



Trinity Trumpet

February 2021

Looks Kinda Rough, but Runs Great!



Have you had an accident where the damage was just on the outside of the car, but the engine still ran just fine? I sure have. One of my favorite memories with my oldest son from years ago is having him help me put a new front right quarter panel on our car that got hit by a deer.

If you had to choose between driving a car that ran great, but looked pretty beat up OR one that looked fine, but didn't run very well, which would you choose? Common sense tells us it's better to have a car that runs well. I've driven cars that would die every time I turned a corner, or the headlights would randomly turn off at night, or the windshield wipers stopped working and we couldn't get a replacement part for it. Those cars might have looked great on the outside, but they weren't safe. They needed help.

How are you doing? What have you been struggling with lately? Maybe you look good on the outside, but are having trouble on the inside. Or maybe you're a little dented on the outside, but still running strong on the inside.

This "banged up, but running well" idea is explained in II Corinthians 4:4 where Paul says, *"Therefore, having this ministry by the mercy of God, we do not lose heart...But we have this treasure in jars of clay, to show that the surpassing power belongs to God and not to us. We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed..."*

"So we do not lose heart. Though our outer self is wasting away, our inner self is being renewed day by day. For this light momentary affliction is preparing for us an eternal weight of glory beyond all comparison, as we look not to the things that are seen but to the things that are unseen. For the things that are seen are transient, but the things that are unseen are eternal."

Just because you're battered on the outside, it doesn't mean you have to be battered on the inside. Just because your body is sick, it doesn't mean your spirit has to be sick. You could lose your job, you could lose your health, you could lose a loved one, you could lose your stuff, but you don't have to lose heart!

Remember: God has promised that those who are weary and weak will "renew their strength" and "soar on wings like eagles" (Isaiah 40:31). How does that happen? We wait on God. He gives us His perspective and that makes all the difference! God's perspective sees the difference between what is "temporary" and what is "eternal". This perspective makes burdens bearable. They're heavy and they hurt, but only for a little while when considering eternity. God will pick you up and help you through the pain.

As we approach the season of Lent, we remember the pain Christ endured in our place. We repent and turn from sin. We rely on God. We don't have the strength to "fix" ourselves. We need God's power. And He freely gives us hope and healing. Instead of being worn and weary, in Jesus, God makes us forgiven and free!

Pastor Kevin Bueltmann

Lead Pastor Congregational Call Meeting Scheduled

The Lead Pastor Call Committee has interviewed and accepted two pastors as final candidates for our pastoral vacancy. We have set a Call meeting for Sunday, February 14 at 5 pm with Pastor Thomas of Libby to conduct this Call Meeting. Please feel free to review the information sheets for these two Pastors at the church office.

Let us all seek God's wisdom and direction for our church and may His will be done. Amen

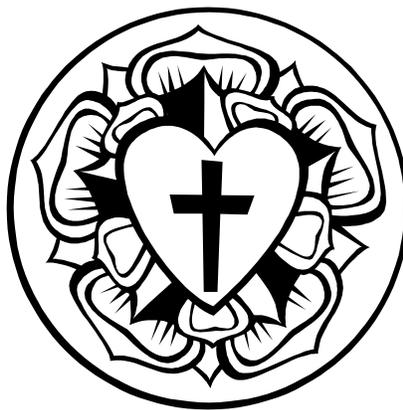
Trinity Pastor Candidates

Rev. Dr. Glenn Fluegge

Rev. Dr. Glenn Fluegge (age 48) began his ministry as a missionary in Africa in 1998, where he served at two different missions until 2012. Since then, he has served at Concordia University in Irvine, California, as both a Professor of Theology, as well as Director of the Cross-Cultural Ministry Center. He regularly preaches and leads Sunday morning worship at Christ Lutheran Church, and serves as their regular visitation pastor. He is on the Board of Directors at Crean Lutheran High School. He is open to alternate forms of worship as long as they are Biblically sound. His preference for ministry is large- to medium-sized congregations. Having served in leadership throughout his years as a pastor, he stresses the importance of collaborative teamwork. In discussing Trinity's many ministries, he expressed his views on the importance of pastoral presence and involvement at our child care center, school and camp in an effort to keep them all "intricately connected". He and his wife have five children between the ages of 13 and 23. His hobbies include sports (football, basketball, lacrosse) and he likes to hike and bike.

Rev. Jonathan Rathjen

Rev. Jonathan Rathjen (age 56) started his ministry in 1995 and has served at multiple churches as both Associate Pastor and Sole Pastor. He has served as Sole Pastor at Trinity Lutheran in Auburn, NE since March of 2001. Prior to his ministry, he was a petroleum engineer for Conoco. His liturgical attitude is a preference for traditional worship, but he is open to contemporary worship that is Biblically sound. He has served in both large and small congregations and sees advantages and disadvantages to both. He prefers a small congregation with a small staff. He is very supportive of school ministries, and especially enjoys working with younger children; he has even served as a vacancy pastor at a Lutheran school. In describing his pastoral approach, he feels relationships are key, among both members and the community, and refers to himself as an "active leader". He and his wife have three children between the ages of 20 and 24. His personal interests include hiking, biking, singing (sometimes in barbershop quartets) and a love for trains.



Trinity Lutheran School News

Lutheran Schools Week

During the week of January 24-29 Trinity Lutheran School celebrated National Lutheran Schools week with other Lutheran schools across the nation. Here at Trinity we serve 158 students in grades pre-k through eighth grade along with their families. The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod serves children in early childhood programs through grade 12 in over 1,900 schools nationwide and three schools internationally. Additionally, nine colleges and universities operate to serve post-secondary and graduate students across the nation.

Trinity Lutheran School has a rich heritage and history that we are proud of. Thank you for celebrating your school with us.!

Covid-19 Funds

Covid-19 has been a struggle in many ways, but from those struggles Trinity Lutheran School was able to make some purchases with Covid funds that we otherwise wouldn't have been able to. With our Covid-19 funds we were able to purchase the following items:

Air filtration for the entire school, including the music room	\$19,929.00
Custodial services	\$7,878.00
Miscellaneous expenses, including facemasks, hand sanitizer	\$5,698.33
4 water fountains with bottle fillers	\$7,299.00
Electrical work	\$819.00
Lunch assistant	\$2,466.00
Scholarship	\$3,902.26
20 Chromebooks	\$5,305.40
4 Dash robots	\$599.96
6 iPads	\$2,388.00

Plans for the Future – “I know the plans I have for you declares the Lord.” Jeremiah 29:11

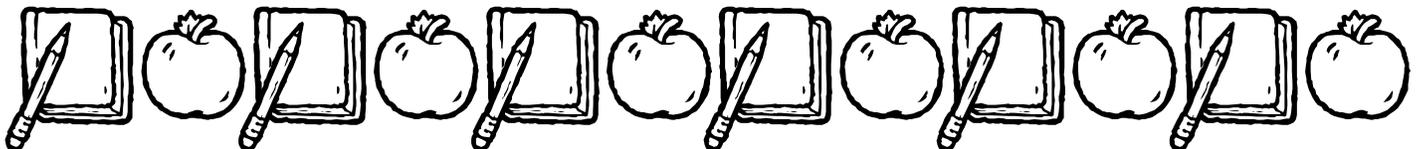
It is this time of year that we begin to plan for next school year and for the future. We sadly announce that Miss Renken and Mrs. Schwartz will not be returning to teach first and third grade next year. Miss Renken has plans to move to Colorado to be closer to family and Mrs. Schwartz will be enjoying her time as a stay-at-home mom. Trinity has been blessed by both of these amazing teachers and we wish them all of God's blessings.

Our first priority would be to hire a Called teacher. This could either be an experienced teacher from the field or a new teacher right out of college.

If a Called teacher is not available we would next look for a qualified Lutheran teacher who may not have graduated from one of our Lutheran universities.

If you know of someone who might be interested in serving at Trinity, please share their contact information with Mrs. White or the school office.

We would also appreciate your prayers as we search for the right teachers to serve at Trinity.



LWML – Connecting Women Notes and News

Women of Trinity – LWML Circles are meeting! Everyone is welcome to come and study the Word of God and enjoy the companionship of fellow Christian women.

Ruth Circle meets on the First Monday of the month, 1:30 pm, in the Timothy Room. Bible Study on **Peter – From Fisherman to Fisher of Men**, by Donna Snow. Contact: Suzanne Rasmussen – 406-260-3770

Sarah Circle meets on the Second Monday of the month, 7 pm, in members' homes. Bible Study from the **LWML Quarterly**. Contact: Katina Hardgrove – 871-4603

Mary Circle meets on the Second Thursday of the month, 9 am, in members' homes. Bible study from the **LWML Quarterly**. Contact: Kristie Adney – 752-6048 or Lori Warberg – 756-8051

Rachel Circle meets on the Third Monday of the month, 6:30 pm, in the Timothy Room. Bible Study on **Peter – From Fisherman to Fisher of Men**, by Donna Snow. Contact: Karen Hardesty – 471-6280

Lydia Circle meets on the Third Tuesday of the month, 7 pm, in members' homes. Bible Study on **Women of Faith: Cultivating Contentment**. Contact: Windy Carlson – 756-8234

QUILTERS meet from 9:30 am-3:30 pm on the following Fridays: **February 12, February 26, March 12, March 26, April 9** in the Fellowship Hall to make quilts for Lutheran World Relief. No experience is necessary. Come for a few hours or bring a sack lunch and spend the day.

LWML MITES – Pennies, nickels, dimes, dollars for MISSIONS in Montana and around the world. A Mite Box changes into a **Mighty Box** when love is added. Don't have a Mite Box? Pick one up today at the Welcome Center and place your **Mighty Box** wherever you can feed it: on a dresser or office desk, in the laundry room, kitchen, or car, etc.

MIGHTY MITES IN ACTION

Making Jesus Known in the United States Ethnic Communities: \$100,000 – Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, Missouri



Soe Moe is an EIIT student who serves at Southwest Lutheran Church in Fort Wayne, Indiana. His parents, who are from Burma, fled that country during its long period of military rule and considerable unrest. He was born in a refugee camp in Thailand, where his family lived for 11 years before coming to the U.S. At Southwest Lutheran, which is increasing its numbers of Korean and Burmese congregants, he serves as a youth leader and youth pastor. He also assists with leading Bible studies and is part of a church outreach group that tutors youth in academic subjects and in English as a Second Language.

As a teenager, Moe's devotion to the Lord increased considerably when he attended a Lutheran summer camp three years in a row. "I realized how amazing God is, and that He's always there for us," he says. He adds that he also realized then that his calling was to become a youth pastor. "I very much want to continue bringing the Good News to young people and giving them hope," he says.

Throughout the country, there are many devoted first-generation immigrants serving in full-time ministry, reaching out to their ethnic communities and sharing the Gospel. Many of these church workers are enrolled in either of two Concordia Seminary programs – the Center for Hispanic Studies (CHS) and the Ethnic Immigrant Institute of Theology (EIIT). Both share the mission to make Christ known in their respective ethnic communities. CHS has a four-year program taught in Spanish and includes students from many Hispanic-Latino cultures. The EIIT program already has students that have been working in Word and Sacrament ministry as part of their culture. These students often have strained financial circumstances that are making it difficult to pay for this necessary education. Most hold two or three jobs to make ends meet, but are willing to go to great lengths in the service of Christ and His Gospel. It is vital that they have the Biblical foundation to go with their passion for ministry. This grant will go towards funding the education costs of these devoted students and church workers.

Andrés Valencia, a native of Santiago, Chile, is a Center for Hispanic Studies student who serves Saint Paul Lutheran Church in Mount Prospect, Illinois. He leads the church's Spanish Bible study and serves as a multicultural coordinator and a part-time Spanish teacher at its school. In addition, he is a member of the team that coordinates "Breakfast with Baby," a church program that provides a Bible study and free-of-charge diapers and other baby supplies to low-income families with babies. He previously had served in campus ministries for ten years in Santiago and in Puebla, Mexico.



"I'm serving with my church to reach out to the Hispanic population around Mount Prospect," Valencia says. "We want to bring more people to God, and we're doing this by first fulfilling their physical needs and then talking with them about God and faith. I feel that God is calling me to build my theological knowledge and to be able to dive deeply into sharing the Word of God."

Family Life Ministry

The Most Important Commandment—Luke 10:25-28



Family Ministries

One day an expert in religious law stood up to test Jesus by asking him this question: “Teacher, what should I do to inherit eternal life?” Jesus replied, “What does the law of Moses say? How do you read it?”

The man answered, “You must love the Lord our God with all your heart, all your soul, all your strength, and all your mind. And, love your neighbor as yourself.” “Right!” Jesus told him. “Do this and you will live!”

Following these verses in Luke, Jesus goes on to tell the “Parable of the Good Samaritan” to answer the religious expert. As believers, most of us could probably answer the question of the greatest commandment as the expert did “Love the Lord your God...” but I wonder, would we too need the parable to make it applicable to our daily personal life?

Do we show love in action to our neighbor who is younger/older than us? Do we show love and patience to the ones we disagree with politically? Does my silence speak louder than the shouts of hatred being witnessed on many media outlets? Do I offer forgiveness and grace to my spouse and family when I have been hurt?

This February and throughout the year, let us love one another as the Master Teacher has taught us and in His mercy, as our Savior has demonstrated to us time and time again when we were undeserving.

There are many needs around us and sometimes it can feel overwhelming to help each one or maybe you are one who needs additional help in getting out or picking up groceries. As a Trinity family we are considering ways we can care for one another and offer practical help. If you have a passion for coordinating some of these practical needs (grocery delivery, medical appointment rides, small home projects, or prescription pick up) please contact Shannon Ritter or Katy Brimhall at 257-5683 in the church office.

Shannon Ritter, Family Life Ministry

I John 4:19, “We love each other because he loved us first”.

Family Life Sunday School Class

Paul David Tripp’s “Parenting: It’s Not what You Think” has been challenging us in our current approaches to parenting: Law and Gospel, Grace and Forgiveness, Discipline and Authority and how our parental job description includes more than just behavior management and control. God is looking to guide and guard our children’s hearts to Him as their Heavenly Father.

Join us any Sunday! We gather in the school seventh grade classroom weekly to encourage and pray for our families. As a group we will look to God’s Word for truth for raising our children in this culture and generation.

Child Bridge Sunday at Trinity Lutheran Church — February 14 **<https://www.childbridgemontana.org/givinghome>**

The Giving Home Project will run February 7-March 14. This project supports foster children and families who have adopted in the following ways:

- Present a simple way in which families in your church can give toward the foster care crisis in our community.
- Provide funds that go directly toward finding and equipping families for Northwest Montana’s children in need.
- Bring about awareness of the need for more foster families.

Serve alongside other Christian Churches in this mission to “look after orphans and widows in their distress” as said in James.



Thank you to my church family for the outpouring of support during my recent hospital stay. I am feeling much better and am so grateful for all the cards, calls and prayers!

*God bless you all,
Debra Borgen*

A big thank you goes to Mark Carlson, who saw to the repair of the Advent wreath.

*We appreciate you!
Altar Guild*

Special Thank You Note from Matt, Our Field Work DCE Student Volunteer

Thank you guys so much for your generous gifts and all the support throughout my time at Trinity. It really meant a lot to me how much everyone showed their appreciation, especially when it felt like it wasn't much. Between school work, church work, and work at the daycare, I sure was busy, but also blessed that I could be a part of helping out in any way I could. It was an amazing experience that helped me grow both spiritually and as a leader; something I hadn't done much of before. I was able to form so many awesome relationships with all the youth as well as members of the congregation, which is something I'll really miss. I feel that God used me in so many ways during my short time here and I am so grateful He did. Thanks again and I hope to be back sometime in the future!

-Matt Burgener

Semi-Private Communion



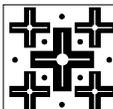
For those who are not yet attending worship in person, you are welcome to come for semi-private communion on Monday, February 22 (9 am-3 pm) and Monday, March 22 (9 am-3 pm). Pastor Kevin will be available to share the Lord's Supper with you in the sanctuary during those times. You may reserve a time with the church office or you may just show up whenever it is convenient for you.

Making Quilts for Lutheran World Relief



The quilting group will meet on Fridays, February 12 and 26 from 9:30 am to 3:30 pm in the church Fellowship Hall. Come for a few hours or bring a sack lunch and stay all day. We need help pinning and tying the layers together. No experience is needed as we provide on-the-job training. We also need help sewing the layers together. Bring your sewing machine. We need sheets for the quilt backs and can always use fabric for the quilt tops. Please donate only clean items without stains or holes. We cannot use the thin microfiber sheets or white sheets, or wool or anything very thin or stretchy. For more information, call Linda Jackson at 756-8344.

Quilts provide warmth and comfort to people in extreme poverty, disaster and refugee situations. "The king will reply, 'I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of Mine, you did for Me.' "



DEATH
Bradley Dunkin

BIRTHDAYS



& ANNIVERSARIES

Bye & Kathryn Bitney	2/2
Philip & Barbara MacGregor	2/7
Bill & Linda Zizz	2/9
Paula & Jeremiah Sullivan	2/10
Ryan & Keelia Holste	2/11
Chuck & Dawn Cassidy	2/12
Valerie & Art Anderson	2/14
Todd & Stacey Fedor	2/14
Jerry & Gail Lyford	2/15
Tiffany & Logan O'Neil	2/19
John & Nancy Turner	2/19
Mark & Tanya Campbell (Miller)	2/23
Frank & Connie Tetrault	2/25
Walter & Christine Kroemer	2/27
Bruce & Mary Hirner	2/29

Lockwood, Autum	2/1	O'Neal, Timothy	2/8	Bitney, Carl	2/18
Lockwood, Espen	2/1	Just, Kael	2/9	Harris, Sarah	2/18
Lockwood, Sarah	2/1	Ritter, Emma	2/9	Hartmann, Jeannette	2/18
Moore, Cooper	2/1	Frederickson, James	2/10	Mower, Gaige	2/18
Thatcher, Sandra	2/1	Jensen, Gale	2/10	Mumm, George	2/19
Tindale, Kaitlynn	2/1	Schmidt, Mary	2/10	Carter, Andrew	2/20
Carter, Cammie	2/2	West, Chris	2/10	Hutcheson, Lilyana	2/20
Clarke, Arlene	2/2	Christensen, Lyra	2/11	Christensen, Matthew	2/21
Gross, Nicole	2/2	Hadley, Lenora	2/11	Cook, Valerie	2/21
Egger, Richia	2/3	Sutherland, Molly	2/11	Peiffer, Matthias	2/22
James, Cady	2/3	Sutherland, Raney	2/11	Clare, Jordyn	2/23
Oppel, Lee	2/3	Christensen, Nina	2/12	Copeland, Karen	2/23
Owens, Michael	2/3	Robinson, Carolyn	2/13	Smith, Casey	2/23
Boles, Jenna	2/4	Romine, Robert	2/13	Desjarlais, Maxx	2/24
Tritten, Shanae	2/4	Turner, Jabin	2/13	Griffiths, Bonnie	2/24
Arlint, Adam	2/5	Boley, Barbara	2/14	McCaskill, Thai	2/25
Eacker, Rebecca	2/5	Goers, Gary	2/14	Waugh, Levi	2/25
Elliott, Wayne	2/5	Hindman, Katlyn	2/14	Waugh, Linsey	2/25
Hindman, Grace	2/5	Metcalf, James	2/14	Christopherson, Kathy	2/26
Ray, Joan	2/5	Bennett, Marilyn	2/15	Dahlke, Carrie	2/26
Erlor, Paul	2/6	Carter, Isaac	2/15	Hanson, Barbara	2/26
Hirner, Bruce	2/6	Burger, Jenny	2/16	Storle, Lynda	2/26
Scott, JeAnne	2/6	English, Kaylin	2/16	Cook, Scott	2/27
Snedigar, Michael	2/6	Evans, Kallie	2/16	Iverson, Amy	2/27
Mischke, Calvin	2/7	McAtee, Heidi	2/16	Peiffer, Judy	2/27
Anderson, Brittany	2/8	Tripp, Lynae	2/16	Rehbein, Hadley	2/27
Bryer, Anna	2/8	Lunde, Amy	2/17	Kaspersen, Pamala	2/28
Glimm, Amy	2/8	Peiffer, Eric	2/17	Kerley, Isabella	2/28
Hoy, Claire	2/8			Krantz, Collette	2/28

Trinity Lutheran Church Calendar — February 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 1:30 pm Ruth Circle 7 pm New Member Zoom Class	2 7 pm Board Mtgs.	3 8:20 am TLS Chapel 2:30 pm Families in Touch 3:30 pm Confirma.	4	5	6
7 8 am Worship 9:30 am Educa. Hr. 10:45 am Worship	8 10 am Altar Guild 12:30 pm Sr.Dinner 7 pm New Member Zoom Class	9 6:30 pm BOD Mtg.	10 8:20 am TLS Chapel 2:30 pm Families in Touch 3:30 pm Confirma. 5 pm Stephen Min.	11 10 am Mary Circle 6:30 pm HS Yth Grp	12 9:30 am Quilting	13
14 Valentines Day 8 am Worship 9:30 am Educa. Hr. 10:45 am Worship	15 Presidents Day TLS: No School 6:30 pm Rachel Circle 7 pm New Member Zoom Class	16	17 Ash Wednesday 8:20 am TLS Chapel 12 noon Ash Wed. 2:30 pm Families in Touch 3:30 pm Confirma. 7 pm Ash Wed Svc	18	19	20
21 8 am Worship 9:30 am Educa. Hr. 10:45 am Worship	22 9 am-3 pm Semi- Private Communion 5:30 pm LWML Mtg 7 pm New Member Zoom Class	23 5:45 pm Community Kitchen	24 8:20 am TLS Chapel 2:30 pm Families in Touch 3:30 pm Confirma. 4 pm Lenten Svc. 5 pm Stephen Min.	25 6:30 pm HS Yth Grp	26 9:30 am Quilting	27
28 8 am Worship 9:30 am Educa. Hr. 10:45 am Worship						

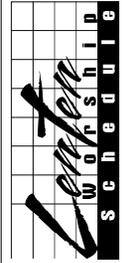


February Sunday Sermon Series Theme: Facing the Mountain



February 7: "Going to the Mountain" - Pastor Kevin Bueltmann
February 14: "Climbing the Mountain" - Pastor Darold Reiner
February 21: "God Provides on the Mountain" - Pastor Kevin Bueltmann
February 28th: "Down from the Mountain" - Pastor Kevin Bueltmann

Wednesday Lenten Services - Pastor Reiner Preaching for All 6 Weeks



February 17: Ash Wednesday (Noon & 7 pm)
February 24: Midweek Lenten Service (4 pm)
March 3: Midweek Lenten Service (4 pm)
March 10: Midweek Lenten service (4 pm)
March 17: Midweek Lenten service (4 pm)
March 24: Midweek Lenten service (4 pm)

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