

The newsletter of Trinity Lutheran Church ~ Hudson, Wisconsin
"One Ministry~Two Locations"

CROSSPOINTS



March 2017

www.trinityhudson.org

March Madness

I'm not a huge college basketball fan, but I know many who are. Religiously they follow their favorite teams through the ups and downs of the season, which all culminates this month with tournaments that determine the national champions.

Dubbed "March Madness", fans from all around are glued to their brackets, and players are striving to be their best, in a focused, disciplined, and strategic way.

I think about the physical training the players take on to get to this level, and I'm reminded of Paul's encouragement in 1 Corinthians 9:24, "Don't you realize that in a race everyone runs, but only one person gets the prize? So run to win! All athletes are disciplined in their training."



The season of Lent is a great way to live out the athlete metaphor in our spiritual walk with the Lord. Like I said before, the athlete is focused, disciplined, and strategic. So, be focused on your need for God's mercy. Be

disciplined in prayer and asking for forgiveness. Be strategic in repentance and seeking to live more like Christ in his humility, attitude and love.

Todd

MISSION STATEMENT
Reaching the world for
Jesus, one life at a time.

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Board of Directors

President - Steve Hamill
Vice President - Steve Bohl
Treasurer - Pete Scharber
Secretary - Blaine Verdoorn
Members at Large: John Schwalbach,
Peder Sannerud, Dan Brooks, Nancy
Donovan

LIFE AT TRINITY

Trinity Academy celebrated Lutheran Schools week with 1200 students from Lutheran Schools across the metro. It was an awesome day of worship and celebration.
Trinity Academy is pictured in the back right area of this picture.



Below: Pictures from the Back To The 80's all school dance.
 Posing in the back row - Steven Asmus and Ethan Vargas. Posing in the front row - Hannah Ousdigian, Peter Verdoorn, Hollis Erskine, Caroline Erickson, Stella Gruenes.



Left: Tyler Axel is dressed up for the Back to the 80's all school dance.

Right: Trinity Academy concluded Lutheran Schools Week with the annual talent show. Contestants were -
Front row: Coenen Miller, Gideon Heisler, Zoey Knott, Emmitt Miller, Gunnar Nordin.

Back row: Lauren Harris, Dehlia Woltman, Ayla Larsen, Sydney Woltman, Elliana Vargas, Cecelia Becken, Silas Heisler.



MARCH SERVICE VOLUNTEERS

3

Downtown Campus

1205 Sixth St. • 386-9313

(W)=Wednesday

Sunday Worship Coordinator

Every Sunday Carol Smith

Assisting Ministers (M. Greunke)

05 Brett Easler
12 Steve Bohl
19 Tom Oscanyan
26 Mitch Greunke

Fellowship (Char Skoviera)

05
9:00 am Joan Lyksett
10:30 am Carol Smith
12
9:00 am Pat Larson
10:30 am Kim Gallison
19
9:00 am Kris Berger
10:30 am Chris Ostendorf
26
9:00 am Xtreme Kids
10:30 am Char Skoviera

Greeters (Sally Gaeu)

05
9:00 am Dan & Suzy Korum
10:30 am Dan & Suzy Korum
12
9:00 am Paul & Pat Larson
10:30 am Gary & Joyce Reidel
19
9:00 am Sally Gaeu
10:30 am Sally Gaeu
26
9:00 am Xtreme Kids
10:30 am Open

Readers (Sharon Ellwein)

05
9:00 am Fred Yoerg
10:30 am Rick Nelsen
12
9:00 am Carrie Bell
10:30 am Kim Gallison
19
9:00 am Suzy Korum
10:30 am Carol Smith
26
9:00 am Xtreme Kids
10:30 am Rick Nelsen

Ushers (Dan Gaeu)

01(W) Roger & Janet Dierks
05
9:00 am Jeff Berkhof, Nate Otte, Greg Haugen
10:30 am Dennis Lee, Zachary Verdoorn
08(W) Tom & Vickie Edin
12
9:00 am Brian & Jodie Young, Gary Riedel, Braden Meyer
10:30 am Doug & Mary Harmon
15(W) Lonny & Colleen Zillmer
19
9:00 am Fred Yoerg, Henry Berger, Will Weiskopf, Wally Spaeth
10:30 am Tim & Pat Tuma, Zachary Verdoorn
22(W) Roger & Janet Dierks
26
9:00 am Xtreme Kids, Edwin Berger, Neil Fredrick

10:30 am Mike Weyers, Peter Verdoorn
29(W) Tom & Vickie Edin

Power Point (Mark Gallison)

05
9:00 am Carl Schoenbeck
10:30 am Blaine Verdoorn
12
9:00 am Jessi Meyer
10:30 am Blaine Verdoorn
19
9:00 am Chris/Matt Oscanyan
10:30 am Blaine Verdoorn
26
9:00 am Issac/Caleb Hatch
10:30 am Blaine Verdoorn

Eucharistic Ministers

(Shirley Oht)
01(W) Roger & Janet Dierks
05
9:00 am Tom Malchow, Paul Larson
10:30 am Rick Nelsen
08(W) Tom & Vickie Edin
12
9:00 am Dennis & Liz Schertz
10:30 am Kim Gallison
15(W) Lonny & Colleen Zillmer
19
9:00 am Open
10:30 am Carol Smith
22(W) Roger & Janet Dierks
26
9:00 am Wally Spaeth, Arvid Ledin
10:30 am Rick Nelsen
29(W) Tom & Vickie Edin

Communion Set-Up (Mary Golke)

01(W) Roger & Janet Dierks
05
9:00 am Richard & Sharon Young
10:30 am Pat Boros
08(W) Tom & Vickie Edin
12
9:00 am Vicki Mares
10:30 am Annette Zenz
15(W) Lonny & Colleen Zillmer
19
9:00 am Gayle Brooks
10:30 am Pat Boros
22(W) Roger & Janet Dierks
26
9:00 am Joan Lyksett
10:30 am Carol Smith
29(W) Tom & Vickie Edin

Van Drivers (George Skoviera)

1st Sun. Ed Glowe/Greg Haugen
2nd Sun. Fred Harwell/George Skoviera
3rd Sun. David Berger/Nancy Koski
4th Sun. Tom, Chris, Matthew Oscanyan
5th Sun. Bob Orf/Substitute

Nursery

1st Sunday
9:00 am
10:30 am
2nd Sunday
9:00 am
10:30 am
3rd Sunday
9:00 am

10:30 am
4th Sunday
9:00 am
10:30 am
5th Sunday
9:00 am
10:30 am

Welcome Desk

1st Sun. Marlice Shirley
2nd Sun. Open
3rd Sun. Open
4th Sun. Open
5th Sun. Maf Berg

Family Center Campus

614 Badlands Road • 381-1414

Ushers

1st Sunday
9:00 am Josh Bernhard
10:30 am Open
2nd Sunday
9:00 am Amy Pals
10:30 am Chris Emerson
3rd Sunday-
9:00 am Duane and Julie Kuesel
10:30 am Brent Schultz
4th Sunday
9:00 am Open
10:30 am Cal Hoople
5th Sunday
9:00 am Open
10:30 am Luke Mahedy

Fellowship

1st Sunday
9:00 am Open
10:30 am Ramona Larson
2nd Sunday
9:00 am Open
10:30 am Open
3rd Sunday
9:00 am Brad and Deb Davison
10:30 am Open
4th Sunday
9:00 am Greg/Teri Larsen
10:30 am Open
5th Sunday
9:00 am Mona Diebold; Barb Hess
10:30 am Tim and Jenni Mahedy

Soundboard (Layne Pitzer)

1st Sunday
9:00 am Jeff Buelow
10:30 am Jeff Buelow
2nd Sunday
9:00 am Steve Kelly
10:30 am Steve Kelly
3rd Sunday
9:00 am Mike Dougherty
10:30 am Mike Dougherty
4th Sunday
9:00 am Dan Milbrath
10:30 am Dan Milbrath
5th Sunday
9:00 am Open
10:30 am Open

Greeter

1st Sunday
9:00 am Bev Larsen
10:30 am Travis Waldschmidt
2nd Sunday
9:00 am Andrea Felberg
10:30 am St. Ore's

3rd Sunday
9:00 am Dirk & Tedra Larson
10:30 am Ryan/Courtney Menter
4th Sunday
9:00 am Meaghan White
10:30 am Dan & Heather Milbrath
5th Sunday
9:00 am Chad and Alicia Boreen
10:30 am John/Tanya Slavsky

Communion Assistant

1st Sunday
9:00 am David Holm; Cheri Buelow; Cheryl Warnken, Patty Kelly; Josh Bernhard
10:30 am Travis Waldschmidt; Prudy Anderson, Cheri Buelow; Patty Kelly; 1 Open
2nd Sunday
9:00 am Kim Gallison; Ken & Doris Krautbauer; 2 open
10:30 am Annie Dulon; Dave Miller, Liz Whitchurch; 2 Open
3rd Sunday
9:00 am Jill Dougherty; Denise Buelow; Robb Neuenschwander; Michelle & Jason Koerth
10:30 am Denise Buelow; Jill Dougherty; Shelia Kanninen; 2 Open
4th Sunday
9:00 am : 4 Open.
10:30 am Debbie Hoople; Brent Schultz; Becky Glade; Eileen Demulling; 1 Open.
5th Sunday
9:00 am Nicole Hansen; Terry Marquardt; 3 Open
10:30 am Brent Schultz; Nicole Hansen; 3 Open

Media Shout (Layne Pitzer)

1st Sunday
9:00 am Dave Meyer
10:30 am Stella Scharber
2nd Sunday
9:00 am Mark Gallison
10:30 am Mark Kretschmer
3rd Sunday
9:00 am Mark Gallison
10:30 am August Draveling
4th Sunday
9:00 am Jack Geurkink
10:30 am Braeden Miller
5th Sunday
9:00 am Mark Gallison
10:30 am Mark Gallison
Sunday Worship Coordinator
1st Sun. Patty Kelly
2nd Sun. Open
3rd Sun. Denise Buelow
4th Sun. Becky Glade
5th Sun. Open

Prayer Partners

1st Sunday
9:00 am Tamara Morton
10:30 am Amy Asmus
2nd Sunday
9:00 am Open
10:30 am Carole Howard
3rd Sunday
9:00 am Open
10:30 am Nicole Hansen
4th Sunday
9:00 am Open
10:30 am Open



5th Sunday
9:00 am Open
10:30 am Open
Welcome Desk
1st Sun. 9:00 am Jodi Waldschmidt
10:30 am Jodi Waldschmidt
2nd Sun. 9:00am Carla Hamill
10:30am Carla Hamill
3rd Sun. 9:00am Open
10:30am Jill Dougherty
4th Sun. 9:00am Open
10:30am Open
5th Sun. 9:00am Michelle Carper
10:30am Nicole Hanson

Nursery

1st Sunday
9:00 am Olivia Kretschmer; Hannah Ousdigian
10:30 am Abby Kelly, Dillon Kelly
2nd Sunday
9:00 am Barb Garbe,
10:30 am Paula & Lindsey Myhre
3rd Sunday
9:00 am Sophia Marquardt; Aubrey Loe
10:30 am Elizabeth Bond
4th Sunday
9:00 am Abby Fett
10:30 am Alexa Richter & Izzy Junker
5th Sunday
9:00 am Caitlin Koerth
10:30 am Open



MARCH CALENDAR OF EVENTS 2017

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Sunday Worship Xtreme Kids 9:00am DT 9:00am FC 10:30am DT 10:30am FC	Weekly Bible Studies Sunday 10:30am/DT Tuesday 9:30am/DT Tuesday 1:00pm/Ohrt Home Wednesday 7:30pm/DT Thursday 9:15am /FC Friday 6:30am/Hudson Bagel		1 Ash Wednesday 5:00pm Soup Supper/DT 6:00pm First Communion Mtg/DT 6:15pm Steeple People/FC 7:00pm Ash Wednesday Service/DT	2	3	4 <i>Mission Trip Begins</i>
5 See <i>Worship Schedule Above</i>	6 5:30pm Bell Choir Rehearsal/DT 6:30pm Worship Team Rehrs/FC 7:00pm Trinity Choir Rehearsal/DT	7 9:30am Full Staff Meeting/DT 1:00pm Prayer Shawl Mtg/DT	8 6:45pm Worship/DT	9	10	11
<div> <div>←</div> <div>Spring Break: No school March 4 - March 12</div> <div>→</div> </div> <div>Denham Springs Louisiana Mission Trip March 4 - March 12</div>						
12 Daylight Savings See <i>Worship Schedule Above</i>	13 5:30pm Bell Choir Rehearsal/DT 6:30pm Worship Team Rehrs/FC 7:00pm Trinity Choir Rehearsal/DT	14 9:30am Staff Meeting/FC	15 5:00pm Confirmation Class/DT 5:30pm The Cross/DT 6:15pm Steeple People/FC 6:45pm Worship/DT	16 10:00am Quilting/DT 6:00pm Finance Mtg/DT 7:00pm BOD Meeting/DT	17  Happy St. Patrick's Day !	18 10:00am Baptism Class/DT
19 See <i>Worship Schedule Above</i> 2:00pm Prayer Shawl Meeting/DT	20 5:30pm Bell Choir Rehearsal/DT 6:30pm Worship Team Rehrs/FC 7:00pm Trinity Choir Rehearsal/DT	21 9:30am Staff Meeting/DT	22 5:00pm Confirmation Class/DT 5:30pm The Cross/DT 6:15pm Steeple People/FC 6:45pm Worship/DT	23	24	25
26 See <i>Worship Schedule Above</i>	27 1:00pm Hudson Quilter Mtg/DT 5:30pm Bell Choir Rehearsal/DT 6:30pm Worship Team Rehrs/FC 7:00pm Trinity Choir Rehearsal/DT	28 9:30am Core Staff Meeting/FC 5:00pm FMSC/DT	29 5:30pm Fellowship Night/DT 6:15pm Steeple People/FC 6:45pm Worship/DT	30	31	

My Academy Experience

My name is Peter Verdoorn, and I am the class president at Trinity Academy. I am in 8th grade, and have been attending Trinity for 11 years. I am the youngest of 4 boys in our family, the oldest being Elijah, then Zach, and then Isaac. All of them have attended Trinity, and there has been a Verdoorn boy at Trinity for a total of 18 years.



My Trinity experience started at the Family Center in preschool with Mrs. Krusell, and my faith was strengthened from the moment my 3 year old self stepped into these doors. I then moved over to the downtown academy site for kindergarten with Mrs. Cicha. Pastor Booth started reading Narnia to our class in kindergarten and continued to read it to us all the way through 5th grade, which taught us an important Christian message of courage and faith. In first grade, Mrs. Selleck taught us some quite valuable lessons about behavior and saving through STORE at the end of every week, where we earned "money" by behaving well and we got to spend that money at the end of the week on trinkets in the STORE. Many memories like these stayed, and will stay with me throughout my life. Each grade was intertwined with Bible passages and stories, along with faith based curriculum. The teachers sporadically add God into the mix of whatever it may be, history, science, or even math. Along with reading Narnia, Pastor Booth has taught us countless pieces of information about religion and history, and helped us understand the most confusing topics in the Bible.

All of the teachers throughout the grades have been supportive and uplifting, and the overall environment around the school is inviting and allows for everyone to fit in. They choose a Bible verse for each year, and this year's talks about "feeding my sheep", and they told us that they are like the shepherds and we are like the sheep. They have definitely guided us like shepherds and care for every one of us students like a shepherd cares for his sheep. They have nurtured us spiritually and academically, and I am very thankful for them. The friendships that are developed with classmates continue much past the years spent at school, and I see this in my brothers who still hang out with the people from their classes so many years ago.

Besides the experiences that I have shared, there are many other great programs that Trinity has to offer. Academically, there are advanced programs that students can enroll in if they are looking to challenge themselves. This year Trinity has added the National Junior Honor Society to our school, which is a nationally recognized organization that contains students with a 3.5 gpa or higher and have strong character and are great leaders. This program is for students in sixth grade through eighth grade. Along with having programs for those who excel in school, Trinity offers special help for students with learning disabilities or who have trouble in a certain subject. Athletically, Trinity offers a variety of sports such as cross country, volleyball, and basketball. This year, the Warriors Cross Country Team took first in the National Lutheran Cross Country Meet in Milwaukee.

One of the most important aspects of our school to me is that we have chapel every week. This enhances the spiritual environment and gives us a reminder of why we choose to go to this school and can always teach us something new. We often have special guests come in and preach, sing, or present the organization that our offering would be going to that month, such as Meals from the Heart or the Backpacker Program.

Overall, Trinity Academy has been one of the most important influencers in my life, and I'm sure that I wouldn't be as spiritually strong if I hadn't attended school here. The bonds built between God-loving friends, teachers, and God himself is indescribable. Thank you Trinity, and thank you for listening.

Kentucky Trip

April 7 - 9 2017

Join us for this incredible opportunity in April! We'll leave from Trinity early Friday morning, and drive to Kentucky. Saturday we'll spend half the day at the life-sized Noah's Ark, and half the day at the amazing Creation Museum! We leave Kentucky Sunday morning, to arrive back in Hudson after supper. All ages are welcome. \$230 includes admission, 2 nights hotel and transportation. Please submit \$100 per person to the church office soon to secure your spot on this adventure. We look forward to you joining us. Please contact Jack Jorgensen at 651-592-8961 with any questions.



Ash Wednesday

In the church, Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of a powerful season called Lent. Each year our whole congregation gathers for Word and Worship and receives the sign of the cross in ash on our foreheads. This act reminds us that our life is brief, like ashes in the wind. It also reminds us to walk in humility before God because even though we deserve death (represented in the ashes), he gave us life in Jesus!

Join us for our Ash Wednesday Service on March 1st at 7:00 pm at the downtown campus.



It Is Finished

7 Words That Change Everything

Jesus' last words on the cross are powerful moments that if unpacked, can radically shape our lives as we learn what it means to be human, and the limitless love of God. Sometimes seeing God at work in the world requires us to see what shouldn't be here but is. For our sake, God went where He had no business, to go fix a problem that we had no business asking to be fixed. When the power of sin is destroyed, love has no limits.

This Lenten series begins on Ash Wednesday.



What Are You Doing For Lent?

A lot of times people will give up things for Lent, maybe chocolate or cigarettes, or playing online video games. Most of the time these disciplines last a couple of days and don't add a lot to our spiritual lives, even if we keep at them longer. What if we were to add something to our spiritual life this year? Would that add value to our lives with God? It might add value to someone else's life.

Consider adding one or more of the following to your spiritual experience of Lent this year as you follow Jesus - not in withdrawing and deleting, but in reaching out and giving:

Go out of your way to respect and help someone who seldom receives it (Matthew 25:35-46) / Reflect on the fruits of the Spirit and seek to cultivate a new one each day (Galatians 5:22-23) / Take a stand for something based on your faith and write a letter or persuade a friend or join a march (Daniel 6:16) / Perform an act of mercy (Matthew 5:7) / Clean out your house and donate to a charity (Mark 12:42) / Go out of your way to say "I love you" to someone who may be hard to love (John 13:35) / Spend time with someone grieving, sick or shut-in (Romans 12:13) / Speak softly and patiently to someone who is rude to you (Proverbs 15:1) / Step out in faith and do something good that might seem impossible (2 Corinthians 12:9) / Identify your personal strength and then use it to bless another person (Philippians 3:11) / Offer forgiveness to someone who has wronged you (Luke 23:34) / Ask someone for forgiveness that you may have hurt (Colossians 3:13) / Listen without reacting or judging to someone you disagree with (Proverbs 18:13) / Practice the Golden Rule (Matthew 7:12) / Slow down and be more mindful, or present, in what you do and with the people you are with (Matthew 5:37) / Smile more and complain less (Philippians 4:8) / Pray for people who irritate you (Ezra 8:23).

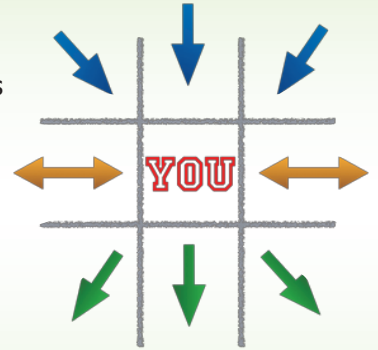
For a list of more ideas, one for every day in Lent, pick up the booklet, "40 Simple Ways to Keep Lent Meaningful" at the Worship Center on either campus.

LENT
40 DAYS
AND
40 WAYS

Faith Development Plans

On April 23, Trinity students will be proclaiming their faith in Christ, in the presence of family and friends, during our Confirmation service. They will need prayer and guidance on the next steps of growth in relationship with their Savior: a lifelong process. To help them be more intentional, each student has been required to write and submit a personal faith development plan. The goal: for students to become aware of the things in their lives that help them achieve full potential in Christ, allowing each to become who He has called them to be, while seeking the will of our Heavenly Father. The plan requires:

1. Five key verses or passages in the Bible that reflect who God is in their life
2. A brief description of passions or abilities, things they naturally enjoy doing, that God has laid on their hearts, including an explanation of how they will use them for God's glory
3. Development of a personal list of disciplines that will help them grow in spiritual maturity such as prayer, scripture reading, meditation, fellowship with other believers, and service; Students then briefly describe how they will apply these in the next 12 months.
4.
 - A. Identification of people in their lives to serve as spiritual advisors, or older/wiser Christian mentors
 - B. Identification of people in their lives that are trusted Christ following friends/peers willing to hold them accountable to their faith proclamation
 - C. Identification of people in their lives they will plan to encourage and guide on their Christian journey
5. Listing several sources, outside of the Bible, for use to enrich their knowledge of God (music, books, podcasts, events, online media, etc.)



Please join us in our sincere hope and prayer that through their proclamation of faith, each student is placed on an unwavering journey to know their Creator with a deeper understanding. Just as Jesus prayed in John 17:3, "Now this is eternal life: that they know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent." Amen!

Jack Jorgensen, Youth Director

Academy Field Trip

On November 10th, Trinity Academy grades four through eight, took a field trip to the Minneapolis Institute of Art to see the new exhibit about Martin Luther and the Protestant Reformation. It contains more than 400 pieces of art, writing, and personal possessions from Martin Luther. Most of them have never traveled outside of Germany.

Once there, we were assigned into groups by grade. Then the groups toured the first levels of the institute. After the tour was complete, the classes started exploring the Martin Luther exhibit. The paintings and pieces of art present chronicled the life of Luther, from his early childhood to when he began the Reformation before ending with his death. On display were some of the greatest pieces of art made in the Reformation, including paintings, the pulpit where Luther stood while delivering his last sermon, the largest piece of Protestant art ever made, and a wooden panel showing the events of the Bible.

The students all had a great time viewing the exhibit, and were happy to have this once in a lifetime opportunity to see all of the artifacts detailing one of church history's greatest figures.

Submitted by the Academy Newspaper Class

Easter Egg Event

Friday Night - April 7th - 6:15 pm



Join us at the Trinity Family Center for a casual and fun evening of Easter egg decorating and short children's devotional. Bring your hard boiled eggs, and we'll

supply the dye. If you have "eggs"tra supplies like crayons or stickers or rubber bands that you'd like to use, bring those along. Inviting some friends is a simple way to share our church and the message of Easter.

If you'd like to help with this event, please contact Kristin Miller at kkmiller@trinityhudson.org. We will need help with set up, clean up, supplies, and food. We highly encourage new families to try this memory-making event with their young children. It's one of those special things to do as a family, and although dying eggs is crazy-messy fun, the point of the event is to highlight what Easter is about, while hanging out with other great families.

Watch the bulletins for sign-up details to come at the end of this month.

THE QUESTION CORNER

Q Why do we use ashes on Ash Wednesday?

Ashes represent the lowest form of existence. The old saying, "When all is said and done, there is

nothing but ash" reminds us of our sin that leads to death and our need of God's redemption.

In Gen. 18:27, Abraham told God, "I am but dust and ashes," a reference to his human mortality. Jeremiah described death as a "valley of corpses and ashes" (Jeremiah 31:40). Ashes are an ominous sign, and we use them on Ash Wednesday to remind ourselves of our own impending deaths. Death may come sooner, or it may come later, but it will surely come.



Have questions about faith, life, or our church? Send them in to Lisa at lmopel@trinityhudson.org and your question will be answered by one of the pastors, and may be featured in an upcoming newsletter edition! You may choose to remain anonymous.

Call Committee Update

The call process for an associate pastor began last July and will result in a congregational meeting in the coming weeks to issue a divine call. We thank the members of Trinity for prayer support and input during the past months, and ask for continuing prayers and input during the final steps of the process.

We received Personal Information Forms and Self-Evaluation Tools for 19 candidates. The committee used a rating scale based on information from the congregational survey and analysis of our current ministry needs to evaluate the documents of each of the candidates. Seven candidates were selected who seemed to possess the experience and personal qualifications to be the best fit as our next associate pastor. Each was contacted by phone to determine their willingness to consider a call at this time. Three candidates were interviewed with a structured interview.

In the coming weeks, the call committee will arrange visits to Trinity by the candidates who are determined to be the best fit to fulfill the ministry description as our Associate Pastor. During these visits, each candidate will meet with the members of Trinity and current staff to discuss further their past experience and our current and future needs. Upon the conclusion of the visits the call committee will present a recommendation to a Voters Assembly to issue a divine call.

Please continue to include the process in your prayers. Watch for future details of the visits and the date of the congregational assembly.

Volunteer Highlight

Each month in the Trinity newsletter we highlight a staff member or volunteer that works at either site for Trinity. This is a great way for the congregation to get to know us a little better. This month we are highlighting volunteer *Kurt Hudoba*.

1) What is the ministry area (or areas) in which you serve?

The Cross, Wednesday evenings - Leading 7th Grade Boys with Mike Weyers.

2) What are your joys of your role as a volunteer?

Every Wednesday evening I am blessed with the warmth of our adult friendships and spiritual growth in our young people. It is extremely rewarding to witness what truly good young people we have.

3) How long have you been attending, or been a member of Trinity?

My family and I have been members since 2007.

4) What positives do you see about the total Trinity Ministry?

Through Jack and the other adult leaders, our youth are given an opportunity to participate in a peaceful and loving gathering, where they can share their blessings, prayers, concerns and dreams with others. I call this "goodness" and it gives me hope for the future of our society. Thanks to our church family, parents and Jack Jorgensen!

5) How do you see God working here at Trinity?

God is everywhere in our Church! I see Him when we enter the Church on Sunday mornings. I see Him in our Pastors and Church Staff and in the smiles I see on everyone I meet and speak with. I see Him in our mission teams and in our adult and family activities. I see Him working as our church grows, week after week.



From the Stewardship Committee

Over 60 families returned pledge cards for 2017, with over \$350,00.00 pledged! Thank you so much for living lives of generosity, like Jesus, who gave us ALL. That planned giving helps your local church body to more adequately lift up the many ministries Trinity supports throughout the year.

A new financial software program will soon be coming to Trinity that will make keeping track of your financial gifts and giving easier than ever. Keep your ears open for more on this in the next few months.

The committee continues to meet every few months to explore all things "stewardship." We welcome anyone who has an interest in this area of faith to join us. You can contact me or the other Trinity folks who currently participate: Denny Hartung, John Schwalbach, Maf Berg, and Tom Oscanyan.

"Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen."
Ephesians 3:20

Keep the faith. Love never fails. *For the committee, Denny Hartung*

Pastoral Support Team

In the past, Trinity has been supported by a team called Deacons. These wonderful servants would meet monthly, and represented several key ministries within our church such as Worship, Care and Hospitality.

As our ministry has changed over the years, we've seen the need for less meetings so that people are free to do more hands-on serving. Each former Deacon is still highly involved with powerful ministry and are called upon — as with others — when specific needs are required.

One specific team that has been re-created is the Pastoral Support Team. This group consists of 5-7 men, tasked with ministry oversight through the Senior Pastor in a support and encouragement role. They pray for our church, and specifically the pastors, and hold them accountable to ensure a balanced life and ministry. This team also functions as a "think-tank" for the Senior Pastor as he is seeking God's vision for the continuing direction of the ministry. The men currently on this team are, Denny Hartung, Mike Dougherty, Fred Harrell, Denny Lee, Wally Spaeth, and Frank Munkelwitz.

From The Board

Two major topics on the Board of Directors agenda this year have been our financials and goal setting for Trinity. After seeing offerings run nicely in-line with budget through November, we experienced a significant shortfall in giving during the month of December. Consequently, for the first 6 months of Fiscal Year 2017, Church Offerings of \$446,000 are approximately 8% below budget. The shortfall came in both regular weekly offerings at both sites and in Christmas Caring.

Thankfully, due to strong expense control, our church expenses are running approximately 4% below budget. Thus, church bottom-line is currently \$18,000 below budget. We have been able to cover the shortfall so far as we were carrying a strong cash position at the end of November. Nevertheless, we will be monitoring the situation closely to see if it was an aberration or a new trend. The Board remains very grateful to the many members who make it possible to maintain and grow Trinity's ministries through their tithes and offerings.

Academy revenue of \$1.1 million and expense of \$1.1 million through the first 6 months are tracking roughly on plan.

The Directors developed an initial set of goals for Trinity in 2017 that include:

- ❖ Calling and welcoming a new Associate Pastor, while also showing our love and appreciation to Pastor Tim Booth as he retires.
- ❖ Increasing harmony across Trinity through some new events and efforts.
- ❖ Filling key staff openings, namely Worship Leaders and Maintenance.
- ❖ Roll-out of a new, on-line data portal called REALM to our staff and members. Via REALM we will be able to spread important information (such as volunteer coordination, event sign-up, stewardship, etc.) across Trinity more easily.
- ❖ Completing pay-off of our 2nd mortgage.

In the near future, the Directors will be conducting a special session to work on developing a longer-range vision and goals for Trinity. We encourage you to communicate your vision for Trinity's future to the Directors and Officers listed on the front of this newsletter.

Trinity's Mission

You may or may not know it, but under the great commission that Jesus gives all churches of making disciples of all nations, Trinity operates under its particular mission of "Reaching the world for Jesus, one life at a time." The reason this is such a powerful mission statement is it calls us to big, epic things. Reaching the world helps keep in mind that our mission isn't just in Hudson or the Twin Cities area: It is world wide. Yet our statement also reminds us of the "how" we are to reach the world — one life at a time.

Given this statement, we are globally minded and individually compassionate. We financially support missions world wide and help those who are at our door. We pray for leaders of countries and serve those in our own community. "Reaching the world for Jesus, one life at a time" helps us see God's love for the world and his heart for people.



**REACHING THE WORLD FOR JESUS,
ONE LIFE AT A TIME.**



Trinity Lutheran Church

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Academy Phone..... 715-386-9349

Academy Fax..... 715-386-0137

Family Center Campus

609 Badlands Rd. • Hudson, WI 54016

Phone..... 715-381-1414

Fax..... 715-381-7099

April Newsletter deadline is **Thursday, March 2nd**

Please use the proper form to submit your publication request. Forms are available on the website and at both campuses. Thank you.

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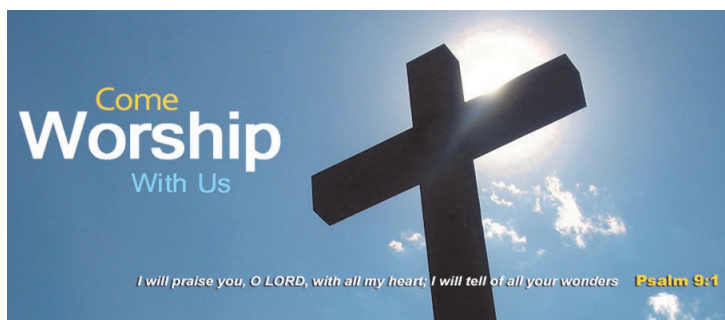
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Worship Schedule

Downtown Campus

Wednesday 6:45pm

Sunday 9:00 am Worship

Sunday 10:30am Worship

Family Center Campus

Sunday 9:00 am Worship

Sunday 10:30 am Worship