

TRINITY TIMES

Trinity Lutheran Church

February 2016

From the Pastor's Desk

"I always thank God for you because of his grace given you in Christ Jesus." 1 Corinthians 1:4

Greetings in the name of Jesus! How is your winter going? Isn't it wonderful to be reminded again in the above verse that grace is a gift from God. We cannot earn it nor do we deserve it but God is great and His love for us is limitless. Jesus won that grace for us on the cross and at the empty tomb. In this month of love, let's remember to share His love with others all year long.

Peace,

Pastor Chittick



Elders

Larry Gessner will have a report coming up on the success of the "Gospels Seeds" program being utilized by both churches in Durango and Pagosa Springs. This is something that Trinity may want to look at for this area as well.

The Elders will be discussing and bringing to the Council meeting the possibility of assisting in the Grant Application for John Widmer for the completion of his studies as a Lay Pastor. He is currently assigned as the Lay Pastor for Grace Lutheran Church in Moab, Utah, but still has two years remaining in his studies. Even doing these programs online becomes a financial burden and the District is looking to assist him for these final two years in the amount of \$10,000 a year - more to come on this issue.

The next Elders meeting will be held on March 6. Please contact any elder with any issues you may have.

The Elders are:

Larry Gessner	565-6371
Kelly McCabe	565-7269
Marty Ruggles	565-4049
Joe Stevens	565-3679
Roland Walter	882-7450
Ralph Wegner	565-3936

Please feel free to contact any of them at any time with comments or concerns.

Preschool

The school year is moving along quickly. We have 70 children enrolled. The preschool board is continuing their search for candidates for Preschool Director. The school will be going through their Qualistar evaluation in May. This evaluation goes along with state licensing now, so there has been many changes in how things are set up. Once the initial work is

done, the following years will be easier (I hope). Please continue to pray that the Lord will send the right person to take over the preschool and that the transition will be a smooth, positive one.

Operation Christmas Child

Savvy shoppers know that they can impact more children around the world for eternity by looking for shoebox items throughout the year. I will feature an item a month, but if you find other bargains, feel free to include them as well. Items can be placed in the Operation Christmas Child decorated box in the foyer of the church anytime during the month. I will store the items until next November, and then we can have a GIGANTIC packing party and make lots of boxes from the items we have accumulated. We are also planning to do a couple of craft

sessions. **February items are accessories like hair bows, barrettes, hair ties, bracelets, necklaces, jewelry, sunglasses, and other trinkets.** January items did not make the January newsletter, but these items will be marked down soon, so watch for them, too – **hats, gloves and scarves.** If you have questions, contact Jackie Snow.

Mission Committee

The Mission Committee will be working in 2016 on several projects. The Preschool is always at the top of the list for Missions. Sometimes we help with family nights and other times we help with projects around the Preschool.

The other organization we are going to help this year is Orphan Grain Train. This group sends help in the form of food and many other necessities all over the world. Check out their website at <http://www.ogt.org/>. Plans are under way for activities in 2016, so watch for more information.

There are several openings on this committee, so if you have an interest, give Lisa Wegner a call at 565-3936.

Small Groups

Small groups can be tools that promote Bible Study, prayer, and fellowship in a church. In the fall of 2012, there were 3 small groups started. Of those one is still meeting regularly. It's a great chance to get to know other Christians better and it can also become an outreach tool. After Easter, there will be a time to sign up for a small group. As we go through the important Lenten portion of the year, consider what you might learn

and who you might invite to a small group.

Hopes Kitchen/The Bridge

The numbers for both the kitchen and the shelter have increased over the past month, primarily due to the weather. Please keep both in your prayers.

A moderately successful "Souper Bowl Sunday" contribution was held this past weekend. A number of schools participated in donating canned items, and then the Methodist Church did a bang up job as usual. These 'special' days happen infrequently so remember that we are always in need of large cans (or small) of vegetables and of pastas. Through the Souper Bowl Sunday contributions we were able to also provide a large box of soups to the Bridge as well. Cooperation on the part of all involved makes every effort a success.

Larry Gessner

Sew 'n' Sews

Sew 'n' Sews will meet Wednesday, February 10th & 24th this month. We're working towards more tied quilts to send to Orphan Grain Train. Please meet in the Ruth Guild room at 9 a.m. Questions can go to Shar Short at 564-1596 or Mary Mahaffey at 562-4750.



Upcoming Events

- February 10, 2016 – Ash Wednesday Service @ 7 p.m.
- February 17 & 24, 2016 – Lenten Service @ 7 p.m.
- March 2, 9, 16, 2016 – Lenten Service @ 7 p.m.
- March 6, 2016 – Elders Meeting after church service
- March 8, 2016 – Church Council @ 6:30 p.m.
- March 24, 2016 – Maundy Thursday Service @ 7 p.m.
- March 25, 2016 – Good Friday Service @ 7 p.m.
- March 27, 2016 – Easter Sunday

Web Site

There is a recipe page added to the Web Site. This will give those interested in popular recipes access to them at any time of the day. Keep up with the happenings at Trinity by checking the calendar and revisiting past Trinity Times. Give it a look at <http://www.trinitylutheranchurchcortez.com/home>.

Shar Short

Volunteer Needed

If you have some extra time during the week and knowledge of technical devices, Wayne Hite could use your help in taping and burning copies of the Sunday sermon. Give him a call at 882-1438.

Newsletter Info

If you would like to submit information to this newsletter or to the website, please put it in Shar Short's box, call her at 970-64-1596, or e-mail her at shortstuff1950@gmail.com.