



115 4th St. N  
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www.trinitylc.org

March 2022  
volume 44, issue 3

# trinity TODAY

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



First Communion Faith Milestone  
photos on page 14

"Here's what I want  
you to do: Find a quiet,  
secluded place so you  
won't be tempted to  
role-play before God.  
Just be there as simply  
and honestly as you can  
manage. The focus will  
shift from you to God,  
and you will begin to  
sense God's grace."  
– Matthew 6:6 (MSG)

## Full to the Brim *An expansive lent*

LENT & EASTER schedule and  
details on pages 8-10



*Stardust* by Rev. Lisle Gwynn Garrity  
Inspired by Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21  
Acrylic on raw canvas with digital drawing



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

## Full to the Brim!

Full to the Brim. Four words we wouldn't normally connect with the discipline and practices of Lent.

Beginning with Ash Wednesday (this year on March 2), Lent is a holy, liturgical season of preparation for the coming of Holy Week. Traditionally a time of fasting and restraint, the focus has been on practices of self-denial – such as fasting or giving up some guilty pleasure. More recently, modern Lenten focuses have looked instead to adding a spiritual practice like daily prayer, bible reading, meditation, or service. In either case, the focus of Lent has been our own spiritual growth and purification ahead of the great gift of the Resurrection.

This year we are taking a different tack. Guided by the talented folks at “A Sanctified Art,” we have chosen the theme of “Full to the Brim” which focuses on God’s abundance and call to lives of possibility and justice. The Sunday bible readings paint a lively picture of God’s grace and generosity and will ignite our holy imaginations. We look forward to this journey with you.

As you embark on your Lenten journey, both in the company of this community and in your private faith practice, I invite you to an exercise designed to fill you to the brim with God’s lovingkindness. The meditative tradition of *Metta* is born of Buddhist practice and teaching and can

powerfully inform our own Christian practice and centering before God. *Metta* means “to care and wish well for another being without judging them, to accept them independently of agreeing or disagreeing with them, and without wanting anything from them in return. It is a universal love that can overcome all social, religious, ethnic, political and economic barriers.” Certainly a hope for our time, is it not!

As followers of Jesus, we understand that God is the source of all love: familial, neighbor, romantic. Our capacity to love is part of the image of God in which we are created, and love is the life to which we are called. Love of God, Love of Neighbor.

The *Metta* practice begins acknowledging our belovedness – never easy, and then extending that love to those closest to us, and ultimately including the “tough customers” in our lives. It is a simple practice that promises to fill your cup to the brim, allowing lovingkindness to spill into the world.

A simplified version of this practice goes like this:

Find a quiet place and about 10 minutes. Even five, if you are just starting.

Settle your breathing. Imagine being bathed in a warm light. Breathe slowly in and out for a few cycles. Then repeat this:

May I be at peace. May my heart remain open.

May I awaken to the light of my own true nature.

May I be healed. May I be a source of healing for all beings.

Now cast your mind to include a few of your most/closest beloved. Turn the meditation toward them.

May you be at peace. May your heart remain open.

May you awaken to the light of your own true nature.

May you be healed. May you be a source of healing for all beings.

Now cast your mind to include that person or persons most difficult for you and repeat the same blessing.

When you feel “done” – which may be five minutes or 15 or more – breathe slowly a few more cycles and come back to wakefulness.

This practice in the presence of God is intended to create within you a well of lovingkindness, acceptance, equanimity, and world-transforming peace. As you imagine God’s love brimming over onto the world, this type of intentional practice allows you to enter into and be a vessel for that love.

In addition, there are proven benefits of meditation: lower blood pressure, reduced anxiety, better digestion, less reactivity to discomfort or conflict, more recuperative sleep.

During Lent we are also offering a congregational book read; *My Grandmother’s Hands* by Resma Menakem. Beginning March 9, we will gather each Wednesday evening at 7 p.m. in person or on Zoom for a chance to reflect, learn, and experience other practices that heal our community and our bodies and fill our collective cups.

Bring your empty hands, your open heart and join the journey.

See pages 8-10 for more information about our Lenten journey this year.

Peace,

*Pastor Chris*

### Re-Entry Team Update

Your Re-Entry Team is keeping a close eye on all the COVID science/data and working to make up-to-the-minute decisions about our COVID-related policies. For right now, we patiently mask and defer coffee hour as the numbers start to move in a hopeful direction. We will keep you posted as things change. The team might seem quiet, but they are vigilantly paying attention to bring us the best possible leadership.



PASTOR OF LIFELONG FAITH FORMATION  
THE REV. PETER WESTON MILLER



**1. POINT CAMERA HERE.**

**2. CLICK THE LINK.**

**3. READ THE BIBLE.**



## Hybrid Church is just the Church

Lutherans have always been able to hold two things together simultaneously. It really goes to our very nature. Simul iustus et peccator, simultaneously saint and sinner. Both/And. Citizens on earth and citizens in heaven. The already and not yet. Jesus present in, with, and under the communion elements. The Word of God and the vernacular of the people. Always bridging.

At a conference this week, presenters shared their experiences bridging the intense simultaneity of in-person and online worship community. So much has changed so quickly. Folks who had never experienced a virtual gathering or a hybrid class now have joined the early adopters. Church leaders shared different experiments in technology, how they updated their systems to better quality as the pandemic ragged on, and how they trained and equipped their families to use the resources on the screens in front of them. Bible apps. Animator characters. Co-creators in streamlined content.

But over and over again, throughout the event, the presenters reiterated

that hybrid church is still just church: the body of Christ worshipping, learning, growing, and building faith-centered relationships.

Some of the platforms might be different and some of the distribution methods may reach beyond what we ever thought or imagined, but the message of Christ crucified and risen remains the same.

I came away from these conversations pretty re-grounded in the opportunity that being the hybrid church has always been who we are. A both/and people. Translating the Gospel in context. Integrating faith into daily life.

This doesn't mean that we are all going to become avatars in some metaverse. It also doesn't mean sacrificing solitude and contemplation for constant screens. But it probably will include utilizing tools that help us stay connected, engage community and interact across new creative spaces, and tag our God-stories across the generations.

That's what the church has always been – which is Good News. Even in mobile form.

*Pastor Peter*



See page 10 for more about our Lenten journey for this year.

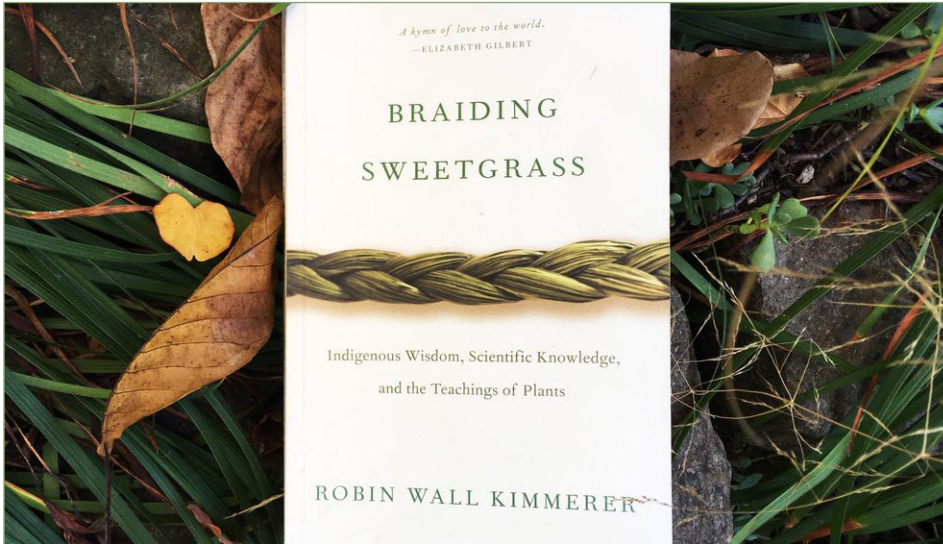


March 27 is New Member Sunday – please join us in welcoming new members at both worship services.



# Returning the Gift

We are showered every day with gifts—gifts we have neither earned nor paid for.



By Ann Wolff, Guest Contributor

Words from a stewardship lesson? Of course. More specifically, words from an essay by Robin Wall Kimmerer, originally published by the Center for Humans and Nature in their *Minding Nature Journal*. (<https://www.humansandnature.org/returning-the-gift>)

**“We are showered every day with gifts of the Earth, gifts we have neither earned nor paid for: air to breathe, nurturing rain, black soil, berries and honeybees, a bag of rice, and the exuberance of a field of goldenrod and asters at full bloom.”**

Trinity’s ABIDE Readers (see back cover) gleaned and treasured much wisdom and knowledge from Kimmerer’s *Braiding Sweetgrass: Indigenous Wisdom, Scientific Knowledge, and the Teachings of Plants*. The stories of Giveaway Ceremonies and the Thanksgiving Address (Words That Come Before All Else) commanded our deepest humility and highest respect. The stewardship values that we merely profess are lived by Native Americans.

God created the universe and all that is within it and granted us the privilege and responsibility of taking care of all creation. That is pretty much the gist of the First Commandment and the first article of the Apostles’ Creed. It is certainly the stewardship message we hear annually, although a daily reminder would be even better.

Kimmerer’s teachings are similar to the lessons that our Stewardship Ministry Team (once called the Gratitude Team) imparts to us:

- **Gratitude** is the most potent offering we possess. It is founded on the deep knowing that our very existence relies on the gifts of other beings.

- Gratitude provides an opening to **reciprocity**, the act of giving back, to living in a way that the Earth will be grateful for us.
- **Paying attention** is an ongoing act of reciprocity in which attention generates wonder, which generates more attention—and more joy. Paying attention leads to amazement, but it also leads to acknowledgment of pain. Open and attentive, we see and feel equally the beauty and the wounds. Paying attention to suffering sharpens our ability to respond, to be responsible.
- Paying attention is a gift because attention becomes **intention**, which coalesces itself to action.
- Deep attention calls us inevitably into deep **relationship**.
- Naming the gifts with which we are showered establishes a relationship between giver and receiver and creates a feeling of **enough**, a radical idea in a consumption-driven society.
- We are bound in a covenant of reciprocity, a pact of mutual **responsibility** to sustain those who sustain us. All flourishing is mutual.
- **Generosity** is simultaneously a moral and a material imperative. The well-being of one is linked to the well-being of all.

Reciprocity in a culture of gratitude: we are showered every day with gifts which multiply by our care for them. We are called to offer our gifts of mind, hands, heart, voice, and vision and to dance for the renewal of the world—in return for the privilege of breath.

## Trinity Financial Update

### January Year-to-Date - Fiscal Year 2022

	This Year	Last Year	'22 Budget	% of Budget
Contribution Income	543,499	619,133	1,354,800	40%
Other Income	162,877	107,003	388,586	42%
Total Income	<u>\$ 706,376</u>	<u>\$ 726,135</u>	<u>\$ 1,743,386</u>	
less: Expenses	748,014	677,759	1,742,006	43%
Surplus (Deficit)	<u><u>\$ (41,638)</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 48,376</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 1,380</u></u>	

### Long-Term Debt Summary:

Long-Term Debt - Beginning of Fiscal Yr.	3,252,567	3,346,629
Increase (Decrease)	(47,999)	(36,174)
Long-Term Debt - End of January	<u><u>\$ 3,204,568</u></u>	<u><u>\$ 3,310,455</u></u>
Line of Credit Balance - January	\$ 55,000	\$ -

*Yes! Keep Trinity financially strong!*



#### OFFERING

A time for offering takes place during all worship services. Collect offering in-person or at home.



#### GIVE ONLINE

Visit [www.trinitylc.org](http://www.trinitylc.org) then GIVING to make a secure one-time or recurring donation.



#### GIVE BY TEXT

Simply text the word GENERAL to 651-571-5585 to be taken to the secure online giving page at our new vendor ShelbyNext Giving.

*Thrivent Members—  
Did You Know?*

### Don't forget to direct Choice Dollars®

Grant funding from Thrivent Financial through its Thrivent Choice® program can help support organizations you care about. Don't let Choice Dollars expire.

Eligible Thrivent Financial members who have Choice Dollars available have until March 31, 2022, to direct any remaining 2021 Choice Dollars. Help support Trinity Lutheran Church. Choice dollars are designated equally between Outreach Missions and Building. Go to [Thrivent.com/thriventchoice](http://Thrivent.com/thriventchoice) to learn more. Or call 800-847-4836 and say "Thrivent Choice" after the prompt.



**THRIVENT®**  
Be Wise With Money™





**Sundays at 10 am**  
(between services)  
**Garden Room** (in-person)  
**& on Zoom** (online)  
Join on Zoom at:  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82206139084>

Please join us between services at 10 a.m. in the Garden Room or on Zoom. Questions? Contact Penny Catlin at [pccatlin@juno.com](mailto:pccatlin@juno.com).

Updates and information about Adult Faith Forum is posted on our web site at: <https://trinitylc.org/learning/adult/adult-ed/>.

## COMING SOON! BOOK CLUB FOR YOUNG READERS

We are excited to announce a new book club geared for youth in grades 3-5, but available to all avid readers in elementary school.

We will meet one Sunday a month in between worship services (at 10 a.m.) for caring conversation and discussion.

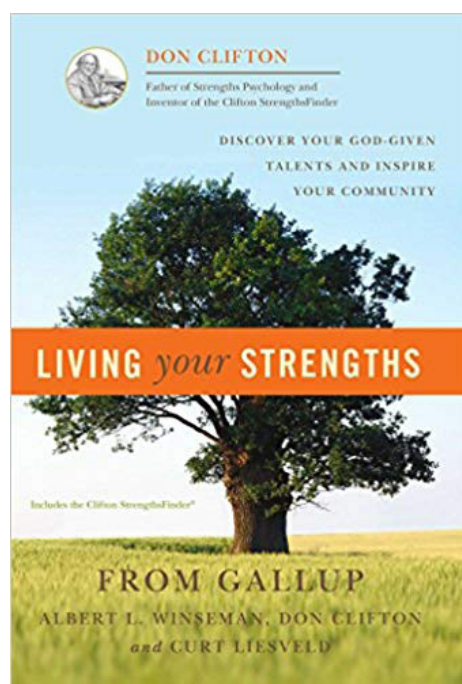
Dates for Sunday discussion are: March 20, April 24, and May 22. (We may meet an additional time to watch the movie of the book chosen.)

Details on book selection and registration are coming soon. Stay tuned!

# SUNDAY *hybrid adult faith* FORUM

## Monthly Conversation with Your Pastors Sunday, March 6

Preaching is always an invitation deeper into who we are as God's people and how that impacts everything we do with the rest of our lives. We look forward to this extended dialog, to engaging your questions and maybe adding a few more. We also hope to laugh and find hope together, loving God and loving our neighbors as Jesus in the Valley.



## What are your strengths? Naming, Claiming & Aiming Your God-given Talents Sunday, March 13

God created you in God's image, unique and gifted differently than anyone else! As a beloved child of God, you are invited to discover and explore your God-given talents, using the Clifton Strengths assessment as a tool to help you describe you and your talents! Once you have named your talents, we will explore together how to claim and steward your time and energy; how to move your talents to the place of being a strength; how to thoughtfully reflect on managing one's weaknesses; and ideas on how to aim your strengths for God's work in the world, in whatever places God has called

you to! This class is for anyone wanting to either discover their strengths for the first time or who wish to get a refresher on their strengths.

*Living Your Strengths* book with codes to take the online strengths assessment are available in the church office for \$20. Please get the book and take the assessment before this March 13 class. The assessment is online, so a working computer and access to the internet is needed, (let Zanny know if this is an issue, and we can help out). Questions? Contact Zanny Johnson at [zjohnson@trinitylc.org](mailto:zjohnson@trinitylc.org).

## Lutheranism, Scripture and Life Together! Sunday, March 20

This "kitchen-sink" workshop will offer a broad take on how the Body of Christ at Trinity continues to grow and evolve: Thanks be to God! We will try to bridge elements of our time-honored tradition and experiment in sustainable Spirit-moving innovation. Join us in exploring expansive culture, theology, identity, and how we support our shared ministry. We will talk a bit about our heritage as Lutherans in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, how we bridge God's story and our own faith journey, as well as how we steward God's gifts. And at Trinity for both long-storied here and still fresh in our community, we really mean *All Are Welcome!*

## Trinity's Outreach Missions Team Presents Sunday, March 27

Trinity's Missions Team Presents – How our Trinity community is being the church through service for and with others.

You have probably heard of the housing and homeless efforts that Trinity has been working on, but there is a lot of other stuff going on too. Join us to learn about all the many projects that Trinity is involved with both locally and globally. There is a place for you to share your gifts and interests!



## MARCH FAMILY FAITH EVENT: Lenten Prayer Calendar

This March, join other families from Trinity in a 40-day Lenten prayer journey. For instructions and a copy of the prayer calendar, visit <https://trinitylc.org/learning/family>.



## Faith Milestones

# July 20-23, 2022

## Save the date for VBS 2022!

Calling all children ages 4-9! We look forward to diving into God's word together through games, songs, crafts, and more at Vacation Bible School this summer! Stay tuned for this summer's theme and save July 20-23 on your calendar for this awesome experience.

Interested in volunteering? Contact Sarah Olson at [solson@trinitylc.org](mailto:solson@trinitylc.org).

# SAVE THE DATE



## Summer Camp at WAPO

Camp Wapo Registration Open!  
Trinity's 2022 dates:

### Seeds Summer Camp

Seeds for children who have completed grades 1-3, July 15-17

### WAPO One Day Camp

Wapo One Day for children who have completed grades 1-4, July 20

Not quite ready for an overnight camp experience? Children who have completed grades 1-4 are invited to try the Wapo One Day on Wednesday, July 20! The One-Day program is a day long experience where campers get a taste of camp before enjoying an overnight program. One-Day campers play in the lake (weather permitting), eat a meal at camp, and enjoy games, Bible study, crafts, and so much more. A typical One-Day starts with check-in at 9 a.m. and ends with pick up at 3 p.m.

### WAPO Youth Camp

Youth Camp for youth who have completed grades 4-8, Aug. 14-19

### Youth Servant Leadership

Youth Servant Leadership Camp for youth who have completed grades 9-12, multiple dates

Use our Trinity registration link for the easiest registration experience: <http://lwlbc.com/trinity-stillwater>

Visit <https://trinitylc.org/learning/summer/camps/> or <https://lakewapo.org> for more information!

Thank you to our families who helped create touching cards of care for Boutwells residents last month! Keep sharing the love!





# Lent & Easter



The origins of Lent were that one was to leave their old life behind to fast and prepare to be baptized into a new way of living. In essence, this was a practice of stepping away from corrupt power, scarcity mentality, and empty rituals in order to live a more expansive and full life of faith. And so, our Lenten theme, *Full to the Brim*, is an invitation—into a radically different Lent, into a full life. It's an invitation to be authentically who you are, to counter scarcity and injustice at every turn, to pour out even more grace wherever it is needed. When we allow ourselves to be filled to the brim with God's lavish love, that love spills over. It reaches beyond ourselves; like water, it rushes and flows, touching everything in its path.

*Full to the Brim* reminds us to live fully—as we pursue justice and hope, or express grief and gratitude. If love is our beginning, how can we live our lives led by love's promises? And so, this Lent, let us trust—fully—that we belong to God. Let us increase our capacity to receive and give grace. Let us discover the expansive life God dreams for us. — © A SANCTIFIED ART



## EASTER GARDEN – This form and payment must be turned in by Sunday, April 10

In the spirit of memorializing or honoring loved ones this Easter, we welcome donations toward an Easter Garden. We also appreciate memorials and honors directed toward maintenance and improvements of our facilities. Easter Garden names will be printed in the May issue of *Trinity Today*. Please fill out the form below and mail it along with payment to Trinity Lutheran Church at P.O. Box 339, Stillwater, MN 55082.

☐ Facilities Maintenance & Improvements \$ \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Easter Garden (suggested donation \$20) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

In memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

In honor of: \_\_\_\_\_

Given by: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Total amount enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_



March 2 } **Ash Wednesday** } The beginning of Lent, a day of reflection and repentance.

**Noon – Drive-through ashes | 7 pm – Worship**

**Sundays** } Parables and promises of God's abundant and expansive grace.  
**8:45 & 11 am – Sunday Worship**

The scriptures for this Lenten season (in the Revised Common Lectionary, Year C) are filled with parables and promises of God's abundant and expansive grace. Jesus as a mother hen, a prodigal son welcomed home, a fig tree nurtured with care and hope, precious oil poured out lovingly and freely, stones shouting out with praise—these sacred texts are brimming with a gospel of grace. We've done nothing to deserve or earn this grace, and yet, like water, it spills over.

Beginning March 9 } **Wednesday Evenings** } Re-Membering Prayer Service with the Rev. Joann Conroy.

**6 pm – Worship & Naming**

**6:30 – Discussion**

**7 pm – My Grandmother's Hands Book Study Groups**

We take time during Lent to remember before God the Indigenous children who died during forced occupation and assimilation by Christian-run and government-run boarding schools. We seek to name and honor these young ones, acknowledging how their lives were cut short and their communities ravaged, even as we seek to undo the systems of denigration and segregation still at work in white-body churches. Join us for prayer and song and discussion. All ages are welcome.

April 10 } **Palm Sunday** } Celebrates Jesus's triumphant entry into Jerusalem.

**10 am – Outdoor Community Worship & Palm Processional**

Worship with our community partners in Christ – First Presbyterian, Ascension Episcopal, First United Methodist, Our Savior's Lutheran, St. Paul's Lutheran – at the Historic Lift Bridge in downtown Stillwater. Come walk and commune together on this Palm Sunday morning 2022.

April 14 } **Maundy Thursday** } Commemorates the foot washing and Last Supper of Jesus Christ with the Apostles.

**Noon – Drive-through communion | 7 pm – Worship**

April 15 } **Good Friday** } Commemorates the crucifixion of Jesus and his death at Calvary.

**7 pm – Worship with Seven Last Words by John Michael Trotta**

These words, haunting in their simplicity, expose a gamut of emotions experienced during the Passion. See, hear and feel these words through the spoken word, choir, soloists and instrumental ensemble.

April 17 } **Easter Sunday** } Christ is risen. Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia.

**7, 9 & 11 am – Worship in the Worship Center**

**7 am – Sunrise worship with choir, organ and instruments.**

This beautiful service will begin in darkness and end with glorious light. Why worship at sunrise when you can worship later in the day? For Christians, the reason for timing a service to coincide with the rising of the sun is simple: It was dawn when the first believers — in every gospel account, women — went to the tomb of Jesus, found the rock rolled away from the entrance and the body of Jesus gone. So it makes sense that this that earth-shaking event would be celebrated as the sun comes up. Plus, the choir will host you for coffee after worship.

**9 am – Traditional festival worship with children and adult choirs, organ and instruments.**

**11 am – Contemporary festival worship with the worship band.**

*Brazen Beauty* by Rev. Lisle Gwynn Garrity  
Inspired by John 12:1-8  
Acrylic on raw canvas with digital drawing

## 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.

Ash Wednesday,

March 2 \_\_\_\_\_ **Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21**

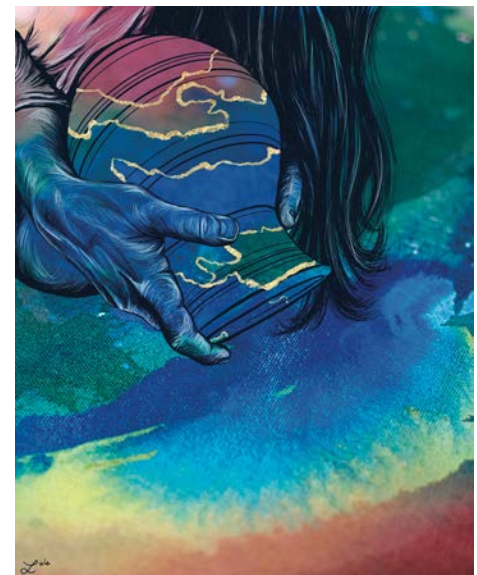
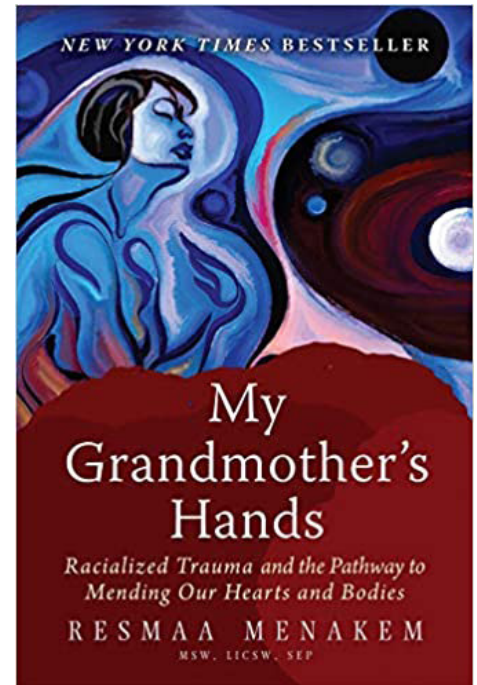
March 6 \_\_\_\_\_ **Luke 4:1-13**

March 13 \_\_\_\_\_ **Luke 13:31-35**

March 20 \_\_\_\_\_ **Luke 13:1-9**

March 27 \_\_\_\_\_ **Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32**

See page 10 for more about Wednesday evenings. Read more about the Lent Book Study at: <https://trinitylc.org/lent-book-study/>





## Wednesday Evenings during Lent Re-Membering Prayer Service with the Rev. Joann Conroy

We take time during Lent to remember before God the Indigenous children who died during forced occupation and assimilation by Christian-run and government-run boarding schools. We seek to name and honor these young ones, acknowledging how their lives were cut short and their communities ravaged, even as we seek to undo the systems of denigration and segregation still at work in white-body churches. Join us for prayer and song and discussion. All ages are welcome.



Wednesdays March 9, 16, 23,  
30 & April 6

**6 pm** – Worship & Naming

**6:30 pm** – Discussion  
following worship

**7 pm** – *My Grandmother's  
Hands* Study Groups

*Prepare* – This prayer service may evoke lots of embodied emotion, that you may or may not be able to name. We ask that you sit with all that comes to your heart, mind, and body. Notice the rage. Notice where it hurts. Notice how you feel drawn and held. May the Spirit continue to move in all of us.

Service will include land acknowledgement, music, prayers, call and response, time of naming, reflection, poetry and blessing. Service will be followed by a time for discussion. Then those reading *My Grandmother's Hands* will meet in study groups.

*Land Acknowledgement* – Trinity Lutheran Church is located on the original and ancestral homelands of the Očhéthi Šakówiŋ (translated as Seven Council Fires) Dakhóta people, specifically the Wahpekute Nation (translated as Shooters Among the Leaves). We are on Dakota and Anishinaabe (Ojibwe) land. This land holds spiritual and ongoing importance for its original stewards, the Native nations and all Indigenous peoples of the St. Croix Valley region. We give thanks for their presence here since time immemorial. We also wish to

recognize and honor all our Indigenous siblings who have and continue to call this land their home.

*Poem* – A poem by Abigail Echo-Hawk (Pawnee) written in 2021 – “I wrote this for our people, I wrote it because I couldn’t quit crying as I read newspaper reports of this genocide against Indigenous people, I wrote it because my heart was crying justice that my tongue couldn’t shape words for, so my hand did.”

When they buried the children  
What they didn’t know  
They were lovingly embraced  
By the land Held and cradled in a  
mother’s heart

The trees wept for them, with the wind  
they sang mourning songs their mothers  
didn’t know to sing  
bending branches to touch the earth  
around them.

The Creator cried for them the tears  
falling like rain.

Mother Earth held them until they could  
be found.

Now our voices sing the mourning songs.  
With the trees. The wind.

Light sacred fire ensure they are never  
forgotten as we sing JUSTICE

*Blessing* – God of All Creation, who created this world with magnificent wonder and awe, awaken us to see the beauty of all our sacred relations. Mold our hearts with thankfulness and care, as we walk daily in prayer, seeking the fulfillment of your eternal blessings.  
Amen





## Invitation to Renewal Women's Retreat Half Day Retreat in March!

We are pleased to offer another half day retreat in March! (This is a repeat of the retreat that was held in November.)

Come for time away with other Trinity women (and friends—all are welcome!) to be refreshed, spiritually uplifted, make new friends and strengthen connections with each other and with God. We will be focusing on *Invitation to Renewal*—renewing our hearts and minds while still navigating the pandemic, learning scripture-based Spiritual practices, enjoying creativity, contemplation and together unfolding the truth of who we are as beloved children of God. Led by Pastor Chris and Zanny Johnson.

**HALF DAY RETREAT: Saturday, March 26 | 9 am to 1 pm**  
**Bethel Highlands Campus in Hudson | Cost: \$20**

Cost includes hearty mid-morning snacks and materials. Once registered, you will receive more detailed information by email the week before. More information and registration link at: <https://trinitylc.org/congregational-life/special-event/>



**SOLO**  
**55** **PLUS**  
Singles Group  
for Ages 55 & Up

Solo 55 Plus is a faith-based fellowship group for those single and over 55.

Frequent activities are planned and announced in a weekly newsletter. To receive the newsletter, become a member, or seek information, please send email to: [SOLO55PLUS@gmail.com](mailto:SOLO55PLUS@gmail.com).



*First Fruits* by Rev. Lauren Wright Pittman  
Inspired by Deuteronomy 26:1-11  
Digital painting  
March 2022 • [trinity.today](http://trinity.today).



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 7 – May 26 | \$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 [toddinsue2@aol.com](mailto:toddinsue2@aol.com).



FOOD | CLOTHING | EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE

# March Drives for Good

March is the month for the Valley Outreach annual Drives For Good campaign and here are just two ways we at Trinity can support our community through donations.

## Only New Will Do Socks & Undies Drive

On Sunday, March 20 at both worship services, we will be collecting new and in the package socks and underwear to donate to Valley Outreach. This drive is a reinvention of our popular Undie Sunday Week. This year we have a \$5,000 challenge gift to purchase new socks and undies that we're hoping we can double!

Valley Outreach needs new, in the package socks & undies in every size for every member of the family.

1. Boxer briefs
2. Boxers
3. Cotton briefs
4. Kids briefs
5. Athletic socks
6. Wool socks
7. Kids socks

Donate New Socks & Undies!

Reminder: ONLY NEW WILL DO!

## March FoodShare Campaign

Valley Outreach participates in the biggest statewide food and fund drive of the year, the Minnesota FoodShare March Campaign. Trinity will be collecting shelf-stable food and pantry items for this campaign on Sunday, March 27 during both worship services.

Donate the following top 10 needed items:

1. Cooking Oil
2. Spices/seasonings
3. Condiments
4. Rice
5. Pasta
6. Canned meats
7. Ready to eat soups
8. Personal hygiene products
9. Diapers (sizes 5 & 6)
10. Household paper items

Donate Top 10 Needed Items!

Start filling those grocery bags now and let's pack the front of the church with our donated items on the March FoodShare Campaign Sunday, March 27. Financial contributions are also welcome. Make checks out to Trinity Lutheran Church and write in the memo line: Valley Outreach – FoodShare Campaign or Undie Sunday.

Questions? Contact Glenda Bjorum at [bjorumsing@aol.com](mailto:bjorumsing@aol.com).





# DREAMS IN A DUFFLE BAG

## THE SADAT FAMILY UPDATE

If you had two duffle bags in which to pack your most essential and treasured earthly belongings—knowing you were to travel halfway around the world to a strange country, never to return home again—what would you choose? A shawl handed down through the generations? Or would it be wiser to pack a warm coat? The family photo album? Or should you bring your prayer book? A sports coat? Or would it be more astute to bring three pairs of jeans instead? Surely there would be no room for your favorite chair or the musical instrument you loved playing ... or your bike ... or your favorite cooking pan. Your television, radio and great grandmother's clock would never endure the jostling and tossing involved in a trip covering thousands of miles over who knows how many days? The one salvation you would have is knowing, regardless how full those duffle bags were, there would still be room for your hopes and dreams.

Really, what would you pack?

This may all seem like a theoretical mental exercise, until you greet the Sadat family of five at baggage claim #3 at MSP airport and help them load their life belongings—their nine duffle bags—into the back of a pickup. The Sadat family has arrived from Afghanistan via Fort Dix, New Jersey and members of the Sadat Family Welcome Coalition (SFWC) —folks from Boutwells Landing, Ascension Episcopal Church, the Eastern Twin Cities Islamic Center, the Minnesota Council of Churches and Trinity—were there to welcome them.

Over the next four to six months the SFWC will help the Sadats transition into their new life; furnish and set up an apartment; bring them to health, social services and employment appointments; welcome them with a food train; help them with shopping and food needs; help them navigate mass transit; work with them on ESL classes; and create a support circle.

We don't know much about the Sadats at this early stage. We do know the

parents are a pleasant, ambitious couple, with three bright, curious kids aged 8, 6 and 5. And we know why they chose to flee Afghanistan. The Sadat father explained they left so their children could have a better future and a safe environment in which to explore that future. He added another thing he'd realized upon arriving in Minnesota—another reason for optimism—was "People here value us as humans and want to support us. Where we came from there was no value to human life anymore."

A sweet footnote: As the family was getting into a vehicle at the airport for a ride to their temporary housing quarters, a group of Somali youth shouted, "Welcome to America!" A greeting so big, it couldn't fit into a duffle bag of any size.

For more information on helping out the Sadat family, contact Spike Carlsen at [Carlsen@usinternet.com](mailto:Carlsen@usinternet.com) or Kat Carlsen at [katdcarlsen@gmail.com](mailto:katdcarlsen@gmail.com).

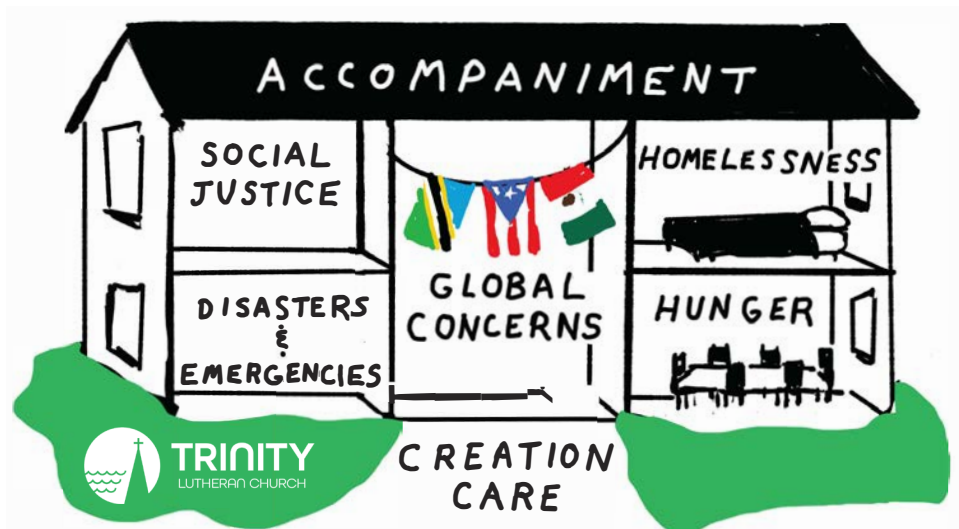
## Outreach Missions Team purpose presented visually and in words

By Marie Liberda, Outreach Missions Team Chair

**MISSION STATEMENT:** We will follow God's example of love by collaborating with others to facilitate a world in which the basic needs of all people are met in an environment of peace with justice.

Trinity's Mission team outreach efforts to accomplish its purpose are depicted visually by the imperfect house with its many inclusive rooms always undertaken within the embracing and outstretched arms of Accompaniment as depicted by the sheltering walls and roof.

Examples of how this house depicts the Missions' team efforts are:



The Afghan refugee project reside in the Homelessness, Hunger, Disasters & Emergencies rooms. Trinity's support of scholarships for Tanzanian students resides in the Global Concerns room (note Tanzanian flag).

Homelessness and hunger efforts include Trinity's financial and volunteer support for Valley Outreach, the Tiny Home project and advocacy for the Washington County Emergency Adult shelter.





Photos from the First Communion Milestone on Sunday, Feb. 13 for our 2nd graders. In Holy Communion, Jesus feeds us spiritual food to strengthen our faith. Families mixed up the Trinity communion bread recipe at church and then took their dough home to bake or freeze. Thank you to the volunteers who made this special event possible!



## Trinity Scholarship Fund

The Trinity Scholarship Fund was established by the estate of Jeanette Johnson, a Trinity member who dreamed of being able to offer college tuition assistance to youth whose achievement and character indicated they possessed the qualities necessary to achieve excellence in higher education.

Trinity awards up to four scholarships each year on the basis of academic status, co-curricular achievement, good citizenship and active involvement at Trinity. The trust also stipulates that scholarship recipients must be baptized and confirmed by Trinity, and active participants in Trinity youth programs.

Once selected, scholarship winners may renew their scholarships for up to three additional years, providing they maintain a cumulative grade point average of at least 2.75 or a "B-" or, in the absence of a similar grading system, remain in "fine academic standing" as indicated by official record. Scholarship recipients must reapply each year for renewal.

Scholarship applications are available online at: <https://trinitylc.org/learning/youth/scholarship-fund/>.

All completed original scholarship and renewal applications must be received by Friday, **April 1**. Please mail to: Trinity Lutheran Church, Trinity Scholarship Fund, Attn Bob Eiselt, P.O. Box 339, Stillwater, MN 55082.

**Applications due  
April 1**



## WORSHIP ATTENDANCE

### Sunday, Jan. 23

In-person 8:45 am \_\_\_\_\_ 92  
 In-person 11 am \_\_\_\_\_ 64  
 Live online views 8:45 am \_\_\_\_\_ 124  
 Live online views 11 am \_\_\_\_\_ 30  
 Online views/week 8:45 am \_\_\_\_\_ 213  
 Online views/week 11 am \_\_\_\_\_ 72

### Sunday, Jan. 30

In-person 8:45 am \_\_\_\_\_ 107  
 In-person 11 am \_\_\_\_\_ 69  
 Live online views 8:45 am \_\_\_\_\_ 101  
 Live online views 11 am \_\_\_\_\_ 34  
 Online views/week 8:45 am \_\_\_\_\_ 178  
 Online views/week 11 am \_\_\_\_\_ 74

### Sunday, Feb. 6

In-person 8:45 am \_\_\_\_\_ 119  
 In-person 11 am \_\_\_\_\_ 59  
 Live online views 8:45 am \_\_\_\_\_ 108  
 Live online views 11 am \_\_\_\_\_ 34  
 Online views/week 8:45 am \_\_\_\_\_ 182  
 Online views/week 11 am \_\_\_\_\_ 59

### Sunday, Feb. 13

In-person 8:45 am \_\_\_\_\_ 104  
 In-person 11 am \_\_\_\_\_ 87  
 Live online views 8:45 am \_\_\_\_\_ 128  
 Live online views 11 am \_\_\_\_\_ 30  
 Online views/week 8:45 am \_\_\_\_\_ 213  
 Online views/week 11 am \_\_\_\_\_ 85

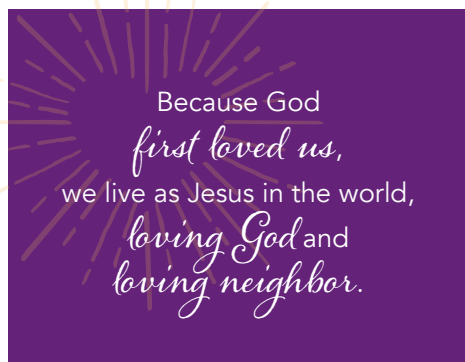
NOTE: Online views in one week are one-minute or longer views



Sunbeam captured by Annie Mikesch.

## CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY

- To family and friends of **Pat Bloomgren**
- To family and friends of **Carol Nyenhuis**
- To family and friends of **Colleen Weiss**
- To family and friends of **Harold Koehnen**
- To family and friends of **Dorothy Lelle**
- To family and friends of **Dr. Mark Jacobson** (son of Trinity)



### CORE VALUES

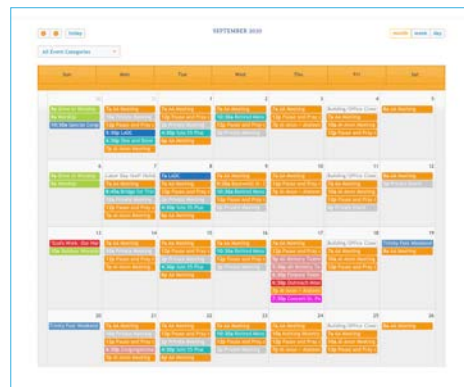
Exceptional Worship  
 Radical Hospitality  
 Authentic Community  
 Lifelong Faith Formation  
 Compassionate Action



To read our welcome statement please visit <https://trinitylc.org/welcome/who-we-are/mission/>.

## BAPTISMS

- **Rowan Robert Anderson & Aria Kay Anderson**, children of Ryan and Mallory Anderson



## CALENDAR

Please see the calendar on our web site for events, meetings and other happenings at Trinity. The calendar includes in-person and online events. View the calendar at: <https://trinitylc.org/calendar/>



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[www.trinitylc.org](http://www.trinitylc.org)

**SUNDAY WORSHIP** at Trinity & Online at 8:45 & 11 am

Text the word GENERAL to 651-571-5585 to securely give online



Trinity Lutheran  
 Church in Stillwater, MN

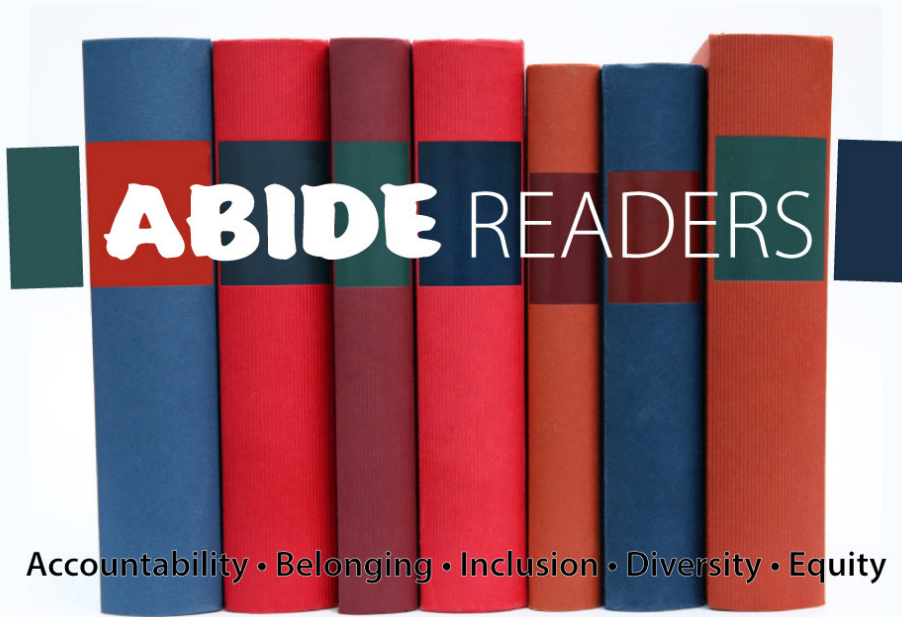


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## **ABIDE Readers Book Discussion** **Fourth Mondays | 6:30–8 pm on Zoom**

Check out Trinity's growing ABIDE collection of books conveniently available in the Narthex or find the list on our web site at: <https://trinitylc.org/congregational-life/connections/abide-readers/>

For home delivery of books from the collection, the Zoom link, or more information, contact Ann Wolff at [wolff701@msn.com](mailto:wolff701@msn.com) or 651-260-3855.

### Next ABIDE Readers Discussion: ***Just Mercy* by Bryan Stevenson** **Monday, Feb. 28 – 6:30-8 pm** **on Zoom**

There's still time to watch the movie (Prime Video or Youtube) and join our discussion on the 28th. Life can seem especially overwhelming right now, but just for a minute imagine the poor, the disfavored, the condemned. This true story is without a doubt a beacon of light in a world of hate – truly a message of hope for a weary world. Join us for an engaging and uplifting conversation.

### Up Next: ***Black Elk Speaks* by John G. Neihardt** **Monday, March 28 – 6:30-8 pm** **on Zoom**

Indigenous Peoples have many different beliefs and practices. *Black Elk Speaks* is considered a classic among books on spirituality. The book may look long and intimidating, but half of it is the appendix. It's available in Trinity Library's ABIDE collection and at Valley Bookseller (15% discount for ABIDE Readers). Join us for an enlightening discussion.