

MARCH 2018



TRINITY TIDINGS

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

2018 LENTEN MIDWEEK WORSHIP SCHEDULE

6:30pm Service, Holden Evening Prayer

**THEME: JESUS' "I AM..." STATEMENTS FROM THE
GOSPEL OF JOHN**

- ♦ **March 7 – *I am* the door**
Rev. Melinda Pupillo – Interim at Trinity
- ♦ **March 14 – *I am* the bread of life**
Rev. Anne Hokenstad – Bethel Lutheran,
LaCrosse, WI
- ♦ **March 21 – *I am* the good shepherd**
Rev. Neal Solomonson – Wilmington, MN

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

- ♦ **March 29 – Maundy Thursday – 6:30pm**
- ♦ **March 30 – Good Friday – 12:00 noon**
- ♦ **April 1 – *Easter Sunday***
Sunrise service – 6:30am
Easter celebration – 8:30am

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Pastor's Update

Rev. Melinda Pupillo,
Interim Pastor

"The joy of the Lord is your strength." *Nehemiah 8:10*

This verse has been a favorite of mine for a long time, mostly because I have found it to be true. Finding joy in God *and* trusting that God can and does find joy in me both give me great strength. When these words were first spoken by leadership to the Israelites, the community had been living lives far from God. Their time of worship began with the reading of the Law of Moses. Upon hearing the words of truth in the Law spoken, they began to weep aloud for how far they had strayed from God's desire for their lives. But Ezra and Nehemiah and other leaders among them said that this time of truth-telling is intended to be life-giving. We are to find joy in the Lord when the Law is revealed, and this joy will become our strength.

Too often our reaction to missing the mark is one of despair, especially if we seem to be tripping up over and over again. And yet, we can also see these times of faltering as new beginnings. God's Law certainly shows us how we have fallen short, but its true role for us is one of loving guidance. Throughout the Law, one thing remains clear: God's love for us. As we face places in our lives that require repentance and repair, may we lean into the joy of a God who loves us. That leaning shall become our strength.

Pastor Melinda†



Reverend Melinda Pupillo, our Interim Pastor, would love to connect with you!

Would you like a visit at home? Will you be heading to the hospital for surgery? Have a spiritual need? Please let her know!

Call the church, 608.782.6200, or email her at
pastormelinda@trinitylutheranlax.org.

A Message From Your Council President...

Hello Trinity,

My name is Todd Olson and I am proud to be your new Church Council President.

A little about my family. My wife Jennie and I joined Trinity Lutheran Church 20 years ago. We have 4 children ages 13 to 19. Jennie and I visited a few churches in La Crosse after we were married and joined Trinity because of the friendly atmosphere. We were also lucky that Jennie knew some members from her class at Logan High School.

Over the years Jennie and I have enjoyed helping out with Sunday school, confirmation, playing the piano for the kids and on Saturdays (that's Jennie, not me), and reading scriptures on some Sundays and Saturdays (that's me, not Jennie).

I am very excited about the direction Trinity is going. We are becoming more involved in our community, and thus hosting activities and meetings as part of our community. We are becoming more like Jesus every day. And I know we can be even more like Jesus with the ideas and help of all Trinity members. It will be work, but no one ever said being a Christian was easy, not even Jesus.

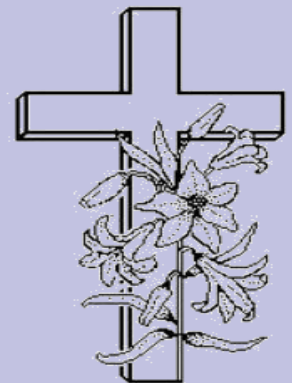
This Lenten and Easter season, let us all remember what we have learned about Jesus and all he did for us: from the scriptures, and our Trinity family. We need to believe in ourselves as Christians; and show that belief. And when we do, anything is possible with God at our side.

May Gods peace be with all of us.

Todd A. Olson

Easter Florals

If you would like to bring in an Easter Lily or other flowering plant to enhance our Easter Sunday Sanctuary, please drop it off in the Nelson Faith Center by **12:00 NOON ON FRIDAY, MARCH 30TH**. Put your name on the back of the plant if you would like to pick it up after Easter services. If you would prefer to order from a florist and have an arrangement or plant delivered, please request delivery to be made to the church office by **THURSDAY, MARCH 29TH**.



Social Ministry

Congregational Life

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

LOVE THY NEIGHBOR JAR: March contributions are for the Franciscan Sisters of Perpetual Adoration in support of the Task Force to End Modern Slavery

FROM THE HEART FOOD PANTRY featured item for March is fruit-canned or fresh

March Love your Neighbor Jar donations will be given to the Franciscan Sisters of Perpetual Adoration (FSPA) to support the Task Force to End Modern Slavery. A victim of modern slavery or human trafficking is anyone who is coerced or deceived into doing labor or services against their will. This Task Force is made up of more than 50 persons from the La Crosse area including FSPA and affiliates, law enforcement, education, legal, social service and health care professionals. They are working together to raise awareness about the incidence and response to victims in the La Crosse, Wisconsin area.

Social Ministry had the first meeting of the new year on February 7th. As announced last month, Deb Keller has taken on the role to lead our committee. We welcome her and are very grateful to her for offering to fill this role. We also welcome, with grateful hearts, Pam Ball—who has graciously agreed to co-chair in this position.

We are looking at having coffee and treats each Sunday in the chapel before and after worship. We will start small—once a month on the first Sunday—and see how things go. Our first “social” will be March

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Social Ministry

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4th, and as we progress we will be looking for groups of 3-4 people to host. So if you're interested, get 2-3 friends to help you as Social Hosts, pick a date and let us know! Please note that since Easter is on April 1st, the coffee social will be held on April 8th instead.

In addition to the coffee socials, we would like to start holding fellowship potluck breakfasts on the 3rd Sunday of each month starting April 22nd. Here's a list of suggested items you may want to bring, but of course anything you decide on is more than welcome:

If your last name begins with...

- A-H** Fruit or fruit salad
- I-N** Egg bake, breakfast casseroles, breakfast meat
- O-S** Milk, chocolate milk, juice (quart size will do)
- T-Z** Muffins, rolls, coffee cake, bagels, etc

Per request (we LOVE requests, suggestions and ideas, by the way!), there will be a **Palm Sunday potluck breakfast on March 25th** (again, use the list above for ideas). What better way to start Holy Week than fellowship with your church family? Please join us!



Remember that God loves you for who you are. So...who are you? When you think of your neighbor or others in your faith family, in your mind and heart do you wonder, WWJD (What Would Jesus Do)?

The next Social Ministry/Congregational Life Committee meeting is March 14th at 5:30pm in the Library

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Community Service

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Little Free Library

The Little Free Library that is near the south-west entrance to the church building is being well utilized, and so much so that we are in need of more books! If you have books that you are willing to share, please stop by and place them in the Little Free Library, and maybe find one or two from someone else to enjoy!

FREE FINANCIAL COACHING

La Crosse County UW-Extension is sponsoring free financial coaching sessions at Trinity every other Tuesday from 9:30am to 12:30pm. Please contact Susan Taylor, AFC at 608.785.6417 or send an email to her at smtaylor@afsc.com for an appointment.

FROM THE HEART FOOD PANTRY

We are always looking for regular and reliable volunteers to assist our guests during the hours the pantry is open. Every Monday night from 5:30 to 7:00 PM and the last Saturday of the month from 10 AM to 1 PM, we are open to serve the needs of our guests. This is a fun and rewarding opportunity to give to those in our community who are in need. Please call the church office for more information and to let us know that you are interested!

NORTHSIDE KIDS' CLOTHES CLOSET

The Northside Kid's Clothes Closet is open and ready to service our neighborhood children. The Closet is restocked, reorganized and our inventory is ever-increasing as we continue to be a successful resource for families in need. If you know a family who could use some help, spread the word! We're open on Mondays from 4:00-6:00 pm.

MONDAY MEALS

Trinity Lutheran and Bethel Lutheran are once again alternating our 8 dates to serve Monday's Meals. Trinity is scheduled to prepare the meal three more times this year—April 23rd, July 23rd and October 22nd. Bethel will serve March 12th, June 11th, Sept 10th, and Dec 3rd. If you have a group of friends who would like to volunteer for one of these dates, or simply want to lend a hand, contact the church office and get on the schedule...608.782.6200 or office@trinitylutheranlax.org. Love God, love our neighbors, serve the world...starting in our little corner of it!

MOBILE MEALS

Mobile Meals is scheduled to make meal deliveries the week of March 12th through 18th. If you'd like to help out, please contact Joanne Thoftne for more information.

MOBILE MEALS DELIVERIES

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 evening at 5:30pm and Sunday morning at 8:30am. Communion is celebrated at every service. The church office telephone number is (608) 782-6200.

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
1010 Sill Street
La Crosse, Wisconsin 54603

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WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Saturday 5:30pm

Sunday 8:30am

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

Website: www.trinitylutheranlax.org

Church Office: office@trinitylutheranlax.org; 608-782-6200

Facebook: Trinity Lutheran Church—ELCA