

April 2023



Dear Friends,

Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia!!

Jesus is the dead man who refused to stay dead. He is victorious over death and grave and many, many other enemies of God.

We can't defeat them. We are too weak and lack the fortitude to successfully throw off that which entangles us. Jesus faced them head on and had his way with them.

As Jesus hung bleeding on the cross it looked like complete defeat. But Jesus was entering the pain and agony of death in order to overthrow it. It was a permanent overthrow and a decisive defeat.

Jesus is the Conqueror! But what about us? Are we conquerors? Hardly. But through Jesus things are different.

"We are more than conquerors through him who loved us." (Romans 8:37)

Jesus' triumph is our triumph through faith in him. Rejoice, dear Christian!

Christ is risen! Happy Easter!

In Christ,
Pastor Hoag

HE IS RISEN
alleluia

APRIL 2023 NEWSLETTER

An update from Church Council President, Gary Purnell:

President's Note:

As we come to the end of our Wednesday Lenten Services and approach Palm Sunday, I would like to thank all the Church organizations and those individuals involved who helped serve this year's Lenten Soup and Sandwich meals. The food was delicious and the fellowship was heartwarming.

I would also like to thank Debbie and Biff Aiken ahead of time for organizing the Easter Breakfast this year. Greatly appreciated!! This is typically put on by the men of the congregation. With that said, if any of you could help in any way, please sign up on the sheets across from the Church Office.

Highlights discussed during the March Church Council meeting are as follows:

- Preliminary plans for holding a seminar on "Engaging Non-churched People in the Community" are being discussed. This will be open to all members of the congregation. More to come.
- Property is getting bids for janitorial services.
- A motion was approved to renew the Landscaping contract.
- A motion was approved to cover expenses associated with painting the Church Parking Lot Entrance.
- A motion to install raised bed gardens behind the church was approved.
- Outreach is considering a drop box as another way to encourage members to participate in the Each One/Reach One effort.
- Youth Ministry efforts are progressing to reach out to past confirmands and their parents to get input on what we can offer to keep our youth engaged beyond Confirmation.
- The last day of Sunday School will be May 21. A suggestion to have a church picnic on that day is being considered.
- Social Ministry is looking at providing pastries for the Easter Breakfast, plus potentially sponsoring a garage/rummage sale in the future.
- The next Church Council meeting is scheduled for Sunday, April 16, 2023, at 7PM.

Wishing you a Happy Easter!

Gary

RE:VITALITY: "Connect to Disciple" - MEETINGS FOR THE ENTIRE CONGREGATION
-Friday 04/28/23 at 7:00 pm
-Saturday 04/29/23 from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm
Additional Detailed Information to Follow

Worship and Spiritual Life for April

Dr Edward A. Tatro

In the spirit of *re-Vitality* at Trinity, let us keep our hands on the wheel:

Mary: Humble Obedience

Has God ever called you to do something for which you felt utterly unprepared? That is what happened to Mary when she was visited by the angel Gabriel. Mary was young, and Nazareth was an obscure village (population 400). Her Knowledge of life beyond her town was limited yet she had developed a noble character and a remarkable faith.

Mary's encounter with the angel, Gabriel, ended with Mary's humble vow of obedience. We Don't know everything she felt. But before the angel left, she declared, "May your word to me be fulfilled". (Luke1:38). And we know the "rest of the story". [Excerpts from 'Today in the Word']

To do his work, God still uses seemingly unremarkable and humble people. What might He be asking you today? Here at Trinity what more can you and I do to serve the Lord and spread the Gospel message both at Church and in our greater communities? Ask God for the courage and wisdom to obey His calling and get involved!

Happy Easter!

Thanks to all the Ushers who served or will serve during our Lenten Wednesday Services and Holy Week!

Member News!!!



2022 Baptisms:

- Gabriel Wojnarowski Bendoraitis 01/09/22
- Matthew Robert Longmire 02/20/22
- Russell Roy Goebig 04/03/22
- Mary Elizabeth Niemann 05/07/22
- Kanerick Matthew Dobrez 07/02/22
- Alita Sue Hicks 07/03/22
- Landon Paul Ondera 07/10/22
- Everly Jo Youngberg Sunday 08/14/22
- Alessi Anastasios Zarnos Sunday 08/21/22
- Persephone Mae Sheffer Sunday 08/21/22
- Roan Roy Seville's Sunday 11/26/22

2023 Baptisms:

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2022 Weddings:

- Camden R. Meade & Francesca T. Prospero 06/11/22

2023 Weddings:

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**JOIN US ON YOUVERSION FOR DEVOTIONS, BIBLE PLANS, AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:
www.bible.com**

If you would be interested in being a Lay Reader (meaning you will read the “First Reading”, and the “Second Reading (Epistle)”) please talk with Pastor Hoag



Did You Know Pastor Hoag is a Rock Star!!!

the Band Also Includes Our Very Own (former) Property Manager: Dan Bay!

Come See the Band “Side Effects!” on the Following Dates and Locations:

- April 1, New Lenox VFW, 7-11pm
- April 29, Throwback's Bar and Grill 25940 S Dixie Hwy, Crete, IL 60417, 8pm-1am
- April 15, Gustos Bar and Grill 2115 Plainfield Rd, Crest Hill, IL 60403, 9:00 PM
- May 13, Croatian Cultural Club, Joliet, 7-11pm

all new dates will be posted in the weekly bulletin.



RaiseRight Fundraiser (Formerly ShopwithScrip) - This is a gift card fundraiser. They are the same gift cards you can purchase from retailers, including over 300 brand-name grocery stores, department stores, restaurants, gas stations, hotels, home improvement stores, etc. We order the gift cards at a discount, and you pay face value for the gift cards. (For example, you pay \$25 for a \$25 Speedway gift card - the youth group obtains the card at a discount and keeps the difference.) You can purchase gift cards by filling out an order form (located on the table outside Pastor's office) or by placing your order online at www.raiseright.com. If interested in placing orders online, it is simple to do with our church's enrollment code. Contact Angie Minett for the code or with any questions you might have at minett411@yahoo.com or 815-228-4902.

Thank you to all who participate in our RaiseRight gift card fundraiser. This past year we made over \$1,000. We use these earnings to send our youth to the Youth Gathering every 3 years and we appreciate the generous support of our congregation.

The next deadline to order is: Sunday, April 2nd. Orders will be ready for pick-up the following weekend.

Thank you to everyone who has been supporting our efforts! Your generosity is greatly appreciated.

Trinity has several talented individuals in our congregation. The following website www.trinitynewlenox.org is intended to be a referral source for members of Trinity who might need one or more of these services and who would prefer to work with a fellow member of the church. Trinity offers this as a free resource to members. Trinity does not warrant or guarantee the services provided. We simply want to provide you with contact information of other Trinity members whom you might wish to consider for the services they provide. Trinity disclaims any liability for any personal injury, property, or other damages of any nature whatsoever, whether special, indirect, consequential, or compensatory, directly or indirectly, resulting from the publication of, use of, or reliance on, this list or any services provided. If you have a talent or service you'd like to have listed on our site, please contact Jennifer Kojro-Badziak at tlcsecretary508@gmail.com and I will get you added! And be sure to check back often, as we continue to add other member services to this page.



Trinity Pre-School – UPDATED

Registration for 2023-2024 Is Open!

Please Tell Your Friends and Neighbors

There is a non-refundable registration fee of \$65.00 per student. School year beginning September 2023. The tuition per month will be:

-2 Day, 3-Year-Old, Tuesday & Thursday: \$120.00

-3 Day, 4-Year-Old, Monday, Wednesday & Friday: \$150.00

Children must be 3 or 4 by September 1, 2023. For additional information, please call Trinity Lutheran Church at 815.485.6973.

Next Pre-School Board Meeting: T.B.D.



Sunday School News:

Children's Sermon: 3rd Sunday of the Month at the 9:00 am Service

The Sunday School will be collecting non-perishable food, and monies, to donate to our New Lenox Food Pantry indefinitely. This is to help those around us during these challenging times. Please bring canned goods and dry boxed items. To see items most needed by New Lenox Township Food Pantry, please visit their website (www.newlenox.org), or Facebook. A donation box is located downstairs by the Sunday School rooms, and upstairs by the library. They have also mentioned to us that they can do the most to help with financial donations – you can donate directly on their website or add an envelope with a note in our offering basket. Thank You!!!

Sunday School Friday Game Nights 5:00pm - 7:00pm (Every 4th Friday of the Month):

~~-01/27/23~~

~~-02/24/23~~

~~-03/31/23 (revised)~~

~~-04/28/23~~

~~-05/26/23 (Canceled)~~

April

- April 2nd, 10:30 am - Palm Sunday/Participate in Church
- April 2nd- After 10:30 Service - Easter Egg Hunt
- No Sunday School April 9th - Easter
- April 16th - Attend Church at 9am for Opening
- Gym Night, April 28th, 5-7 pm

May

- May 21st - Attend Church at 9am for Opening
- May 21st - Last Day of Sunday School - Church Picnic

Sunday School is Looking for Volunteers: Teachers and Helpers – High School Age to 101. Please contact Michelle Buell @ mbuell3769@gmail.com or Beth Parker @ elizabemarie@sbcglobal.net if interested. Thanks!!!



Chancel Guild News!

Attention Ladies of Trinity - Our meetings are at 9 a.m. the first Saturday of January, March, April, May, September, October, November, and December. Ladies of TLC please consider joining our awesome Chancel Guild. For more information, please contact Jennifer Mudrock, Wendy Kaun, Denise Buchanan, or Kay Purnell.



*Chancel Guild Members will again be decorating the chancel area for our Easter services. Watch for order forms in upcoming bulletins. If you have any questions or do not have access to an order form, please contact Kay Purnell at purnellk51@hotmail.com or (815) 485-9017.

Chancel Schedule for April:

April 1 / April 2 (Palm Sunday): Denise Buchanan / Sharon MacFarlane

April 6 (Maundy Thursday): Sharon MacFarlane / Doris Bay

April 7 (Good Friday): -

April 8 (Easter Flower Set-Up at 9:00 am)

April 8 (Easter Vigil): Doris Bay / Allene Bachmann

April 9 (EASTER SUNDAY):

8:00 am: Denise Buchanan / Jennifer Mudrock

10:30 am: Denise Buchanan

April 15 / April 16: Lois Dobbs / Wendy Kaun

April 22 / April 23: Wendy Kaun / Rita Larson

April 29 / April 30: Rita Larson / Debbie Crawford

ALTAR FLOWERS - Fresh flowers are used to adorn the altar as a symbol of life and joy. They are part of the beauty of the creation. Chancel Guild very much appreciates the congregation's support and help in keeping fresh flowers on the altar. You can help by sponsoring an available Sunday. A 2023 Altar Flower Calendar is posted in the glass case hanging on the wall outside the general office. If you would like to reserve a Sunday in memory of a loved one or to honor a special occasion, please fill out a sponsor order sheet and put it along with payment in the Chancel Guild mailbox. The sheets are located on a hook attached to the glass case. If you have any questions, please contact Kay Purnell at purnellk51@hotmail.com or (815)485-9017.

Chancel Guild uses Bella Fiori Flower Shop for all its floral needs. Members have been particularly pleased with their work. If you are looking to buy someone special in your life flowers, we do recommend them. They are located on RT. 30, across from Lincoln-Way Central High School.

April Altar Flower Sponsors:

- April 2 Michelle Buell and Beth Parker
Honoring our Sunday School Children Singing Today
- April 9 Jennifer Mudrock
In Thanksgiving For Her Many Blessings
- April 16 Kojro-Badziak Family
In Celebration of Jakob's April 13, 2023, Birthday
- April 23 Allene Bachmann
In Memory of Allene's Daughter, Sheri Sievert
- April 30 Katharina Fandl
In Memory of Katharina's Husband, Adolf Fandl

Social Ministry Announcements:

The Valentine Candy Sale brought in \$206.50 which will be donated to the New Lenox Food Pantry. Thank you to all who participated!

Leftover Food and Drinks Have Been Accumulating in Both Refrigerators and Freezers. If you have been part of a group who has left items, please claim them, or dispose of them. If there are drinks you would like used by other groups, please leave a note. With the upcoming suppers and events, all space is needed. There is also an accumulation of containers and other things on the counter in the gym. Please claim what belongs to you. Thank you!

Coffee Hours: Coffee Hours are hosted every Sunday after the 9:00 service. Additional Coffee Hour Hosts are always needed. If you would like to help, please contact Jennifer in the Office at tlcsecretary508@gmail.com or Jan Toepke at toepkej@gmail.com.

Coffee Hour Schedule

April 2. Rita Larson & Denise Buchanan
April 16 Kay Purnell
April 23 Liz Benedict & Christina Kipper
April 30 Sandy Peters
May 7 Rita Larson & Denise Buchanan
May 14 Kay Purnell
May 21 Liz Benedict & Christina Kipper
May 28 Sandy Peters
June 4 Sharon MacFarlane
June 11 Sandy Peters
June 18 -
June 25 Rita Larson & Denise Buchanan

Next Food and Fellowship: will be held on Tuesday, April 4 at 12:00. It will be hosted by: Ed and Karen Tatro. If you plan on attending, please sign the sheet on the table in the hallway. Hope to see you there!

Next Social Ministry Meeting: will be Monday, April 10 at 7:00. (Location T.B.D.)



Bible Study News:

-Wednesday at 8:30 a.m.
-Thursday at 7:00 p.m.

Ushers: Thanks to all the ushers for serving our congregation at weekly worship. Ushers, if you cannot serve on your regular Sunday, please call for a substitute in advance from the substitute list that was previously emailed. There is also an usher schedule, with sub's and regular's contact information, in the Usher Guide found in the Narthex lectern. If you have questions while serving check the Usher Guide or speak with pastor.

If anyone would like to serve by ushering at one of our services, please contact Ed Tatro (815 485 5760) or the Church office. Having substitutes is always a blessing. Go in peace and serve the Lord.

Usher Schedule: As we return to our traditional Lutheran services and communion, we will need at least two ushers per service. Reminder to all ushers, if you cannot serve on your regular Sunday, please call for a substitute from the usher substitute list emailed and/or in the copy in the usher guide at church. If you have questions while serving check the Usher Guide at Church or speak with pastor.

Please plan to arrive 30 minutes before service and follow the procedures noted in the usher's loose-leaf notebook in the narthex. Thanks in advance!

Alternates: Zack Horn 630 664 9224
 Robert Stark 708 307 4069
 Bob Jackman 815 933-3864

*Communion Services (1st and 3rd Sundays at Late Service, 2nd and 4th Sundays at Early Service)

**Co-Chairs Worship and Spiritual Life

1st Sunday

9:00 AM

-Tom Kaun 815 485 9604 kauntd@gmail.com

-Biff Aiken 815 954 0682 biffdebaiken@gmail.com

10:30 AM

-Brett Carr 815 370 6651 brettdcarr@gmail.com

-Paul Krol 815 575 1315 p.krol@sbcglobal.net

2nd Sunday

9:00 AM

-Edward A. Tatro 815 485 5760 etatro4@aol.com

-Tim King 815 463 0415 tim.king1@comcast.net

10:30 AM

-Tom Buell 815 485 3769 tombuell@sbcglobal.net

-Bob Blecke 815 353 7561 cgm964@comcast.net

3rd Sunday

9:00 AM

-Mike Gardner 815 485 9623 mgardner1453@gmail.com

-Gary Purnell 815 485 9017 gpurnell3@hotmail.com

10:30 AM

-Cameron Hoag 779 279 4223 cam.hoag@gmail.com

-Dana Knodel 708 822 2902 danacowboy1@yahoo.com

4th Sunday

9:00 AM

-Steve Tomany 815 485 3163 tomany@sbcglobal.net

-Randy Varju 815-685-1363 randy.varju@aah.org

10:30 AM

-John Buell 815 726 3601 jan.buell@yahoo.com

-Phil McFarlane 815 806 1219 philmacp40@comcast.net

5th Sunday

9:00AM

-Rex Toepke 815 485 2638 rtoepke@usa.net

-Jeff Lorenz 815 463 0833 jlorenz2367@gmail.com

10:30AM

-Paul Krol 815 575 1315 p.krol@sbcglobal.net

-Diane Sewing 815-592-3911 dianesewing@hotmail.com



Contribution statements for income tax purposes are available for members using the offering envelopes. If you have not received a statement in previous years and would like to request one, please contact the church secretary or Tammy Doerrer @ tammydoerrer@gmail.com . If you received a statement in the past, you are on the list to automatically receive one each year.

Church Office Hours: Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday from 9:00 am to 2:00 pm

OR

Church Office Hours (No School Days): Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday from 4:30 pm to 7:30 pm