

TRINITY TIMES

From the Pastor's Desk

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, who by God's power are being guarded through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time." (1 Peter 1:3-5)

Alleluia, Christ is risen! He is risen indeed, Alleluia! What a blessed Easter celebration last week and as we entered into the 7 weeks of the Easter season. On Easter we not only rejoice in Christ's resurrection but we also look forward to our own resurrection on the last day when Christ will return. As Peter says in the verse above, God has caused us to be born again in the living hope of Christ's return. We are kept in this world, but our salvation and our hope are in the promise of the resurrection and the new heaven and the new earth. Yet, while here we are kept safe on this world from the eternal ravages of sin, through Christ's power over sin, death, and the devil. As we continue to live and worship apart, in the midst of this COVID-19 pandemic, we yearn for the day we can join together and worship in the same space again. Just like, as Christians, we yearn for the day when we can be together with Jesus at His second coming. At that time, we will be together again for eternity and sickness, death, and sin will be no more. Already we've started to see the results of Christ's Kingdom here on earth. We see the Kingdom of Heaven in the Word and Sacraments as they are proclaimed each week in our worship together. We see God's Kingdom when a Christian forgives a fellow Christian of a sin they've committed against them. We see Jesus on earth when we take the time to help in the restoration of this fallen creation by working to serve our neighbor. We see Jesus reigning in our hearts and in our minds when we yearn to be together as he has called us to be. So, as we wait for this pandemic to pass, remind yourselves that all things are under Christ who has all authority in heaven and on earth. He has promised you salvation and guards you through faith until the final fulfillment of salvation is revealed on the last day. Alleluia, Christ is risen! He is risen indeed, Alleluia!

Pastor Luke Scheele

Elders

The current Elders can be reached at the numbers below:

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

Online Worship Services

Since we are following Colorado's Coronavirus guidelines at Trinity Lutheran, we are worshipping with online services. Pastor and a small music team are filming the services and adding them to the Trinity Lutheran website <https://www.trinitylutheranchurchcortez.com>. Since the Worship services are filmed, they are available for your viewing whenever it works for you. However, we encourage you to jump in and listen during the normal Trinity Worship service time of 9 a.m. on Sunday mornings. When you go to the website, click on the Online Worship tab and find the date for the latest service. These services will be viewable on your computer or laptop. If you are technologically savvy, you can hook it up to your TV if you have the proper equipment. The

bulletin will be available to use while you are viewing the service or you can print it if you have a home computer.

At 10:15 on Sundays, Pastor will have Bible Study and this is carried out live, so plan to join the discussion. Here is the website for joining by computer - <https://join.freeconferencecall.com/trinitylccortez>. If you have not experienced this type of technology, try to connect before the Bible Class starts as it may take a few minutes of your time and some adjustment. You may also join by phone; call (425) 436-6358 and enter this access code: 367780#. This information is also on the website.

Both the Worship service and the Bible Study will be posted on the website on Sunday morning.

Council

--The Council met by conference call on Tuesday, April 14, 2020, and discussed the Rocky Mountain District's Gospel Gap program, which allocates funds to congregations in the district where there's a "gospel gap"--that is, where there is a lack of Christian preaching and teaching, for whatever reason. Our circuit chose to support Grace Lutheran Church in Moab this

year. Grace Lutheran generally has more traveling visitors attend than there are congregational members, and so lacks the financial stability it needs to support a full-time pastor and/or grow the resident congregation. The District encourages voluntary additional contributions to this program from the Circuit churches that have identified the need. The Council agreed to support this ministry as part of Trinity's Missions and Outreach efforts, and will be sending \$100/month for the rest of the year to the District, to assist Grace Lutheran in Moab.

--Also, the Council agreed to defer the May congregational Voters' meeting until we can again worship together in person. We will likely schedule another conference call Council meeting in May to keep up with church business.

--THANKS to all for faithfully sending in your offerings and tithes. Trinity is breaking even on our monthly financial commitments, thanks to you!

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

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'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

The unusual circumstances brought about by curtailment of the use of the church's physical facilities as a reaction to the threat of Coronavirus has slowed the need for activity on the part of the Trustees. The thermostats at the church and school have all been set to 55 during periods of inactivity (which is

most of the time). A number of volunteers cleaned various areas of the church and kitchen at the beginning of the virus response. Thank you for your attention to detail. Preschool facilities have been thoroughly cleaned by the preschool staff, and we all await further developments. Periodic checks are made of the buildings to insure preservation. Work continues slowly on the preparation of a scope of work for the church and school building roof repair project. Contracting and Construction on this project has been placed on hold until definition and timing of financial and practical aspects of church operation is available.

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.

Sew 'n' Sews

As with other activities for Trinity Lutheran Church, the Sew 'n' Sews are not meeting on their regularly scheduled work days. However, there are kits of quilt tops available to sew at home if you have that skill. The tops are simple – 60" by 80" made up of 10 inch squares. If you would like to participate, let Shar Short know.

These may be subject to change depending on Colorado Coronavirus guidelines.

Dates to Remember

May 3, 2020 – Elders Meeting @ 8 a.m.
May 3, 2020 – Worship Service @ 9 a.m. at Trinity Lutheran
May 3, 2020 – Bible Class @ 10:45 a.m.
May 10, 2020 – Worship Service @ 9 a.m.
May 13, 2020 – Sew 'n' Sews @ 9 a.m. in Ruth Guild Room
May 17, 2020 – Worship Service @ 9 a.m. at Trinity Lutheran
May 24, 2020 – Worship Service @ 9 a.m. at Trinity Lutheran
May 27, 2020 – Sew 'n' Sews @ 9 a.m. in Ruth Guild Room

***Alleluia, Christ is risen! He is risen indeed,
Alleluia!***

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