to video and audio recordings of the worship services and Bible studies will be available on www.trinity-lcms.org/worship-recordings within 48 hours of the live stream.
- Links to other resources will also be available on the Trinity website.



Home Altar:

I might suggest you create an area for a Home altar. Designate a place for your household to gather regularly. Place on the altar a Cross, bible, candle and devotional material (the bulletin will be on Trinity’s website for you to download and print).

Offerings and Contributions:

Trinity is in a good position to weather this storm financially. Still, I would ask that you continue to support Trinity as you are able by mailing in your contribution, dropping it off at church in the designated lockbox, or by using our electronic giving options (see below) so that we remain in a position to help others. The economic impact will be great. We want to remain financially strong as a congregation so we can respond to the needs of members and others who will suffer financially.

Electronic Giving Options:

- You can contribute directly from your bank account or bankcard by visiting the Trinity website.
 - ◊ Go to www.trinity-lcms.org.
 - ◊ Click the red “Give Online” button.
 - ◊ Alternatively, you can go to www.trinity-lcms.org/online-giving for a link to a page better designed for mobile devices.
 - ◊ You can also scan the QR code on the right to link to the mobile website.
- You can contribute directly from your bank account or bankcard using a smartphone app. Search for “GivePlus” on the Google Play Store or “Give+” on the Apple App Store, install the app, and follow their instructions on how to make a contribution.
- Electronic contributions are processed by Vanco Payment Solutions. Trinity does not receive or store any account information submitted during the Online Giving process.



Church Office:

- The Church Office will remain staffed 8:00 a.m.—4:30 p.m.
- In order to limit contact with staff, equipment, furniture, etc., however, **you must make an appointment to visit the Church Office in person.**
- **Please do not visit the Church Office unless absolutely necessary.**
- You may contact the Church Office by phone at (573) 445-2112 or by email at church@trinity-lcms.org.

Newsletter:

You will likely notice changes to the newsletter this month. Since we have canceled all on-site activities, there is little to advertise, and no need to print a monthly calendar.

Updates:

Please watch your email and Trinity’s website www.trinity-lcms.org and Facebook page facebook.com/trinitylutherancomo/ for any updates to this information. If you have not been receiving our emails, please email church@trinity-lcms.org and ask to be added to the list. This is a fluid situation so we will be reassessing along the way so that we can resume various activities and, most importantly, the gathering of the faithful around Word and Supper as soon as deemed wise.

For Christians the beginning of the day should not be burdened and oppressed with besetting concerns for the day’s work. At the threshold of the new day stands the Lord who made it...Therefore, at the beginning of the day let all distraction and empty talk be silenced and let the first thought and the first word belong to Him to whom our whole life belongs (Dietrich Bonhoeffer – “Life Together”).

Your Servant in Christ,

Pastor Brian K. Thieme

MARCH 10, 2020
BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MINUTES
(Draft Minutes - Yet to be Approved)

The regular monthly meeting of the Board of Directors was called to order on March 10, 2020 at 7:05 p.m.

Attendees included Gary Kespohl (Chairman), Jim Harms, Angel Arnall, Rob Hall, Charlie Cott, Gary Frisch, Teresa Yeager, Karen Niederjohn, Larry McCoig, Pastor Brian Thieme and Annette Kiehne.

Pastor Thieme led the opening devotion with LSB Hymn 418 verse 1 and prayer.

Chairman Kespohl added "Shine" - MO District LCMS state-wide servant event. Rob Hall moved to approve the Meeting Agenda with these additions; seconded and approved.

Chairman Kespohl asked if there were and additions or corrections to the February 11, 2020 Board of Directors Minutes. Larry McCoig moved to approve the Consent Agenda; seconded and approved.

The Consent Agenda meeting minutes and reports are filed in the Congregation Secretary's notebook.

The following are summaries of the reports, with the name of the board representative at the Board of Directors meeting listed:

PASTOR'S REPORT - Pastor Thieme

Pastoral Help

- 1) Rev. Spotts - Visiting 2/3 of the Homebound each month
- 2) Rev. Riggert - Preaching Mid-week Lenten Services

Divine Services

- Baptism in the Divine Service - Monday, March 9th
- Preparing for Lent

Visitation

- Pastoral visits continue to be made with individuals, couples, and families
- Pastoral visits with members of the community at large
- Potential New Member Visits

Adult Classes

- Sunday morning class - Predeistation
- The Monday morning class is going through the Large Catechism (Baptism)
- Several people are looking for an Adult Information Class

Personal Days: March 15 - 17

Other: Slowly getting the Pastor's Study (Office) in order
Opportunities:

Mercy Medical Teams (Team Chaplain)

- June 18-28, 2020: Madagascar
- July 10-20, 2020: Rep. of Congo
- Sept. 4-14, 2020: Ghana

Israel Trip 2021

- April or October for Trinity

MEMBERSHIP CHANGES: (Information Only)

Transfer Out:

Henry and Kimberly Rainey with their children Abigail Rainey and Colton Rainey by transfer to Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Centralia, MO

Transfer In:

Carol Clark by transfer from Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Arnold, Mo.

FINANCIAL SECRETARY - Not Present

See page 12 of the BOD packet for financial secretary report.

For the month of February, the Regular Envelope collections are 105.26% of the anticipated monthly amount. Loose Plate collections are 130.89% and Sunday School are 117.28%. Total Monthly collections are 105.95% of the monthly anticipated amount of \$36,114.97. Total Year to Date collections through the end of January are 111.82% of the anticipated amount of \$74,246.31.

BOARD REPORTS:

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION - No Representative Present

The BOCE is continuing their curriculum, "Enduring Faith". The BOCE is in the process of organizing and indexing all remaining curriculum and other Sunday School materials into the file cabinets in the classrooms and the Sunday School office. Planning materials and some decorating supplies have been ordered for the summer's VBS. The date for VBS has not yet been set.

GSLs - See page 13 of the BOD packet for financial report.

EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION - Carol Eilers

- Maintaining 100% enrollment as of February 29, 2020.
- Fully staffed for teachers, support staff and substitutes. Hired two afternoon aides and one aide resigned. Seeking advice regarding advertising platform for open positions.
- Melissa Remer-Phiifer's application for the state TEACH program was accepted.
- BOECE had a successful Meet-Greet-Eat event for TLCLC staff on 2/19/20. Agenda included an activity and discussion of vision and values.
- Staff surveys to gain insight from staff on strengths and areas of improvement are in the process of being returned.
- Vision development process is nearing completion. Will be shared with Pastor BOD, TLC congregation and LCMC Alan Freeman.
- Task force committee established within BOECE to evaluate the longer term financial strategy on tuition/salary/sibling discounts/etc. as affected by the MO state minimum wage schedule. The BOECE did reaffirm our goal to have quality staff and to pay appropriately, maintaining financial integrity, and to always strive to the highest threshold in all we do for this ministry.
- Discussed Evangelism Board wanting to work with TLCLC - no specifics yet.
- Annette walked the BOECE through what the triggers and process will be if Missouri issues a Coronavirus health alert. TLCLC follows a rigid sanitation protocol regarding

tables/toys/etc and follows CDC standards on personal sanitation/health measures.

- Passed state licensing inspection on 2/19/2020
- Facility improvements continue: painting projects, office upgrades, flooring, bathrooms.

ELDERS - Larry McCoig - No report filed.

EVANGELISM - Rob Hall - No report filed.

SOCIAL MINISTRY - Angel Arnall - No report filed.

STEWARDSHIP AND FINANCE - No Representative Present - No report filed.

TLC ENDOWMENT FUND - Gary Frisch

See page 15 and 16 of the BOD packet.

TRUSTEES - Charlie Cott - No report filed.

YOUTH - No Representative Present - No report filed.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE - No report filed.

TREASURER'S REPORT - James Harms (Treasurer)

(2 months or 16.6667% of the year) February's Church income was \$38,502 with a year-to-date income for the month ending February 29, 2020 of \$86,721 (16% of the years \$541,875 budgeted income).

February's Church expenditures were \$34,279 with a year-to-date expense total for the month ending February 29, 2020 of \$66,225 (15.117% of the years \$438,079 budgeted expenditures (\$541,875 budget - \$103,796) Pastor Contingency).

The Church's year-to-date two-month income over expenditures was \$20,486. This number is reduced to \$3,187 when the budgeted portion of the \$103,796 Pastor Contingency is deducted.

February's Learning Center income was \$66,573 with a year-to-date income for the month ending February 29, 2020 of \$135,447 (18.5% of the years \$732,000 budgeted income).

February's Learning Center expenditures were \$48,046 with a year-to-date expense total for the month ending February 29, 2020 of \$93,303 (12.75% of the annual expenditure budget of \$732,000).

The Learning Center's year-to-date two-month income over expenditures was \$42,145. Combined (Church and Learning Center) income over budgeted expenditures totaled \$62,631. This amount is reduced to \$54,038 after \$8,593 in BOD & AOV Expenditures.

Prior & Current Year BOD/AOV approved expenditures paid in February totaled \$5,782. Acct 995.1 TLC BOD/AOV App: \$1,727.07 expenses

- \$1,318.20 - 4 wooden sanctuary chairs
- \$408.87 - Lent lite supper

February 29, 2020: Net operating cash available is \$259,311. This will be reduced to \$181,093 when the outstanding \$78,218 AOV EOY income/expenditures motion is sent to LCEF (190 Capital Outlay Reserve).

February 29, 2020: Dedicated Accounts totaled \$76,120.

February 29, 2020: Lutheran Church Extension Funds

accounts total \$588,988. January 31, 2020 TLC LCMS Foundation Endowment Fund account value was \$104,850.

Rob Hall moved to approve the Treasurer's Report; seconded and approved.

Comment: Need to include Lite Supper budget in 2021 budget planning.

Mid-meeting Hymn: LSB 418 verse 2

OLD BUSINESS:

A. Waiver and Release of Liability

See page 22 of the BOD packet.

Larry McCoig moved to approve the Pickleball Waiver and Release of Liability; seconded and approved.

B. Internet Service Bids (three year contract)

Larry McCoig moved to approve the CenturyLink 100Mb Download, 100Mb Upload proposal at \$225/month; seconded and approved.

Discussion on Wi-Fi issues throughout the church. Annette Kiehne to contact Sound Solutions asking them to test Wi-Fi connection issues. Comments reflect that Wi-Fi issues appear to started after surveillance system installed.

Mid-meeting Hymn: LSB 418 verse 3

NEW BUSINESS:

A. TLC Office Renovation (rooms 216 and 217)

Charlie Cott moved to approve up to \$4,000 to cover ceiling and wall renovation/painting, LED light fixtures and installation; seconded and approved.

B. Plan of Action Presentation by Pastor Thieme - suggestion/encouragement to submit a written five part motion prior to a BOD/AOV meeting (state the situation, state the need, where we want to be, how we are going to get there, & resolution/motion) for clarification purposes in order to facilitate better communication and save time.

C. MO District LCMS Servant Event

Larry McCoig moved to approve that Trinity attempt to partner with Alive in Christ and Campus and participate in the September 18-27, 2020 MO District LCMS state-wide servant event; seconded and approved.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Hartzler Letter: see page 24 of the BOD packet.
- The next Board of Directors meeting will be held on April 14, 2020.
- The next Assembly of Voters meeting will be held on May 17, 2020.
- Synod has provided a guide on the coronavirus.
- Renovations Update: Gary Kesphol reported that the TLCLC bathroom partitions ordered still have not arrived. Should take another 4 weekends to finalize the remaining renovations.

Charlie Cott moved to adjourn at 7:55 PM.

Pastor Thieme led the group in a closing devotion (LSB Hymn 418 verse 4).

Respectively,

James L Harms covering for Jacque Eckhoff, Secretary



Blessings to you in the name of the Triune God,

As this is written, it seems that everything is out of control. Cancellations, quarantines, shortages of hand sanitizers and toilet paper! With fear running rampant, it's important to remember that God is our Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer. He knows and sustains every human life because He is the One Who gives value to each and every one. Please be encouraged by the following article from the book "**Grounded in God's Word**, Commentaries on

Life", published by Lutherans For Life in conjunction with Concordia Publishing House:

HAVE HOPE! GOD IS IN CONTROL: "WHEN EVERYTHING FALLS APART"

"When people's lives are out of control, the question a Christian needs answered is "Is God in control?" For if things are both out of our hands and out of God's hands, then all is lost. It is one thing to believe God is in control when we are also in control of things but another to come to that conviction when everything is falling apart around us. As Paul suffered much in his ministry, it is reasonable to believe that he did not come to believe this question easily. We can imagine Paul, a man trained in the way of the Pharisees, not easily letting go of the idea that *evil doers suffer, but not the one who follows God*. But Paul had the prophets before him as witness to the suffering of the righteous and, in fact, the witness of Jesus' own suffering and death. Paul's first comfort in suffering is to keep things in perspective. He reasoned, we suffer in this life, but it does not compare in intensity with the glory of heaven where suffering is no more.

"Heaven's coming will benefit not only the faithful but all things. *All creation* awaits the coming of the kingdom of God. The bond between mankind and this world is strong. We were originally made to live for this world with God. Eden is the world God made for mankind, and it was only because of sin that God brought about something better.

"God's redemption has affected not only people but also all things created. Since the physical world has suffered the results of man's sin, even inanimate things need redemption and in fact will receive it in Christ. All creation needed to be bought back from sin by God, and Paul spells out why. When Adam sinned, this world became corrupt, but it remained the world God gave us in which to live. In the midst of corruption, God also gave hope. That hope is not just for escape from this world but for courage and faithfulness to live in it. We may not be able to change the world much, but we can live faithful to our calling in it. In many things in life, we are not called to be successful in our efforts but to be faithful in bearing responsibility for them.

"In addition to man's spiritual and creation's physical need for redemption, our bodies also need redeeming. From our Redeemer we learn that God values both our physical and spiritual needs for redemption. Our sins and their forgiveness are connected to our relationship with God but so are the effects of sin on the body. Abuse, neglect, and immoral indulgence are the choices we make that cause our bodies to fail us and become weak, sick, and die. Since there is no way anyone can avoid that outcome, our bodies also need redemption by the only One who can redeem them, Jesus Christ, God in the flesh. Paul finds hope in God's saving response to the groaning of this world in sin. It is a hope that lifts us up for heaven but also fortifies us for this life.

"As Christians we are not in control of this life, neither the world's nor ours. Yet we know that compared to the saving power of God, the absence of control in this life doesn't matter. We don't need to be in control because God is in control. We know God is in control by the evidence of Jesus Christ's death and resurrection. The cross of Christ and the crosses we bear in His name are not the last word. ***The last word is the new life in Christ, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting.***" (Dr. Richard C. Eyer, "Have Hope! God Is in Control"; *Grounded in God's Word, Commentaries on Life*, Lutherans For Life, Concordia Publishing House, 2018)

Rest in God's wisdom and His *grace*,

Sylvia Glenn

Feel free to call me (573-592-7866) for information or concerns about life issues. For those who have had an abortion, there is a **word of hope!** "He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds" (Psalm 147:3). For ***confidential post-abortion referral, counsel, and reconciliation*** contact WORD of HOPE, toll-free 888-217-8679, info@word-of-hope.org, or visit www.word-of-hope.org.



APRIL

Birthdays & Anniversaries

1 Arla Benskin	19 Trinity Reiss
2 Gideon Anderson	Nick Swartz
3 Rylee Eckhoff	Nicole Thompson
5 Andrew Lawler	20 Tom Myers
6 Jason Kiehne	21 Mary Earnhart
Megan Walz	22 Betty Landers
8 Stephanie Baehman	Eddie Sterling
Timothy Kling	23 Connie Hanson
Butch Reynolds	24 Sue Pickett
10 Tori Thompson	Jeff Smith
11 Preston Baehman	Nick Weber
12 Nathaniel Dyer	25 Kenny Klussman
13 Abby Eckhoff	Fred Luetkemeier
Stephen Harris	Cole Wohlgemuth
14 Zachary Mariott	26 Gary Frisch
Grace Thieme	Lauren Schaumberg
15 Liz Cherrington	Austin Tipton
Mark Unterreiner	Rachel Weber
16 Kim Crouch	27 Michael Laupp
17 Emma Crouch	28 Lorelee Adam
18 Reese Eckhoff	29 Sam Tackitt
Conner Gibson	30 Bob Clark

Larry & Judy Lammers	April 3, 1960
Larry & Elaine Samuel.....	April 15, 1967
Fred & Dana Luetkemeier	April 17, 1993
Joseph Mwamgiga & Agnes Mrutu.....	April 17, 1999
Tom & Sarah Stone	April 18, 1998
James & Bonnie Lawler.....	April 20, 1985
Larry & Diane Jeide.....	April 21, 1993
Andy & Kelly Reiff.....	April 23, 2016
Don & Jan Lang.....	April 24, 1976
Buck & Norma Katt.....	April 25, 1952
Jeffery & Nanette Schneider.....	April 25, 1981
Jim & Debbie Harms.....	April 26, 1980
Kevin & Elizabeth Kasper.....	April 29, 2017



EASTER LILIES

Regardless of whether our worship services will be in-person, online, or even over the radio, we will still be decorating the Chancel and Sanctuary for Palm Sunday and Easter. If you would like to sponsor one or more of the Easter lilies that will decorate our Chancel on Easter, please contact the Church Office. If emailing or leaving a phone message, please include your name as you would like it listed, the number of lilies you are sponsoring, and an "in memory" designation if you have one.



The cost of the lilies is \$12 each. Please make checks payable to Trinity Lutheran Church and in the memo section note "Altar Guild." Checks may be mailed to the church or submitted with your offering.

The Altar Guild thanks you!

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
2201 ROLLINS ROAD
COLUMBIA, MO 65203-1433

NON-PROFIT ORG
U.S.POSTAGE PAID
COLUMBIA, MO
PERMIT NO. 184



WORSHIP SERVICE TIMES:

SUNDAY 8:00 A.M. (ONLINE ONLY)

BIBLE STUDY:

SUNDAY 9:15 A.M. (ONLINE ONLY)

PHONE: 573-445-2112

FAX: 573-445-4078

EMAIL: CHURCH@TRINITY-LCMS.ORG

WEBSITE: TRINITY-LCMS.ORG

ARTICLE SUBMISSIONS

Items for the monthly *News of the Son* are due to the church office by noon on the 25th of the month (or the previous Friday if the 25th falls on a weekend).

Announcements for the *Trinity Weekly News* are due to the church office by noon each Thursday. Announcements of 75-100 words are preferred.

Dear Church Family,

Please contact the church office when:

- a member of your family is admitted to the hospital so visits can be made
- someone you know is very ill or has passed away
- your class, board, or group would like to use the church for a meeting or event so it can be scheduled on the church calendar
- your contact information or address changes
- a new baby arrives in your family
- a member of your family leaves home for college, joins the military, or is getting married
- you would like to have a member call you to visit or assist you in some way
- you have a prayer request
- you would like to share your time and talents
- you feel the church can assist you in any way