APRIL 2024

TRINITY CONNECTION

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER FROM TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH IN MASON CITY, IOWA

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TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
213 N PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE | MASON CITY, IA 50401

TRINITY
LUTHERAN CHURCH

WELCOME!

We are a servant church in the ♥ of Mason City, Iowa.

EDITORIAL

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Printer Trinity Lutheran Church

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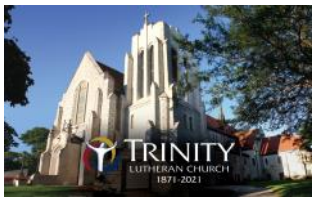
The Trinity Connection informs the members of Trinity Lutheran Church about the church's mission, and people, helping them to grow in faith and commitment to Jesus Christ.



FRONT PAGE: Trinity team at Mission Jamaica

There was a moment on our recent Mission Jamaica trip when I wondered who was serving who. It happened on the last day at Westhaven Children's Home, where we had spent several days painting, building, washing clothes and helping care for the 90+ disabled residents.

PASTOR DAN GERRIETTS
SENIOR PASTOR

It was "track and field day" for the Westhaven kids. But before we headed up to the field, the staff gathered the residents for morning devotions, led by one of the older boys. Let's call him Blake, for anonymity's sake.

Blake started with a song: "We're together again, just praising the Lord, and I feel good, good…" Everyone joined in, singing full throat. And then Blake prayed one of the most elegant, heartfelt, prayers I have ever heard. He was ministering to his peers. And he was ministering to us. To think that we had arrived believing *we* were the missionaries. Such is the kingdom of God, I think.

In Matthew 20, Jesus says that he "did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom to many." This confused his disciples. Most great teachers wanted followers to admire and serve them for their wisdom. Jesus taught that the greatest calling is to serve those around you. "As you do it to the least of these, you do it to me," he said. He spoke about serving others as if it was breathing – something essential to everyday life.

At Trinity, one of our core values is "Courageous Mission and Service" - the idea that Christ-like service draws us away from our need to only care for ourselves, opening us up to the needs of our neighbor. Serving others often requires sacrifice and the courage to try something new. It asks that we relinquish some control, or that we receive as much as we give. In short, serving like Christ transforms us.

To be a servant is our calling and our joy. How is God calling you to *courageous mission and service?* In what ways is God already using you to bring grace, forgiveness and Christ-like love to others?

Pastor Dan

GRADES 5 - 6

PRAYER MENTOR

WORSHIP & GATHERING

Sunday, April 14, 2024

All 5th-6th graders and their Prayer Mentors are encouraged to meet in the Gathering Space on Sunday, April 14, before the 9:00 AM service to attend worship and the fellowship time after the service. (If students leave for Sunday School, that is okay.) This multi-generational ministry nurtures young believers and models a prayerful life. If you'd like to be a Prayer Mentor next year, please get in touch with Carol Dettmer at carol.dettmer@trinity-mc.org.

SUNDAY SCHOOL IN APRIL

The last lesson for the year is Doubting Thomas, and all Trinity Sunday School students aged 3 - Grade 6 will study Thomas and the disciples' story through stories, art, and games.

HELP NEEDED VBS & DAY CAMP

- Preschool (9-11 am) and Grades 1-6 (9:00 AM –1:00 PM, bring sack lunch
- Welcome Table at start of each day
- Preschool Treats donations

Sign-up by the Trinity Nursery or call/email: 641-423-0536 or marty.greder@trinity-mc.org

GRADES K - 12

SUNDAY SCHOOL HEADS TO GOOD SHEPHERD

Sunday, April 21, 2024 / 9:15 - 10:15 AM

Trinity's Sunday School classes will head to Good Shepherd on Sunday, April 21, during the Sunday School hour to share music, prayer and greet residents.

GRADES 7 - 12

END OF SUNDAY SCHOOL *& TEACHER RECOGNITION*

Sunday, April 28, 2024 / 10:30 AM */ Trinity Sanctuary*

Everyone is invited to attend the 10:30 AM service after the last SS class (9:15-10:15 AM.) Sunday School students and the Adult Choir will present a very special song celebrating teachers. All who have participated in Sunday School this year are urged to attend!

Our Middle School Lock-In last month was a lot of fun! Thanks to those kiddos who attended!

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL & DAY CAMP

I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing.

-John 15:5

Trinity Lutheran Church will hold its annual Vacation Bible School for students age 3 - 5 and Day Camp for Grades 1-6 on June 10 - 13, 2024. Counselors from Riverside Lutheran Bible Camp will be involved in leading activities throughout the week. The theme for all ages is Cultivate based on John 15:5.

PRESCHOOL

Activities will be held from 9:00 - 11:00 AM for children aged 3 - Kindergarten.

Cost is $25/child

GRADES 1-6

(Entering Fall 2024)
Activities will be held from 9:00 AM - 1:00 PM
Bring a sack lunch. Register online or pick up a form at the church office.

Cost is $25/child

Register NOW at:
trinity-mc.org/vacation-bible-school
or scan the QR code below!

SCAN ME!

SPRING PROGRAMMING IS 4 WEEKS : APRIL 4 - 24, 2024

Wednesday Night Alive

SPRING 2024

Community Meal

6:00 PM

Free-will Offering

Programming

6:30 PM

All programming is from 6:30 - 7:30 PM unless otherwise noted.

April 3 - Mission Jamaica

Trinity Mission Jamaica 2024 Team will share pictures and stories from their March adventure.

April 10 - Fear of Nature

Fear of Nature presented by Heather Hucka - "Don't touch that, it's dangerous"… "Does that bite?"… "I am afraid of…" For being a part of nature, we sure are fearful of it! Have you ever stopped to wonder why? And more importantly, how that fear is keeping you from connecting to God's creations? Heather Hucka is the Conservation Education Manager for Cerro Gordo County Conservation.

April 17 - 43 North Iowa

43 North Iowa continues to provide services to clients with an array of disabilities, while also creating community partnerships. Through expansion efforts, they are serving more people, helping them achieve stability through employment, community engagement, and safer living situations. Director John Derryberry is looking forward to sharing success stories with you, answering your questions, talking about how clients earned $1.9 million last year, and talking about how this supports the North Iowa Corridor.

April 24 - Clean Energy District

An Introduction to Cerro Gordo Clean Energy District

Hear about its work to move the county to Locally Owned Clean Energy. Three ongoing projects are: reducing high-energy costs low income households have to pay, fighting the electric rate increases that Alliant is proposing, and the most important— helping develop utility wind, solar and storage ordinances. Join climate expert Don Hofstand and Gina Clinger as they share information that affects everyone.

Wednesday Night Alive

Continued

Living Well in the Midst of Grief & Loss

April 3 - 24, 2024

April 3 – April 24: **Living Well in the Midst of Grief & Loss** is a four-week class which will give us an opportunity to explore how grief and loss impact our heart, soul, strength, and mind. Please call the office if you are planning to attend so we can plan accordingly. Facilitated by Linda Vold, retired therapist and Becky Elsbernd, Trinity Parish Nurse.

Trinity Choir

Trinity Choir: Trinity's choir is open to all vocalists, high school age & older. Choir practice is held in the Choir Room.

Young People

Kindergarten - Grade 6

Kindergarten through Grade 6 **s**tudents will learn from talented Trinity adults with a new activity each week.

Confirmation : Grades 7 & 8

Confirmation students will gather 6:30 - 7:45 PM and experience small group and large group learning as they study for their Confirmation.

Flame: Grades 9-12

High School Youth Group meets
6:30 - 7:45 PM in the Youth Room.

FELLOWSHIP COFFEE

Tuesday, April 16, 2024

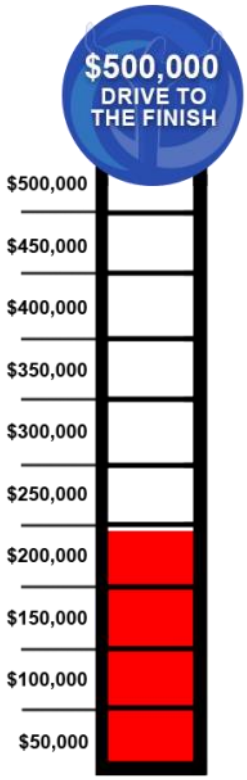
***9:30 AM** / Trinity Fellowship Hall*

Fellowship Coffee returns! Come to the Fellowship Hall for a time of coffee and treats and to hear Sam Hunt share highlights from his life story.

T150

CONSTRUCTION LOAN

Trinity continues to pay on the remaining construction loan for the T150 building renovations, technology upgrades, and our mission project. Thanks to the ongoing generosity of many, we have been able to make loan payments from special gifts alone and not the general budget. Trinity's mission and outreach continue to be blessed by this $4.5 million project. To make a gift, go to trinity-mc.org/trinity-at-150 or write "T150" on your check or envelope.



Total Dollars Received - $3,902,162
T150 Loan Balance - $318,916
Loan Interest Paid To Date - $150,061

Mission Jamaica 2024 was "life changing," "joy-filled," and "far exceeded" expectations, according to some of the members of the group who spent a week in Jamaica, helping clean up after a flood, painting houses and assisting children in the Westhaven Children's Home. For congregation members who want to get a taste of what this mission trip is like, no one can explain it better than the participants. Here's their take on a blessed and amazing week…

MARK LEDUC & DAN CLARKE

Betsy Kirby weighed in on her thoughts before she left. She and her husband, Tom, and their two sons, Jude and Jamie, were first-timers on this mission trip.

Kirby said, "My husband suggested we take our family when the opportunity arose. I was hesitant, but knew I'd be taking a step of obedience in the Lord. I feel like I'm going to experience a part of God's heart that I've never known on this trip."

She talked to others who had been on this trip previously and shared, "We learned that everyone will have a purpose, no matter what age we are or what our skills are. We might even be surprised with the tasks we are given!" Like others, she was looking forward to certain things and worried about others. Sharing time with her family, meeting the children at Westhaven and serving/worshipping with some of her dearest friends in a beautiful location topped her list.

Once she was in Jamaica, Kirby shared: "The place just took my breath away. The people were friendly everywhere. We were surrounded by love and hugs at the church. All this love and kindness encouraged us as we stepped into service at Westhaven–and reminded us that it's not about us, it's about Jesus."

Kirby's reflections of her overall experience spoke volumes: "Honestly the anxiety of leaving and being on a service trip with our boys was blocking my expectations and excitement–and by the grace of God it all melted away fast, upon arriving in Jamaica. The week was joy-filled. Surprising. Revealing of God's deep love and mercy."

She continued: "I loved the place we were in. I loved the Mission Jamaica team. I loved the people at Westhaven and how easily they extended their love to us. I loved that my sons learned so much and got to experience this grace."

Kirby's favorite thing about serving in Jamaica? The kids at Westhaven. She explained: "They taught us about the incredible love and grace of Jesus. These precious people took us by the hands right away and simply wanted to be in our presence. We didn't need to do or say anything to get this love. We didn't need to look a certain way or act a certain way; they didn't know anything about us other than that we were THERE. Some of them wanted to talk, some to play, and many just to sit and be with us. It was such a beautiful, tangible expression of God's heart. I loved talking to the other MJ team members about the Holy Spirit and how He moves and speaks - and all we have to do is receive it. God gave me that opportunity several times throughout the week."

Molly Gerrietts had the unique experience of visiting Jamaica on a past service trip. "I went on Mission Jamaica back in 1997 with a group of Lutheran College students. After work in Kingston, we moved on to Montego Bay, visited Westhaven, and stayed at the same resort we were at this week. I was so anxious to go back and revisit these places. The work itself was different, but the experience was just as valuable."

Gerrietts was "excited to experience MJ with Dan, who has led several trips, and with our girls, who have never left the country. I really tried not to have too many expectations with the hopes of being more open to whatever came our way!" She continued: "I really appreciate that there are jobs for EVERYONE to do, no matter your age, skill, or comfort level. Any and all work that is done is so very appreciated at Westhaven. The bond created among the team is also very special, and leads to such meaningful time together at the end of the week."

How did this experience with her family compare to her first visit in 1997? Gerrietts said, "My real experience in Jamaica far exceeded anything I had predicted. I witnessed Dan in a very comfortable place having been there 4 times before. I watched my girls go ALL in.... something I hoped for, but was overwhelmed by when seeing it happen. Their openness to work, be flexible, be a part of a team, and to let down some barriers to really dig in was incredible. I did some very comfortable work and some not so comfortable. I connected with people in new ways and am better off for it. This trip is as much about serving as it is being served and renewed in so many surprising ways."

MOLLY GERRIETTS, ALLISON DAY, AND JON FEUSTEL

PASTOR DAN GERRIETTS SPEAKING

Gerrietts added, "The kindness and warmth and genuine joy of the people in Jamaica is inspiring. God shined through the faces of every person we served this week. Their ability to give PRAISE in every situation was inspiring! They have every reason to complain and grumble... and all they do is give God the glory over and over and over. I hope that I was the hands and feet of God to those I sat with, those whose hands I held, those I fed. In the tiniest way, I hope it was felt."

Before Allison Day left for MJ, she had similar "expectations" of being ready for anything. Day said, "I am most looking forward to spending time with an amazing mission team and spreading the gospel through service, not only at West Haven, but also toward people we meet along the way." Day had always wanted to serve on a mission team outside of the U.S. and "when this opportunity presented itself, it was the right timing for me to be able to fulfill that desire/call that I had been experiencing for a long time."

MAGGIE GERRIETTS - CENTER

Once in Jamaica, Day said: "I went into this trip thinking I would be 'serving' by teaching or doing music with the kids at Westhaven. Once I got there, I realized quickly that I would end up finding several projects to assist with. None of them were teaching or doing music with the kids. I ended up looking for where there was a need and going there. For example, one of the rooms was flooding and we helped sweep out the water, and I spent time painting in two places, and the list goes on. It was amazing to just be able to be there to help when help was needed."

Day's overall feelings about this experience: "It was all love! It is difficult to put into words how amazing this experience was. The days of service were incredible to help out and meet the kids of Westhaven. It was also awesome to spend some reflection days with the rest of the team, experiencing God's creation in Jamaica."

Mark Feustel has been on Mission Jamaica ten times, and shared his unique thoughts on the 2024 trip: "It was good to see residents that we got to know during our first trip. After 20 years, many changes have taken place. There are new buildings, farming activities, and also playgrounds. They now have animals (chickens, pigs and cow/calf) to provide financial assistance by selling animals for food and selling eggs or pigs to area farmers."

Feustel traveled with his son, Jonathan, this year and said they had the distinct responsibility of painting the pig pen with some help from other team members. He continued, "We also participated in the track and field events being held on campus. These were fun days for all. We had an exciting time in serving this community of children/adults with varying abilities. Their smiles and laughter will always be remembered!"

L TO R: JAMIE KIRBY, BENNETT LEDUC, JUDE KIRBY

Besides making an impact on the people from Jamaica, Feustel shared, "It was also a time for getting to know other families from our congregation and other team members from Minnesota congregations. We participated in other resort and Mission Jamaica activities, such as a snorkeling trip. Devotions each night were special with a beautiful sunset setting the stage and the sound of the crashing waves adding to the moment!"

Nancy Clarke and her husband, Dan, made an interesting observation about the people of Jamaica. People "take care of each other," Nancy said, "not only at West haven, but in most of the parts of Jamaica we saw." Special parts of the trip included devotions that gathered the entire group, and making all kinds of new friends. "I felt so close to God!" Nancy said.

Laura Demuth was a non-Trinity trip participant who had yet another perspective of MJ. "I was very nervous prior to departing on this experience. I had never traveled so far before with people I really did not know that well. However, these feelings quickly subsided even on the airplane ride to Jamaica. I was bonded with a group of like-minded people who were open to experiencing whatever was meant to come our way. I am walking away feeling very blessed. Blessed to have shared this experience with others and to learn how beauty is around us everywhere and in all people we meet."

continued..

Judy Miller and her sister, Janet Schmitz, also shared that MJ was a special kind of mission trip. Judy shared her perspective: "Mission Jamaica was such an amazing experience! This was my first time and so I wasn't sure what my abilities and contributions would be to the mission work. It was so much more than I ever expected, with a very laid-back atmosphere and such a variety of ways to serve. You could paint, do construction, help with the unending loads of laundry and hang it up to dry, help feed a child, or just hold a child's hand to show you care. It was so touching to see the joy in the children's faces and all the beautiful smiles! They have so little, yet they seem so overjoyed with such simple things. It definitely made me realize how blessed I am but also made me wonder if we are doing it all wrong. I think we would be happier if we had less and focused more on each other!"

Miller concluded: "It was such a rewarding experience and one I will never forget! I truly felt God's presence guiding us, especially as a team…and what an amazing team we had!! I also could not get enough of all of God's creation and beauty of the island. I am so glad I took the leap of faith and went on this trip!!"

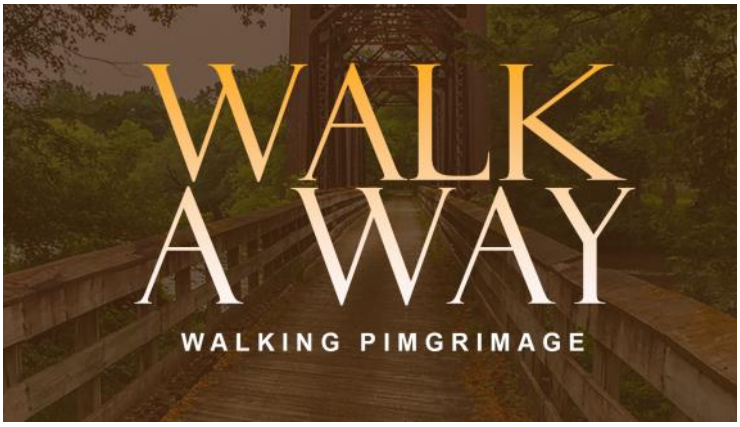
Schmitz shared her sister's enthusiasm for this "amazing life-changing experience." She said: "Honestly, when preparing for this adventure, I experienced some anxiety with the unknown: What will happen? What do I expect? Will I make a difference? What if...? I prayed for guidance through this, feeling assured that my worries were pointless, yet I wasn't 100% convinced! Upon arrival at our resort, the tropical climate, glorious view and ocean breeze cleared my mind of any lingering doubts! God is Good!"

Schmitz continued: "I feel so blessed that I had this opportunity to serve the children of West Haven alongside my sister and a wonderful team! Our leader, Jeff, and bus driver, Vince, are my new heroes! I will always appreciate their expertise in accommodating our needs and navigating our journey with kindness, patience, and compassion! My pointless worries transferred to purposeful ones that our work is not done!"

Her overall takeaway on the trip? "I come home counting my blessings with a refreshed faith and spirit, a heavy heart, thankful for cherished memories, calm pastors, "short" church services with air-conditioning, a slight sunburn, and a mind stamped with lasting images of smiling children craving human touch, full of excitement for the simple things in life and God's grace! Yes, WE did make a difference!"

For more information about the Mission Jamaica trip, feel free to ask any of the participants. There's no doubt that the people from Trinity absolutely touched the lives of those they met in Jamaica…and made lasting friendships and memories along the way. †

If you'd like to see more Mission Jamaica photos, visit our Trinity Lutheran Church Facebook Page! They will be posted soon.



WALK A WAY
WALKING PILGRIMAGE

May 8-10, 2024

La Crosse, WI to Winona, MN

Find refuge and step away from your routine on a pilgrimage experience along the Mississippi River. Explore a way of being that supports listening and letting go. We depart from Mason City on Wednesday morning, May 8, and return late afternoon on Friday, May 10. We will walk approximately 28 miles from La Crosse, WI, to Winona, MN, over three days on the Great River State Trail and Flyway Trail. Overnight accommodations include the Franciscan Spirituality Center (FSC) in La Crosse, WI, and the Alverna Center in Winona, MN. Private spiritual direction is available for an additional fee at the FSC. The Reverend Stephen Benitz of St. John's Episcopal Church and Becky Elsbernd, Parish Nurse of Trinity Lutheran Church, will guide us on our pilgrimage. A support vehicle travels with us to assist as needed and to provide snacks and water along the way. Cost: $300 (this includes transportation, overnight accommodations, and meals.) Partial scholarships are available. Participants will be responsible for paying for their own celebratory lunch on Friday. Register and pay a $150 deposit to save your spot. Space is limited to nine people. *The registration deadline is April 3, 2024, so please get in touch with Becky as soon as possible.*

SERVING IN THE BACKGROUND

BY MICHELLE MURRAY

KATHY DOBRZYNSKI

Kathy Dobrzynski can be seen in many aspects of volunteering at Trinity, but one of her favorites consists of her assisting confirmation students as they acolyte during a church service. Her work is done in the sacristy, so she is indeed "behind the scenes." When did she start helping in this capacity? She said, "It actually goes back to Pastor Kevin [now Bishop Kevin]! When he was teaching confirmation online, he wanted someone to take attendance. This was during Covid… He asked me to be that person and I said yes. I was originally to be on for just the beginning of the class but I became involved with the discussion he was having with the students and I stayed on through the whole session. He also had me keep track of all the sermon notes the students were doing."

She then began helping with the acolytes in the fall of 2021. She explained, "I remember when my kids did this and they were always nervous the first time. I meet the students in the sacristy at 8:45 AM and make sure they are wearing a gown that isn't too long. We don't want them tripping when they are going up and down the steps. I remind them how to carry the candle lighter and to leave a space in between the other acolyte and themselves. We certainly don't want someone's hair set on fire. We go through the bulletin and mark when they will go down to meet the ushers. If there is communion, I mark that part with a star and I enter a note on the second to last verse on when they extinguish the candles. I always tell acolytes not to be afraid to ask the pastors a question because they will guide them, too!"

KATHY WITH ACCOLYTES

Dobrzynski's work doesn't end there. During the service, she pays attention to how the acolytes are doing with their assigned duties, "so at the end of the service I can give them a compliment on something they did very well. Kids love compliments!" She added, "I am there every Sunday unless I am sick or have something going on, so even if an acolyte has done this before, I am there!!"

Recently, Dobrzynski's two acolytes of the day were McKenna Schlitter and Evan Howe. She chatted with them for a bit while finding robes and making sure the acolytes knew what to do during the service. As she assisted Schlitter with her robe, Dobrzynski noticed that she might have to take a robe home to fix the zipper a bit. She also helped the acolytes find their sermon note forms and said, "Sometimes I'll help a bit with these, too." After the services, Dobrzynski said she usually offers to help with the last question on the form, which asks for a family member's "take" on the sermon. "If a family member isn't around, I will help!" she explained and then winked and said, "Of course, that means I have to pay attention so I can have an answer for them!"

Sometimes she comes across a service that surprises her. One Sunday, Dobrzynski said she had one acolyte ready to go and instructed him to light the candles. When she went back to the sacristy, another student came in. She asked him if he was her other acolyte, and he replied that he wasn't…but thought he would volunteer since he saw there was only one acolyte helping that day. Dobrzynski said, "That filled my heart with joy! I have never had anybody come in and volunteer!!"

KATHY WITH ACCOLYTES AND PASTOR DAN GERRIETTS

Dobrzynski also serves in other ways after retiring in 2020 as a para at Harding Elementary School. She now volunteers at Harding, assisting a teacher in her classroom. "I enjoy the young kids, and a lot of our youth need extra caring adults in their life! It is a very fulfilling job. Money isn't everything!" As for her volunteer work at Trinity, Dobrzynski helps with the Scandinavian Bazaar, reads scriptures, and helps with communion. She explained, "Reading scriptures at first was very hard for me, but I figured if my son Doug can do it., so can I!!!"

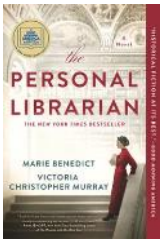
Dobrzynski thought back to when she was initially asked to provide this service of assisting acolytes. "I didn't think I would like working with this age of students, but our youth have changed my mind because they are very smart!" she said. "I've enjoyed getting to know them!" she exclaimed. "It's a different perspective and I like it!"

Sometimes a simple connection with other people…no matter how old they are…can make all the difference in the world. Thanks, Kathy, for making a difference in so many young people's lives! †

BASES EXERCISE CLASS

(Balance-Agility-Strength-Endurance-Socialization) BASES meets every Tuesday and Thursday from 8:00 - 9:00 AM in Trinity's Gathering Space. This free exercise class is for adults age 55 or older who are physically able to exercise. It is coordinated by RSVP (Retired Senior Volunteer Program) and led by RSVP volunteers. The low-impact exercises are designed to help stretch and strengthen the whole body. Six reasons to come to BASES according to current participants:

- *It makes a difference.*
- *Balance is better.*
- *Joint and muscles are better.*
- *Up and out of the house.*
- *It's social! We get to know each other!*
- *It's no fun exercising alone.*



BOOK DISCUSSION

May 13, 2024
1:00 PM
The Gathering Space

We will be discussing the book *The Personal Librarian* by Marie Benedict and Victoria Christopher Murray. Multiple copies are available to check out from the Trinity Lutheran Church office. "A remarkable novel about J. P. Morgan's personal librarian, Belle da Costa Greene, the Black American woman who was forced to hide her true identity and pass as white in order to leave a lasting legacy that enriched our nation."

ROTATING *ART GALLERY*

The Confirmation Banners created from 2002-2021 will be on display in April and May on a rotation basis. Come and check out the creativity of our youth as they celebrated this milestone in their faith journey.

AFFIRMING AND HEALING PRAYER

Thursday, April 4, 2024 / 1:00 PM */ Trinity Library*

Does prayer for healing really work? Are "I am" prayers stronger than petitioning prayers? Join the "Affirming & Healing Prayer" workshop and experience adding power to your prayers April 4, from 1:00 - 3:00 PM, in the Trinity Church library. Start with the "affirming" version of the Lord's Prayer. Explore six kinds of prayer. Compose several of your own positive healing prayers, including your own "conversational" healing prayer. Workshop leader Jim Collison is a graduate of St. John's University in Collegeville, MN. Jim was a lay minister for over 40 years, mainly with the Congregational Church in Orchard, IA.

REJOICING SPIRITS

Wednesday, April 17, 2024 5:00 PM */ Fellowship Hall*

Rejoicing Spirits is inclusive of all ages and abilities as we connect with God and one another. Join us as we celebrate the resurrection of Jesus through camp style music, interactive skit, and prayer. Following the worship service, enjoy pizza and root beer floats for a free-will donation.

LUNCH AND LEARN
FUNERAL PRE-PLANNING AND TOUR

Thursday, April 18, 2024 / 12:00 PM */ Fellowship Hall*

Tyler Schaefer, Prearrangement Specialist and Funeral Director at Major Erickson, will discuss the importance of discussing funeral arrangements in advance and give us a tour of the newly remodeled Major Erickson Funeral Home. Sandwiches, potato salad, and bars will be served for a free-will offering.

VISIO DIVINA

Tuesday, April 30, 2024 / 10:00 AM *MacNider Museum - 303 2nd St. SE, Mason City*

Visio Divina, or "sacred seeing," is an ancient form of Christian prayer in which we allow our hearts and imaginations to enter into an image in silence to see what God might have to say to us. We will meet at the MacNider Art Museum, where you will be invited to choose one painting or sculpture that seems to catch your eye. You will then spend time gazing at that one object and reflecting on questions or the personal meaning it evokes in you. Come and encounter the Divine through visual art.

WORLD LABYRINTH DAY

Saturday, May 4, 2024 / 6:00 PM */ Trinity Labyrinth*

All are invited to walk the Labyrinth in Trinity's courtyard to celebrate World Labyrinth Day on Saturday, May 4. We invite you to walk the Labyrinth anytime that day or join us on a guided walk at 6:00 PM. Walk with the intention of peace in ourselves, our relationships, our country, and our world. The sign next to the Labyrinth offers guidance and brochures on how to walk a labyrinth. The Labyrinth is open and available to the community.

WELCA SPRING LUNCHEON

Saturday, April 20, 2024 / 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM */ St. James Lutheran Church*

All are invited to St. James Lutheran Church in Mason City for a Spring Luncheon! Tickets are $10/adults, $5/children, **FREE**/Under 5! We'll also have a basket raffle and a bake sale!

APRIL CALENDAR

Monday, April 1, 2024

9:00 AM	Centering Prayer	TR322/Zoom
9:00 AM	Trinity at Community Kitchen	CK
6:00 PM	Bronze Bell Choir	TS

Tuesday, April 2, 2024

8:00 AM	BASES Exercise Class	TGS

Wednesday, April 3, 2024

7:00 AM	Men's Bible Study	FH
8:30 AM	Women's Bible Study	TL
6:00 PM	WNA Community Meal	TFH
6:30 PM	Wednesday Night Alive/Choir	TLC
6:30 PM	Confirmation/Flame	TYR

Thursday, April 4, 2024

8:00 AM	BASES Exercise Class	TGS
10:30 AM	Clappers Bell Choir	TS
1:00 PM	Affirming and Healing Prayer	TL

Saturday, April 6, 2024

5:00 PM	Worship**	TS

Sunday, April 7, 2024

9:00 AM	Worship**	TS
9:15 AM	Sunday School	TEW
10:30 AM	Worship**	TS

Monday, April 8, 2024

9:00 AM	Lectio Divina	TR322/Zoom
9:30 AM	Altar Guild	TR300
6:00 PM	Bronze Bell Choir	TS

Tuesday, April 9, 2024

8:00 AM	BASES Exercise Class	TGS

Wednesday, April 10, 2024

7:00 AM	Men's Bible Study	FH
8:30 AM	Women's Bible Study	TL
9:30 AM	Lydia Circle	TR208
6:00 PM	WNA Community Meal	TFH
6:30 PM	Wednesday Night Alive/Choir	TLC
6:30 PM	Confirmation/Flame	TYR

Thursday, April 11, 2024

8:00 AM	BASES Exercise Class	TGS
9:30 AM	WELCA Bible Study	TR208
10:30 AM	Clappers Bell Choir	TS

Saturday, April 13, 2024

5:00 PM	Worship	TS

Sunday, April 14, 2024

8:45 AM	Prayer Mentor Worship & Gathering	TLC
9:00 AM	Worship	TS
9:15 AM	Sunday School	TEW
10:30 AM	Worship	TS
1:30 PM	Belong and Grow Membership Class	TFH

Monday, April 15, 2024

9:00 AM	Trinity Quilters	TFH
9:00 AM	Centering Prayer	TR300/Zoom
10:00 AM	Healing Touch Exchange *(HTSM Team)*	TR321
6:00 PM	Bronze Bell Choir	TS

Tuesday, April 16, 2024

8:00 AM	BASES Exercise Class	TGS
9:30 AM	Fellowship Coffee	TFH
10:45 AM	Prayer Shawl Ministry	TR307

Wednesday, April 17, 2024

7:00 AM	Men's Bible Study	FH
8:30 AM	Women's Bible Study	TL
2:00 PM	Cancer Support Group	TR300/Zoom
5:00 PM	Rejoicing Spirits	TFH
6:00 PM	WNA Community Meal	TFH
6:30 PM	Wednesday Night Alive/Choir	TLC
6:30 PM	Confirmation/Flame	TYR

Thursday, April 18, 2024

8:00 AM	BASES Exercise Class	TGS
10:30 AM	Clappers Bell Choir	TS
12:00 PM	Lunch & Learn	TFH

Saturday, April 20 , 2024

11:00 AM	WELCA Spring Luncheon	STJa
5:00 PM	Worship**	TS

Sunday, April 21, 2024

9:00 AM	Worship **	TS
9:15 AM	Sunday School	TEW
10:30 AM	Worship**	TS
10:00 AM	Blood Pressure Checks	TGS

Monday, April 22, 2024

9:00 AM	Lectio Divina	TR322/Zoom
9:00 AM	Trinity Quilters	TFH
6:00 PM	Bronze Bell Choir	TS

Tuesday, April 23, 2024

8:00 AM	BASES Exercise Class	TGS
9:30 AM	Caregivers Support Group	TR300/Zoom

Wednesday, April 24, 2024

7:00 AM	Men's Bible Study	FH
8:30 AM	Women's Bible Study	TL
4:00 PM	Trinity at Community Kitchen	CK
6:00 PM	WNA Community Meal	TFH
6:30 PM	Wednesday Night Alive/Choir	TLC
6:30 PM	Confirmation/Flame	TYR

Thursday, April 25, 2024

8:00 AM	BASES Exercise Class	TGS
10:30 AM	Clappers Bell Choir	TS
6:30 PM	Belong and Grow Membership Class	TFH

Saturday, April 27, 2024

5:00 PM	Worship	TS

Sunday, April 28, 2024

9:00 AM	Worship	TS
9:15 AM	Sunday School	TEW
10:30 AM	Worship	TS
12:00 PM	Spaghetti Dinner Youth Fundraiser	TFH

Monday, April 29, 2024

9:00 AM	Trinity Quilters	TFH
6:00 PM	Bronze Bell Choir	TS

Tuesday, April 30, 2024

8:00 AM	BASES Exercise Class	TGS
10:00 AM	Visio Divina	MAM

To view calendar online, visit
TRINITY-MC.ORG/CALENDAR/

PASTORS

Senior Pastor:
Dan Gerrietts
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Pastor of Spiritual Growth:
Daniel Hanson
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SIGN UP - ENEWS

trinity-mc.org/newsletters
- eNews
- Weekend Worship
- Faith & Wellness Outreach
- Trinity Connection
- Youth News

OFFICE HOURS

9:00 AM to 5:00 PM M-Th
8:00 AM to 4:00 PM F

WORSHIP

SANCTUARY

- **Saturdays 5:00 PM** | Sanctuary
  Traditional Service
- **Sundays 9:00 AM** | Sanctuary & Online - Livestreamed on Facebook and YouTube, or listen live on KCMR 97.9 FM or kcmrfm.com
- **Sundays 10:30 AM** | Sanctuary
  Contemporary Service

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We are called to share God's healing love through Christ's forgiveness and our personal servanthood.