

Holy Trinity Ambassador

April 2015

Holy Week Services

Maundy Thursday

April 2nd - 7 p.m. Divine Service

Good Friday

April 3rd - noon at Old #3
7 p.m. at Holy Trinity

No worship on Saturday, April 4th

Easter Sunday

April 5th - 9 a.m. Divine Service

Easter Breakfast

Potluck Easter breakfast will be offered after the service. Tableware and beverages provided. Please bring a dish to share. Come join us for a wonderful time of fellowship. Any help cleaning things up afterwards would be much appreciated!

Preschool Rummage & Bake Sale

Saturday, April 25th, 8 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Items for sale can be
dropped off **after April 12th**.
Please place items on the stage.

Bake sale donations can be dropped off
Friday, April 24th in the church kitchen.

**Remember to pray for our shut-in members,
those sick & hospitalized:**

Bill Andree	Donna Murphy
James Andree	Lois Novak
Doris Dimmig	Louise Novotney
Bryan Donner	Virginia O'Brien
Norma Garrett	Betty Opremchak
Ruth Harlow	John Repko
Tom Kerestes	Charles Rinkenberger
Helen Kruger	Ruth Rinkenberger
Ruth Lehman	

Ponderings in the Pasture - Pastor Gutz

“Jesus did not come to teach the teachable; He did not come to improve the improvable; He did not come to reform the reformable. None of those things works. He came to raise the dead.” - Robert Farrar Capon

“When the perishable puts on the imperishable, and the mortal puts on immortality, then shall come to pass the saying that is written: Death is swallowed up in victory. O death, where is your victory? O death, where is your sting? The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ. Therefore, my beloved brothers, be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labor is not in vain.”
(1 Corinthians 15:54-58)

Death is the final enemy that Christ has yet to completely destroy. What this lost and dying world needs is hope. What is that hope?

The Christian hope is that when Christ comes again He will bring about the entire and complete redemption of His creation. The final and complete victory over sin and all sickness, and death will be swallowed up in the victorious return of the King. Every New Testament writing, is occupied and focused and looking for this hope. The Biblical hope is that the day is coming when God's name will once again be hallowed throughout the creation and sickness and death will be done away with.

That hope is in our Bible and we confess it regularly in the creeds. We confess as Christians have for centuries, “I believe in the resurrection of the body.”

Because humans were made in the image of God, every human being is a reminder to Satan of who the true God. That is why Satan seeks to destroy human life. Satan wants to destroy our human-ness - including our bodies.

It appears that Satan is successful. Death brings the destruction of the body, even

for Christians. Though it may appear now that Satan has power over our bodies, God is the ruler of His creation. God will not permit Satan to have that power. So when our Lord comes again in His glory, there will be a physical, bodily resurrection. When Christ comes again you will be fully human. You will be given a new body, a glorified body, but it will be a body! A human body. God will bring about a new creation unaffected by the ravages of sin and death. John gives us a picture of this when he describes, “Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and there was no longer any sea. I saw the Holy City, the New Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride beautifully dressed for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, ‘Now the dwelling of God is with men, and he will live with them. They will be his people, and God himself will be with them and be their God. He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away.’” (Rev. 21:1-4)

The history of this world is leading up to that great day. We are to look forward to it! The Word of God proclaims it. Until that day we look to that hope. In the meantime how shall I think about my dear Christian friends and relatives whose bodies now sleep in the grave? They are resting from their labors. They are with Christ, at peace, waiting for the last day and the final victory of God. That is enough. But it is not all. That is not the final victory that awaits us in Christ.

Christ has fully and completely redeemed us through His death and resurrection. He has forgiven us so completely that we do not need to fear the incredible day of His return, but rather we can long for it as the day of His great restoration for us and for all creation. We speak as Christians have for centuries, I believe in the resurrection of the body and the life everlasting . . . I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Church Council Meeting

February 24, 2015

Present were: M. Peters, J. Zavada, V. McCollum, D. Gotch, H. Drysdale, P. Gotch, R. Kochis and Pastor Gutz.

Committee Reports:

-Treasurer's Report: Preschool doing well. Income expected to meet expenses this year. The church income is up from last year and expenses are lower. Mike prepared an Assets vs. Time Analysis. Dave prepared a monthly balance sheet report. There is a reduction in the cash on hand due to capital expenditures.

- Education: Preschool has participated in the student teacher program through IVCC. Feedback from IVCC program positive regarding student experience. Board and director are looking in the IL standards self-assessment. Teacher's evaluations are in progress.

Wednesday school moved to Thursday. Adult Bible Class is participating in the Adult Education Curriculum. Good group attending confirmation instruction. Four expected to be confirmed this year.

- Elders: Volunteers scheduled to serve in March. Pastor Glock's son, Jordan played the organ for Pipe Dreams Festival. Web site was down for 2 weeks. It has been restored.

- Parish Activities: Volunteers to serve at Lenten service soup suppers were scheduled. Church cleaning was scheduled for March 14.

New Business: Pastor reported the need to upgrade the sound system to allow digital recording. Pastor had done preliminary research. Project to be funded with funds setting idle in youth group checking account. Motion carried for Pastor to proceed with purchase.

Preschool

Our Unit of study this month will be about Water and Rainbows. We will talk about the water cycle, how water helps us and how a rainbow forms.

Our Bible stories this month will be – “Jesus appears to two Disciples”, “Thomas doubts”, “Jesus goes back to Heaven”, “The first Pentecost”. Our Bible verse is - “God will wipe away every tear from their eyes” Revelation 7:17

Registration continues for the fall. Spaces are filling quickly! If you know of anyone interested in Holy Trinity Lutheran Pre-School please have them call. The registration fee is \$25.00 and is non-refundable.

Easter break will begin on Friday, April 3rd. Students will return to school on Monday, April 13th and Tuesday, April 14th.

Parent/Teacher conferences are scheduled for April 30th in the afternoon and evening and May 1st in the morning. There will be no school on either conference day.

Upcoming news!

-Our all class picnic will be held on May 20th between 10:30 and 12:00.

A parent or guardian must attend with them.

-Graduation for children going on to Kindergarten will be at 9:00 on May 21st. Students who are not graduating do not have to attend but are welcome to come and watch if they would like. You will receive a note with further details about both events in a few weeks.

**For the Record:
Baptism:
Axel James Armstrong
March 21, 2015**

HOLY TRINITY HEALTH MINISTRIES

Jacqueline Girard, RN, MSN, PN

Dear Friends in Christ,

Colossians 3:23 “Whatever you do, work heartily, as for the Lord and not for men” (ESV).

Spring is peeking in and out as I write this month. As the weather gets nicer, the Girard house is busy finishing inside projects in anticipation of outside projects. Windows, curtains, and carpets are getting scrubbed. While I recall my gramma calling haphazard cleaning “a lick and a promise”, spring cleaning is serious business. With this serious business come the accompanying aches and pains from stretching and using muscles that we forgot we had. There will be more when we move outside and use other muscles for other chores. Remember what Jesus said to His disciples. “Come with me by yourselves to a quiet place and get some rest” Mark 6:31 (ESV). Remember to take time to rest.

However, should you push yourself too much, according to the Mayo Clinic, minor muscle strains can be treated with the R.I.C.E. method: rest, ice, compression, and elevation (Mayo Clinic, 2011).

Rest. Avoid using your muscle for a few days, especially if movement causes an increase in pain. Too much rest can cause muscles to become weak, which can prolong the healing process. After two days, slowly begin using the affected muscle group, taking care not to overdo it.

Ice. Apply ice immediately after injuring your muscle. This will minimize swelling. Do not put ice directly on your skin—use an ice pack or wrap ice in a towel. Keep the ice on your muscle for about 15 minutes. Repeat every hour on the first day. For the next several days, apply ice about every four hours.

Compression. To reduce swelling, wrap the affected area with an elastic bandage until swelling comes down. Be careful not to wrap the area too tightly, as this can reduce blood circulation.

Elevate. Whenever possible, keep the injured muscle raised above the level of your heart.

For mild to moderate strains, home treatment should be enough. Seek medical attention if: pain does not subside after a week - the injured area is numb - there is blood coming from your injury - you can't walk you can't move your arms or legs.

Easter time is so filled with wonder and blessings. Spring cannot help but remind us that new life comes. Psalm 136:1-26 “Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever. Give thanks to the God of gods, for his steadfast love endures forever. Give thanks to the Lord of lords, for his steadfast love endures forever; to him who alone does great wonders, for his steadfast love endures forever; to him who by understanding made the heavens, for his steadfast love endures forever; ... (ESV).

There will be just one blood pressure clinic this month on April 26th. I look forward to seeing you then.

Blessings and good thoughts,
Jackie

Serving in April

Elders

Saturday – Jeff McMullen, Jack Zavada
Sunday – Tim Kerestes, Mike Peters

Ushers

Bob Barr Jr., Larry Runyon,
David Kochis, Pete Pastirik

Greeters

Steve & Michelle Lightle

Altar Guild

Saturday – Nickie Clark, Tracy Stortz
Sunday – John & Denise Burt