

Trinity Tidings

February
2015

Trinity Lutheran Church, 1010 Sill St, La Crosse, Wisconsin



Erik Feig
Lead Pastor

1 John 4: 7-12 " Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. ⁸Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. ⁹God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. ¹⁰In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. ¹¹Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. ¹²No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us."

It's pretty clear isn't it? Our life together looks like this. Love one another. No excuses. No other way of living together as a church. God is love, and we're called to love one another. Period.

How appropriate during the month of February, when we are inundated with the idea of love. Valentine's Day has us focus on love and respond to those we love with cards, flowers and big boxes of chocolates. Yet the kind of love that this cultural event projects is something quite different than what the author of 1 John is talking about. For Valentines, love is that strong emotion we have for someone else – for 1 John, love is an action. It's something you do, even if you don't have strong, wonderful, positive feelings toward another person.

Imagine a world in which love was a verb. Where would that take you? What would that look like? Who would you love? That's the outlook we're called to have as Christians. Because Christ has loved us, and gave his life for us, showing us what God's love truly looks like, we in turn love one another and our neighbors as Christ has loved us. We don't talk about each other behind our backs. We talk to each other. We don't simply take care of our own needs, but empty ourselves in care for others. We look outside ourselves and into the lives of our community around us, stepping in to love our neighbor whether we know them well or not. Love is an action and a lifestyle, reflecting God's love for us in Christ.

So don't be confused. Celebrate Valentine's Day with gusto. Send a card, buy some flowers, and give a box of chocolates to the ones you love as the holiday professes. And then join in the journey of Christ's love, beginning with Ash Wednesday on Feb 18th and carrying through the season of Lent. Love in action, love one another. Love God, Love our Neighbor...Serve the World. Simple.

Beloved, let us love one another.
In Christ,

Pastor Erik

Inside this issue:

Worship	2
Service Groups	2-3
Congregational Life	4
Children, Student & Family Ministries	5
Council Members	6
Calendar	7

Worship



Pam Ball
Worship & Music

While it seems that the season of our Lord's birth is barely over, we are already planning for our church's season of Lent! The traditional purpose of Lent is our preparation of Christ's sacrifice for us through prayer and repentance of sins. During this season, we will be using prayer as a discipline to prepare our hearts and minds for this most important time of our church.

Ash Wednesday is on February 18, with services at 11:00AM and 7:00PM. At these services there will be imposition of ashes and Communion. We will have weekly Lenten services at 11:00 and 7pm on Wednesdays during Lent.

On Palm Sunday we will celebrate Jesus' entrance into Jerusalem with Music and fanfare.

During Holy week there will be an 11:00 AM and 7:00 PM service on Maundy Thursday, and a Good Friday evening service at 7:00. Celebratory Easter services will be in the morning of April 5th at 6:30, 8:30 and 10:30. There will not be a Saturday night service on April 4. We hope you are able to join any or all of these services!

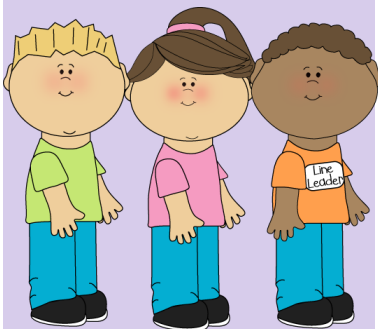
Service Groups

Northside Kids' Clothes Closet

There is something about these cold winter months that make the luxury of social hibernation seem so desirable. When the temperature reaches several degrees below zero, the dark night sky comes earlier and earlier, and the cold winter winds blow, finding the incentive to work at the Kids' Clothes Closet very difficult. Where love for our fellow neighbors seems easier in the balmy breezes of spring, that love is sometimes sleeping in January. Yet, the suffering and the need all around us does not hibernate during these winter months; so, sometimes very reluctantly, we drag ourselves forth to open the doors, turn on the lights, and smile as we attempt to share Christ's love with those who come to us. I read the following in my devotional the other morning. "Learn to relate to others through MY love rather than yours. Your human love is ever so limited, full of flaws and manipulation. My loving presence, which always enfolds you, is available to bless others as well as you. Instead of trying to help people through your own paltry supplies, become aware of my unlimited supply, accessible to you continually. Let MY love envelop your outreach to other people." Wow! That spoke directly to my hibernating spirit. So, dear friends, let's drag ourselves away from our hibernation and tap into that accessible love. The Closet needs you; the children of our North Side need you!

In a few weeks Bill Schilla will be speaking to the Optimist Club of La Crosse. He will speak of our goals, our needs, our dreams for these children. It is our prayer that we can reach more and more people with this message. On February 15th, Trinity will be part of a Service Fair here at Trinity, where we will be asking for your help. We need volunteers, prayers, and gently used clothing. Thank you for all the support you have given in the past.

Beverlie Schilla



Service Groups cont.

Thank you Trinity! You all have HEART! Thank you so much to all who wrote on Valentines that we sent to our troops serving in far away lands. My sources, Pastor Erik and Patty Lokken from Operation Homefront, say that these wishes of love and support from home are very much appreciated and we thank you for participating.

From the Heart food pantry is now housed here at Trinity since the closing of St Luke's. This is not run by Trinity, however, we hope to assist that ministry by donating foods as we did previously for Wafer. So we call on the generosity of trinity members to donate to this worthy cause that helps those in need in our neighborhood. We will feature a food item each month, but all donations are welcome.

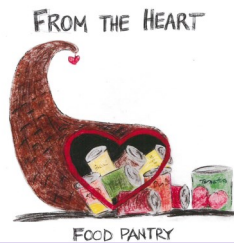
On Feb 12 we will be serving a meal at the warming center. We welcome anyone who is interested in joining us for this project.

Be sure to visit us at the Service Fair here at Trinity on February 14 & 15.

Kathi Volden, Social Ministry

Love Your Neighbor Jar? What's that? A unique giving basket provided at each weekend worship service with money gathered going to different ministries outside of the church each month!

The Love Your Neighbor jar for February is for the International Owl center in Houston, MN



The February Food of the month for From the Heart food pantry is: **Canned Fruit**

This food pantry is located at Trinity and helps people in our neighborhood. Canned foods and non-perishables may be left in the donation box in the back of the narthex.



neighbor
to
neighbor

Congregational Life



Bonnie Jeranek
Congregational Life

FEBRUARY 15 SUNDAY BRUNCH

We ask you to bring something to share. To help you decide we offer these suggestions:

A-H . Egg bake, breakfast casserole or breakfast meat, etc.

I-N . Muffins, rolls, bread, coffee cake, etc.

O-S . Fruit, or breakfast fruit salad, etc

T-Z Milk, chocolate milk, or juice, etc.

If the suggestion is difficult for you to bring, bring what you wish, but please do bring something so we have enough food for all. If however you get here and have forgotten, please join us anyway. Visitors and guests are very welcome. If you meet someone new in church, make them feel welcome and invite them to join you!

We can always use a helping hand with set-up or clean-up so if you can spare a few extra minutes before or after it will make light work for all.

THE SERVICE FAIR is Saturday February 14 & Sunday February 15

The new year gives us all a chance to pause and reflect on how we plan to grow our faith. There are a variety of groups to become involved with at Trinity as your journey moves you to care not only for our faith family at Trinity but our community and world as well. And there is probably some group where your talents would fit perfectly! Mark your calendar and walk through the Service Fair February 14 & 15 to see if there is something that might peek your interest. Check out what your faith family is up to. I think you will be amazed at what goes on behind the scenes at Trinity! The fair will be available for Saturday night people to check out before or after services from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m.. On Sunday it will be available from 7:30 to 9:30 a.m.

Attention: There may be groups at Trinity that we are not even aware of so if your group provides a service of any kind for Trinity members or the community we really want you to take part in the **Service Fair** to help members identify with people who have similar interests. A table will be provided where we request that you plan to have some kind of hand-out describing your group, what it does, frequency of meetings, a contact name and phone number. We would encourage you to have one or two members of your group at the table on February 15 following the 8:30 service. **Please contact Bonnie Jeranek to reserve a table at 608.784.2996.** The booths will be **set-up on Saturday morning between 9 and 11 a.m.**

LENT IS APPROACHING.

Be watching the bulletins for announcements regarding fellowship opportunities throughout Lent. Still too much planning to do to be specific but want you to be aware there will be some things for you to look forward to.

MEN: Come on over to the Dark Side every first and third Friday morning at 6:30 a.m. Why? Great conversation and strong coffee. Church basement; bring your Bible.

Children, Student & Family Ministries



Karla Korish
Parish Education



Laurie Noelke
Parish Ed Director
laurienoelke@gmail.com
608-317-2410

5th grade families let's break bread together!

It is time for first communion instruction for the 5th grade students. Instruction will be held on Wednesday, February 11th starting at 6:00 p.m. at the church and includes the kids and at least one adult involved in their faith journey. A special component of this time together will be a demonstration of baking bread. Kits will be given to families for baking the bread that will be used during this first communion celebration. Following instruction, the kids will celebrate first communion during the 8:30 service on Sunday, February 15th.

CIA, Christ in Action, will be exploring prayer along with the rest of the congregation over the season of Lent. Join in this journey with us!

JOLT Youth Group

All youth grades 6-12 are welcome to join us Sunday nights from 6-8pm (unless otherwise indicated below). For the first quarter of 2015, we will be meeting twice a month. Please note the dates below.

2/1 – No JOLT

2/6 -2/7 – LOCK-IN

2/15 – No JOLT

2/22 – Old School Game Night

Youth Lock-in

Ever wish you could stay up with some friends all night to play games, watch movies and just hang out? All youth grades 6-12 are invited to join us 2/6-2/7 for just that purpose. Come with your friends or meet new ones. We will provide dinner, snacks, breakfast and activities. You provide yourself and \$6 to cover food and any supplies. The evening begins at 6:30 Friday evening in the Hanson Fellowship Hall (basement) and will be ready to leave by 8am Saturday morning. Please contact Laura Cunliffe (784-9134) with any questions.



With regrets I find it necessary to resign from setting up the volunteers from Trinity to deliver Mobile Meals. It has been a joy for me to do this work with all you wonderful people. Due to my health, I find it's time to turn it over to Joanne Thoftne. I know she will do a good job. Thanks for the pleasure to serve Trinity in this capacity.
Sincerely,
JanMannel

Office Hours

Monday-Thursday 8:30-4:30

Friday closed

Office Phone: 608-782-6200

Website: www.trinitylutheranlax.org

Email Addresses:

Church Office: office@trinitylutheran.lax.org

Pastor Erik:

Pastorerik@trinitylutheranlax.org

(In case of emergency during non-office hours call Pastor Erik Feig at (651-274-6160)

Council Members not shown elsewhere in the Newsletter



David Saiz
President



Sue Weidemann
Vice President



Vicky Helfrich
Treasurer



Kim Mitchell
Secretary

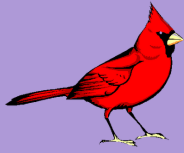


Mark Heinz
Bookkeeper



Pari & Kathy Sexauer
Stewardship





February 2015



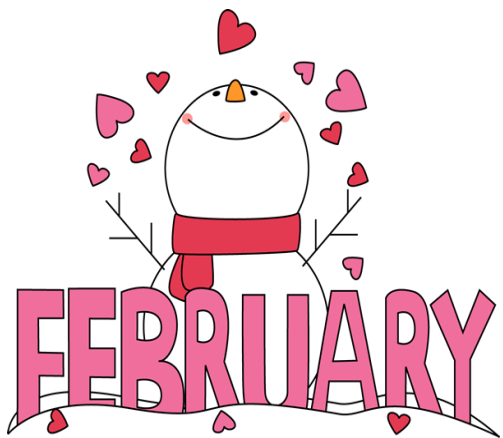
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 8:30 Worship (C) 10:30 Worship (C)	2 Groundhog Day 9:00 TOPS 4-7 Kids' Clothes Closet 5-6 Monday's Meals 7 Women's Bible Study	3 7 Boy Scouts	4 5:30 Parish Ed mtg 6:45 Confirmation	5	6 6:30 Men's Bible Study Office Closed	7 5:30 Worship
8 8:30 Worship 10:30 Worship	9 9:00 TOPS 4-7 Kids' Clothes Closet 5-6 Monday's Meals 7 Boy Scouts	10 1:30 Staff Mtg 5:30 Social Ministry 7 Boy Scouts	11 6:00 Properties 6:45 Confirmation	12	13 Office Closed	14  5:30 Worship (C) Service Fair
15 8:30 Worship (C) Brunch Service Fair 10:30 Worship (C)	16 Presidents' Day 9:00 TOPS 4-7 Kids' Clothes Closet 5-6 Monday's Meals 7 Boy Scouts 7 Women's Bible Study	17 1:30 Staff Mtg 7 Boy Scouts	18  11:00 Worship 6:45 Confirmation 7:00 Worship	19 1-3 Prayer Shawl	20 6:30 Men's Bible Study Office Closed	21 5:30 Worship (C)
22 8:30 Worship (C) 10:30 Worship (C)	23 9:00 TOPS 4-7 Kids' Clothes Closet 5-6 Monday's Meals 7 Boy Scouts	24 1:30 Staff Mtg 7 Boy Scouts	25 11:00 Worship 6:45 Confirmation 7:00 Worship	26	27 Office Closed	28 10-2 From the Heart Food Pantry 5:30 Worship (C)
						

Trinity Tidings is a monthly newsletter of Trinity Lutheran Church, 1010 Sill Street, La Crosse, Wisconsin 54603. All visitors are welcome to worship with us each Saturday at 5:30 p.m. and Sunday mornings at 8:30 & 10:30. Communion is on the first and third Sundays of the month and the associated Saturday. Erik Feig, Lead Pastor. The church office telephone number is (608) 782-6200.

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
1010 Sill Street
La Crosse, Wisconsin 54603

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

NON PROFIT
ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
LA CROSSE, WI 54603
PERMIT NO. 346



WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Saturday: 5:30pm

Sundays 8:30 &

10:30am

Radio Service Broadcast at 8:30am
on WKTY AM 580