

March 2024

## Pastor's Page

Trinity Tidings  
March 2024  
Pastor Paul Cannon



# TRINITY TIDINGS

# Trinity Lutheran Church

### Dormant Easter Heart

Walking my daughter to the bus the other day, she spoke up and said, "Dad, a fancy word for hibernating, is dormant!" It occurred to me that both of those words seemed pretty fancy for a five (almost six) year old! I'll have to send a thank you letter to her school teachers!

And then she looked around at the bare, empty trees of winter that we pass on our stroll and said, "These trees aren't dead. They're just dormant." Wisdom from the mouths of babes!

As we continue through Lent with wandering hearts, and as we contemplate what the resurrection means in our lives, I wonder if we could consider that maybe faith never dies. If we can believe that a man died and came back to life three days later, then it should be no problem to believe that faith could possibly grow out of even the hardest of hearts.

Maybe faith never really dies. Maybe it's just dormant in some people.

We all go through peaks and valleys. No person's faith journey is a straight line (though some take more turns than others!). But as a people who profess the resurrection, we have to hold out hope that there is no such thing as faith that has extinguished (at least not truly!).

Spring will come. Buds will emerge on the branches. Life will bloom. And a dead man will walk out of a tomb. These are all signs that even a dormant faith may flower.

Thanks be to God!



## Lent and Holy Week

**Wednesdays through March 20:** 10:00 a.m. & 6:30 p.m. worship

**Palm Sunday, March 24:** 8:00 a.m. & 10:00 a.m. worship,  
9:00 a.m. EDGE Palm Sunday Brunch

**Maundy Thursday, March 28:** 10:00 a.m. & 6:30 p.m. worship  
and First communion

**Good Friday, March 29:** 6:30 p.m. worship

**Easter Sunday:** 6:30 a.m. Cemetery Service, 8:00 a.m. & 10:00 a.m. worship

# Children & Youth Ministry News

## Family Sunday School/Children's Ministry

Thank you to all of the families and Trinity members that helped us collect cans of soup for our Souper Bowl Sunday food drive. We collected 138 cans of soup to support the Trinity food shelf, care closets, and Viking Vittles. Our Sunday School families also made and dropped off 30 personal care kits (bath towel, soap, toothbrush, comb, nail clipper) to Lutheran World Relief and a couple dozen Valentine's Day cards to Ecumen in North Branch. With Spring Break and Easter in March, this month will fly by! There will be NO Sunday School on March 10, 17, and 31. We will have our family Easter Egg Hunt on Palm Sunday, March 24, at 9:45 a.m. outside on the Trinity lawn. Children will also do their palm branch parade and sing at 10:00 a.m. worship that day. Thank you to everyone who donated candy to support our egg hunt! Wishing all our families Easter Blessings and the light and love of Christ filling their hearts!



**March 3** - Family Sunday School 9:00-9:45 a.m.

**March 10** - NO Sunday School - Spring Break

**March 17** - NO Sunday School - Spring Break

**March 24** - 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.

**March 31** - NO Sunday School - Happy Easter! Christ is Risen!



Confirmation will meet from 6:00-6:30 p.m. on March 6 and March 20.

No Confirmation class March 13 (spring break) or March 27 (Holy Week).

Please join us for Lenten worship at 6:30 p.m. Wednesdays March 6-20.

## EDGE High School Youth Ministry

February was a busy month for EDGE and we want to thank everyone that supported our youth group at the soup lunch during the annual meeting! Our group was able to donate more than 35 lbs. of food from our poverty simulation project to the Trinity Food Shelf and North Branch Food Shelf. Lent season is here and we are using the Lent theme: "Wandering Heart - Figuring out faith with Peter" for our discussion and fellowship time before attending Lenten worship services together. We will also help pack Viking Vittles and stuff Easter eggs and goodie bags for the family Sunday School Easter Egg Hunt. There will be no EDGE on March 13, due to spring break and March 27, due to Holy Week.

**Please join us for our Palm Sunday Brunch Fundraiser** on Sunday, March 24, from 9:00-10:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. EDGE youth will be serving donuts, breads, fruit, cheese, coffee, and juice. Free will donations will support youth trips and activities, including this year's trip to the ELCA Youth Gathering.

**March 3** - EDGE hosts coffee hour

**March 6** - EDGE 6:00-6:30 p.m. - Lenten worship at 6:30-7:00 p.m.

**March 13** - NO EDGE - Spring Break

**March 20** - EDGE 6:00-6:30 p.m. (Viking Vittles Packing), Lenten worship at 6:30-7:00 p.m.

**March 24** - Palm Sunday Brunch Fundraiser, 9:00-10:00 a.m. in the Fellowship hall

**March 27** - NO EDGE - Holy Week



## Holy Hot Dish! Bible Study

We have wrapped up our study on the book of Nehemiah for the year and have a few fun gatherings planned before we go on break for the summer. We will meet on Sunday, March 3, for dinner at Wintergreens in Isanti, from 6:00-8:00 p.m. and our final gathering will be on Sunday, April 7, from 6:00-7:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall at Trinity for our service project night. Reach out to Marie if you would like to join us! All are welcome!



**Contributions reminder:** If mailing in your contribution or using online bill pay, please include P.O. Box 447 in the mailing address. Also, please mark your contribution so the monies are directed to the appropriate fund. Thank you!

## First Communion Classes

First Communion Instruction is open to *any and all* people who have not yet received Communion. If you or your child/ren would like to participate in this year's class, please fill out the form in the church office or on the website and return by March 18.



There will be 2 Parts for First Communion Instruction for 2024 (Please plan to attend both classes)

1. The first part will be on Thursday, March 21, from 5:30-6:30 p.m. at Trinity.
2. The second part will take place on Maundy Thursday, March 28, at 5:00 p.m. with the receiving of First Communion at our 6:30 p.m. Maundy Thursday Worship Service that same night. We will be serving a supper of sandwiches, chips, applesauce, milk, and water to begin this evening.

Please feel free to reach out to Pastor Paul, Marie, or Courtney if you have any questions.

## TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH Annual Lenten Fish Fry

FRIDAYS 5PM -7PM

FEBRUARY 16 — MARCH 22

### ALL YOU CAN EAT:

Fish

Hand Cut French Fries

Homemade Tartar Sauce

Coleslaw & Dinner Roll

Coffee & Milk

Pop available for purchase \$1



Meatless Spaghetti  
Also Available!



**\$15 ADULTS**

**\$5 KIDS (AGE 5-10)**

**UNDER 5 FREE!**

Proceeds support Viking Vittles Program



TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH  
A Place for You  
38460 Lincoln Trail  
North Branch, MN  
Call 651.674.7047  
with questions

Invite your friends and family to come and enjoy fresh French Fries, delicious fish, coleslaw, buns and dessert bars.

Volunteers needed for bringing bars and helping set up, serve and cleanup. Sign up sheets will be located in the Narthex.



Wandering Heart Lenten devotion booklets were included in last month's newsletter. This is our theme throughout Lent.

Like, comment on, and share our daily facebook posts!



**To Blessing Bags and the Kitchen Fund** in memory of Karen Nelson from Gary & Jill Decker

**To the Path Program** in memory of Mark Tell from Mike & Barb Nelson, Lorraine Wenzel

**To Viking Vittles** in memory of Dale Dickhausen from Lee & Donna Setter

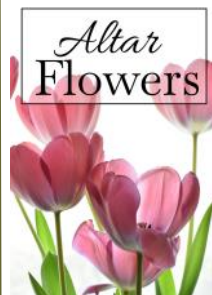
**To EDGE Youth Mission Trip** in memory of Dale Dickhausen from Butch & Sharalyn Olson, Vonnie Johnson, Bonnie Nelson, Jane & Loren Magnison, Barb & Mike Nelson



Greeting cards are sent periodically to our homebound members. If you are not receiving cards from Trinity and would like to be added to the mailing list, please call the office at 651-674-7047 and we will add you!



Thank you to the hearts that have reached out thinking of me at this very hard time. Thanks for all the beautiful cards and thank you for the donations given to Trinity in memory of my twin brother Dale Dickhausen. Your thoughts and prayers will always be remembered.  
Sincerely, Judy Weiss



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

**The Outreach Committee will be meeting the second Tuesday of every month at 9 a.m. in the Genesis Room. Many exciting projects are being planned for the next few months. Come and join us March 12.**

**Martha Arnold, Chair person.**



Our Women's Bible Study meets at 9 a.m. on Thursday mornings in our Genesis Room. Beginners and experienced Bible readers are encouraged to join at any time!



We are looking for more people to help out as ushers at our 10 a.m. worship services, and will also need communion assistants at our 8 a.m. services. Training is available if desired.

If you are interested in helping out in this way please sign up in the narthex, or talk with Julie or Pastor Paul.



To submit a prayer chain prayer request or to be added to the email recipient list, please call the office or email [office@trinitynorthbranch.org](mailto:office@trinitynorthbranch.org)

## TRINITY WOMEN IN GOD'S SERVICE (TWIGS)

### Upcoming Events

**Saturday April 27 St. Paul Area Synod**

**Women's Convention** at St. Paul Lutheran Wyoming MN.

See Ann Tanko with questions or to attend.

Trinity's grocery shelf has seen an increase in use.

Non-perishable or personal care items, may be placed on the shelf. We have a freezer available as well. We have 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. Thank you for supporting your community in this way!

## ALTAR GUILD

Serving for the month  
of March  
Tom & Candi Hals



Please email articles for the April Trinity Tidings to [office@trinitynorthbranch.org](mailto:office@trinitynorthbranch.org) by March 18. Thank you!

**Fare for All at Trinity Lutheran Church.**

**3:00-5:00 p.m. Wednesday, March 13.**

**Fare for All is open to everyone! The more who shop the better the buying power of the organization. [www.fareforall.org](http://www.fareforall.org)**



**Our weekly worship will be available each Sunday live at 8 & 10 a.m. 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 January, February and March have arrived.**

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



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Sunday worship services are livestreamed on YouTube, and available for viewing later on YouTube and facebook.					1 5:00-7:00 pm Fish Fry	2
<b>3 Worship Service/ Communion 8:00 &amp; 10:00 am</b> 9:00 am Coffee Hour 9:00 am Sunday School 6:00 pm Holy Hot Dish Bible Study offsite	4 9:00 am Fellowship Team meeting	5	6 <b>10:00 am Lenten worship</b> 5:30 pm New Creation 6:30 pm Confirmation 6:00 pm EDGE Youth Ministry <b>6:30 pm Lenten worship</b>	7 9:00 am Women's Bible Study 	8 9:00 am-3:00 pm Blood Drive 5:00-7:00 pm Fish Fry	9 
<b>10 Worship Service/ Communion 8:00 &amp; 10:00 am</b> 9:00 am Coffee Hour No Sunday School	11	12 9:00 am Outreach meeting	13 <b>10:00 am Lenten worship</b> 3:00-5:00 pm Fare for All 5:30 pm New Creation No Confirmation or EDGE <b>6:30 pm worship</b>	14 9:00 am Women's Bible Study	15 5:00-7:00 pm Fish Fry 6:45 pm Fellowship at the movies	16
<b>17 Worship Service/ Communion 8:00 &amp; 10:00 am</b> 9:00 am Coffee Hour No Sunday School	18 Tidings articles due 	19 7:00 pm Council Mtg	20 <b>10:00 am Lenten worship</b> 5:30 pm New Creation 6:00 pm Confirmation 6:00 pm EDGE Youth Ministry <b>6:30 pm worship</b>	21 9:00 am Women's Bible Study 5:30 pm First Communion Class	22 5:00-7:00 pm Fish Fry	23
<b>24 Worship/ Communion 8 &amp; 10 am</b> 9:00 am Palm Sunday Brunch 9:45 am Easter Egg Hunt <b>31 Easter worship/ Communion 8 &amp; 10 am</b> 6:45 am Cemetery service	25	26	27 	28 <b>10:00 am Maundy Thursday worship</b> 5:00 pm First Communion Class 5:30 pm New Creation <b>6:30 pm Maundy Thursday worship</b>	29 <b>6:30 pm Good Friday worship</b>	30

# Treasurer's Report

## Statement of Income and Expenses

Month Ending January 31, 2024  
Trinity Lutheran Church, North Branch, MN

	January Actual	January Budget	YTD Actual	YTD Budget
<b><u>Income</u></b>				
Unified Giving	\$ 34,156	\$ 29,917	\$ 34,156	\$ 29,917
Loose Offering	\$ 846	\$ 583	\$ 846	\$ 583
Other Income	\$ 815	\$ 300	\$ 815	\$ 300
Phoenix Operating Reimbursement	\$ 2,252	\$ 2,508	\$ 2,252	\$ 2,508
Special Bequests	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
<b>Total Regular Giving</b>	<b>\$ 38,069</b>	<b>\$ 33,308</b>	<b>\$ 38,069</b>	<b>\$ 33,308</b>
<b><u>Expenses</u></b>				
<b><u>Mission Support</u></b>				
Synod Support	\$ 2,429	\$ 2,429	\$ 2,429	\$ 2,429
Missionaries	\$ 188	\$ 188	\$ 188	\$ 188
Iringa Church Tanzania	\$ 92	\$ 92	\$ 92	\$ 92
Sub-total Mission Expenses	\$ 2,708	\$ 2,708	\$ 2,708	\$ 2,708
<b><u>General Expenses</u></b>				
Ministry Support	\$ 29,735	\$ 34,705	\$ 29,735	\$ 34,705
Church Property	\$ 10,162	\$ 10,256	\$ 10,162	\$ 10,256
Stewardship	\$ 195	\$ 242	\$ 195	\$ 242
Learning & Youth	\$ 168	\$ 500	\$ 168	\$ 500
Worship	\$ 376	\$ 523	\$ 376	\$ 523
Witness & Service	\$ -	\$ 42	\$ -	\$ 42
Sub-total General Expenses	\$ 40,636	\$ 46,268	\$ 40,636	\$ 46,268
<b>Total Regular Expenses</b>	<b>\$ 43,344</b>	<b>\$ 48,976</b>	<b>\$ 43,344</b>	<b>\$ 48,976</b>
<b>Total Net Income - January 2023</b>	<b>\$ (5,275)</b>	<b>\$ (15,668)</b>	<b>\$ (5,275)</b>	<b>\$ (15,668)</b>
Unified Support - Phoenix	\$ 5,275	\$ 13,663	\$ 5,275	\$ 13,663
Income Less Expense after Phoenix Support	\$ (0)	\$ (2,005)		
<b>Total Net Income - Year-To-Date</b>			<b>\$ (0)</b>	<b>\$ (2,005)</b>

January Income was \$4,761 over the January Budget  
January Expense was \$5,632 under the January Budget

Net Income is \$0 for January  
Net Income is \$0 Year to Date

Please consider online giving.

Respectfully Submitted,

*Todd J. Fisk*

Treasurer

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See our website [www.trinitynorthbranch.org](http://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.



March is MN foodshare month. Both Family Pathways as well as Viking Vittles are in need of support. We are challenging the congregation to raise \$1000 in cash/food to be shared between Viking Vittles and Family Pathways. We would like to collect

- 15 oz jars of Peanut Butter on March 3<sup>rd</sup>,**
- 15 oz Cans of Fruit on March 10<sup>th</sup>,**
- 10 oz cans of Chicken Noodle Soup March 17<sup>th</sup>,**
- 15 oz cans of Dinty Moore Beef Stew on March 24<sup>th</sup> and**
- Pop-tarts on March 31<sup>st</sup>.**

Cash or checks will be collected all month– please note Foodshare on your donation.

Outreach will match the first \$500 collected.

Thank you for your donations!



Melissa Westmore will begin her role as our new Director of Worship and Arts on March 4. She has enjoyed participating in church music, and began to play the piano for the church service and sing with choir as a young girl. Melissa is very passionate about music and is so thrilled to collaborate with the talented members at Trinity Lutheran and join together to worship God through music.

Melissa enjoys listening to and learning music across genres, learning new instruments, and continuing to grow as a musician/praise and worship leader. She also likes to stay active and get outdoors, enjoys writing, art, cooking, traveling, trying new restaurants and coffee shops, children's ministry, and building relationships. Melissa has a husband named Michael. They have one daughter named Maggie, Michael's grown-up sons are Mitchell and Matthew, and they also have Poppy, the dog and Allie, the cat. Melissa is excited to get to know each and every one of you!



## Attendance & Views

Date	In person	Online views
1/21 8a	51	104
1/21 10a	62	56
1/28 8a	43	79
1/28 10	77	50
2/4 8a	52	41
2/4 10a	78	38
2/11 8a	46	65
2/11 10a	112	74
2/14 10a	37	56
2/14 630p	80	49

**Our Senior Social crew** has been making plans! Senior Socials will be held from 5:00-6:30 pm on the third Thursday of each month, April through September. We have some special things planned this year, and look forward to gathering again! Stay tuned for sign-up information and details.

If you are eligible and would like to apply for a Thrivent Grant to help fund the dinners, please contact Julie to coordinate this. If you'd like to donate to the dinners, note Senior Social on your donation. If you'd like to help cook and/or serve, let Julie or Kelly know. Thank you for supporting the dinners!

**Diaper collection:** We are collecting extra disposable diapers for families in need. If you have a partial package of leftover diapers, we will create bundles that could be distributed as needed. Please leave donations in the church office. Thank you!

**An American Red Cross Blood Drive** will be held from 9a-3p Friday, March 8 in our Fellowship Hall. Visit [RedCrossBlood.org](http://RedCrossBlood.org) or call 1-800-RED CROSS to schedule an appointment.

*Trinity's Fellowship Team night at the movies! All are welcome! Simply meet at the North Branch Theater on **March 15** at 6:45 p.m., and we will decide on a movie. Discussion and dessert after the movie!*



38460 Lincoln Trail  
PO Box 447  
North Branch, MN 55056

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Mailing Label

## March, 2024

### 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 am & 10 am in person worship  
livestreamed on YouTube.

Available on facebook later. See our website for links.

Church email: [office@trinitynorthbranch.org](mailto:office@trinitynorthbranch.org)

Church website: [www.trinitynorthbranch.org](http://www.trinitynorthbranch.org)

Pastor Paul Cannon ext. 12

Sue Danielzuk, Church Administrator ext 37

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

Courtney Fairbanks, Sunday School Coordinator ext. 15

Melissa Westmore, Director of Worship and Arts ext. 14

Julie Morgan, Church Office Manager ext. 10

Christopher Dehen, Financial Recorder

Lucas Starr, Audio Visual Manager

Roger Anderson & Jeff Hill, Custodians  
Rick Olson & Luke Meyer, Cemetery Staff  
Outreach Committee:  
[Outreach@trinitynorthbranch.org](mailto:Outreach@trinitynorthbranch.org)  
Todd Fisk, Church Treasurer  
Missionaries: Dr. Stephen Swanson family –  
Tanzania  
Our Sister Congregation in Tanzania—Pawaga

#### Church Council Members:

Jeremy Edson, Council Chair  
Linda Born, Tiffany Byrne, Shari Denny,  
Tom Hals, Rosanne Johnson, Barb Nelson,  
Aaron Nysse, John Swenson,

