

TRINITY TIMES

From the Pastor's Desk

The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The LORD is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid? ... Wait for the LORD; be strong, and let your heart take courage; wait for the LORD! (Ps 27:1 & 4).

I'm sure you all are well aware of the fear and public concern over the recent Corona Virus scare. I encourage you all to take the CDC's advice and precautions in protecting yourself and loved ones. But I also want to more strongly caution you against fear or panic. This virus is no different than all of the other effects of sin on this world. We live in a world that has been broken since Adam and Eve first sinned, by trusting themselves and their will above God's will. Yet, humanity has been provided for and protected from utter calamity and collapse since that first sin. God has not abandoned us. He has not forsaken us. In fact, exactly the opposite. In times of fear and panic like these God's word shines all the more brightly in this world of darkness. Jesus has conquered not only our personal sins, but the death, decay, and diseases of this broken world. Sin is the cause of this disease, not as a result of a particular sin you or I have committed, but because of that first sin. The sin that caused this whole world to groan in response to the breaking of God's command. Death entered the world through sin, but life and salvation has been restored by Christ. Jesus is the victor of EVERYTHING in this world. He has saved us, yes, even from the effects of disease and sickness. He is our salvation! So, overcome fear with trust in God's promises for you. I promise you, that this virus is NOT more powerful than Jesus. I promise you this disease is NOT able to overcome your faith. I promise you this panic is NOT the way to salvation. However, Jesus is all powerful, Jesus continues to guard your faith, and Jesus is your salvation. Thanks be to God. Amen.

Your Servant, Pastor Scheele

Elders

Elder Mark Johnson is forming a volunteer list for opportunities to serve the Lord here at Trinity! He will be coming around taking notes on who can help with ushering, reading, greeting, and taking offering. Don't be shy, sign up today! It feels great to serve the Lord and we want everyone at Trinity to know that we together are the Church.

Mark Johnson	570-7639
Michael Merritt	739-5353
Burt Ramsey	565-3086
Bryan Baumgartner	562-4701

Council

Here are the highlights from the March 10, 2020 Trinity Church Council meeting.

Covid19 (Coronavirus) is becoming an issue in all corners of the world. The Council decided on these 3 points at this time. First, the request: If you're not feeling well and you are scheduled to serve at church in some way--as an Elder, an Usher, providing snacks at Fellowship, or in some other way where you'll be in contact with others--please resist the urge to come to church and serve. Instead, call a friend to fill in for you and/or let us know, then stay home and take care of yourself.

Secondly, we are placing the hand sanitizer in very visible places around the building. Please use it! We will do our best

to sanitize the restrooms and public areas more frequently than usual.

Thirdly, if you're uncomfortable shaking hands when you greet Pastor or anyone else, feel free to wave and smile--we'll all understand.

Here is the link to the most current recommendations from the Center for Disease Control.

https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/about/prevention.html?CDC_AA_refVal=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.cdc.gov%2Fcoronavirus%2F2019-ncov%2Fabout%2Fprevention-treatment.html

Further security measures for Trinity Lutheran Church were one of the March Council meeting topics. The council previously asked the congregation to make more than one 911 call if there is a need as this will get a faster response from law enforcement officials. The council wants to make the membership aware that there are a handful of congregates that have concealed-carry permits and they exercise that right.

The projector for the chapel is now here, but needs to be mounted. It worked great during the youth lock-in.

About \$1,200.00 of the 2020 Social Missions assigned budget will go out this month to these groups locally, Good Samaritans Center, The Bridge Shelter, Cortez Fire Department, and M-CHS Fellowship of Christian Athletes; regionally, Isleta Mission and Navajo Mission. The committee is currently looking for

ways to bring more local mission opportunities to us this next holiday season so we have a chance to set a few new traditions of giving within our Trinity families.

The upcoming council meetings for 2020 are set for April 14th, July 14th, Sept. 8th, and Oct. 13th at this time. All meetings start at 7:00 pm, in the Ruth Guild room and all Trinity Lutheran Members are welcomed to attend. To get on the agenda of a council meeting please see a council officer Tom Burnison, Wayne Hite, Carol Sperling, or Debra Ramsey.

The Treasurer

A few Treasurer's Notes:

--if you'd like to make your offering/tithes via automatic payment through your bank, please see Carol.

--if you'd like envelopes for your offerings, please see Carol about that too.

--if you have an account with Thrivent Financial, you may have Thrivent Choice dollars to distribute to the Christian charities of your choice. Visit your account on-line or call your representative. The deadline for directing your donations is March 31.

--if you'd like to financially commemorate a special event or important person in your life, please see Carol to discuss options.

--Quarterly update on the church's budget: We're breaking even, but just barely! Many thanks to our snowbirds who continue to support Trinity-Cortez from their winter homes

Trustees

There are a number of repair jobs to be taken on this Spring between the church and the Preschool. Three rooves need to be replaced this year on the older campus buildings. Repairing a broken sewer line in front of the Preschool will require the parking lot to be partially dug up.

Trustees have completed 18 Preschool projects since the start of the year.

The 2020 trustees are:

Dave Sperling (Head)	Jim Broderick
Kyle Riddell	Jerry Wittwer
Dale Cumpton	Andrew Riddell
Brian Rose	Ben Wolcott

Please let any of these folks know if something is out of order or any facilities questions. Repair request forms are posted on the bulletin board by the upstairs restrooms between the narthex and the fellowship hall.

Trinity Lutheran Preschool

Ben Wolcott is leading 2 work days at the Preschool on Monday and Tuesday, March 23 and 24, 2020. Work will

start at 8 a.m. on Monday and last until 3 p.m. They'll know on Monday what needs to be done on Tuesday. All helpers are very welcome!

Board of Education

The Board of Education is setting up the Children's Church schedule for April, May, and June, and we have plenty of opening if people want to volunteer to lead these young ones in learning of Jesus.

There are still some of the Lent in a Bag bags available, so please take one if interested. These are designed to help families with the season of Lent

Fellowship

There will be a 5th Sunday Fellowship Potluck after the Worship Service on March 29, 2020. Please see the sign-up sheet on the narthex bulletin board. These are always fun and gives us a chance to get to know our fellow worshippers a little better.

Easter Breakfast plans are underway, and it is always something to look forward to. The Fellowship Committee will be bringing more information to the congregation in the coming weeks. This is always a good event to invite a friend or neighbor to.

Dates to Remember

Mar 18, 2020 – Lenten Soup Supper @ 5 p.m. in Fellowship Hall
Mar 18, 2020 – Lenten Service @ 6 p.m.
Mar 23 – 24, 2020 – Preschool Work Days from 8 a.m. – 3 p.m. on Playground
Mar 25, 2020 – Sew 'n' Sews @ 9 a.m. in Ruth Guild Room
Mar 25, 2020 – Lenten Soup Supper @ 5 p.m. in Fellowship Hall
Mar 25, 2020 – Lenten Service @ 6 p.m.
Mar 28, 2020 – Men's Bible Study @ 7 a.m.
Mar 29, 2020 – Fifth Sunday Fellowship Potluck @ 10:30 a.m.
Mar 30, 2020 – Elders Meeting @ 7 p.m.
Apr 1, 2020 – Lenten Soup Supper @ 5 p.m. in Fellowship Hall
Apr 1, 2020 – Lenten Service @ 6 p.m.
Apr 8, 2020 – Sew 'n' Sews @ 9 a.m. in Ruth Guild Room
Apr 9, 2020 – Maundy Thursday Service @ 6 p.m.
Apr 10, 2020 – Good Friday Service @ 6 p.m.
Apr 12, 2020 – Easter Sunday
Apr 14, 2020 – Church Council Meeting @ 7 p.m. in the Ruth Guild Room
May 10, 2020 – Voters Meeting @ 10:15 a.m.

Newsletter and Website

You can sign up for the monthly newsletter by sending your e-mail to Shar @ shortstuff1950@gmail.com.

The Trinity website is also current with Church information and Calendar. If you would like to post something on the website you can contact Shar as well. The website is www.trinitylutheranchurchcortez.com