

April 2023



TRINITY TIDINGS

Trinity Lutheran Church

Pastor's Page

*Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me bless his holy name.
Bless the Lord, O my soul, and do not forget all his benefits.*
Psalm 103:1-2

The note you begin on will affect the whole song you sing. The first brick you lay will impact the whole foundation of the house. The first words you speak will influence your whole conversation.

Many changes, many new beginnings are coming to all of you here at Trinity. It is an exciting time. And, of course, changes and new beginnings bring questions and anxiety too.

So why not help celebrate the changes and new beginnings, why not help deal with the questions and anxiety, with thoughts full of blessing and gratitude? David begins Psalm 103 with blessings and gratitude and the whole psalm breathes encouragement and hope.

Say these two little lines over and over again through the weeks ahead—a lovely mantra from the ancient psalmist—breathing in blessing and gratitude, breathing out encouragement and hope.

And as you repeat these two little lines, they will become in and through you a prayer both of celebration and assurance—a small gift of grace for times like these.

Blessings,
Pastor Greg



Palm Sunday, April 2nd—Worship at 8:00 & 10:00 a.m.
Family Easter Egg Hunt at 9:45 am

Special Meeting of the Congregation at 11:00 am

Palm Sunday Brunch Youth Fundraiser—9:00-9:45 a.m.

Please join us for our Palm Sunday Brunch Fundraiser on Sunday, April 2 in the Fellowship Hall. EDGE youth will be serving donuts, breads, fruit, cheese, coffee, and juice. Free will donations support youth mission trips and activities.

Maundy Thursday, April 6th—Worship at 10:00 a.m. & 7:00 p.m. with Communion. First Communion will be received at our 7:00 p.m. worship.

Good Friday, April 7th—7:00 p.m. Tenebrae Service

Easter Sunday, April 9th:

6:30 a.m.—Sunrise Service at Trinity Cemetery

8:00 & 10:00 a.m. Worship w/Communion

9:00 a.m. Coffee hour and fellowship

Children & Youth Ministry News

Children's Ministry

Our family Easter egg hunt will be on Palm Sunday, April 2, at 9:45 a.m. outside at Trinity. Children will also do their palm branch parade and singing at 10:00 worship that day. Thank you to the EDGE youth for packing all of the Easter eggs and goodie bags for this event! There will be no Sunday School on Easter Sunday, April 9. Last month our Sunday School families worked together on a service project to make fleece tie blankets that will be donated locally to the Safe Haven Foster Shoppe.

April 2 - Palm Sunday Brunch 9:00-10:00 a.m. in the Fellowship hall,

Family Easter Egg hunt at 9:45 a.m. on the Trinity lawn,
Palm Branch Parade and singing in church at 10:00 a.m.

April 9 - No Sunday School -- Happy Easter! He is risen!

April 16 - Family Sunday School 9:00-9:45 a.m.

April 23 - Family Sunday School 9:00-9:45 a.m.

April 30 - Family Sunday School 9:00-9:45 a.m.



Confirmation meets Wednesdays from 6:30-7:30 pm. Call the church office at 651-674-7047 or fill in the form outside the office to sign up to acolyte or greet on Sunday mornings.

No Confirmation April 5.

Confirmation

8th & 9th graders will be Confirmed during our 10:00 am worship on Sunday, May 7.

EDGE High School Youth Ministry

Please join us for our Palm Sunday Brunch Fundraiser on Sunday, April 2, from 9:00-10:00 a.m. between services, in the Fellowship hall. EDGE youth will be serving donuts, breads, fruit, cheese, coffee, and juice. Free will donations will support youth mission trips and activities. We're grateful for the Thrivent Financial grant and Kwik Trip donation that helped support this event. We have nine youth, and two adult leaders attending our mission trip to Luther Park this summer. Thank you to the EDGE youth for packing the Easter eggs and goodie bags for the Sunday School Easter egg hunt. EDGE will pack Viking Vittles this month and also be packing meals at a Feed My Starving Children Mobile Pack event.

April 2 - Palm Sunday Brunch Fundraiser, 9:00-10:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall

April 5 - No EDGE -- Holy Week

April 12 - EDGE 6:30-7:30 p.m. (Viking Vittles Packing)

April 19 - EDGE 6:30-7:30 p.m.

April 22 - Feed My Starving Children Mobile Pack Event

April 26 - EDGE 6:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.



Thank you to everyone who participated in our study of the Gospel of John this year! We wrapped up our final chapters in March and it was a delight to gather around the Word with food and fellowship together. Our last gathering will be on Sunday, April 16. We'll email out more details to the group as we get closer. We will take a break for the summer months and plan to begin again with a new study in the fall.



The cost of graves is going up this year. The price will remain at \$400 until the end of May. On June 1, 2023 the price will go up to \$500. This is the first price raise since 2003. Call Julie at 651-674-7047 to purchase a grave.

Cemetery deeds give ownership to the purchaser and their heirs. Heirs can be spouse, parents, children and grandchildren. The owner of a grave can gift a grave to a non-heir. A non-heir would be a friend, niece, nephew, aunt and uncle etc. Gifting a grave to a non-heir will now be charged a \$50 administrative fee for the transfer of ownership.

WHO IS *my neighbor?*

Family VBS/Summer in the Son

Trinity Lutheran Church invites your family to be a part of Family VBS/Summer in the Son! Parents and children up to incoming 6th graders are invited to participate. Our program will be on three Wednesday evenings; June 14, 21, and 28, from 5:30-7:30 p.m. Summer in the Son is a fun family-style VBS. This summer we will learn about God's love for us and our neighbors through: Bible stories, games, science, music, art, and service projects. Supper will be served at 5:30 p.m. and activities will start at 6:00 each evening. There is no cost to attend. You can come to 1, 2, or all 3 nights. Please register by May 7 to ensure requested t-shirts sizes for everyone in your family. Reach out to Marie with questions. Registration forms will be available soon online and on the narthex table. <https://forms.gle/pSWaak6ihyJqAWRa7> is the link to register online.



VBS/Summer in the Son Youth Leaders - Entering 7th grade – Outgoing 12th graders are invited to be youth leaders and helpers for our Family Summer in the Son. Dates are Wednesdays: June 14, June 21, and June 28, from 5:30-7:30 p.m. Youth leaders will have fun trips in the afternoon before coming back to set up, serve supper, and help with VBS each night. Reach out to Marie if you are interested in registering to be a youth leader. Registration forms will be available soon in the Narthex table. Please register by Sunday, May 7.



To the Cemetery Fund in memory of Karen Lunde from Donna Brown, Butch & Sharalyn Olson

To Viking Vittles in memory of Karen Lunde from Sue Gustafson, Loren & Jane Magnison

To Sunday School in memory of Karen Lunde from Mike & Mary Kay Linder

To Viking Vittles in memory of Jody Schmaltz from Sue Gustafson

To EDGE Youth Group in memory of Jody Schmaltz from Mike & Barb Nelson

To Blessing Bags in memory of Karen Nelson from David & Martha Arnold

To Worship & Music in memory of Karen Lunde from Gary & Jill Decker, Karen Tangen

Undesignated in memory of Karen Lunde from Vonnie Johnson, Evonne Peterson, Darlene Nelson, JoAnn Dolezalek, Shirley Fisk, Sharon Fairbanks, John & Helen Lindhart, Les & Pam Zentner, Mary Sederberg, Don & Roberta Elmstrand, Stan & Deb Sjodahl, Albert & Ann Tanko, Bonnie Nelson, Tom & Candi Hals, Mike & Barb Nelson, Ron & Diane Barsness, Carol Gustafson, Ted & Jody Nemetz, Jean Fairbanks, Thomas & Jill Wilcox, Jay & Karen Young, Bev Otterness, Dan Anderson, Max Malmquist, Jim & Erin Fallon, Bill Young, Fred & Sharon Remund, Kathleen Keating & Richard Hasket, John & Ione Olund, Carolyn Lunde, Julie Lindberg, Clifford & Jeanne Buchan, Neil & Carla Norelius, Juli & Brad Wilcox, Betty Johnson, Pamela Nelson, Michas Ohnstad, Paul & Jackie Lund

To the Cemetery Fund in memory of Dennis Nelson from Tom & Candi Hals

To Viking Vittles in memory of Dennis Nelson from Lee & Donna Setter



A First Communion Class will be held Thursday, April 5th at 5:30 p.m. This instruction is open to any and all people who have not yet received

Communion. If you or your child/children would like to participate in this year's class, forms are available in the office and on our website. Parents should attend the class with their children. Those participating in the class will commune for the first time on Maundy Thursday, April 5 at 7:00 pm. Call the office to register by Monday, April 3.

SIGN UP FOR

To sponsor altar flowers, please sign up on the calendar near the church office. Please bring an arrangement of fresh flowers prior to 7:45 am on that Sunday. See Julie or Deb with questions.



ALTAR FLOWERS

Fare for All at Trinity Lutheran Church.
The next sales will be held 3:00-5:00
April 12 & May 10.

April Hot Buys are one dozen organic
eggs \$4 and 1 lb. salmon tails \$3.50.

The Shoe Bus will be at Trinity from
3:00-5:00 pm on April 12 as well.

Fare for All and The Shoe Bus are open to
everyone! The more who shop the better
they buying power of the organization!

Trinity's grocery shelf has seen an increase in use recently. If you'd like to donate non-perishable or personal care items, please bring them to the office. We have a freezer available as well. We have also had multiple requests for gas cards. If you'd like to make a monetary donation, note "Grocery Shelf" or "Gas Cards" on your donation and we will do the shopping for you.



Please email articles for the
May Trinity Tidings to
office @trinitynorthbranch.org
by April 17. Thank you!

34th Saint Paul Area Synodical Women's Organization Convention

Saturday, April 22, 2023 8:00 am—4:00 pm at Gloria Dei Lutheran Church 700 Snelling Avenue South Saint Paul, MN

This year's theme is "Come and See" (based on John 1:39)

Keynote speaker is Dr. Kelly Sherman-Conroy. Her talk is entitled "The Power of Story." Dr. Kelly Sherman-Conroy, is a Native American Theologian who walks with people of all cultures. Her Lakota people have a saying, "Mitákuye Oyás'ŋ el changleska wiconi:" "We are all related in this circle of life."

Registration is \$40. TWIGS has money available for up to six women who would like to attend. Please let Julie Morgan in the office know, or Ann Tanko 763-444-5453. Registration forms are in the church office.



Trinity's Fellowship Team night at the movies! All are welcome! Simply meet at the North Branch Theater on April 21 at 6:45 pm, and we will decide on a movie. Discussion and dessert after the movie!

ALTAR GUILD

Serving for the month of April
Jean Fairbanks & Terry Moriarty



ALTAR GUILD

Worship
with us
from
HOME

Our weekly worship will be available
each Sunday live at 8 & 10a on our
YouTube channel, and about 90
minutes later on our facebook page.
Links can be found on our website.







Like Trinity Lutheran Church on
facebook, and comment on our
posts! Worship videos are posted
each Sunday!



"Christ in Our Home" daily devotionals for April, May & June have arrived.

Large and regular print books are available. If you'd like a copy, email jmorgan@trinitynorthbranch.org or leave a message for Julie at 651-674-7047 to pickup.

APRIL

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Sunday worship services and 10:00 am Lenten worship services are livestreamed on YouTube, and available for viewing later on YouTube and Facebook.						1
2 Worship Service/ Communion 8:00 & 10:00 am 9:00 am Palm Sunday Brunch 9:45 am Sunday School Egg Hunt 11:00 am Special Meeting of the Congregation	3 9:00 am Fellowship Mtg 	4 8:30 am Outreach Mtg 6:00 pm Choir practice	5 5:30 pm New Creation	6 9:00 am Women's Bible Study 10:00 am & 7:00 pm Maundy Thursday worship 5:30 pm First Communion Class	7 7:00 pm Good Friday worship 	8
9 Worship Service/ Communion 8:00 & 10:00 am 6:30 am Cemetery service 9:00 am Coffee Hour No Sunday School	10 Church Office is closed	11	12 3:00-5:00 pm Fare for All & Shoe Bus 5:30 pm New Creation 6:30 pm Confirmation 6:30 pm EDGE Youth Ministry	13 9:00 am Women's Bible Study 5:00 pm Senior Social	14	15
16 Worship Service/ Communion 8:00 & 10:00 am 9:00 am Coffee Hour 9:00 am Sunday School 9:00 am Visitation meeting 6:00 pm Holy Hot Dish	17 Tidings articles due	18 6:00 pm Choir practice 7:00 pm Council Mtg	19 5:30 pm New Creation 6:30 pm Confirmation 6:00 pm EDGE Youth Ministry	20 9:00 am Women's Bible Study 	21 6:30 pm Fellowship at the movies	22 8:30 am EDGE at Feed My Starving Children
23 & 30 Worship Service/ Communion 8:00 & 10:00 am 9:00 am Coffee Hour (New Member reception on April 23) 9:00 am Sunday School	24 	25	26 5:30 pm New Creation 6:30 pm Confirmation (picture night for 8th/9th grade) 6:00 pm EDGE Youth Ministry	27 9:00 am Women's Bible Study	28	29 

Treasurer's Report

Statement of Income and Expenses

Month Ending February 28, 2023
Trinity Lutheran Church, North Branch, MN

<u>Income</u>	February Actual	February Budget	YTD Actual	YTD Budget
Unified Giving	\$ 24,571	\$ 33,333	\$ 61,412	\$ 66,667
Loose Offering	\$ 339	\$ 375	\$ 704	\$ 750
Other Income	\$ 1,850	\$ 267	\$ 2,025	\$ 433
Phoenix Operating Reimbursement	\$ 3,899	\$ 2,500	\$ 7,068	\$ 5,000
Special Bequests	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Total Regular Giving	\$ 30,659	\$ 36,475	\$ 71,208	\$ 72,850
<u>Expenses</u>	February Actual	February Budget	YTD Actual	YTD Budget
<u>Mission Support</u>				
Synod Support	\$ 2,429	\$ 2,429	\$ 4,858	\$ 4,858
Missionaries	\$ 188	\$ 188	\$ 375	\$ 375
Iringa Church Tanzania	\$ 92	\$ 92	\$ 183	\$ 183
Sub-total Mission Expenses	\$ 2,708	\$ 2,708	\$ 5,417	\$ 5,417
<u>General Expenses</u>				
Ministry Support	\$ 32,208	\$ 35,347	\$ 60,900	\$ 70,127
Church Property	\$ 10,759	\$ 8,515	\$ 22,024	\$ 19,795
Stewardship	\$ -	\$ 150	\$ 159	\$ 300
Learning & Youth	\$ 284	\$ 458	\$ 355	\$ 917
Worship	\$ 540	\$ 233	\$ 540	\$ 467
Witness & Service	\$ -	\$ 17	\$ -	\$ 33
Sub-total General Expenses	\$ 43,792	\$ 44,721	\$ 83,980	\$ 91,638
Total Regular Expenses	\$ 46,500	\$ 47,429	\$ 89,396	\$ 97,055
Total Net Income - February 2023	\$ (15,841)	\$ (10,954)	\$ (18,188)	\$ (24,205)
Unified Support - Phoenix	\$ 11,650	\$ 7,000	\$ 14,000	\$ 14,000
Income Less Expense after Phoenix Support	\$ (4,191)	\$ (3,954)		
Total Net Income - Year-To-Date			\$ (4,188)	\$ (10,205)

February Income was \$5,816 under the February Budget
February Expense was \$929 under the February Budget

Net Income is -\$4,191 for February
Net Income is -\$4,188 Year to Date

Please consider online giving.

YTD Phoenix Rent Received \$42,860.66

Respectfully Submitted,

Todd J. Fisk

Treasurer

See our website www.trinitynorthbranch.org to give electronically on a one-time or recurring basis. Select the date and frequency (one time, weekly or monthly) and designate the amount and fund (Unified, Building, Viking Vittles, Memorial or Other.) Changes can easily be made at any time.

Offering can also be mailed to Trinity Lutheran Church, PO Box 447, North Branch, MN 55056.

FROM THE CHAIR.....

From the Church Council

We now have 200 new folding chairs being used in the fellowship hall. The new chairs are more comfortable and much sturdier than the ones they replaced. Thanks to Shari Denny, Mike and Sue Danielzuk, Doug and Vicky Tampe, Gary and Rosanne Johnson, Loren and Jane Magnison and Darrel Fisk for their work in unpacking and inspecting the chairs when they were delivered. A special thank you to the families of Dan and Sandra Johnson and Dennis Gustafson for allowing funds given in memory of their loved ones to be used for the purchase of these chairs.



We are also in the process of purchasing two new refrigerators for the kitchen. These are being purchased with memorial funds designated for kitchen improvements.

The wet and heavy snow from early this winter has damaged several trees in the cemetery. We plan to have a cleanup day at the cemetery this spring to get things back in shape. More information on this item to come when we get further into spring.

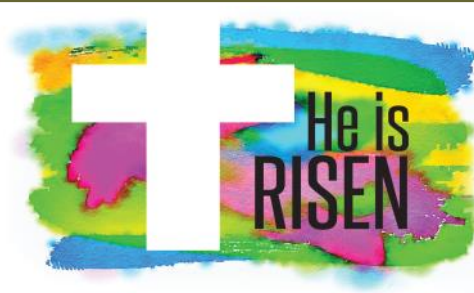
The council has also discussed organizing a property committee to help with the minor property repairs and to help prioritize the major repairs. Anyone interested in serving on this committee is asked to please leave your name with Julie Morgan in the office.

Thanks to all the volunteers that keep our church operating. We would all probably be amazed if we knew how many hours were spent each week just getting the usual things done – Sunday Service, Sunday School, Coffee Hour, Viking Vittles, Confirmation and so on. Add an occasional funeral lunch and the fish fry and the number of volunteer hours increases significantly. Volunteers, please know that your time and effort is appreciated.

Tom Hals, Council Chair



We will have a welcome reception during our 9:00 am Coffee Hour on Sunday, April 23 to welcome all members who have joined in the past year. Please join us in welcoming our new members.



SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE FOR TRINITY'S HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS

Through the foresight and generosity of several members of our church, a scholarship fund has been established at Trinity Lutheran as part of our memorial fund giving. Following are the guidelines for high school seniors interested in applying.

1. The applicant must be a member of Trinity Lutheran Church.
2. The applicant must attend an ELCA affiliated school.
3. The scholarship will be paid directly to the school.
4. The scholarship will be for the graduating seniors in the present year and will be given in accordance with the guidelines of the school which the applicant is attending. If money remains available, it will be offered to students entering upper classes at ELCA schools.
5. Applicants must be full time students. Since each school has its own definition of full-time student, the definition at the school the applicant will be attending will be our guidelines for defining full time student.
6. The maximum scholarship will be \$500 but may be less depending on available funds and the number of qualified applicants. Please note that the number of applicants determine the amount of the individual scholarship award. The decision of the church council is all who apply and meet the guidelines will share equally in the scholarship fund.
7. Letters of application must be received by **May 1st** of the applicant's senior year and be accompanied by a letter of acceptance from the school the applicant will be attending. The letter of application should include the students name, address, phone number, name of school the student will be attending along with a statement that he/she is applying to receive the scholarship award. If the student knows whether or not the school to which he/she is applying has a matching fund plan, this information should also be included along with a copy of the letter of acceptance from the school. In cases where the application is an upperclassperson at an ELCA College, the letter of application must also be received by **May 1** for the following September—May school year. Verification that the upperclassperson meets all the above criteria will be required. A form is available in the church office and on the church website.
8. In the event there are additional moneys available after above criteria has been met, we will accept applications from other members who are students at other Christian affiliated schools.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Viking Vittles Needs Your Support

Hungry children are an issue in our community. Although students are fed on school days, many go hungry on weekends. Viking Vittles sends food home for children to have on weekends so that when they return to school, they are better prepared to learn.

Did you know that Viking Vittles distributes 286 bags of food each week so that children will have something to eat at home over the weekend? Each bag of food cost more than \$4, which means that Viking Vittles spends almost \$1,200 every week for food so that our local children don't have to go hungry on weekends.

Viking Vittles also distributes bags of food throughout the summer at several locations in the North Branch Area Public School District. To help feed older students, Viking Vittles has Care Closets in the middle school, the high school, and the Alternative Learning Center that provide students with food and a variety of other necessities.

Viking Vittles needs your financial support in order to continue to feed hungry children in our community. You can help by sponsoring one or more children. All money donated to Viking Vittles goes directly to cover the cost of food. Trinity Lutheran Church provides space and some support services but receives no financial reimbursement from Viking Vittles.

Sponsor one or more children

- **Sustaining Sponsor:** \$15 a month will **feed one child** for each weekend throughout the month
- **SILVER STAR:** \$600 annually will **feed three children** for each weekend throughout the school year
- **GOLD STAR:** \$1000 annually will **feed five children** for each weekend throughout the school year

How do I sponsor a child?

Write a check to Trinity Lutheran Church and put Viking Vittles on the memo line

Use the [online giving form](#) on the Trinity web page to set up regular donations

You can make a big difference in the life of a child. By feeding a child over the weekend, you ensure that the child returns to school better prepared to learn.





Senior Socials!

We have missed you!!!! I hope you all had a wonderful holiday season. For some, winter can be long, but winter will soon be over and it will be time for our Senior Socials to start! Our group has already been planning, and getting ready for the fun. Ruthie, Miles, and Simon have all been involved in the planning, and they have had some really good ideas! **If you have never been to a Senior Social, come and try a night! I know you will be back!** You are welcome to bring friends or have your neighbor, kids or Grandkids drive you and join you! We socialize, have dinner together, play games and have music. Oh, and I may have a joke or two to tell 😊

Each night, except our last, will be 5:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

Here is our schedule and themes:

April 13th – Theater night

May 11th – It's a hoedown! Wear your country duds and get ready for some music!

June 8th – Hawaiian Night

July 13th – Christmas in July! Wear red or green, if you have it.

August 10th – County Fair

September 14th – Nature and Fall

October 12th – Glitz and Glamour night. Time to be fancy - Dress your best!

We will have a full concert after our dinner.

Tonight's events will be from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Each month we will ask that you or your friends RSVP with Julie at the church 651-674-7047. The sooner the better so we can plan for food. You will be able to sign up at each event for the next one. If you forget to RSVP, or you decide later that you can come, just come!

Exciting news! We now have our own Facebook page. If you like Facebook, now there is a place for the Senior Social Club to connect. I have sent invites to those who are already Facebook friends with me. If you are not, you can search for Senior Social Club. If you don't know how to do that, just ask! We will be happy to help you.

Can't wait to see you all! If you have any questions, please feel free to call the church or email me at kelly@beasyboards.com.

See you all soon!!!! Kelly, Julie and the whole Senior Social Club Crew.



38460 Lincoln Trail
PO Box 447
North Branch, MN 55056

Return Service Requested

**Non-Profit Org.
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North Branch, MN
Permit 39**

Mailing Label

April 2023

Partners in Ministry: The People of Trinity

Church Office: 651-674-7047 Church Fax: 651-674-7048
Church Office Hours: 8:00 am-3:00 pm Monday-Thursday
Sunday Worship: 8:00 am & 10:00 am in person worship,
livestreamed on YouTube.

Available on facebook 10:30 am. See our website for links.

Church email: office@trinitynorthbranch.org

Church website: www.trinitynorthbranch.org

Rev Greg Wilcox

Cell 605-351-3289

Sue Danielzuk, Church Administrator
ext. 37

Marie Ray, Director of Youth & Family Ministries
ext. 13

Sarah Krosschell, Sunday School Coordinator

Deb Aulich, Director of Worship and Arts
ext. 14

Julie Morgan, Church Office Manager
ext. 10

Christopher Dehen, Financial Recorder

Jaron Roberts, Audio Visual Manager

Tyler Olson: Sr. Choir Director

Roger Anderson & Jeff Hill, Custodians
Rick Olson & Luke Meyer, Cemetery Staff
Outreach Committee:

Outreach@trinitynorthbranch.org

Todd Fisk, Church Treasurer

Missionaries: Dr. Stephen Swanson family –
Tanzania

Our Sister Congregation in Tanzania—Pawaga

Church Council Members:

Tom Hals, Council Chair

Linda Born, Jeremy Edson, Rosanne Johnson,
Barb Nelson, Aaron Nysse, Stan Sjodahl,
Ann Tanko, Vicky Trampe

**A Special Meeting of the
Congregation will be held at
11:00 am on Sunday, April 2 to
vote on the pastoral candidate.
Please plan to attend.**