



TLC Grapevine

February 2024

www.trinitybemidji.org

A Publication of Trinity Lutheran Church, Bemidji, Minnesota (218) 444-4441

Worship Services

9:00 am, Sunday

Wednesday Lenten Services

6:30 PM Feb 14 - Mar 20

Sunday School (Sept - May)

10:30 am - 11:30 am



trinity3@paulbunyan.net

IN THIS ISSUE

LCMS Article	1
New Church Officers	2
In Case You Missed It	3
News & Announcements	4
Lenten Midweek Schedule	5
Group Meetings	5
Kids in Divine Service	6
Preschool News	7
Kid's Activity Page	8
Stewardship	9
Our Stewardship Report	9
Online Giving	10
Birthdays/Anniversaries	11
F.Y.I.	12
Bible in a Year	12
Monthly Calendar	13



February

Held fast by God's Word: A resolution for 2024

January 2, 2024 / Reporter / By Matthew Harrison

Did you make a resolution at the start of the secular New Year to somehow be a better person? Lose some weight? Get back to the gym? Spend less time on social media? Eat healthier? Drink less? Read more books? Self-help resolutions nearly always fail. Such is the nature of our fallenness.

If you gathered with your congregation on the seventh day of Christmas (New Year's Eve), maybe you sang this, the second stanza from Lutheran Service Book 899, "Across the Sky the Shades of Night":

*Before the cross subdued we bow,
To You our prayer addressing,
Recounting all Your mercies now,
And all our sins confessing;
Beseeching You this coming year
To keep us in Your faith and fear
And crown us with Your blessing.*

And our Lord does crown us with His blessing. St. Paul wrote, "For the Son of God, Jesus Christ, whom we proclaimed among you, Silvanus and Timothy and I, was not Yes and No, but in him it is always Yes. For all the promises of God find their Yes in him. That is why it is through him that we utter our Amen to God for his glory" (2 Cor. 1:19-20). All the promises God has made are "yes" in Jesus.

The Lord never breaks what He has resolved to do for us. He keeps us "in faith and fear." He crowns us with His blessing. This is what the catechism teaches us. "The Holy Spirit has called me by the Gospel, enlightened me with His gifts, sanctified and kept me in the true faith" (Luther's Small Catechism, Apostles' Creed, Third Article meaning). "God certainly gives daily bread to everyone without our prayers Daily bread includes everything that has to do with the support and needs of the body" (The Lord's Prayer, Fourth Petition meaning).

Luther's Small Catechism has an incredible richness that can never be exhausted. Of the catechism, Luther taught, "But for myself I say this: I am also a doctor and preacher, yes, as learned and experienced as all the people who have such assumptions and contentment.

"Yet I act as a child who is being taught the catechism. Every morning — and whenever I have time — I read and say, word for word, the Ten Commandments, the Creed, the Lord's Prayer, the Psalms, and such. I must still read and study them daily. Yet I cannot master the catechism as I wish. But I must remain a child and pupil of the catechism, and am glad to remain so" (Large Catechism, Longer Preface, 7-8).

Let this be the year we all return to being pupils of the catechism. Let us commit to learning the text of the Six Chief Parts by heart, to pray them and confess them to one another. Let us spend time daily in study of the explanation questions and answers. Let us ground and root ourselves, our families and our congregations deeply in the boundless treasures in these simple, foundational truths.

Will you resolve with me this year to spend time in the catechism daily? Get a copy of the “new” 2017 edition of Luther’s Small Catechism with Explanation. Purchase a copy from Concordia Publishing House or dust off your old copy from your days in confirmation instruction.

Maybe you’ve heard me tell you of a friend I made while I was at the LCMS Nebraska District convention. After I spoke there, an older gentleman, a farmer, asked me if I had just a couple of minutes to spare. He took me aside in the hallway and told me of all the success he has had using the Small Catechism as an evangelistic tool.

“I can see it, Pastor. I see these people are hurting, especially young people. I give them a catechism. I keep a stack in my truck.”

I said, “You mean you give out the little pamphlet of Luther’s catechism?”

He responded with intensity: “No, Pastor, I give ‘em the whole thing!” He was referring to the 2017 edition. “It’s just brimming with the Bible and answers to contemporary questions!”

We gave “the whole thing” to all the delegates at the convention this year. We’re going to give “the whole thing” to some pilot congregations for them to give to their friends and family members, along with an invitation to church, as a simple outreach tool.

If you make this resolution, of course you’ll fail. There will be days when you forget to recite the Six Chief Parts or study the explanation of the catechism. But the Lord, whose Word the catechism preaches to you, never fails to keep His promises.

In Jesus, all the promises are “yes.” And one of His promises is that His Word never returns to Him empty (Isaiah 55:10–11). Every second you spend studying the catechism will be a blessing to you and to others around you. It will be the means by which the Holy Spirit keeps you in His faith and fear. It will be a channel through which He grants blessings too numerous to count.

Whatever resolutions we make or break hardly matters. We are kept. The Word keeps us. The Spirit keeps us. “In the same way He calls, gathers, enlightens, and sanctifies the whole Christian church on earth, and keeps it with Jesus Christ in the one true faith” (Creed, Third Article meaning). Let the Word of God hold you fast this coming year. May the Lord’s blessings to you in the study of His Word be as boundless as His love.



The Rev. Dr. Matthew C. Harrison (president@lcms.org) is president of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod.

The following officers were elected at the Annual Meeting January 15th.

Randy Yarbrough has been re-elected to serve as Council President.

Scott Kurtzweg has been re-elected to serve as Treasurer.

Eric Lee & Robert Sherman have been elected to serve as Elders.

Mark Tisler has been elected to serve on the Board of Trustees.

Bonnie Wentzel has been re-elected to serve on the Stewardship Board.

Marie Borslien has been elected to serve on the School Board.

Dede Kubitz has been elected to serve on the Youth Board.



I . C . Y . M . I .

(IN . CASE . YOU . MISSED . IT .)

Active Christian Fellowship New Years Party 2024!



Everyone had a great time ringing in the New Year by playing games and enjoying great food and Fellowship!



News & Announcements

TLC PRESCHOOL'S WEIRD AND WACKY SCIENCE NIGHT

Come for a night of science fun!!
Thursday, Feb. 8th
from 5:30pm -6:30pm.



The TLC PRESCHOOL and Growing Tree Childcare Will be CLOSED on February 16th

TLC Preschool will be closed on Monday February 19th for President's Day

Support Main Street Living on



Schedule your donation at GivingHeartsDay.org

All funds raised go directly to Main Street Living



Pastor Domke will be leading our Lenten Worship Services starting with Ash Wednesday on February 14th at 6:30 pm.

We are looking for groups/families that would be willing to serve a meal prior to the Lenten Services. If you are available to serve one of the Lenten Meals, please let the church office know or add your name to the big calendar in the hallway by the church offices.

Thank you.

February 14

Active Christian Fellowship

February 21

Volunteers Needed

February 28

Volunteers Needed

March 6

Volunteers Needed

March 13

Volunteers Needed

March 20

Volunteers Needed

Lutheran Island Camp UPCOMING EVENTS



FEBRUARY 16-17

Confirmation Weekend

Register your Confirmands for a weekend of fun and instruction at LIC! You take care of the Confirmation instruction and we take care of the fun! The cost is \$90/person which includes food, lodging, and activities. For more information, and to register, contact Olivia at licprogram@islandcamp.org.

MARCH 8-10

Men's Weekend

Dr. David Coe is our speaker for the 2024 Men's Weekend! He is a theology professor at Concordia University NE and the author of the book "Provoking Proverbs: Wisdom and the Ten Commandments". You won't want to miss this weekend full of theological learning, fellowship, and fun! More details, including the schedule, will be posted in the coming months. Cost to be determined.

MARCH 15-16

Confirmation Weekend

Register your Confirmands for a weekend of fun and instruction at LIC! You take care of the Confirmation instruction and we take care of the fun! The cost is \$90/person which includes food, lodging, and activities. For more information, and to register, contact Olivia at licprogram@islandcamp.org.

APRIL 17-21

Quilt & Crafting Retreat

Join us in the spring for a lovely week of quilting and crafting on the Island! Food, lodging, and evening devotions are provided by the LIC staff. To register visit the website or call the office at 218-583-2905.

APRIL 26-28

Women's Weekend

Ladies, join us for our Women's Weekend! The weekend includes a keynote speaker, small group discussions, church on Sunday and Island activities all with your sisters in Christ. We will announce more details, including the schedule and speaker, in the coming months.



Pastor Domke will lead us in Worship each Wednesday during Lent.

February 14th - April 20th 2024

At 6:30 pm

“The God of Jonah—What You Should Know”

- ❖ **Feb 14 Ash Wed**
Jonah 1:1-3 **“When He Calls”**
- ❖ **Feb 21 Midweek I**
Jonah 1:4-16 **“When the Storms Rage”**
- ❖ **Feb 28 Midweek II**
Jonah 1:17—2:10 **“When the Fish are Biting”**
- ❖ **Mar 6 Midweek III**
Jonah 3:1-10 **“When It Seems Impossible”**
- ❖ **Mar 13 Midweek IV**
Jonah 4:1-4 **“When His Ways Aren’t Your Ways”**
- ❖ **Mar 20 Midweek V**
Jonah 4:5-11 **“When He Gives & Takes Away”**



- ❖ **Ladies Aid**
Ladies Aid will meet on Thursday, February 1st at 1:30 pm at the Church.
- ❖ **Trinity Afternoon Guild**
The Afternoon Guild will meet on Tuesday, February 6th at 1:30 pm at the Church.
- ❖ **Men of Trinity**
Will meet on Monday, February 5th at 7:00 pm at the Church.
- ❖ **M.O.P.S.**
Will Meet on Tuesday, February 13th at 6:30 pm at the Church.
- ❖ **Hannah Circle**
Will meet on Thursday, February 8th at 1:30 pm.
- ❖ **Active Christian Fellowship**
ACF will meet on Monday, February 5th at 5:00 pm.
- ❖ **Altar Circle**
Will not meet in January, February or March.
- ❖ **Eunice Circle**
Will meet on Tuesday, February 20th at 9:30 am.
- ❖ **Christian Singles**
The Christian Singles will meet for lunch on Sunday, February 11th.
- ❖ **Happy Quilters**
The “Happy Quilters” meet on the 3rd & 4th Thursdays of each month at 9:00am at the church.



KIDS IN THE DIVINE SERVICE

Why do we celebrate Lent for 40 days?

Don't forget what Lent is all about! It is a time when we are reminded of what Jesus gave up for us, and a time when we look forward to and prepare for His death and resurrection!



We celebrate Lent for six weeks, or 40 days, as we remember Christ's temptation in the wilderness in the Gospel of Matthew. There **Jesus was without food** for 40 days.



We remember the temptation of **the Israelites in the desert** after the Lord had delivered them from Egypt. This lasted 40 years.



Finally, we can remember the story of **Noah and his family**. After 40 days and 40 nights of rain, the Lord delivered them as He promised.

During these 40 days of Lent, we remember God's faithfulness to His people and how His faithfulness is complete in Jesus, our Savior. Jesus remains faithful to us, always being where He promises to be: in His Word and Sacraments. Wow! What a Savior!



Parents: Continue to encourage your children in their Lenten preparation. During worship, point out the places where our Lord comes to us (i.e. God's Word, Holy Communion, Holy Baptism, Absolution). Remember, being their example and companion on this Lenten journey makes a difference!



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Growing Tree

FEBRUARY 2024

Learning Center & TLC

Preschool Newsletter

SCHOOL CLOSINGS:

Childcare:

February
16th & 19th

Preschool:

February
16th & 19th



Bible Verse of the Month:

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; The old has gone and the new has come!

2 Corinthians 5:17

Learning Center and Preschool News

PRESCHOOL REGISTRATION FOR 2024-2025

Registration forms are available in the Preschool office. Please see Danielle for Preschool forms and/or questions regarding preschool.

WEIRD & WACKY SCIENCE NIGHT

Thursday, February 8 at 5:30 p.m.

We will have science themed stations set up in the fellowship hall for the children to explore.

We hope to see you all there!!



VALENTINE'S DAY!



Valentine's Day Parties will be on
Tuesday, February 13th for Little Lamb's and
Wednesday, February 14th for Noah's Ark.

COLD WEATHER REMINDER

Parents please remember to send winter clothes daily. We go outside everyday the temperature/wind-chill is above zero.

Please label **ALL** of your child's winter apparel.

Sickness Policy

Please make sure your child is fever/diarrhea free for at least 24 hours without medication before returning to the center.

HEART strings

Make this heartfelt craft as a decoration or gift.

What you need:

- Yarn
- Scissors
- Parchment paper
- Baking sheet
- Heart-shaped cookie cutters
- ¼ cup cornstarch
- ½ cup water
- Adult help



What you do:

1. Cut yarn into 12-inch pieces.
2. Place cookie cutters atop a baking sheet lined with parchment paper.
3. Combine cornstarch and water in a saucepan. Heat mixture over medium heat, stirring until thick and smooth. Remove from heat and cool to form a "glue."
4. Dip each piece of yarn into the mixture to coat completely. Squeeze off any excess.
5. Place yarn in the cookie cutters, allowing pieces to cross and loop within the heart. Add more until the cookie cutter is filled and the yarn looks like a heart.
6. Remove cookie cutters and bake the sheet for two hours at 150°F, or until hearts are dry and hard.

Activity Page



CONNECTED BY LOVE

God's Word is filled with messages about love, which connects us to God and to one another.

Directions: Draw a line from the beginning of each Bible verse (on the left side) through the heart to the rest of the verse (on the right side). Use the Scripture references for help.

- a. We
- b. Above all,
- c. My command is this:
- d. And over all these virtues put on
- e. Greater
- f. See what great
- g. There is no fear in

1. each other as I have loved you. John 15:12
2. has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends. John 15:13
3. But perfect love drives out fear. 1 John 4:18
4. each other deeply, because love covers over a multitude of sins. 1 Peter 4:8
5. the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God! 1 John 3:1
6. because he first loved us. 1 John 4:19
7. which binds them all together in perfect unity. Colossians 3:14



Answers: a, b, c, d, e, f, g, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7

FEBRUARY STEWARDSHIP

Caring for My Neighbor

If any of the Ten Commandments might tempt us to think that keeping the Law is easy, it would be the Fifth Commandment. After all, how hard is it to get through life without murdering somebody? The vast majority of people can handle that!

But Jesus famously blows up this notion by pointing out that the command, “you shall not murder,” goes much deeper — down to the heart.

You have heard that it was said to those of old, “You shall not murder; and whoever murders will be liable to judgment.” But I say to you that everyone who is angry with his brother will be liable to judgment; whoever insults his brother will be liable to the council; and whoever says, “You fool!” will be liable to the hell of fire. (Matt. 5:21–22)

Hatred and disdain come from the same sort of crookedness of heart as murder. With both murder and hatred, you look down on another person and think them of little worth.

In the Small Catechism, Luther also points out that every “do not” in the commandments also includes a “do this:” “We should fear and love God so that we do not hurt or harm our neighbor in his body but help and support him in every physical need” (SC, Fifth Commandment, emphasis added).

We are not called merely to avoid evil; we must also do positive good.

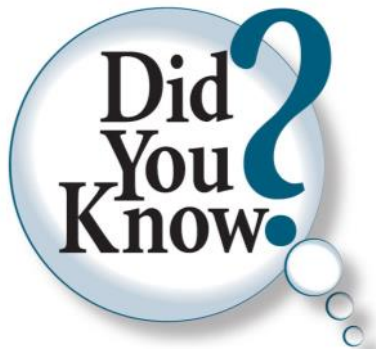
So when Jesus drew near to us and became our neighbor by taking up our humanity, He came not only to avoid harming us, but He came to positively help us, bless us and serve us.

We are now called to show the love to our neighbors that Christ showed to us. Your neighbor is yet another gift that God has given you that requires your stewardship. We are called to show mercy, to be kind, to love and serve our neighbor. One aspect of this stewardship is financial: our neighbors need us to support the church’s work so that they can hear the Gospel and come to faith. Our neighbors need the church’s alms and mercy work. Our neighbors need our faithful service in all we do in the name of Christ.

LCMS Stewardship Ministry: lcms.org/stewardship



<u>Monthly Receipts/Expenses</u>	<u>December 2023</u>
General Fund Receipts	\$37,689.77
PS/CC Receipts	\$19,535.47
Interest Receipts	\$32.69
(Transfer to Money Market) Adjustments	_____
TOTAL RECEIPTS	\$57,257.93
TOTAL BUDGETED EXPENSES	\$37,339.36
OVERAGE/SHORTAGE	Monthly +/-
	\$19,918.57



YOU CAN NOW GIVE YOUR TITHE OR OFFERING ONLINE?!

It's Easy, just follow these steps...

1. Visit Trinity's Website at www.trinitybemidji.org.
2. Click on "Donate" at the top right of the Home Page.
3. Fill out the form on the Donation Page and click "DONATE" when you are finished.
4. You will now be directed to our PayPal page. Once there, you can either Log In to your existing PayPal account **OR** if you don't have an account just click "Continue" under the heading "Don't Have A PayPal Account?"
5. From here you just complete using your credit or debit card information and submit.

The Benefits Of Online Giving

STEWARDSHIP

You have the option of giving a one time gift, or having your tithe post monthly.

CONVENIENT

You can continue to support Trinity even if you are away on vacation or gone for the winter.

FLEXIBILITY

You can give to the General Fund or choose to give to a specific Ministry of the church.

If you would like help in learning how make your donation or tithe to Trinity online, just stop in to the office, we are happy to help.



FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES AT TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

1 Margaret Richer
Allison Chandler

2 Madelyn Schuette

5 Melissa Milnar

6 Pam Eichstadt

7 Linda Erickson

10 Vern Holzhueter
Ron Nelson

11 Donovan Lundin
Emily Manecke

12 Don Bock

14 Tanner Lang
Georgina Walter

17 Greg Anderson

18 Scott Wilson

19 Nate Lundeen, Jack Walther,
Louis Blocker

22 Jim Erickson

24 Tammy Freye

26 Arlyce Stanko
Randy Yarbrough

27 Clyde Bell
Tim Freye

28 Alaric Lyons



A DOSE of HUMOR

"It's a stumper ... all we found were four smooth stones and a set of very small footprints."

ALTAR FLOWER VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!!

Please sign up to tend the Altar Flowers. We still need volunteers for 2024!

ADDRESS/PHONE

What's Your Current Phone & Address?

If your address and/or phone number changes, please let the church office know, so your information will be correct in the church database. Thank you!



extra*extra
LARGE PRINT EDITION AVAILABLE

LARGE PRINT bulletins are available for those that have difficulty with the regular bulletin. If you would benefit from having one of these bulletins, please ask an usher for a copy.

If you are interested in being a Greeter or an Usher, please speak with one of the Elders.



WHEN YOU LEAVE GOD'S HOUSE, please turn out ALL the lights (except in the office hallway) and please check that ALL the entrance doors are LOCKED, even if you didn't unlock them.

Greeting Cards Available!



Individual Cards are \$1.00 each. Boxed cards are priced on bottom. Checks are preferred. Please make your checks out to Trinity Ladies Aid and put your payment in the container provided. Thank you.

Check out the "RESOURCE TABLE" in the Fellowship Hall for FREE Books, Periodicals, Devotionals, and More.



Portals of Prayer are in the basket at the back of the sanctuary.



ALTAR CIRCLE

The first Sunday of Epiphany commemorates the visit of the Wise Men to the infant Jesus and the second Sunday observes the Baptism of our Lord. Therefore, the paraments are white, the color of purity and eternity.

The remaining Sundays after the Epiphany have green paraments. The last Sunday after the Epiphany is again white for the Transfiguration of our Lord. The emphasis for the whole season of Epiphany is on the self-revelation of God to the world.

BEMIDJI AREA FOOD SHELF

Trinity, along with United Methodist Church volunteer the 1st Monday of each month at the Food Shelf. The first shift is from 9am-12pm and the second shift is from 12-3:30pm. Both shifts need 6-7 volunteers.



Bemidji Food Shelf

The Food Shelf would not function without all the volunteers who give of their time. Thank you for all you do to help the Food Shelf run smoothly. ~June Roxstrom

Check out our website.
www.trinitybemidji.org




LOOK Please check the covered bulletin boards in the Church Entrance Hall for posted Letters, Community Events, Concerts, Meals, Fundraisers, local activities and news.

READ THROUGH THE BIBLE IN A YEAR - FEBRUARY

- | | | | |
|----------------|--------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| 1 Luke 2:29-32 | 8 Psalm 65 | 15 Psalm 72 | 22 Psalm 79 |
| Exodus 1-3 | Exodus 22-24 | Leviticus 1-3 | Leviticus 22-24 |
| 2 Psalm 59 | 9 Psalm 66 | 16 Psalm 73 | 23 Psalm 80 |
| Exodus 4-6 | Exodus 25-27 | Leviticus 4-6 | Leviticus 25-27 |
| 3 Psalm 60 | 10 Psalm 67 | 17 Psalm 74 | 24 Psalm 81 |
| Exodus 7-9 | Exodus 28-30 | Leviticus 7-9 | Numbers 1-3 |
| 4 Psalm 61 | 11 Psalm 68 | 18 Psalm 75 | 25 Psalm 82 |
| Exodus 10-12 | Exodus 31-33 | Leviticus 10-12 | Numbers 4-6 |
| 5 Psalm 62 | 12 Psalm 69 | 19 Psalm 76 | 26 Psalm 83 |
| Exodus 13-15 | Exodus 34-36 | Leviticus 13-15 | Numbers 7-9 |
| 6 Psalm 63 | 13 Psalm 70 | 20 Psalm 77 | 27 Psalm 84 |
| Exodus 16-18 | Exodus 37-38 | Leviticus 16-18 | Numbers 10-12 |
| 7 Psalm 64 | 14 Psalm 71 | 21 Psalm 78 | 28 Luke 2:29-32 |
| Exodus 19-21 | Exodus 39-40 | Leviticus 19-21 | Numbers 13-15 |

February 2024

Trinity Lutheran Church - 444-4441

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
					1 1:30 PM Ladies Aid 5:30 PM Board of Elders	2	3
4 9:00 AM Worship w/Communion 10:30 AM Bible Study 10:30 AM Sunday School <i>Ladies Aid Serves</i>	5 5:00 PM Active Christian Fellowship 7:00 PM Men of Trinity	6 1:30 PM Trinity Afternoon Guild 6:00 PM Bell Choir	7 4:15 PM 7th Grade Confirmation 4:45 PM 6th Grade Confirmation	8 1:30 PM Hannah Circle <div style="background-color: red; color: white; padding: 2px; text-align: center;"> TLC Preschool Weird & Wacky Science Night 5:30pm - 6:30pm </div>	9	10 <div style="border: 1px solid red; padding: 5px; text-align: center; color: red;"> Church Closed for Asbestos Tile Removal </div>	
11 9:00 AM Worship w/Communion 10:30 AM Bible Study 10:30 AM Sunday School 11:30 AM Christian Singles <i>Youth Groups Serve</i>	12	13 6:00 PM Bell Choir 6:30 PM M.O.P.S.	14 4:15 PM 7th Grade Confirmation 4:45 PM 6th Grade Confirmation 5:30 PM Lenten Meal 6:30 PM Midweek Lenten Worship 	15 9:00 AM "Happy Quilters" 6:00 PM Church Boards 7:00 PM Church Council	16 <div style="background-color: red; color: white; padding: 2px; text-align: center;"> PS/CC Closed </div>	17	
18 9:00 AM Worship w/Communion 10:30 AM Bible Study 10:30 AM Sunday School <i>Men Serve</i>	19  <div style="background-color: red; color: white; padding: 2px; text-align: center;"> PS/CC Closed </div>	20 9:30 AM Eunice Circle 6:00 PM Bell Choir	21 4:15 PM 7th Grade Confirmation 4:45 PM 6th Grade Confirmation 5:30 PM Lenten Meal 6:30 PM Midweek Lenten Worship	22	23	24	
25 9:00 AM Worship w/Communion 10:30 AM Bible Study 10:30 AM Sunday School <i>Evening Guild Serves</i>	26	27 6:00 PM Bell Choir	28 4:15 PM 7th Grade Confirmation 4:45 PM 6th Grade Confirmation 5:30 PM Lenten Meal 6:30 PM Midweek Lenten Worship	29			