



Message from Pastor Christine

I want to take a moment to thank Trinity for your outpouring of love recognizing my one year anniversary of serving as your pastor. I received many cards and well-wishes, containing such thoughtful and caring words. Also, gift of the tree being planted on Trinity grounds is such an honor. It is my intention to plant roots here, to watch my daughter's faith grow here, and, with your help, to nurture more good fruit in this place.

Certainly, it's been a challenge to get to know each other during these pandemic times, but we are figuring it out together and I continue to be thankful for the ways each of you enrich the ministries here. I still find myself learning how things are done at Trinity, because now that we are hopefully coming out of the pandemic (fingers crossed and prayers arising) things are all new again compared to when arrived in pandemic times. It's been a wild ride to be sure!

Last night we kicked off our Lenten journey with our outdoor Shrove Tuesday gathering of hotdogs and donuts. It was such a joy to be with you, to see how adept we can be at making the most of a given situation, and to experience Trinity truly coming together. I've told many people that I think it was Maddie's favorite experience at Trinity so far, because she was able to interact with so many of you.

I'm thankful for all that has been and excited about all that is to come.
Deep peace and joy,
Pastor Christine

President's Message

For churches everywhere, the last two years have presented a near-constant array of complex challenges related to shepherding a church during the COVID-19 pandemic. The latest complex challenge is perhaps the trickiest yet: how to prudently relax the measures we put in place to protect each other.

As if the logistical details weren't challenging enough—how to maintain social distance, limit crowd size, whether or not to require masks, to sing or not to sing, what to do with children, and so on—the whole conversation of rolling back COVID precautions is fraught with potential for division. Congregations are a microcosm of our larger society that comprises a broad assortment of strongly held convictions.

Trinity has an opportunity to model love that places the interests of others above ourselves. For example, some find it personally difficult—even maddening—to have to wear a mask during church and stay six feet away from everyone at all times. Others are frustrated with the CDC's relaxed guidance even while positive cases and deaths are still uncomfortably high. Perhaps we all could heed Paul's wisdom in Romans 14: "Let us not pass judgment on one another any longer, but rather decide never to put a stumbling block or hindrance in the way of a brother"? Or 1 Corinthians 8:9: "Be careful, however, that your freedom does not become a stumbling block to the weak."

The Church should strive to honor people on both sides of the spectrum. Yes, it will be costly to keep offering online services for those who don't feel comfortable attending physical gatherings. Yes, it will be a sacrifice for church members who are sick of masks, social distancing, and Zoom to continue to use these for the sake of others. But little is more Christian than a posture of sacrifice (Rom. 12:1). We should embrace it with gladness.

This is not easy. Each Sunday on our way home, I face the inquisition of an 8 year old wondering why we aren't having coffee hour and why we're still taking communion from peel and eat/drink cups. Even she yearns for the traditions of yesteryear.

I find Paul's encouragement of the Ephesian church to be appropriate for us today: "Walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace" (Eph. 4:1–3). As we work through ways to return to "normal," let's be sure to

show each other grace and ensure that, as we relax our pandemic driven precautions, everyone among us feels comfortable and welcomed in our space.



Social Ministry Opportunities to Serve: Food Collection

The most needed non-perishable items are:

- Cold cereal (kids’ favorites)
- Oatmeal
- Shelf stable milk (whole if possible)
- Black/pinto beans (canned)
- Canned tomatoes (whole if possible)
- Canned vegetables (corn very popular)
- Canned fruit
- Cooking oil
- Jam/jelly (strawberry very popular)
- Canned meat/fish (chicken, tuna, ham, salmon, Spam)
- Canned soup (chicken noodle popular)

Our efforts continue with our next Food Drive on Saturday March 19 from 9-12.



March Birthdays:

- | | |
|-----------------|----------------|
| 01. Lineth M | 12. Colin G |
| 01. Gregory L | 18. Kathy H |
| 01. Alexander L | 20. Ann K |
| 01. Angela S | 25. Scott D |
| 04. Logan D | 25. Andrei S |
| 09. Karen W | 25. Connor D |
| 12. Brian A | 29. Theodore R |
| 12. Vera N | 30. Hazel S-M |
| | 31. Evie H |

March Baptism Birthdays

- | | |
|----------------|---------------|
| 05. Marjorie W | 13. Elaine W |
| 06. Nancy N | 14. Torsten D |
| 06. David C | 23. Timothy F |
| 09. Nancy J | 23. Topher S |
| 12. Benjamin N | |

Mar-Lu Ridge

Summer Camp Mar-Lu-Ridge is ready to welcome campers ages 6- 17 and families to the 2022 season! Check out the schedule and the information on their website and make your plans today. Financial assistance is available. Registration began January 1. The 2022 session promises to be full of laughter, faith building lessons and activities, time spent outdoors and new friends. Check out the new Summer Camp schedule. The curriculum for the summer is "Boundless", written in conjunction with the curriculum for the Gathering. More information and registration can be found: <https://www.mar-lu-ridge.org/>

To Accommodate Those who Wish to Donate to our AV Efforts, we have recently established a livestream/technology special fund. This fund will be used to purchase additional microphones, cameras, and AV equipment that may be needed to support our efforts to improve sound quality (both online and in-person) and our online worship experience. Any donations should be notated as such in the memo.



From the Trinity Mailbag:

From Leslie and David C

We would like to thank everyone for all of the prayers, meals, emails, phone calls, cards and visits during Leslie’s recent health crisis. She is now fully recovered thanks in no small part to all of the support she received from her Trinity family

Thanks from Lutheran Social Services

On 1/10/2022, you chose to help our neighbors in need with a gift of \$1000.00 to Lutheran Social Services of the National Capital Area (LSSNCA). The past 12 months raised significant questions for LSSNCA. Can we continually meet the needs of our refugee clients for safe housing and employment training? Can we provide safe, stable homes and support to unaccompanied refugee minors? Can we promote health and wellness for youth who live in Washington DC’s underserved neighborhoods and provide support to children, youth and families impacted by trauma and stigma? Can we ensure access to technology for our program participants? Can we sustain a collaborative and innovative culture remotely? Repeatedly the answer was, YES. WE CAN AND WE DID with your financial support. Thank you for your continued support of our

mission and leaning in when we need you most as we seek to build a community of well-being where all people thrive. Sincerely, Jacob Barclay, Director of Donor Relations.

Thanks from Lutheran Disaster Response

As a church, we believe that God's grace is freely given to us. This brings us peace and hope. It makes a difference in our lives. Through your gifts to Lutheran Disaster Response, you are share this amazing grace with others. You are helping people near and far feel the transformational power of God's love. No matter the disaster, no matter the need, your gifts to us enable people to rebuild their lives and livelihoods now and far into the future. In Christ, Rev. Robin Brown, Director, Congregational Generosity

Thanks for Lutheran Volunteer Corps

Thank you for your support of LVC Volunteers and the year-of-service experience. Your gift has helped us maintain the sense of community and programming for LVC Volunteers' during exciting and challenging times. Because of your generosity, 34 Volunteers were gifted the year-of-service experience, living together in LVC housing and growing in LVC values. This service experience was also provided at no cost to the Volunteers and they also received a modest stipend. With Gratitude, Deirdre Bagley, President

The Mutual Ministry Committee Has Been Formed

The following members have agreed to serve on the committee:

Mary B	Jim K
Angela B	Sarah M
Pastor Christine Dunn	

According to Trinity's Constitution, the Mutual Ministry Committee is intended to be, in part, a sounding board and support to the pastor and to be aware of the attitudes and conditions within the congregation.

-In this purpose it is mutual. Not only is it concerned with the pastor's spiritual, emotional, and physical wellbeing, it is also concerned with fostering a sense within the congregation of their partnership in the ministry, their place in honoring the work of the pastor and the congregation's role in supporting, encouraging, and praying for that work.

-In this purpose it is about ministry. The work of the Mutual Ministry Committee is not just about "the minister," but also about "ministry." The work of the committee is discerning what God is doing in our midst. The committee welcomes your reflections on or concerns about Trinity's ministries. Please bring them to the attention of any of the members directly or leave a

note in the mutual ministry mailbox. All committee conversations will be kept confidential, but they cannot consider anonymous concerns.

Social Ministry Team Partner of the Month is Lutheran Disaster Response.

They will receive Trinity's Lenten Benevolence Offerings this year. Lutheran Disaster Response brings God's hope, healing and renewal to people whose lives have been disrupted by disasters in the United States and around the world. With wildfires, hurricanes, flooding, and earthquakes, there are many immediate needs here and around the world. Most current for many of us is the Covid-19 pandemic. Visit the ELCA Disaster Response webpage (<https://elca.org/disaster>) to learn more about how you can help.



Lenten and Easter Schedule

Mid-week Lenten services (Wednesdays) | 7:00 pm | via Zoom only: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86997059617>

We will use the provided devotional booklet to guide our conversation, reflection, and prayer time. The gathering will be approximately 30 minutes.

Maundy Thursday | April 14 and Good Friday April 15 | 7:00 pm - Both services will be held in-person and online.

Easter Vigil | April 16 | 5:00 pm

This worship experience will be outside at the benches near the labyrinth. The service format will be casual, but will support traditions such as: the lighting of the paschal fire, readings and prayers, and breaking of the fast.

Easter Sunday | April 17 | 9:30 am

Festival worship! In-person and online.

Musical Help Needed!

While we are searching for a new minister of music, we'd love to hear from our members and friends during Sunday services. If you would like to sing or play a solo, or you have a small group of musical friends who would like to offer something, please consider signing up for an upcoming Sunday morning. We'd like to have folks sing or play a prelude at the beginning of the service. There is a schedule form on the Worship bulletin board in the Social Hall. Please choose a date on the schedule, or contact Mary B. If you will need an

accompanist, you will need to give your music to the office or to Mary Bentley at least two weeks before your Sunday. Thank you for sharing your gifts!



Stephen Minister Commissioning | Sunday March 20, 2022

Two new Stephen Ministers will be commissioned at the 9:30 a.m. Trinity Church service on Sunday, March 20. Mary Louise D and Mike M have completed 50 hours of training to become Stephen Ministers. For more information about Trinity's Stephen Ministry Program, please contact Pastor Christine, Miriam M, or Susan S.

Souper Bowl Update

On Super Bowl Sunday, Trinity participated in Souper Bowl Sunday, where we raised money for MANNA, and collected food for local pantries. We used this as a tool to see if we could predict the winner of the Super Bowl. There was \$87.91 in the pot for the Cincinnati Bengals, and \$29.61 for the LA Rams. The LA Rams won the Super Bowl. The real winner is MANNA, as they will receive this money. Thank you so much to all who donated!



Blood Drive | March 24 | 2pm -7pm

If you are able to give blood, please sign up here:

<https://rcblood.org/3rurfFy>

Blood supplies are critically low and by donating you will be helping save lives. Please share the link with friends and colleagues (the drive is open to the public).

The ELCA African Descent Ministries is celebrating Black History Month (February) with Talks at the Desk, a new series that will explore diverse expressions of the church. The online sharing will take place on Wednesdays, beginning February at 8:30pm ST. Youth, young adults, rostered leaders, elders and friends of our communities will share their own sacred stories. <https://bit.ly/3IFcSWD>

Remember in Your Prayers

THE CHURCH

our synod & bishops: Bishops Elizabeth E & Leila O
our missionaries: Stephen D & Marta G, Cent. America
our congregation: Trinity Church **THE NATIONS:** Afghanistan, El Salvador, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, Indonesia, Korea, India, Iraq, Israel, Liberia, Libya, Mexico, Myanmar, Namibia, Palestine, Somalia, Spain/Cataluña, Sudan, Syria, Ukraine, United States, Venezuela

THE SICK AND SUFFERING

nursing/rehabilitation center:

Martha R (Bethesda H&R)
Philip T (Manor Care Potomac)
Yulie N (Village at Rockville)
Billie J (Friends House)

home

Tigist G, Margo W, Lineth M, Isabel F, Gio S, Lone L, Valerie and Mike M, Vimala P, Marilyn C

family and friends*

Brian B, *former Trinity Admin*
Larry W, *cousin of Greg and Margaret F*
Lonnie B, *friend of Carol B*
Hilsa G and Family, *cousin of Jane R*
Family and friends of Chris R, *friends of Valerie and Mike M*
Debbie G, *friend of Valerie and Mike M*
Donald B, *brother of Marilyn C*
Marjan and Mitch H, *friends of Pamela B*
Debi F, *Dave F's daughter in law*
Friends and family of Andrew S
Mark K, *brother of David K*

first responders

Lisbeth N-D
Greta S & Linda A, *sister & sister-in-law of Anita S*
Vanessa B, *friend of Elizabeth & Ben R*

deaths

Chris Reed +February 7, 2022, *friend of Valerie and Mike M*
Andrew Stough +February 23, 2022, *brother of Elizabeth R*

**For family and friends, prayer requests will be kept on the list for four weeks. After four weeks, please complete another card*

March

SUNDAY, MARCH 6 | 1 LENT

Worship | 9:30 AM

Intergenerational Pretzel Sunday | 11:00 AM

SUNDAY, MARCH 13 | 2 LENT

Worship | 9:30 AM

Youth Sunday School | 10:45 AM

MEF Meeting | 11:00 AM

Adult Forum | 11:30 AM

Youth Group | 6:00 PM

TUESDAY, MARCH 1

Shrove Tuesday | 5:30–6:30 PM

Stephen Ministry Supervision | 7:00 PM

Stephen Ministry Training | 7:00 PM

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 2

Ash Wednesday Drive Thru Ashes | 12:30 PM

Ash Wednesday Service | 7:00 PM

MONDAY, MARCH 7

Heavenly Handbells | 7:30 PM

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 9

Mid Week Lenten Services | 7:00 PM

Trinity Men's Group | 1:00 PM

MONDAY, MARCH 14

Heavenly Handbells | 7:30 PM

TUESDAY, MARCH 15

Trinitarian Newsletter deadline

Stephen Ministry Training | 7:00 PM

Congregation Council | 7:30 PM



See the full calendar here:
www.trinityelca.org/calendar

SUNDAY, MARCH 20 | 3 LENT

Worship | Stephen Ministry Commissioning | 9:30 AM

Youth Sunday School | 10:30 AM

Confirmation Class | 10:45 AM

Adult Forum | 11:30 AM

Social Ministry Team | 12:15 PM

SUNDAY, MARCH 27 | 4 LENT

Worship | 9:30 AM

Youth Sunday School | 10:30 AM

Adult Forum | 11:30 AM

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 16

Mid Week Lenten Services | 7:00 PM

THURSDAY, MARCH 17

Trinity Singers Choir Rehearsal | 7:00 PM

SATURDAY, MARCH 19

Food Drive | 9:00 AM

Stephen Ministry Training | 9:30 AM

Stephen Ministry Commissioning Service | 11:30 AM

MONDAY, MARCH 21

Heavenly Handbells | 7:30 PM

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 23

Mid Week Lenten Services | 7:00 PM

THURSDAY, MARCH 24

Blood Drive | 12:00 pm

MONDAY, MARCH 28

Heavenly Handbells | 7:30 PM

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 30

Mid Week Lenten Services | 7:00 PM

THURSDAY, MARCH 31

Trinity Singers Choir Rehearsal | 7:00 PM



See the full calendar here:
www.trinityelca.org/calendar