



THE TORCH

www.trinitylcpv.com
office@trinitylcpv.com

May 2023
Sunday Worship
9:00 AM

Trinity Lutheran Church • 18137 Criswell Street • Bettendorf, Iowa 52722 • 563-332-5188
Pastor Stephen Nilsen 563-332-6432 (office) 319-540-1172 (cell) snilsen@trinitylcpv.com (email)

Greetings fellow Easter people!

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

I always find myself so excited by the new life that springs forth in the season of Easter. While we can really see it when we go from the cross of Good Friday to the empty tomb of Easter Sunday, it doesn't just stop there!

St. Augustine of Hippo once proclaimed, "We are Easter people and Alleluia is our hymn of praise!" This means that Easter has made a great difference in our lives: we are freed by Christ's resurrection, and we go forth sharing that good news with others, singing that Alleluia praise in either a literal sense or by our actions in the world.

God does not abandon us in our Lenten journey. Jesus' death on the cross is not an empty gesture only there to be used in our symbols. We are called and sent forth, just as the disciples who were gathered in the locked room when Jesus found them and breathed on them to give them the Holy Spirit. We are called and sent forth, changed by this death and resurrection by Christ's transformative redemption of our sin and brokenness. We are called and sent forth, to love and serve the risen Lord.

We continue to serve our neighbors through a variety of means around our community – feeding and helping through hunger ministries, gardening, through the education of our young people here at Trinity, providing a space for the bookmobile, and all sorts of other opportunities in the future. When St. Augustine told his congregation that as followers of Christ, we were "Easter people," it spoke a simple truth: faith in Jesus Christ Crucified and Risen must be lived by imitating Him in daily life by the way they spoke, thought, and acted.

I love hearing the stories that I have been entrusted from each of you sharing how your faith has impacted your life. Whether that is how others have supported you in times of need, the living out of your vocation as a Christian in your work and family life, or any other part of your daily life, it is a gift to know the ways your lives have been impacted by faith in Christ.

As we venture forward into the summer ahead, let us not forget that we are united in a baptism like Christ's, just as we have remembered our baptisms throughout this season of Easter. From the liturgy, we have proclaimed, "Wash away our sin and all that separates us from you. Empower our witness to your resurrection. Strengthen our resolve in seeking justice for all."

When we remember our baptisms, acknowledging the promises we have made (or our parents have made on our behalf and we have later affirmed), we return to the very beginning: to the new life we have in Christ, united in that identity as beloved children of God. We are united in this Christian life to love and serve the Lord, loving and serving our neighbors, going forth to proclaim that joy together!
Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Together in Christ,
Pastor Stephen Nilsen

Trinity Office Hours Tues, Wed, Thurs + 9AM-1PM

Pastor Stephen's Office Hours Mon, Tues, Wed, Thurs +10AM - 2PM

LETTER FROM COUNCIL PRESIDENT

After missing the February and March council meetings for a ski trip and spring break it was nice to be back together as a council. The first order of business was to welcome Dawn Brick to the council. Dawn is filling in for the rest of the year as a council appointment to fill Alice Cordts' position. When you get a chance, thank Alice for her years of service on the council. It is a large commitment to be on council and the meetings can run long. It was hard to see Alice move on as we both joined the council a couple years ago together. Alice, your suggestions and contributions were always valued and appreciated! And thank you Dawn for serving! Dawn fit right in the first meeting asking great questions and giving feedback. Dawn was not timid and helped the council work through a number of topics.

Speaking of long meetings, at times it has felt like we have spent too much time reviewing individual committee reports and then didn't have the time or energy to tackle the large discussion items that come up. So, we have made a change that I felt went very smoothly. Now we send committee reports to be reviewed in advance, and only bring up topics that need council discussion and approval. This allowed us to focus our time and energies on the larger business items. I would love to take credit for this suggestion, however it came up at the previous meeting while I was in Texas! It was a great suggestion that was supported by the council and it allowed us to have a more efficient meeting. I'm confident this will be the trend moving forward.

These are exciting and energetic times here at Trinity. I hope you feel it, too! Pews are filling, great conversations are being had, and we are all strengthening our faith. Hopefully by now you've heard about the Garden Ministry that is being discussed/started. Please consider lending a bit of your time to help with this ministry. It will be exciting to see from week to week the growth in the garden. Let Dane Crist or Tom Shelton know if you can lend some assistance.

Vacation Bible School is coming back to Trinity, however this year it will look a little different. We have partnered with First Presbyterian in LeClaire. Their VBS runs from 5:30-7:30 pm from June 19 to 22. Council approved a payment of \$350.00 to support this endeavor. The payment is coming out of the VBS special fund that currently has just over \$1100 in it. I look forward to seeing how this partnership goes and having future conversations of how VBS evolves here at Trinity. If you know of any children that could attend, please communicate the dates and times. Also, if you could lend a hand any of the nights, I'm sure that First Presbyterian would appreciate any assistance.

Council and Pastor Stephen are curious on your thoughts regarding Lenten Midweek and Holy Week. What did you like/not like? Suggestions for change next year? If you have any input, please communicate that to any council member, Pastor Stephen, call, text, e-mail, or suggestion box. I'm proud of all the ways we have opened up the communication lines over the past couple years. Please utilize any of those methods to let us know your thoughts! We are all here with the common goal to make Trinity Lutheran Church a community where we can all come together to strengthen our faith and grow in our relationship with God.

Justin

A graphic for Spring Clean-Up Day. It features a green watering can pouring water onto a pile of brown leaves. A brown rake is stuck into the leaves. The text "Spring Clean-Up Day" is written in a purple, curved font at the top. At the bottom, it says "Saturday, May 6 - 8:30AM-12PM" and "Raindate: May 13 - 8:30AM-12PM" in purple text.

Spring Clean-Up Day is Coming Up!

Spring Clean Up Day will be *Saturday May 6 at 8:30 AM to 12:00 PM*. A rain date will be *May 13 8:30 AM to 12:00 PM*. There will be a list of tasks to complete (both outside in the yard and some inside around the building) and refreshments will be served. Hope you can join us for this time of fellowship and fun.

BIRTHDAYS

7 Barb McIlrath
7 Logan Paul
8 Maggie Wright
9 Jeff McIlrath
9 Beau Dexter
12 Tom Shelton
14 Jan Graaf
15 Cathy Newman
17 Elyce Billany
19 Gannen Hank
27 Scottie Jae Dexter
31 Julia Denain



ANNIVERSARIES APRIL

01 Ken & Chris Kaul
03 Byron & Kathy Kime
17 Dave & Anna Heidenreich



MAY

19 Stephen & Vicki Engler
29 Bill & Karen Romans
30 Stephen & Leah Nilsen

PASTORS STEPHEN AND LEAH SHARE NEWS ABOUT THEIR BABY!



At 11:31 am on Tuesday, April 18, Pastor Stephen and Leah welcomed their daughter, Leslie Rae Nilsen into the world at 7 lbs. 13 oz., 19.5 inches. Leslie shares a first name with her maternal grandmother and a middle name with her paternal grandmother. Thanks again to everyone at Trinity for their prayers and support!

Pastor Stephen would like to extend a huge thanks to Jim Sbertoli for agreeing to preach and preside these first few weeks of the baby's life. Another thanks goes from Stephen and Leah for all of your prayerful support throughout pregnancy and for welcoming us as part of your church family. We look forward to the baptism coming up in June here at Trinity!

BABY SHOWER!

Mark your calendars for June 4th to celebrate Leslie Rae Nilsen and her parents Stephen and Leah.

The shower will be on June 4th following worship. More details will follow from the HOT TEAM.



WORSHIP ASSISTANTS and FELLOWSHIP

If you are unable to fulfill your duties, please find a replacement and call the church office (332-5188) with your replacement. Thank you.

	May 7	May 14 Mother's Day	May 21	May 28 Memorial Weekend	June 4
Altar Guild	Carol Kaufmann	Diane Kaufmann	Connie Short	Jean Mattson	Randy Goslin
Communion Assistant	Marcia Brunsvold	Diana Mayes	Lois Schurr	Claudia Neumann	John Newman
Lector	Bryan West	Diane Noll	Ellen Opperman	Justin Paul	Glenna Sbertoli
Usher/Greeter	Lois Schurr Travis Brunsvold	Judy Rutledge Chris Kaul	Paul Opperman Travis Brunsvold	Diane Cook Don Cordts	Diane & Ed Kaufmann
Fellowship	Marcia Brunsvold Claudia Neumann	Arnie & Diane Kaufmann	HOT TEAM Pie Sunday		Baby Shower HOT TEAM



ATTENDANCE TOTALS FOR APRIL

April	2	84	
April	6	53	Maundy Thursday
April	7	23	Good Friday
April	9	118	Easter
April	16	56	
April	23	63	

AMITIE

Amitie will meet on May 8 at 12:00 PM in Fellowship Hall. Bring your sack lunch, drink and dessert will be provided. We will be tying another baby quilt for the Edgerton Clinic. Please come and enjoy this time of fellowship and worship.

Rudella Eberlein, Convenor



MEETINGS FOR THE MONTH OF MAY

May 2	Worship	4:30 PM
May 3	Education	6:30 PM
May 4	Property	11 :00 AM
May 8	Amitie	12 :00 PM
May 8	Council	6:30 PM
May 15	Stewardship	6:00 PM



New All Creation Sings Hymnal Supplements at Trinity

In 2020, Augsburg Fortress, the publishing arm of the ELCA, assembled a new collection of hymns as well as two new settings for communion into a new hymnal supplement called *All Creation Sings*. Much like how the blue *With One Voice* (1995) supplemented the older green *Lutheran Book of Worship* (1978) hymnals, and were later added into the cranberry *Evangelical Lutheran Worship* (2006) books, these will supplement our ELWs, and they will begin being used for during worship.

Ministry Spotlight in May: Stir the Fire Ministry

Join Diane Noll **after worship Sunday, May 7**, as she shares about the work she and others have done in Zambia helping those in need with the organization Stir the Fire Ministry! Diane and others have gone on trips and supported the work to invest in the future building a school and providing supplies to those in need. The Endowment Committee has also supported the work of this ministry in previous years. For more info about Stir the Fire, visit StirTheFireUSA.org



BIBLE Study

WEDNESDAYS AT 10 AM

Join us for a **weekly** Bible study centered around the texts for the upcoming week's worship service as we find what God is up to in the text and our lives this week



WEEKLY READINGS

05/7 Acts 7:55-60 Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16, 1 Peter 2:2-10. John 14:1-14

05/14 Acts 17:22-31, Psalm 66:8-20, 1 Peter 3:13-22, John 14:15-21

05/21 Acts 1:6-14, Psalm 68:1-10, 32-35, 1 Peter 4:12-14, 5:6-11, John 17:1-11

05/28 Acts 2:1-21 Psalm 104:24-34, 35b, 1 Corinthians 12:3b-13, John 20:19-23

New Trinity Hunger Garden



As spring temperatures rise and flowers begin to emerge, we are surrounded by newness in our environment. During this Easter season we are also reminded of the newness in our lives through the resurrection of Jesus. Jesus said we should show compassion, love, and to care for others. Inherent in His message is the notion of action, not just awareness. One very basic way to care for the needy in our community is to provide food for the hungry. During Lent, many generous members have donated a variety of boxed and canned foods, water and personal products that were delivered to the Central Community Circle center in Davenport for people in need of these items. Additionally, several local groceries have donated left over vegetables and fruit that is edible, but maybe not always the freshest of items.

Council has approved a Trinity Lutheran Church Hunger Garden project to provide fresh produce for the hungry this summer and fall. A team is being assembled to plan and initiate this project. Representatives from Property and Social Ministry Committees have already volunteered to provide coordination with their areas of responsibility.

If you have interest in participating in this new project, please contact Tom Shelton (563-468-9039, tshelton72@gmail.com) or Dane Crist (563-340-6343, gr8tdane_10@yahoo.com) soon so that you can be a part of the planning.

Many hands will make light work in this vital new endeavor. If you are less interested in planning, but would like to help planting and maintaining the garden, let the committee know.

SUNDAY SCHOOL/EDUCATION NEWS

The last day of Sunday School for this school year will be May 21st.

There will be some fun activities planned for children throughout the summer.

June 19 to June 22 from 5:30 to 7:30 PM
Trinity will be partnering with First Presbyterian Church, 200 S. 12th St. Le Claire, for Vacation Bible School.

We appreciate everyone who has supported the Sunday School through volunteering, donating, and serving on the Education Committee.

Thanks to parents for bringing your child/children to Sunday School and worship and letting us be a part of their faith education. The congregation expressed so often the joy of seeing and hearing children at Trinity Lutheran Church.

We welcome your suggestions for improvement and ask anyone to attend The Education meeting May 1 at 6:30 in Fellowship Hall.

Deb Goslin, Council Liaison for Education



Psalm 104:-14 He causes grass to grow for the livestock and provides crops for man to cultivate, producing food from the earth,

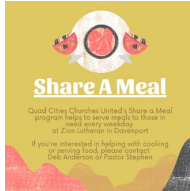
WANT TO CONNECT THE WITH WEEKLY HAPPENINGS AT TRINITY?

Sign up for our weekly email bulletin that will let you know what's happening in the week ahead and have other great upcoming announcements, as well as the weekly bulletin for worship. Call (332-5188) or email (office@trinitylcpv.com) Paula in the office to sign up!

Share-A-Meal

A hearty meal was prepared on April 21 serving 30 to 40 people at the Zion Lutheran Church in Davenport. Deb Goslin did the shopping, Connie Short, Bonnie Murphy and I did the cooking. Justin Paul and his family helped serve. Cookies were donated by several church members. The next Share-A-Meal will be June 21. If you would like to help with this project in any way, you can contact Debra Anderson, 563-289-4969.

Debra Anderson, Share-A-Meal Coordinator.



EASTER FOOD BASKETS (now Gift Cards for Easter Food)

This year we continued with giving Fareway gift cards to families needing a helping hand. We gave seven families a \$100 gift card, and was very appreciated by all.

A big thank you to the Church committees and members that contributed so that we could purchase the gift cards. Your generosity makes such a difference to these families.

Any questions can be directed to Lolita Baker (563) 570-3936 or Lanette Lane (563) 359-4196.

Grace Lutheran Church
1140 E High St
Davenport, IA

Life & Legacy Series

**11:45am - 1:00pm
Thursdays in May**

- ✓ How does one choose an independent living community?
- ✓ How can I stay active and social now that I'm retired?
- ✓ What are the legal pieces I need in place?
- ✓ How do I create and leave a legacy?

These are questions we are all invited to ponder as we seek to understand what it means to grow older. Join us for a meal and guest speakers who will help answer these questions. There is no cost to attend the classes.

May 4	Downsizing and Relocating
May 11	Staying Social and Active
May 18	Estate Planning: Wills, Living Wills, Trusts, and Powers of Attorney
May 25	Last Steps & Leaving a Legacy

Please join us and invite a friend!

Go to bit.ly/LifeLegacyReg to register or call 563-322-0769. You may attend any or all classes. Sponsored by the Grace Lutheran Church Endowment Committee.

The Scott County Library's Bookmobile is coming to Trinity

Bring your library card, and stop by the church parking lot on the following Tuesdays to check out books to read:

May 2	4:15-4:45
May 23	4:15-4:45



Southeastern Iowa Synod Assembly and Synod Revival is Coming!

What is Synod Revival?

A one-day event presented by the Southeastern Iowa Synod, ELCA designed to nourish and connect people to each other and to reimagine our relationships in and with the church.

This event is free of charge and intended to be a joyful fun gathering for all ages full of inspiration, worship, and prayer. Bring your friends, neighbors, family, or anyone and



watch what God does!

Saturday, May 20th
Grand View University
Des Moines
10:00 AM - 3:00 PM

Learn more at synodrevival.org



Did you know you can always find out more about what's happening around Southeastern Iowa by signing up for the weekly eNews that they put out? Visit seiasynod.org/enews-sign-up/ to sign up!



May 2023, LSI Newsletter Article and Story
Happy Mother's Day!

Mother's Day is a time to celebrate and empower all the strong, loving women in your life. At LSI, we provide mothers, and soon-to-be mothers, with the education and resources they need to build the brightest future for their children'

LSI's Foster Care and Adoption Services work to bring families together and to help them throughout the process of becoming licensed for foster care and approved for adoption. Our Family Centered Services uses a strengths-based approach to keep Iowa families together by equipping parents with skills they need to be successful, independent and healthy.

As you celebrate Mother's Day this year, remember that your support helps empower Iowa moms. If you are looking for a way to help these moms, or to honor a mother in your life this year, please, consider making a gift in her name to LSI. For more information, please contact Deb Whitford, LSI's Senior Director of Philanthropy and Church Relations, at Deborah.Whitford@LSIowa.org or 563-676-2065.

Our Mission: Lutheran Services in Iowa responds to the love of Jesus Christ through compassionate service. LSI is an affiliated social ministry partner of the Iowa congregations of the ELCA (Evangelical Lutheran Church in America) and a member of LSA (Lutheran Services in America). We proudly serve people of all ages, abilities, religions, sexes, gender identities, national origins, ethnicities, races, and sexual orientations. Learn more at LSIowa.org and facebook.com/LSI.iowa.

Staying Connected to your Roots

LSI Foster Care and Adoption is proud to be part of the Native Families for Native Children (NF4NC) project, which is a collaborative effort between the four native tribes of Nebraska, human services agencies and private agency partners in Nebraska and Iowa. As part of the project's efforts, we recruit , train, license and support Native American families in accord with the traditions, need and resources of their communities.

Rebecca and Kirby expanded their family when they adopted their son in January. The couple had the opportunity to work with the Omaha Tribe and were able to participate in the second Customary Adoption in the State of Iowa.

Through their Customary Adoption, the family completed a culture plan with the tribe and will be able to keep their newly adopted son connected to his cultural roots with the Omaha Tribe. The new family also was able to keep their son connected to his biological siblings, so he can continue to be involved with them.

LSI is proud to help connect families, like Rebecca and Kirby, with the resources they need to continue to grow their families and build the brightest future for Iowa children

Trinity Lutheran Endowment Committee
Congregation suggestions for endowment fund distribution

Congregation members, committees or groups seeking resources to support a program, organization, ministry or mission are invited to submit to the Endowment Committee requests for use of endowment distributions. All requests must be submitted in writing and received by July 30 for the current year's distributions.

Your Name _____

Your Contact Information Phone _____ **Email** _____

Organization you recommend for Donation _____

Contact Information and/or Address _____

Please provide information about the organization, ministry, and suggested use.

Suggested donation amount _____

(Please note that the committee is not bound by this suggestion but your input is appreciated.) For questions, please contact Committee Members: Alan Diers, Diana Mayes, Susan Varilek, Sheila Vining, or Marcia Brunsvold. Completed forms can be turned into the office or emailed to brunsvoldmarcia@gmail.com.

ENDOWMENT COMMITTEE

Trinity's Endowment Committee is gearing up for another year of giving. Each year, 5% of the fund is distributed according to the Mission Endowment Agreement. In 2023m the distribution will be \$14,000, The breakdown as follows:

20% Council Discretionary Fund	\$2800
20% ELCA Affiliated Programs	\$2800
20% Community Service Programs	\$2800
40% Miscellaneous	\$5600



In the next couple of months, the Endowment Committee will be working to make its recommendations for the use of these funds. Congregational input is important to the committee. Members of the congregation are invited to suggest possible uses. Written suggestions are encourage and will be seriously considered.

Please consider your recommendations and submit your requests to the committee soon. Request forms are available on the bulletin board in the narthex or by contacting the office, or a committee member. We are asking that your suggestions be submitted by July 30.

Committee members: Alan Diers, Diana Mayes, Susan Varilek, Sheila Vining, Mitch Sussex, Treasurer and Marcia Brunsvold, Council Representative.