



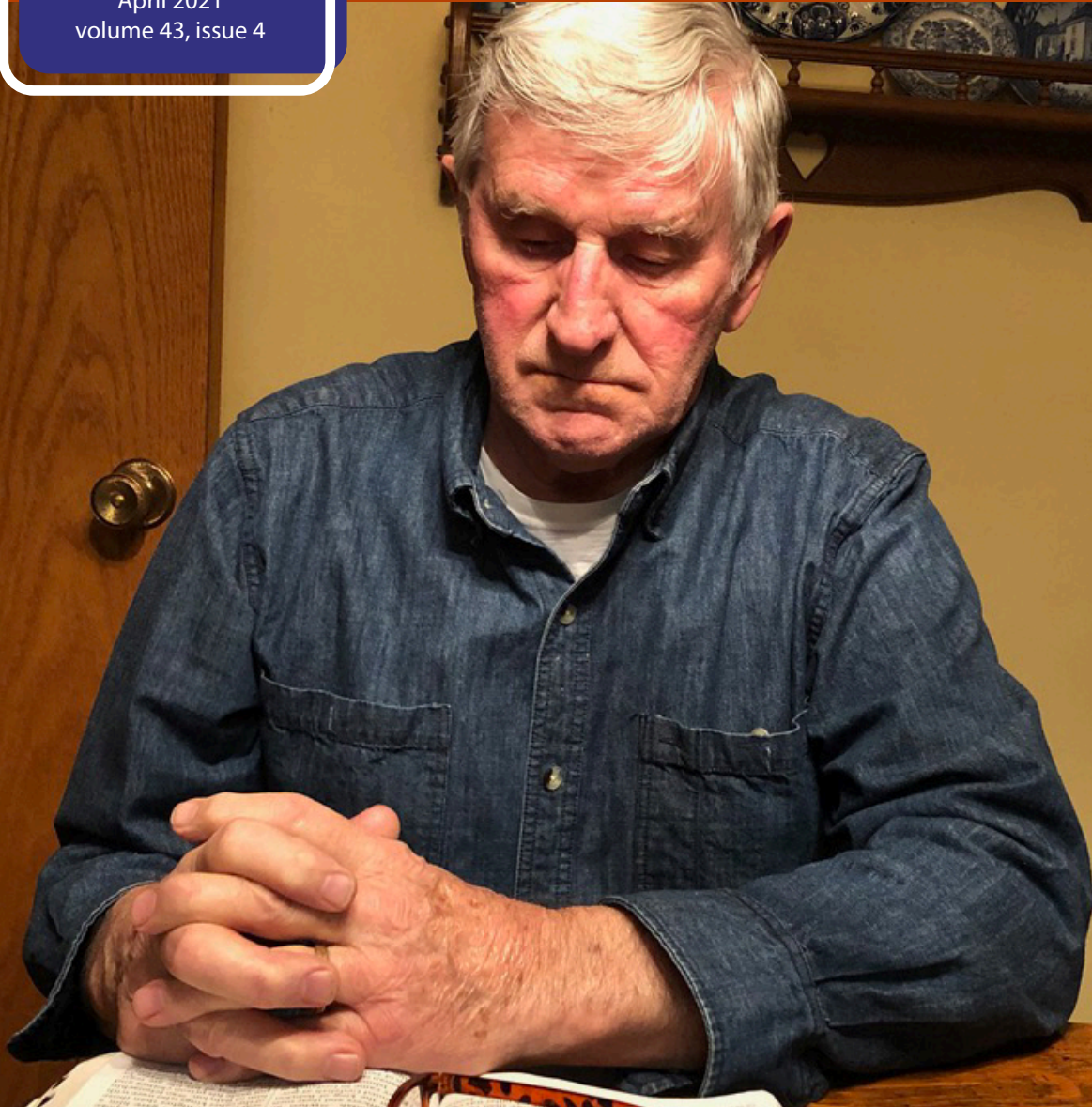
TRINITY
LUTHERAN CHURCH

115 4th St. N
Stillwater, MN 55082
651-439-7400
www.trinitylc.org

April 2021
volume 43, issue 4

trinity **TODAY**

Because God first loved us, we live as Jesus in the world.



“...there you will see him,
just as he told you.”
— Mark 16: 7b

Trinity member,
Roger Bosmoe at home.



LEAD PASTOR **THE REV. DR. CHRIS BELLEFEUILLE**



PAUSE & PRAY

Join us on Facebook Live at noon on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays to pause and pray together as a faith community.

On Tuesdays—you're invited to lead our faith community in a focused reading of the worship text for the coming Sunday. Follow the Sign-up Genius link below to see more details, review the available slots and click on the button to sign up. Submit your finished message to Linda Flood at lflood@trinitylc.org.

Sign up for Tuesdays at: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/904084cada82ba1fb6-pause>

On Wednesdays—you're invited to lead our faith community in a few minutes of reflection and prayer. Follow the Sign-up Genius link below to review the available slots and click on the button to sign up. God's sky is the limit! Pick a topic and prayers or a spiritual practice that works for you share. Video yourself in landscape/horizontal mode (versus portrait/vertical). Using headphones with a built-in microphone assists in creating the best sound quality possible. Submit your finished message to Pastor Peter at pwestonmiller@trinitylc.org.

Sign up for Wednesdays at: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050c44afa72fa2ff2-pause>

Find us on Facebook at: www.facebook.com/trinitylcstillwater/

THE WAY FORWARD

Friends,
Christ is Risen!

As you can probably imagine, these articles are due well ahead of the day they arrive in your inboxes and mailboxes. So, it may be a sunny day as you read, but as I write I can see out the window of my home office that a band of snow has entered the valley and flakes are falling steadily.

I have watched a full year of seasons from this home office window. Prior to last year, working from home meant the dining room table. But as the weeks of pandemic turned to months, we ordered a desk and small chair to fit the corner of a guest room upstairs. And here I toil, watching for the arrival of a second pandemic spring.

And for Easter.

And for re-opening.

Remember that part about this going to print well ahead of publication? The situation remains fluid, but here is our hope:

We plan to reopen to a limited number of worshippers on **Sunday, April 18 at 8:30 a.m.** (This does not necessarily mean a permanent worship time change but will be in effect through the summer.) **You must sign up in advance** each week through the Trinity website or by calling the church office (we're working on the sign-up). The sanctuary will be clearly marked for seating by separate households, masks covering nose and mouth will be required, vaccine or no. We can have communion safely. We can't sing, but we can hum. We can't shake hands, but we can wave. We can't meet for a cup of coffee, but we can worship God together. If a variant or a surge disrupts these plans, we will try again at the earliest possible date. It feels like an embodied experience of the resurrection to imagine gathering in our sanctuary again! See more details on Page 5.

As to the drive-in? The drive-in will remain open at least until it's normal seasonal end date of Sept. 5, 2021!

In the meantime, gathered inside or out, we continue to be the church and embrace God's work as Christ's risen body in the world. Building partnerships in Stillwater to materially address housing and homelessness. Learning to tell each other our God stories and where we have seen Jesus. Creating a "community of practice" where we can learn to be truly anti-racist in courage, love and abundant forgiveness. Worshipping online, at the drive-in, and all week long. Learning and praying together. Welcoming new partners into the family. Gathering at the font to celebrate new lives in Christ and to give thanks for the lives of those who have died.

And later this year **we will celebrate 150 years of God's work in and through Trinity Lutheran Church in Stillwater**; also known as Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church or Svenska Evangeliska Lutherska Församlingen! The celebrations begin on our actual birthday of July 19. In this issue you can find ways to get involved now (see Pages 4-5). Watch for more updates to come.

If this past year has taught us anything, it is that the stamina needed to thrive as a congregation in pandemic is found in a faithful people who have made their way through prior pandemics and epidemics, the immigrant experience, war, economic hardship, crop failure, internal conflict, scandal, and more—with God as their rock and guide. Just as God guides us today through new challenges, into new realities. So, this year we will acknowledge what has been—to celebrate or lament—and we will imagine a way forward that helps us shed what must be shed, bring along what gives life, and set our gaze on the image of Jesus beckoning us into a future working alongside him.

Can't wait for cake and ice cream!

In God's love,

Pastor Chris

PASTOR OF LIFELONG FAITH FORMATION
THE REV. PETER WESTON MILLER



THE POWER OF CHRIST AT EASTER & THE POTENTIAL OF GOD'S PEOPLE

Christ is Risen!
Christ is Risen, Indeed!
Alleluia!

The first words that we always say for Easter worship (or some actually like to shout or cheer it!) is that Christ is Risen.

Whether it's online, at the Drive-in, or in the sanctuary.

Actually, wherever anybody is celebrating the work of God in Jesus, the potential of God's people, and the hope that we have in Christ's limitless love: the message and the words and the response are always the same:

Christ is Risen!
Christ is Risen, Indeed!
Alleluia!

It really is an amazing proclamation.

The linchpin of all life as we know it as Christians. Our ongoing reality that the incarnate person of Jesus could not stay dead.

He would not let other powers or principalities snuff God out.

Systems of death and the infliction of judgement will never have the last word.

The brokenness of the world and the struggle of humanity does not end in violence.

Instead, in Jesus, God's love overwhelms even our harshest injustices.

The cross is empty.

God's love wins.

God's love always wins.

For that time and for this time.

God's love in the incarnation, death, resurrection, and ascension of Jesus, shows us The Way.

Christ is Risen!
Christ is Risen, Indeed!
Alleluia!

These Risen words have continued to ring in my ears as we wake up to yet another beautiful sunrise, still distanced and separated from each other.

This in the dystopian reality has forever changed us and in many ways we have still not crossed the finish line.

But it has not stopped me from knowing/saying/cheering/crying that Christ is Risen.

Christ is Risen, Indeed!
Alleluia.

I don't believe that the promise of Easter is just exclusively waiting for us when our ultimate time has come, but for this time too.

For us and for our neighbors.

God's Easter life meets us right where we are. No matter the season. Inviting us ever deeper into the potential of God's people in all places.

So that we too might rise again.

And again.

And embody these hopeful words (spoken or shouted or cheered or cried):

Christ is Risen!
Chris is Risen, Indeed Alleluia!

Pastor Peter



150th Anniversary: God's Story Still Unfolding

Friends in Christ, we celebrate a big birthday this year: God called us into being 150 years ago and has been working in and through us for all that time. And it is the story of God's activity that we will tell this year.

Birthdays call for celebration, so celebrate we will. While the pandemic prevented us from beginning this party as early in the year as we had originally hoped, we continue with plans to gather safely and adjust as health and safety require or allow it.

Exact dates, times and opportunities will be forthcoming. And we want to hear from you and invite your contributions in several areas. Please read through this article for opportunities to contribute. And as the plans take shape, we will come back with ways that you can help. Also, if you are interested in a particular area or celebration, please reach out to the team leader below and let them know. Send email to info@trinitylc.org and we will get it to the appropriate person.

For now, please save July 19, 2021 for birthday cake and ice cream on the green space. And Sept. 18-19 for a larger party, festival worship and a sermon from our bishop!

Your 150th Team:

- Birthday party (July) and TrinityFEST party (September) – Alyce and David Brekke
- Archives and history – Norma Wilson, Eric Trosdahl and Larry Loyer
- Treasured garments and historic fashion – Emily Karlsrud and Marie Saterbak
- Story Cookbook – Zanny Johnson and Linda Flood

Additional team members are: Monty Lysne, Pastor Peter, Marilee Tangen and Pastor Chris. We look forward to celebrating God's ongoing work at Trinity.

Treasured garments, historic fashion

Today church attire might be pajamas and sweatpants, but people have been putting on their "Sunday best" for generations. In celebration of Trinity's 150th year we want to explore the history and themes of restoration through the clothing that people wore. Do you have a vintage wedding gown or family christening gown? Other vintage pieces of clothing? We have partnered with Treasured Garment Restoration by St. Croix cleaners here in Stillwater so that Trinity members can receive a 15% discount on restoration work from April through June. See the coupon below.

We would like to have members take photos in clothing styles through the decades of Trinity which we will include in a timeline alongside actual photos from the era. This can include the whole family! Perhaps you could recreate you wedding photos from years ago or a granddaughter could wear her grandmother's wedding gown. If you are a photographer or interested in participating in photos contact Emily Karlsrud at eeekarlslrud@gmail.com and we can work together to style a photo of your family using pieces you have or finding them for you.

If you have questions about restoring your items, call the team at Treasured Garment Restoration at 651-705-8623 or stop by St. Croix Cleaners located at 4843 Neal Ave. N in Stillwater.

See more on next page >



Congratulations Trinity Lutheran on 150 Years!

15% OFF VINTAGE RESTORATION

*Christening Gowns, Wedding Dresses, Uniforms,
Anything Vintage!*



- 📍 5843 Neal Avenue North, Stillwater, MN 55082
- 📞 651-705-8623
- ✉ TGR@StCroixCleaners.com
- 🌐 www.TreasuredGarmentRestoration.com

Story Cookbook

Help Trinity celebrate our 150th anniversary through the lens of food. We are creating a story book/cookbook(let) and would love for you to share stories of Trinity and how they are tied to food. We will be including a spread on the Lutefisk & Meatball Dinner, for example, so any stories you have about your involvement with that long-loved tradition would be so appreciated!

And if you have a signature food item that you may have served at your circle meetings, or small group meeting, or Advent Pause...and a story or photo that may go with that food item, please let us know. Again, telling the story of Trinity through food.

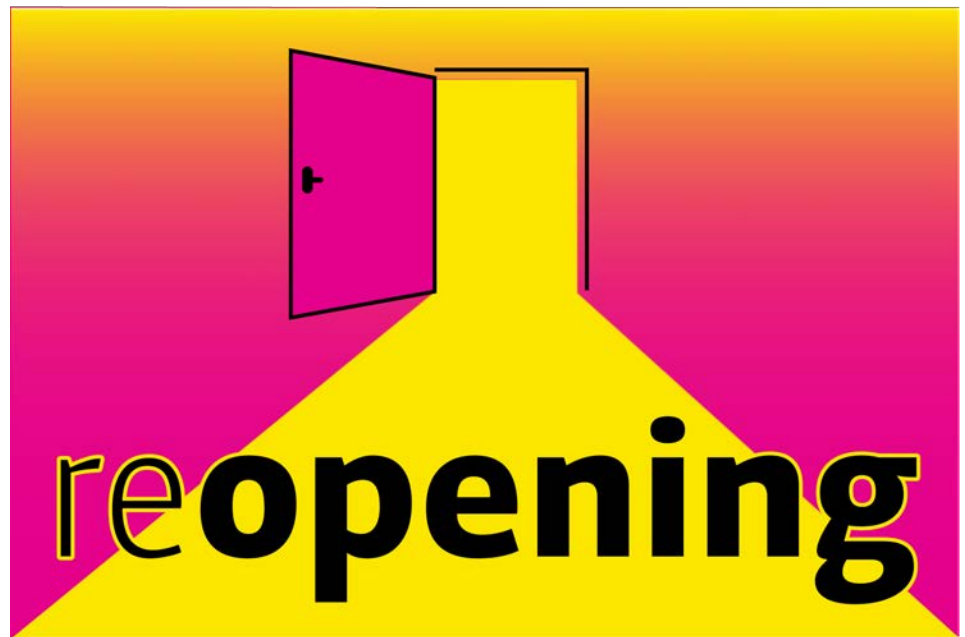
Contact Zanny Johnson at zjohnson@trinitylc.org or Linda Flood at lflood@trinitylc.org to submit your food story—photos appreciated, and the recipe, too!

Do you have an interest in sharing Trinity God stories found in our archives?

We are searching for people who will look at pictures/albums/boxes of Trinity's past and present and help share the Story of God in our lives. The following areas need someone to help our community remember, learn, continue our mission and celebrate Trinity's 150 years.

- Building Archives: Review box of building construction project pictures/articles and share how these projects fulfill our mission.
- Boy Scouts began in 1905: Did you know the members impacted number more than a thousand at Trinity? Limited information, will need a bit of searching.
- Drive-in Ministry: Never miss worship at the Drive-in? You are needed to share its beginnings and demonstrate how the Drive-in continues to impact our community.
- Lutefisk Dinners: We need pictures and a person that can provide information about this unique Lutefisk and Swedish Meatball gathering!
- Swedish Language: Can you help translate some booklets and readings?
- Faith Formation: What is your interest in Faith Formation? Can you help impart God's work through children's ministries...or high school ministries...or adult ministries?

Text or call the Archives Team through Norma Wilson at 651-470-5124.



Limited Re-Opening for Worship Sunday, April 18 at 8:30 a.m.

The Re-Entry Team and Congregational Council have approved the following guidelines for our re-open. (Please also see article on Page 2.)

While the Executive Order allows for full return to worship, it also requires that we maintain a distance of six feet between household groups. Using a map of our sanctuary and physical measurements we established that we are able to welcome 118 worshippers at this time.

- Masks covering nose and mouth are required in the building for everyone age 4 and up.
- Worshippers are asked to sit in the marked spots and maintain six feet between households.
- Communion will be provided upon entry and we will commune in our seats. (You can briefly raise your mask to take communion and then re-cover your mouth. The Re-Entry team asks that we not speak while our masks are raised.)
- We won't be able to sing together, but we can hum!
- We will guide you into and out of the sanctuary via the 4th Street door—keeping six feet of distance between households as we enter and exit. (We won't be able to gather in the commons or narthex just yet.)

- Offering will remain touchless and be received in the plate provided either as you enter or leave the worship center.
- No coffee, beverages, or food unless necessary for little ones under the age of 4.

We understand that it feels strange and restrictive. And we are aware that the pandemic is still active, not everyone is vaccinated, and people can still get very ill. We will move ahead as hopefully as we can, taking steps to open while keeping everyone safe. We will learn together as we go, making adaptations and expanding the re-open as safety allows.

If you have questions, please direct them to any member of the Re-Entry Team.

Fred Anderson, Co-Chair, Retired Epidemiologist, Washington County

Matt Simcik, Co-Chair, Professor, U of M School of Public Health

Mel Sullivan, Council President, Sr. V.P. and Chief People Officer, Ecumen

Cindy Weckwerth, Director of Environmental Health, City of Minneapolis

Kim Dahlgren, Faith Community Nurse

Bob Eiselt, Parish Administrator

Tom Hosek, Lead Custodian

Pastor Chris Bellefeuille

Get all the details, as we know them at this time, in a 5-minute video at: <https://youtu.be/qCutkUyey5s>

HOW DO WE SEE JESUS?

By Claudia Swendseid, Stewardship Team

"...there you will see him, just as he told you." – Mark 16: 7b

Our Lenten theme this year is, "We wish to see Jesus." I suspect that many of us, perhaps all of us resonate with this theme. Like the Greeks who approached Phillip in John 12:21, we wish to see Jesus. Like Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome who found an empty tomb on the Sunday after the crucifixion, we wish to see Jesus. In fact, I believe that anyone wrestling with questions about the meaning of their life has a deep wish to see Jesus. *So as Christians, how do we see Jesus and how does seeing Jesus change us?*

HOW DO WE SEE JESUS?

Jaroslav Pelikan, who was one of the world's leading Church historians, wrote a book titled *Jesus through the Centuries*. Pelikan reveals how Jesus is seen differently by each successive epoch—from rabbi in the first century to liberator in the twentieth century and more in between: hinge of history, light of the Gentiles, King of kings, Christ crucified, Son of Man, divine monk, cosmic Christ, Prince of Peace. His point is that how people have "seen" Jesus over 2,000 years is as much a key to understanding the temper and values of that age as it is to understanding Jesus.

In my own life I have "seen" many different images of Jesus. In the first Bible my parents gave me, Jesus is pictured as a thin, brown haired and bearded white man. In the Japanese Lutheran churches where I worshipped as a child, Jesus resembled a Japanese man. At home I have a replica of an Ethiopian Orthodox icon that I use in personal worship. It depicts a dark-skinned Jesus.

A few years ago, I had the opportunity to view Frederick J. Brown's sublime and powerful painting, *Crucifixion*. The somber landscape is punctuated with crosses, evoking the long history of

lynching violence. A mother weeps for her dead son. A bruised, bloodied and black Jesus screams in agony. In Jesus' face we see the brutalized black faces, tragically all too commonplace in our world today.

It's not surprising that we see Jesus in so many different forms and expressions. After all, God created human beings in God's own image (Gen. 1:26) and Jesus is God's embodiment in human form; God's best selfie. Since God's human creation is beautifully diverse in form and expression, so too is Jesus.

I often turn to the Bible when I wish to see Jesus, where Jesus' own words help guide me. John's Gospel is especially rich with Jesus images or maybe better put, Jesus' identities. For example, Jesus refers to himself several times as "life," usually in connection with something we need to sustain life.

- Shortly after miraculously feeding thousands of hungry people, Jesus declares to a crowd, "I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never go hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty." (John 6:35)
- Speaking to Martha about her dead brother Lazarus, Jesus explains: "I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die." (John 11:25)
- When Thomas seeks answers at the Last Supper, Jesus tells him, "I am the way and the truth and the life." (John 14:6)

Here I see Jesus as the source of all life. As bread and water, Jesus sustains my temporal life. As truth and gateway to seeing God, Jesus is the eternal life within me.

HOW DOES SEEING JESUS CHANGE US?

Jesus also invites us to see him in

our neighbor. In countless parables and directly in Matthew 25. For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me.' "Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink? When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you? When did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit you?' "The King will reply, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these siblings of mine, you did for me.' (Matt 25:35-40).

This is not a simile. The "least of these siblings" is not an allegory. Jesus is in the hungry one, the thirsty one, the one who is sick, the one who is lonely, the one experiencing homelessness, the one without power. Jesus is not observing them, but in them. And asks me to love him.

So, it seems that loving my siblings is how I love Jesus. Seeing my siblings as beloved of God is how I see Jesus. Treating my siblings with grace is how I worship Jesus. Being neighborly is how I pray to Jesus.

Jesus wants us to see him. Just as he invited the women who came to his tomb to see him in Galilee, newly resurrected, a changed and shining form, love prevailing.

The Jesus I see asks deep, self-giving love of us. Both for our sake and his. Jesus takes whatever love we can offer and directs it to our siblings. The Jesus resurrected and so in love we are already risen. To feed his sheep. Where we discover our love for God by loving others. Where we see the world anew through eyes of love. Practice love; practice stewardship; see Jesus.



Crucifixion (Triptych). Frederick J. Brown. 1992. 72 x 361 in. The Strake Jesuit Art Museum

Trinity Financial Update

February Year-to-Date - Fiscal Year 2021

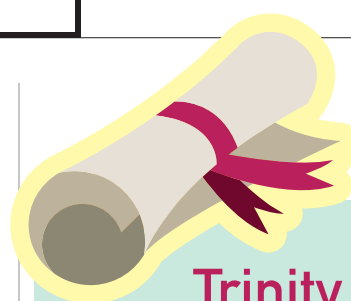
	This Year	Last Year	'21 Budget	% of Budget
Contribution Income	754,214	684,894	1,326,000	57%
Other Income	118,553	178,901	422,761	28%
Total Income	<u>\$ 872,767</u>	<u>\$ 863,795</u>	<u>\$ 1,748,761</u>	
less: Expenses	792,442	821,813	1,747,358	45%
Surplus (Deficit)	<u><u>\$ 80,325</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 41,982</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 1,403</u></u>	

Long-Term Debt Summary:

Long-Term Debt - Beginning of Fiscal Yr.	3,346,629	3,410,152
Increase (Decrease)	<u>(43,486)</u>	<u>(42,124)</u>
Long-Term Debt - End of February	<u><u>\$ 3,303,143</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 3,368,028</u></u>
Line of Credit Balance - February 28	\$ -	\$ -

Financial Highlights Feb. 28, 2021

Contribution Income for February of \$135K was \$30K higher than February of 2020 and allowed us to exceed financial results for February YTD last year. Contribution Income YTD is \$69K ahead of last year. While Pledged Contributions are up slightly compared to 2020, the majority of the increase in Contribution Income is from non-pledged Giving. Program Registrations, Fees & Payments and Building Rental Income are off a combined \$53K YTD vs. last year, showing the continuing effects of the pandemic and reduced activity in our building. Learning programs expenses are correspondingly down by \$26K YTD compared to 2020. As I mentioned last month, the timing of receipt of some annual Contribution gifts fluctuates every year. February's Contributions again reflected an uptick in gifts vs. last February, reflective of the timing of annual gifts I referred to earlier. February 2021 results place us ahead of last year at this time, showing a surplus YTD of \$80K v. a surplus of \$42K in 2020. Total Income for the month is \$20K greater than February 2020. Overall, YTD Operating Expenses are \$40K less than YTD February 2020. The continued strong Contribution Income in February enabled us to maintain our Line of Credit Balance at zero for the third straight month! Last year we also had a zero balance against the line at this time.



Trinity Scholarship Fund

The Trinity Scholarship Fund for higher education was established by the estate of Jeanette Johnson, and is awarded each year on the basis of academic status, co-curricular achievement, good citizenship and active involvement at Trinity. Read more and download application at: <https://trinitylc.org/learning/youth/scholarship-fund/>. Scholarship and renewal applications must be received by Thursday, April 1.

**Applications due
April 1**

WORSHIP & MUSIC

Worship Texts

Below are the scripture texts from the Revised Common Lectionary that will be used on the date listed to prepare the message for worship.

April 4	Mark 16: 1-8
April 11	John 20: 19-31
April 18	Luke 24: 36b-48
April 25	John 10: 11-18

IMPORTANT WORSHIP NOTES!

- No drive-in worship Sunday, March 28. Join us at Trinity at 10 a.m. for a palm processional. Masks required.
- Online worship will begin at 8:30 a.m. on the Sunday following Easter, April 11. Drive-in worship will remain at 10 a.m.
- In-person worship at Trinity will begin on Sunday, April 18 at 8:30 a.m. Sign up is required, as capacity will be limited to 118. Masks required as well as other safety precautions. Please see Page 5 for details. This service will be livestream on Facebook and available online on our web site. Drive-in worship will continue at 10 a.m. As always, if you have a fever, cough, or are feeling ill, please stay home.



HOLY WEEK 2021

Jesus gives us the clearest picture of how to live, how to love and serve our neighbors, how to turn again and again to God for all that we need.

PALM SUNDAY WORSHIP – MARCH 28

9 am Online Worship & 11 am on TV channel 18
10 am Palm Processional at Trinity

Live Palm Processional at the building for every one. Masks required. (No Drive-in worship this day.)

MAUNDY THURSDAY – APRIL 1

Noon Online Foot Washing Rite
Noon & 5 pm Drive-thru Communion at Trinity

Foot washing rite at noon, watch any time throughout the day, on Facebook or on our web site. Drive-thru communion from noon–1 p.m. and 5–6 p.m. in Trinity's 4th Street small parking lot.

GOOD FRIDAY – APRIL 2

11 am Online Worship

Watch at 11 a.m., or any time throughout the day, on Facebook or on our web site.

EASTER SUNDAY – APRIL 4

7 am Online Worship & 11 am on TV channel 18
10 am Easter Festival Worship at the Drive-in

Watch at 7 a.m. or any time throughout the day, on Facebook or on our web site. Join us for outdoor Easter worship at the Drive-in. Individual Communion supplies will be provided.

ONLINE WORSHIP
Facebook Livestream>>
facebook.com/trinitylcstillwater/

On our web site>>
trinitylc.org/worship-music/worship/online-worship/



ADULT FAITH FORUM

Sundays at 11 am
Join on Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83989674185>

Adult Faith Forum: **Care for Creation**

Sundays in April at 11 am on Zoom

Join on Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83989674185>

The focus in April will be on caring for God's Creation in the St. Croix Valley with Trinity's Green Team. Everyone is invited! For more information and to watch previous sessions of Adult Faith Forum, visit: <https://trinitylc.org/learning/adult/adult-ed/>. Questions? Contact Penny Catlin at pccatlin@juno.com.

April 11 **How is Trinity stewarding God's Creation?** An overview of projects that our faith community has undertaken focused on sustainability and stewardship.

April 18 **Laurie Schneider serves as the Executive Director of Pollinator Friendly Alliance**, a grassroots non-profit organization that protects the environment through the conservation of pollinators and their habitats. She has also worked as a research supervisor on pollinator studies. PFA focuses on four key initiatives: 1) increasing habitat and biodiversity; 2) reducing pesticide use; 3) sharing knowledge; and 4) advocacy. www.pollinatorfriendly.org

April 25 **Greg Seitz from St. Croix 360** – St. Croix 360 builds support for river stewardship, and connects people and organizations. It is an independent news source produced by Seitz. Seitz is a self-described writer and river bum. He grew up in Stillwater and studied writing at the U of M. He lives in Marine and is a writer and editor for environmental organizations including Friends of the Boundary Waters and Quetico News. <https://www.stcroix360.com/>

FAMILY FAITH EVENT:

Care for Creation Celebration for Earth Day

**Sunday, April 18 at 10:30 am
on Trinity's Green Space**

Bring a blanket and join all families for a time of celebrating God's incredible creation!

If weather does not permit us to meet as planned, families are invited to pick up materials on the 18th to celebrate at home.

- Hear a read aloud of *The Tree Lady*, an inspiring story about how one woman singlehandedly led the way in making the once tree-less city of San Diego into the green and lush city it has become. Afterward, talk with your family, from your blanket, about how this story inspires you.
- Pray for our earth and participate in a blessing of creation.
- Pick up a scavenger hunt and grass project to do at home.



- Enjoy a treat provided by Trinity on your family's blanket together.
- Hear more about Trinity's pollinator project.
- Visit with Trinity friends (masked) before heading home.

RSVP not required, but appreciated to solson@trinitylc.org by Monday, April 12.



ONE & DONE BOOK GROUP

The One and Done Book Group meets about every two months for a thought-provoking, faith-based discussion of a book chosen by the group. The next two novels are indeed powerful and we'd love it if you would join us!

***My Name Is Asher Lev* by Chaim Potok – April 12 at 6:30 pm**

***Transcendent Kingdom* by Yaa Gyasi – June 7 at 6:30 pm**

We meet on Monday evenings at 6:30 p.m. via zoom. Email me for the link or for more information.

On the topic of faith-based discussions, Trinity's Lenten book groups are finding *The Color of Law* to be very informative and compelling for us as individuals and as a church.

I have these and other outstanding books from the Trinity Library that I would be happy to bring to you.

Ann Wolff
(651) 260-3855 or wolff701@msn.com

Save the date for an all-outdoor Vacation Bible School the week of July 12! Watch your email and the weekly e-newsletter for more information and registration.

We're all on God's team! Ages 4-9 are invited to join us the week of July 12 from 6:30 to 8 p.m. for a fun-filled week of outdoor Vacation Bible School. Programming runs Monday through Thursday evenings with Friday serving as a back-up rain day.

The Summer Olympics are on their way, and we look forward to celebrating all the ways that we get to be a part of God's great team together with an Olympic twist! Registration coming soon!



SOLO 55⁺ PLUS

Singles Group
for Ages 55 & Up

SOLO 55 PLUS is a faith-based group promoting friendships and fellowship. Solo 55 Plus is still growing and thriving, even through COVID-19. March brought us our first tailgate event with beautiful weather. We are now looking forward to our weekly "meet and great" events.

Each week a newsletter is emailed to members with fun and valuable information. To receive this newsletter, or for more information, please send email to: SOLO55PLUS@gmail.com.



GLOW/AWE is now planning outdoor spring events! As spring draws near, we are excited to share that events are being planned. Watch for details in forthcoming emails. If you would like to be added to the GLOW/AWE email list, please contact Joan Fogelberg at joan@123m.com.



**Saturday, May 23
10:30 am
Gathering on Zoom**

Mark your calendars!

Please join us, via Zoom, on Saturday, May 23 at 10:30 a.m. for our annual Talk and Tea! Our speaker and special guest for the morning is the Rev. Teresa Blythe, author of *50 Ways to Pray*, *Spiritual Direction 101* and *Incline Your Ear: Cultivating Spiritual Awakening in Congregations*.

Teresa has been offering and teaching spiritual direction for over 20 years since graduating from San Francisco Theological Seminary with an M.Div. and Diploma in the Art of Spiritual Direction. As director of the Hesychia School of Spiritual Direction in Tucson (2005-2019), Teresa taught and mentored hundreds of people who came to the desert for training. Her work led her to write *Spiritual Direction 101: The Basics of Spiritual Guidance* (Apocryphile Press) and co-author a new book from Fortress Press, *Incline Your Ear: Cultivating Spiritual Awareness in Congregations*. Teresa lives in Phoenix, AZ and is connected to First UCC Phoenix. Teresa began an Apprentice Training Program in November of 2019 and works with up to 20 apprentices a year.

All her books are available at Amazon.com, and if you are to purchase one, may we suggest *50 Ways to Pray*:

"It is my hope that this book will provide at least fifty ways you may take steps in a lifelong walk with God. It is written for you, the seeker and sojourner, as well as you, the church leader, youth minister, retreat facilitator, or worship planner. It is for all of us who thought we only knew one way to pray."

We hope you can join us—Teresa is a warm, engaging, knowledgeable speaker (and was Zanny's teacher at Hesychia School of Spiritual Direction!).

Please RSVP to Zanny Johnson at zjohnson@trinitylc.org. You will be sent an email with the Zoom link.





Walking in the footsteps of our Trinity retired brothers on our journey with God!

As we emerge from the COVID-19 environment, we are planning ahead in anticipation of the ability to meet in person once again.

Our plans are conditional upon policies of our Church, the CDC, state guidelines, vendors, and common sense and are subject to change as conditions warrant.

Bible Study Thursdays at 8 a.m. In person April 1 Kowalski's

We plan to resume meeting at Kowalski's dining area on the same day and time as before COVID-19—every Thursday at 8 a.m. beginning April 1. Donut consumption is optional.

Golf (start date TBD) Thursdays at 10 a.m. Applewood Golf Course

Following Bible study we will have the optional opportunity to play golf with our Trinity Golf Group starting at 10 a.m. Details to follow as to the starting date for golf. If interested contact Jerry Nelson at 651-324-3176. There is no guarantee that those who attend Bible study will score a hole-in-one!

More information about this group at: <https://trinitylc.org/congregational-life/connections/retired-mens-group-rmg/>

HIGHLIGHT: Wild Ones



By Sheila Maybanks, Green Team

Wild Ones is a national organization whose mission is "Healing the earth one yard at a time."

Wild Ones promotes environmentally sound practices to preserve biodiversity by "preserving, restoring and establishing native plant communities." Wild Ones is all about native plants!

Our local chapter, St. Croix Oaks Savannah, has been established for 18 years.

They provide education, training and motivation to use native plants in home

landscapes. Pre-pandemic, monthly meetings were held at Family Means on the third Tuesdays. Now there are monthly Zoom meetings as well as access to many national presentations, garden design presentations, and reviews. Speakers include landscape designers, authors, DNR staff, University of Minnesota experts, nurserymen and skilled and knowledgeable gardeners. Meetings are open to all.

I am not much of a gardener but through Wild Ones I learned to establish a "pocket prairie" in our yard. It has been amazing—even in poor soil, natives are flourishing and bringing more birds and pollinators into the garden!

Consider learning about and joining Wild Ones.

**www.wildones.org
or on Facebook:
Wild Ones St Croix
Savannah**



The Light in Me sees and honors the Light in each of You

YogaDevotion Chair/Flow Combo Class
Thursdays 9 – 10 am | Meeting on Zoom
April 29 – June 17 | \$72 for 8 classes

All classes meeting on Zoom. Register to receive the link. Led by a trained yoga instructor, YogaDevotion is a practice of breath, prayer, and movement designed to encourage healthy living and a peaceful presence. For women and men of all skill levels and abilities. Beginners welcome, no experience needed!

Register and pay online at <https://trinitylc.org/congregational-life/care/yoga/> Questions? Contact Sue Peterson at todd@sue2@aol.com.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

On March 21 we received these members into our Trinity family. Please warmly welcome these new partners in ministry, enfold them into our church community and offer opportunities for them to worship, learn and serve alongside you.

Not pictured: BJ Anderson



Molly, Jory and Hudson Birkeland
Hiking • Wellness • Laughter



Angela Bruch and Dennis Beck
Family-centric • Escapists (pre-and-soon-to-be-post pandemic) • Bicyclists and hikers



Kathy Felsch
Married to her sweetheart Ron, Trinity member • Loves to read, cook and travel, especially the North Shore



Kara, Dan and Daphne MacSwain
Nature lovers • Packers fans • Surviving/enjoying toddlerhood



Pam, Bill and Malcom Quinn
Grandpa Bill the retired gardener • Grandma Pam the mediator • Malcom the amazing 7 year-old

Cruciforms and More: Art by Elaine Frederickson

By Sheila-Marie Untiedt and Sara Wagner, Fine Arts Team

Elaine Frederickson, Trinity member since 1936, graciously lent Trinity Lutheran a series of her painted images for our Lenten Fine Arts project. They were carefully hung in the narthex in anticipation of Lent on Feb. 25, 2020. They remain on display in the exact same location and configuration for Lent 2021, unseen and lonely.

This series of seven paintings are a series of works she identifies as “cruciform compositions.” Each image contains an image of a cross as an element of the painting. Some are bold and obvious, others subtle and reflective. Together, as a curated set, the paintings allow the viewer to explore different presentations of the cross. Some may notice the cruelty of the cross through the filter of Lent. Others may be reminded of the triumph of Easter after death on the cross.

Elaine never intended or planned to include a cross in any of these pieces; and yet, they appear in every piece. No one was more surprised than Elaine herself. These painting showcase Elaine’s impressive talent and her deep faith.

Once Trinity’s doors are open again, be sure to walk down the main staircase to view two original paintings of Elaine’s which are permanently displayed for all to enjoy. On the landing, you will notice a beautiful painting of a tree, a memorial to Trinity member Dorothy Valsvik. Dorothy’s brother and sister-in-law, Jim and Laurie Swanson, commissioned Elaine to do this painting. Continue down the steps to the lower level and you will be greeted by a watercolor rendering of Trinity, as seen from Third Street. According to Elaine, the Women’s Club asked her to paint this view of the church in 1996.

While Trinity is currently not open for regular worship, those attending funerals or accepted gatherings (such as the recent blood drive) are still able to appreciate Elaine’s paintings. Post pandemic, let us hope that we will all have the opportunity to stop and notice her works—the colors, the details, and the way these paintings make us feel.

To view a 3-minute video of Elaine’s images, please visit: <https://youtu.be/0a9lZf2JBeY>.



ABOVE: Elaine in her studio

BELOW: Artworks from the Cruciforms and More series, from left: *d'Etc*, *Life is Short and the World is Wide*, *Believe in Yourself*



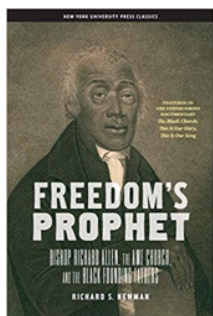


Reading in All Circumstances

By Norma Wilson, Library Volunteer

A recent study compiled a list of reasons people read. The list included: gaining knowledge, entertainment, learning, spiritual enrichment, to be challenged. The following books may support your reasons for reading. Please contact Norma at dwilson804@aol.com or 651-470-5124 to receive a book from the Trinity Library.

Book Recommendations: Claudia Swendseid – Racial Justice Ministry Team
 Claudia states, “I have been reading as one way to educate myself on the contributions of African Americans and native people to US history and the Christian Church.” Claudia recommends and comments on the following books.



Freedom's Prophet: Bishop Richard Allen, the AME Church, and the Black Founding Fathers (287 NEWM) by Richard Newman. “As you may know, Richard Allen founded the AME (African, Methodist, Episcopal) church

in the early 1800s. This is both a biography of Allen and a history of the AME founding and early years. It also discusses how African Americans contributed, much like white ‘founding fathers’ to the beginnings of the United States. It is about 300 pages and an accessible read.”

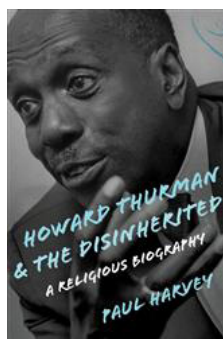
Jesus and the Disinherited (220 THUR) by Howard Thurman. “As you may know, Howard Thurman was an African American theologian, a mystic, an academic and a mentor



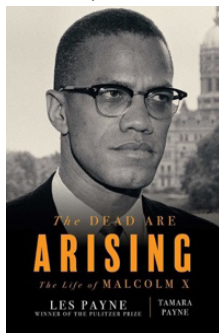
for many leaders in the Civil Rights movement of the 1950s and 1960s (e.g., Martin Luther King Jr.). Thurman wrote many books, but this is viewed as his seminal work. It's less than 200 pages and makes the case

that the religion of Jesus was first and foremost for persons oppressed and marginalized. Needless to say, Thurman was a critic of the institutional church, given its complicity with racism and oppression of African Americans and others. Nonetheless he was a devout Christian—it's a powerful read.”

Howard Thurman and the Disinherited: A Religious Biography (921 HARV) by Paul Harvey. “I read this after reading *Jesus and the Disinherited* as I wanted to learn a bit about Thurman's life. Paul Harvey is an academic that writes mainly about the history of religion in the U.S. This book gave me a great overview of Thurman's life and his many contributions.”



Recently Donated – 2020 Copyrights



The Dead Are Rising: The Life of Malcolm X (320.54 PAYN) “Malcolm X is still a powerful, influential figure, and getting this definitive biography, which sometimes corrects the historical record (and even corrects

some dates and facts on Malcolm's autobiography) feels necessary and timely given today's racial unrest. In fact, this biography isn't just important; it should be required reading.” (NPR reviewer Gabino Iglesias)

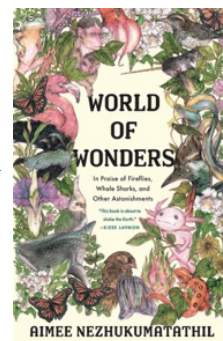
Everything Beautiful in Its Time: Seasons of Love and Loss (973.9 JAGE) “In this moving book, Jenna remembers the past, cherishes the present, and prepares for the future—providing a wealth of anecdotes and lessons for her own children and all of us.



Poignant and humorous, intimate and sincere, *Everything Beautiful in Its Time* is a warm and wonderful celebration of the enduring power of family and an exploration of the things that truly

matter most.” (Publisher William Morrow)

World of Wonders: In Praise of Fireflies, Whale Sharks, and Other Astonishments (590 NEZH) “The book's magic lies in Nezhukumatathil's ability to blend personal and natural history, to compress into each brief essay the relationship

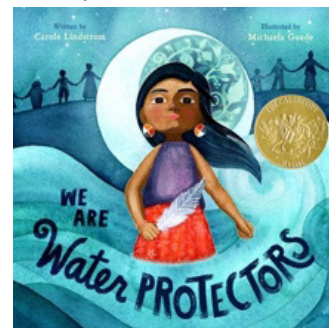


between a biographical passage from her own family and the life trajectory of a particular plant or animal. As the daughter of a South Asian American father and a Filipina-American mother, and as a “brown” American girl who grew up in Kansas, Arizona and New York and who now lives with her husband and two sons in Mississippi, she has experienced many a habitat and culture.” (Pamela Miller - Star Tribune)

Picture Books – New to the Trinity Library

You Matter (E R) by Christian Robinson “In this full, bright, and beautiful picture book, many different perspectives around the world are deftly and empathetically explored—from a pair of bird-watchers to the pigeons they're feeding. Young readers will be drawn into the luminous illustrations inviting them to engage with the world in a new way and see how everyone is connected, and that everyone matters.” (Simon & Schuster)

We Are Water Protectors (E L) Caldecott Medal



Continued on next page >

BAPTISMS

- **Wren Joyce Wiegand**
Parents Benjamin & Chelsea Wiegand
- **Peyton Sophia and Zoey Kathleen Gotch**
Parents Joshua & Jessica Gotch

CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY

- To family and friends of **Janet Rude**
- To family and friends of **Lorraine Hoven**

CORE VALUES

Exceptional Worship
Radical Hospitality
Authentic Community
Lifelong Faith Formation
Compassionate Action



Because God
first loved us,
we live as Jesus in the world,
loving God and
loving neighbor.

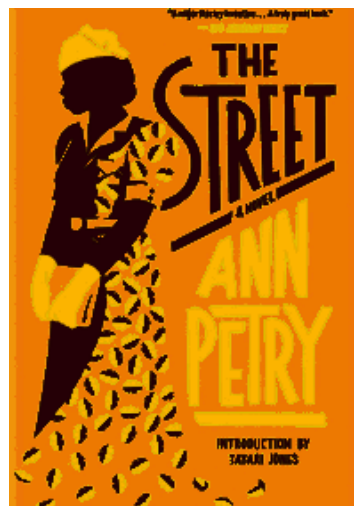
To read our full welcome statement please visit <https://trinitylc.org/welcome/who-we-are/reconciling-in-christ-process/>.

2021 "Inspired by the many Indigenous led movements across North America. *We Are Water Protectors* issues an urgent rallying cry to safeguard the Earth's water from harm and corruption—a bold and lyrical picture book written by Carole Lindstrom and boldly illustrated by Michaela Goade." (Roaring Book Press), Five-starred reviews

Book Review: Jerilyn Jackson – Tuesday Morning Book Club

The Street by Ann Petry is a novel that was first published in 1946 and reissued in 2020. It tells the story of Lutie, a young black woman living in Harlem, and her quest to move from a neighborhood that she finds a gritty and challenging place to raise her young son. She has little support after a failed marriage and has worked her way to self-sufficiency with a hard-earned job as a file clerk. In spite of her spirit and determination she finds her way forward to be stymied at every turn by the harsh realities of racism, misogyny, and poverty. The reader should be prepared for a sobering and realistic account of these obstacles to success that were in place seventy years ago, many of which still exist today.

Described as a thriller in its day, the book's use of suspense and plot twists made it popular then, the first book by an African American woman to sell more than a million copies. The author's masterful use of language describing Lutie's surroundings, her interactions with others, and certain fateful decisions, create a provocative and ominous mood. This story is an especially valuable glimpse into a life and community dealing with racial struggles at this time when we are renewing our efforts to understand the effects of racism on our society.



WORSHIP ATTENDANCE

Ash Wednesday Feb. 17	Lent Wednesday March 3
Live viewers..... 13	Zoom participants.. 50
Views/week..... 249	Views/week..... 40
Feb. 21	March 7
Live viewers..... 77	Live viewers..... 76
Views/week..... 605	Views/week..... 101
Drive-in..... 103	Drive-in..... 112
Lent Wednesday Feb. 24	Lent Wednesday March 10
Zoom participants.. 75	Zoom participants.. 75
Views/week..... 9	Views/week..... 7
Feb. 28	March 14
Live viewers..... 89	Live viewers..... 60
Views/week..... 403	Views/week..... 259
Drive-in..... 44	Drive-in..... 106

WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

SUNDAY WORSHIP

- Livestream on Facebook at 9 a.m.
- At the Drive-in at 10 a.m.
- Watch on TV at 11 a.m.

Watch Worship on local channel 18 through Valley Access

Sunday 11 a.m.

Wednesday Noon & 6 p.m.

Thursday Midnight & 6 a.m.

Saturday 11 p.m.

trinity
TODAY

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Email: info@trinitylc.org

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During pandemic Trinity's quilting ministry has continued to make and send quilts to Lutheran World Relief and to a local kids/new beds program (photos are of recent work).

A request. We've found that bedsheets are the most economical way to back our quilts. We are asking for the donation of new or gently-used sheets.

Criteria:

- Flat sheets work the best, ALL sizes. We can use fitted queen or king-sized sheets.
- We prefer color or patterned sheets but will also accept white sheets.
- Gently used, in good condition.

Where to donate: At Drive-in worship. A special bin will be provided and the sheets will be accepted (socially distanced!) by a member of our quilting group. Thank you!

