

Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church

717 Stover Ave, PO box 637

Milledgeville, IL 61051

Phone: 815-225-7410

Partner in Cooperative Ministry

First Lutheran West Jordan

N. IL. Synod of the ELCA

Ministers

The People of God

Pastor **Rev. Susan Davenport**

Secretary **Janet Barkley**

Organist **Nancy Janssen**



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**Trinity Lutheran Church
Milledgeville, IL**



**And
First Lutheran of
Jordan, Sterling, IL**





This Lent, which begins Feb. 22nd, I'm not planning anything grand for myself. I have no intention of taking on a new discipline or denying myself a certain food or activity. In this past year of pandemic living, I've learned to take life day by day, navigating anxiety about the future and celebrating joy found in the present.

Since COVID-19 took hold, there's been no shortage of circumstances or big feelings that might cause us to turn away from others and God. Yet, Lent, the season of lengthening days, can hold our doubts of resurrection's promise and pull us to the empty tomb where we are met by Christ.

Lent teaches us to hold postures of hope in the face of despair. Lent, I believe, calls us to keep moving forward and saying together, *We have to go through it*. When we reach the final days of Lent, we are met not by what we've done or accomplished but rather by the work God has done on the cross. Lent shows us through the cross that death doesn't have the final word.

This Lenten season, I invite you to feel all your feelings, dig into the story of Jesus' life and death, and find small, meaningful ways to honor the season. Here are some suggested faith practices for your journey:

Deep breaths. It sounds so simple. It is simple. Yet too often I fail to take my own advice. This Lent, remember to breathe deeply. While doing so, perhaps you could meditate on a mantra such as *I breathe in peace. I exhale worry*.

Centering poems. When we're bombarded by screens and media, it can be centering to step away from them. Instead, take time to savor a poem a day. Maybe pick one or two poems to read over and over the next 40 days. (Kathleen Norris, Pádraig Ó Tuama and Jan Richardson are poets whose work intersects with Christian themes.)

Light a candle. Sit by its glow. Watch the flame or smell the scent. Repeat as often as needed, whether aloud or silently: *Jesus is the light of our world*.

Lent calls to us to keep moving forward and saying together, *We have to go through it*.

Pay attention. Commit to noticing what's around you. You can take as little as one minute to stop what you're doing and look. What do you see? What do you smell? What is one thing right in front of you that you didn't notice before? Name it and give thanks to God.

Sit with a story. Pick a book of the Bible (or one chapter, such as Exodus 16 or Matthew 10) and read through it as many times as you can during Lent. Don't worry about how much you read or if you miss a day. The practice is about sitting with one text and listening for how God is speaking to you.

Connect. Be intentional about connecting with others. Take a few minutes each day and send a text or write a letter. Pick up the phone and call someone you haven't seen for a while. Whenever you connect, thank God for friendship.

Cook. Try a new recipe and savor the act of creating something. Scripture gives us many examples of sharing food. Jesus calls himself the bread of life, and throughout his ministry he sat down and ate with others. As you cook and bake, remember that in the making and breaking of bread, Jesus is present.

Finally, maybe most importantly, give yourself grace. Lent is not about achieving or doing but about resting in the God who calls us and walks with us through life, death and beyond.

Wherever you find yourself this Lent, know you're not alone. We'll go through it together.

(By Kimberly Knowle-Zeller, ordained ELCA pastor)



West Jordan

Worship Helpers

Alter care, communion assistant, Ushers/greeters

Feb 5th & 12th	Brian & Paula Beveroth
Lector	Brian Beveroth
Feb. 19th & 26	Amy & John Sumption
Lector	Melissa Woessner



LENT

Ash Wednesday at Trinity,
February 22 @ 6:00 PM

LENT MIDWEEK 2023: Soup & Study on Thursdays (see schedule below) @ 4:00 PM

The study will be on Matthew's Sermon on the Mount using the resource, "Sermon on the Mount: A Beginner's Guide to the Kingdom of Heaven" by Amy-Jill Levine. Participants MAY purchase the book (available on Amazon) but such is not necessary. Let us use sign-up sheets for those willing to bring soup & bread or crackers and to take a tentative count for those providing food.

LENT LOCATION SCHEDULE:

THURSDAY, March 2, 4:00 PM @ Trinity
 THURSDAY, March 9, 4:00 PM @ Trinity
 THURSDAY, March 16, 4:00 PM @ Trinity
 THURSDAY, March 23, 4:00 PM @ Jordan
 THURSDAY, March 30, 4:00 PM @ Jordan
 MAUNDY THURSDAY, April 6, 4:00 PM @ Jordan

In our prayers:

From First:

Roger Hinrichs, Scotty Powell, Ramon Woessner, Dodie Whitmer, Elena Vassallo, Rhonda Ramirez, Debbie Howlett, Dick Bushman, Olivia Crossman, Bob Woessner, Polly Adams, Charlene Lane, Myron Deets, Jared, Seantae, Josie, & Noah Wetzell, Sye Dodson, Landon Frederick, Frank Lazansky, and Roxanne Klein

From Trinity:

Lori Anderson, Bill Borth,
 Jim & Barb Brubaker,
 Dick Bushman, Shirley Cheeseman,
 Tom Cleary, Carol Frederick,
 Matthew Foltz, Chet Gerdes
 Larry & Mary Gerdes, Sharon Hammer,
 Jane Hines, Roger Hinrichs,
 Dick Janssen, Joyce Lancaster,
 Mikey Remmers, Sandy Skinner,
 Bob Woessner.
 Sye Dodson, Landon Frederick,
 Noah Oldham, Pam LaBarron,

Our Southtown Ministry

Will be Tuesday, February, 21st. at 4:30

Lynn Kaufman, Jodi Woessner &
Greg Kruse, leaders

If you have News or a Announcement for the March newsletter please email, or call me before March 20th

Church Leaders Directory

Trinity Lutheran Church

President Kevin Anderson
 Vice-President Jim Brubaker
 Secretary Shannon Woodard
 Treasurer Donna Landis
 At-Large Ken Peterson
 Lori Oncken
 Tammy Miller
 Custodian Lynn Kaufman
 Musician Nancy Janssen
 Financial Secretary Ken Peterson

First Lutheran West Jordan

President Jan Wetzel (631-9353)
Secretary Jodi Woessner

Pastor, Rev. Susan Davenport
563-613-3892

Church Secretary Janet Barkley
Church # 815-225-7410 Cell# 815-590-0520

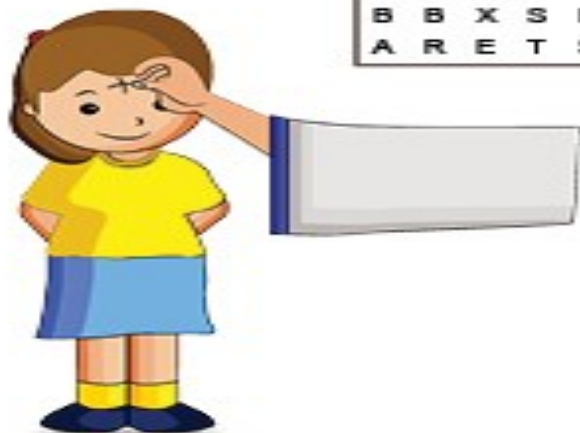
Ash Wednesday

Word Search

DIRECTIONS:
Find and circle the
vocabulary words
in the grid. Look
for them in all
directions including
backwards and
diagonally.



- Abstain
- Almsgiving
- Ash Wednesday
- Ashes
- Bless
- Christian
- Church
- Cross



- Desert
- Dust
- Easter
- Fasting
- Forehead
- Forty Days
- Jesus
- Lent
- Mass
- Mortality
- Palm Sunday
- Penitence
- Prayer
- Purple
- Repentance
- Sacrifice
- Shrove Tuesday
- Temptation

Happy Valentine's Day

- Candle Light
- Cards
- Chocolate
- Cupid
- Date
- Dinner
- First Kiss
- Memories
- Movie
- Pink
- Poem
- Proposal
- Red
- Romance
- Roses
- St. Valentine
- Sweetarts
- Teddy Bear
- True Love



How to get what you need at Trinity Lutheran/First Lutheran Church's

Emergency Pastoral Care Concern?

*Hospitalizations, Illness,
Family Crisis*

Call Pr. Susan Davenport at
Cell phone # 563-613-3892

Do **NOT** rely on the hospital to
contact the church.

Do **NOT** rely on word of mouth/
The grapevine.

Do **NOT** rely on mindreading skills.
Pastor missed that class in seminary.

Non—Urgent

Pastoral Needs?

*Scheduling a home visit/baptism/
wedding. Confirmation/Christian Ed,
Coffee & Conversation*

Leave a message at Trinity for Pr. Susan.
She will return it as soon as possible.

E-mail Pastor Susan

pastorsusan678@gmail.com

Questions about

Administrative stuff?

*Announcements for the bulletin, ques-
tions about schedules, Financial ques-
tions, hall rental, etc....*

Call the Church and leave a message for
Janet on the Church answering machine,
for her to return during office hours

815-225-7410 or E-mail Janet at
telcsecretary@mediacommbb.net

Contact a council member



Food Pantry

February 7th, , 2023

9:00 to 11:00 AM

6:00 to 8:00 pm

THE SEWERS ARE BACK

We will be sewing again on Mondays at 10:30.

There will be a lite lunch of what ever dish you
bring. They are working on tying quilts And sewing
for singles bed.



NORTHERN ILLINOIS SYNOD
CRE MARCH 4, 2023

Join us at Sauk Valley Community College in Dixon on March 4, 2023

We will gather under the theme of **Be the Body**.

Registration is now open and will close on February 24th!

Cost per participant is \$25 and includes lunch, coffee and morning treats

SCHEDULE

8:30 – Registration Opens

9:15 - 9:45 – Gathering Together
in Prayer

9:45 - 10:15 – Keynote with
Bishop Stacie Fidler

10:30 - 11:30 – Breakout Groups

11:45 - 12:45 – Lunch

1:00 - 1:45 – Workshop A

2:00 - 2:45 – Workshop B

3:00 - 3:30 – Sending Out to
Be the Body of Christ

Breakout Groups will be pre-
assigned groups that will help
imagine what it means to be the
body of Christ.

Workshop A will include
examples of creative ways to
rethink ministry and tools for
serving God.

Workshop B will be led by
synodical ministries, including
committees and other groups, in
which you can learn how to
participate in the larger Church.

For more information and to register visit us at
www.nisynod.org/cre or scan our QR code



February Daily Prayer

Feb 1st—Help us to see you, Jesus, in everyone we meet and to greet them in the way of your love made flesh. Amen
Feb 2nd—God of ancient promises, continue to surprise us with the enormity of your love made flesh. Amen
Feb 3rd— God of justice, empower us to show your love by caring for those society casts aside. Amen
Feb 4th— Bless our vulnerability, Lord, and give us the confidence that comes by being bound together by your love. Amen
Feb 5th— Radiant God, help us to recognize and share our gifts to point others to you. Amen
Feb 6th—God of truth, help us honestly examine how our actions affect others, confess our wrongs, and change our ways. Amen
Feb 7th - God, guide us in the ways that most clearly point to you, through your blessed Son, Jesus. Amen
Feb 8th— Jesus, you come to us where er are Help us “list” to you as you greet and call us. Amen
Feb 9th— Nurturing God, by following you we know you. Help us see your face as we live out your will. Amen
Feb 10th— Thank you, Lord, for the gift of Torah. Bless us with understanding as we study your word. Amen
Feb 11th—Lord, bless us with holy synergy when we work together to serve you. In Jesus’ name. Amen
Feb 12th—God of love, help us see one another through your eyes as we seek reconciliation with others. Amen
Feb 13th—Lord, help us honor you by setting aside time to rest and resource to others to do the same. Amen.
Feb 14th—God of radical love, embolden us to follow young leaders among us doing good work. Amen
Feb 15th— God of wisdom, bless me with good judgement and renew my confidence that you are with me. Amen
Feb 16th— Open the eyes of my heart, God, that I may more clearly recognize the signs that you are near. Amen
Feb 17th— Thank you, Holy One, for the love that forgives my sins and make me whole. Amen
Feb 18th—Hallelujah! I praise and thank my God for the light of Christ tat shines in me. Amen.
Feb 19th Almighty God, thank you for the beautiful ways I encounter the wonders of your love. Amen
Feb 20th—What a friend we have in Jesus; what a privilege it is to carry everything to God in prayer. Amen.
Feb 21st—The spirit of the living God is with me in this place; I will not be afraid. Amen
Feb 22nd—Thank you, Jesus, for the life you give us, now and forever. Amen.
Feb 23rd—Save us from the time of trail and temptation, gracious God, that we may serve you with wisdom. Amen.
Feb 24thGiver of love and happiness, thank you for filling our days with the fruits of these gifts. Amen
Feb 25th—Thank you, dear Jesus, for your love that heals my heart and empowers me to serve in your name. Amen
Feb 26th—O God, empower us to speak out against hunger and poverty so all may be nourished by you love. Amen.
Feb 27th— Holy God, heal our wounds and set us free to share with all the love we find in you. Amen
Feb 28th— God of compassion, we thank you for the love we can share with people you have places in our lives. Amen

JESUS
 YOU



Daily Devotions



Feb 1st	Luke 6:17-26
Feb 2nd	Luke 2:22-40
Feb 3rd	Isaiah 58:1-9a[9b-12]
Feb 4th	1 Corinthians 2:1-12[13-16]
Feb 5th	Matthew 5:13-20
Feb 6th	Kings 22:3-20
Feb 7th	Psalms 119:105-112
Feb 8th	John 8:12-30
Feb 9th	Deuteronomy 30:15-20
Feb 10th	Psalms 119:1-8
Feb 11th	1 Corinthians 3:1-9
Feb 12th	Matthew 5:21-37
Feb 13th	Exodus 20:1-21
Feb 14th	Psalms 119:9-16
Feb 15th	Proverbs 2:1-15
Feb 16th	Exodus 24:12-18
Feb 17th	Psalms 2
Feb 18th	2 Peter 1:16-21
Feb 19th	Matthew 17:1-9
Feb 20th	Exodus 33:7-23
Feb 21st	1 Kings 19:9-18
Feb 22nd	Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21
Feb 23rd	Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7
Feb 24th	Psalms 32
Feb 25th	Romans 5:12-19
Feb 26th	Matthew 4:1-11
Feb 27th	Hebrews 2:10-18
Feb 28th	Genesis 4:1-16

God
 Answers
 Prayer

FEBRUARY

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 <p>FEBRUARY 12TH</p> <p>President Abraham Lincoln 1809-1865</p>			1	2 Craig Schildgen's birthday	3	4
5 Worship & Communion FWJ 8:30; Trinity 10:15	6	7 Luke Koett's birthday Marissa Eye's birthday Otto and Dorothy Wagenknecht's anniversary	8	9	10 Thomas Barkley's birthday	11 David Wagenknecht's birthday
12 Tom Landheer birthday Alyvia Woodard's birthday Worship FWJ 8:30; Trinity 10:15	13 Brian and Cherrie Simpson's anniversary	14 	15 Kathy Bogott's birthday Troy Wagenknecht's birthday	16 Kali Livengood's birthday Susan Lorke's birthday	17 Robert and Lori Oncken's anniversary	18 Karen Landers's birthday
19 Worship & Communion FWJ 8:30; Trinity 10:15	20  ★★★ HAPPY ★★★ PRESIDENTS' DAY	21 Brandi VanDyke's birthday Gary and Le-Anne Nye's anniversary	22 Ash Wednesday Trinity at 6:00	23	24 Brody Kelley's birthday	25 Amanda Beveroth birthday
26 Ron Judd's birthday Worship FWJ 8:30; Trinity 10:15	27 Michael Strehlow's birthday	28 				

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH Of West Jordan
20314 Hickory Hills Road
Sterling, IL 61081
815-225-7410
Worship: Sundays 8:30 AM

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
717 Stover Ave, PO Box 637
Milledgeville, IL 61051
815-225-7410; telcsecretary@mediacombb.net
Worship: Sundays 10:15 AM
trinitymville.360unite.com



“I thank my God every time I remember you, ⁴ constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, ⁵ because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. –Philippians 3: 1-5

(Note: this is the Fifth in a series of seven on Martin Luther’s “7 Marks of the Church”)

The Fifth Mark of the Church says Luther, is **“The Calling, Consecrating, and Ordaining of Ministers (The Holy Ministry).”**

Writes Luther, “The church is recognized externally by the fact that it consecrates or calls ministers, or has offices that it is to administer. There must be bishops, pastors, or preachers, who publicly and privately give, administer, and use the aforementioned four things [*Word, Sacraments of Baptism and Communion, and the Office of the Keys*] or holy possessions in behalf of and in the name of the church, or rather by reason of their institution by Christ, as St. Paul states in Ephesians 4: “*The gifts he gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, ¹² to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ,*”

Elsewhere, Martin Luther also writes of “the priesthood of all believers.” Every person baptized is given a ministry (also known as a *vocation*) both in the church and out in the world by virtue of their baptism. But for reasons of “good church order,” ordination singles some out to maintain these Marks.

Luther explains: “It [administration of word and sacrament] must be entrusted to one person, and [he/she] alone should be allowed to preach, to baptize, to absolve, and to administer the sacraments. The others should be content with this arrangement and agree to it. Wherever you see this done, be assured that God’s people, the holy Christian people, are present.”

In January we gathered once again for our Annual Meetings. This annual gathering is a testimony to this Fifth Mark of the Church. While pastors are concerned with maintaining the integrity of worship, lay (*non-ordained*) members of the church are concerned with maintaining the integrity of everything else. Electing leaders, passing a budget, taking stock of the past year and looking ahead to another. Pastors and people—none of us can do this work of the church alone. For this, I give God great thanks.

Peace,

Pastor Susan