## $\int_{\text {TRINTY }}^{\text {TRI }}$ Joyful Noise

MARCH 2020

## A Message from Your Pastor...

Dear Friends of Trinity,

There is a lot about being a pastor that I enjoy. One of the things that is high on the list of favorite ministry duties is teaching what I call the "ADULT INSTRUCTION CLASS." There are a number of different names for this class among churches, like Adult Confirmation, New Member Class, Information Class, Adult Inquirers Class and the like. This class is for people who are interested in membership at Trinity and have not been members of another Church in our Synod. I always point out to these people that this class will help them to make an informed decision about joining our congregation. This class will help answer the question, "Is this the right church for me?"

The Adult Instruction Class is also for people who want a review of the teachings of our church. Quite a number of Trinity members have gone through the class to review what they learned "way back in junior confirmation days." They usually report back to me about how much they learned by such a review and how it helped to make what they had learned earlier in their life "all fall in place."

My practice has been to conduct an Adult Instruction Class twice a year. One running from mid-September to mid-January and the other mid-January or February to May or early June. Usually the class is about 16 weeks long. The class that finished this past January had 20 people in attendance, made up of a nice mixture of members and non-members. At the end of that class, as usual there were a number of people who were sorry to see the class end. I always stress the fact that the study of God's Word never ends and urged them to take the opportunities that we have for continued growth. This class is not only great for learning God's Word, but for building relationships that last!

With these regular classes, God provides growth. Certainly growth in knowledge and faith, but also growth in membership at our church. On Sunday, February 9, we had another reception of new members. I always follow the end of each class with this reception which includes people from this group and also others who throughout the year have joined by Transfer or Profession of Faith.

I share this for your information, but I also have an invitation and request: I invite you to consider coming to a class sometime for your own benefit. I just started a new class on Monday, February 17 (7:00-8:30pm in the church fellowship hall.) You can still come! This is a great place to invite a non-churched friend to come too!

I ask that you would reach out to our new members and welcome them to our family. Their pictures are displayed in the Church and there is also a group photo in this newsletter. Greet them, give them a call, or write them a letter... let's make them feel at home and let's rejoice in the growth with which God is blessing our church!
"I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth" 1 Corinthians 3:6

In His service and yours, Pastor Dan Rinderknecht


## School and YOUTH NEWS



## THE HALFWAY MARK

Greetings from school. Yes, it is true. We just hit the halfway point of the school year. Yes, we are already making plans for the 2020-2021 school year. Our goal each year is to reach as many of our families as possible. Maybe your family will join us here at Trinity. We will work side by side with you. We will assist you with sharing Jesus with your family every day. We will help your children discover their gifts and to use those gifts to God's glory. If you are interested, let's visit. Together, we can find a plan that will help you to join our family here at TLS.

- Richard Thomas, Principal of Trinity Lutheran School



## JOIN US FOR MARCH EVENTS!

Saturday, March 14, is FAMILY GAME NIGHT! Bring dinner for your family, a snack or dessert to share, a game your family loves, and the WHOLE FAMILY and join us in the Fellowship Hall, starting after church and going until we can't play any more games!

And be on the lookout for more information about our Escape Room event coming the end of March!!

- Cameron Heiliger, Director of Youth \& Parish Education


## TRIVIA NIGHT

Thank you to everyone who joined us for this year's Trivia Night and congratulations to the winners!



Last Place (Cheese Ball Winners): Striking Titans
 and March 22. Check the Friday email or the church website to order online!

## JOIN THE CONVERSATION!

1st Place: Ski Bums

## 2 Bollong <br> BUTTER BRAIDS ARE BACK!!

Be sure to get your Butter Braids ordered between February 29

Trinity Youth Ministry's Facebook presence is shifting from a "page" to a "group" to provide more opportunity for connection, better communication, and a safer way to share information about events involving youth. Join the conversation and find out how you can get involved with Youth Ministry at facebook.com/ groups/tymbillings.

# Upcoming Meetings 

## PROPOSED CONSTITUTION AND BYLAW REVISION

For the past four years, we have been gathering input, seeking counsel, and having ongoing discussions regarding updating our constitution and bylaws. These have included extensive meetings with our existing boards and leadership, review and feedback from a local attorney and from our District Constitution Committee, and input from other LCMS churches who have made this type of transition. Our existing constitution and bylaws were drafted nearly 40 years ago, and do not address many of the realities of current and future ministry. On February $14 \& 15$, our Executive Director, Mike Larson, gave a brief talk after each service about this process. Mike outlined a number of reasons why we are making this transition and what ministry will look like going forward. You can watch a video of his talk here: https://youtu.be/B7t1i3NhWIE

We are now at a point where we would like our members to take a final look at the proposed constitution and bylaws, ask any remaining questions, and consider adopting the new version. An electronic copy of the proposed Constitution and Bylaws was sent out with the Friday email on February 21. Paper copies of this document are also available in the narthex and at the church office. We will also have a couple of Open Forums to briefly walk through this document, answer questions, and provide input about the new draft. These meetings will be as follows:

## - Sunday, March 1, at Noon in the Fellowship Hall (a light lunch will be provided) <br> - Wednesday, March 4, at 7:30pm in the Sanctuary (following Lenten worship)

We have also scheduled a Voters' Meeting for Sunday, March 22, at Noon. A light lunch will also be provided for this meeting. The main agenda item for this meeting will be to vote on the proposed constitution and bylaws, adopt an implementation plan, and address a few of the administrative details related to this transition. We are required to have a minimum of 50 voting members present to adopt any changes to our constitution and bylaws, and are asking ALL of our members to be involved in this important matter! Please - take some time to review the proposed edition and join us for these discussions.


## NATIONAL LUTHERAN SCHOOLS WEEK JOY:GULIY LUTHERAN 1 THESS 5:16-24

## Join us as we celebrate on March 1-7




## WELCOME TO THE TRINITY FAMILY!

On Sunday, February 9, we welcomed the following people into our midst:
FRONT ROW (L-R): Shalene \& Felix Ward, Sandi Ward, Jerry Asleson, Janna Arend, Barry Patterson, Kay Koch, Ramsey Erickson, Beverly Hoose BACK ROW (L-R): Noah, Lincoln, Henry and Mary Pust, Kayla Wittman, Rod \& Debbee Dunker, Doug \& Maria Erickson, Beverly Schock NOT PICTURED: William \& Althea Farley

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Lutheran
Women
in Mission

## LWML MEETING

## March 16 at 7:00 pm

Opening Devotion: Pastor Daniel Keinath Program: "Witness, Mercy, Life Together" Lesson 5, Pastor Daniel Keinath Meeting Hostesses: Barb Nies \& Myrt White Church Service Greeters for March: Kitchen Guild

## PHONE NUMBER CHANGE

Jeff Hall - (406) 545-9612

## ADDRESS CHANGE

Autumn Hicks
5679 US Highway 191 N
Malta, MT 59538

## BAPTISMS

Felix Micheal Kennard was baptized on February 9. Shalene Ward was baptized on February 9.

## Financial report

| January Finances |  |  |  |  |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | :---: | :---: |
| Income |  | 150,197 |  |  |
| Expenses |  | 148,892 |  |  |
| Net Margin | $\mathbf{1 , 3 0 5}$ |  |  |  |
| 2019-2020 Finances |  |  |  |  |
| Actual |  |  |  | Target |
| Offerings | 585,242 | 599,262 |  |  |
| Total Income | $1,179,875$ | $1,139,530$ |  |  |
| Total Expenses | $1,125,442$ | $1,139,530$ |  |  |
| Net Margin | $\mathbf{5 4 , 4 3 2}$ | $\mathbf{0}$ |  |  |

Phase I Completion Drive
(Goal of $\$ 325,000$ to Pay Off Loan)

| Gifts and Pledges (through Feb) | $\$ 208,630$ |
| :--- | :---: |
| Remaining Needed to Complete | $\$ 116,370$ |

## Special Events

MARCH 1-7
National Lutheran Schools Week

EVERY WEDNESDAY MARCH 4 - APRIL 1
Lenten Dinner @ 5pm
Lenten Worship @ 6:30pm
SUNDAY, MARCH 8
Daylight Savings Time Begins
SUNDAY, MARCH 22
Voters' Meeting @ Noon


537 Grand Avenue
Billings, MT 59101

## News



## LOVE INC LENTEN DINNER | MARCH 11 | 5:00 PM

Our partnership with Love INC continues to impact more and more lives in the Billings community. Join us for the Lenten Dinner on Wednesday, March 11, at 5:00 pm, and hear an update from Love INC's Executive Director, Tom Bonner. You will also hear from our Church Ministry Coordinators, Lindsey Carter and Reid Bullock, and learn more about how you can get involved in this life-changing ministry!

