

Trinity Weekly Tidings For April 30, 2017

"God's Love – Our Hearts – God's Work – Our Hands"

Trinity Lutheran Church – 612 N. Water Street – Sparta, WI 54656

Church Website: tlcsparta.org Phone: 608-269-5081 Office Email: office@tlcsparta.org

Pastor Mark Kvale / Email: pastorkvale@gmail.com

Youth and Family - Michelle Hyatt / Cell & Text 608-343-0324 / Email: thehyattfive@gmail.com

Welcome Guests! We are so happy to see you today! If you are traveling through the area, we wish you Godspeed on your journey. If you live nearby, we hope you will return and worship with us again. If you are looking for a church home, we invite you to make Trinity Lutheran that home. Please sign the guest register located at the entrance into the Sanctuary and/or fill out the yellow card in the pew rack located in front of you, so that we can know who you are. Although you have come as a visitor, we hope that we leave worship as friends!

Thank YOU - We would like to thank Eldie Erickson, Paul Oswald, Gene Olson, and Bill McClain for planting the trees in the area by the circle drive and for removing the pond in the courtyard. We would also like to thank John Sund for donating the crab apple trees that were planted!

Annual Book Sale - Matching Funds Book Sale is **today and Sunday, May 7th between services and after 2nd service.** This is the main fundraiser for the Matching Funds. Please support us by buying books or making a donation.

Parish Ed Survey - We are looking for your input because **your opinion matters!** Please email your responses to office@tlcsparta.org or marty_m1@hotmail.com

Day Camp - 4 days in a row during daytime hours

Weekly Day Camp - 1 day per week for 3 or 4 weeks

Monthly Day Camp - 1 time per month for June, July and August

Family Evening Camp - 3 evenings in a row

Family Evening Camp - 1 evening per week for 3 or 4 weeks. Either a Wednesday or Sunday.

Family Evening Camp - 1 time per month for June, July and August

Ushers Needed – We are in of ushers for the 10:30 am service. If you would like to help out, please see an usher or call the church office if you would like to volunteer. Thank you!



Geraniums - We are taking orders for red geraniums in honor of Mother's Day on May 14. Please consider purchasing a plant that will be planted around the church after Mother's Day. The blooming geraniums are a constant reminder of our love for others throughout the summer and into fall. Orders will be taken until **Friday, May 5.** You can also make a monetary donation to the local food pantry in honor of Mother's Day. Please fill out the order form that is in the bulletin and put it in the offering plate or put your completed form and payment in the church office.

Loose Change Offering – Thank you for your generosity last Sunday. As a church we collected \$153.29 for Monroe County Family Promise. Thank you for opening your pocketbooks and hearts!

Public Affirmation of Baptism – Next Sunday, May 7 at the 10:30 am worship we will be welcome the following 7 students as they publicly affirm their Baptism – Jake Anderson, Kadon Milne, Myah Kenyon, Laney Schell, Lily Schmitz, Zachary Van Wormer and Cole Wisriewski.

Graduate Sunday – Our Graduation Service will be on Sunday, May 21, with graduates being honored at the 10:30 service. Goodies and coffee will be served between services by the Milestones Committee. Letters have gone out to all our high school graduates—if you did not receive a letter shortly, please contact the church office. Also, if you have a student who is graduating from college or tech school, please let us know so we can celebrate their important milestone also.

Those for whom we are praying...

Joan Roche, Hildur Devine – Pastor Mark's Mother, Michelle Clark,

Amy Moseley Erickson, and Pauline Haug.

Altar flowers were picked up by Cora Aschwander.

Youth & Family Announcements for the week of April 30, 2017

God is good all the time, and all the time, God is good! You are BEAUTIFUL because you are fearfully and wonderfully made. You are enough! You are loved!

Please talk to Michelle face-to-face; by phone at 269-5081; call or text at 343-0324; or by e-mail at: thehyattfive@gmail.com for additional information.

JAM will meet on Wednesday from 5:30 – 7:00 p.m. We hope to get outside & enjoy God's creation! Kickball, here we come!☺ **Faith Formation** will have class on Wednesday from 7:00 – 8:30 p.m. We look forward to seeing all of you there!

Join us next **Sunday, May 7**, as we celebrate our Confirmands, who will be publicly affirming their faith. They will be honored during coffee hour between services & at 10:30 worship. Come, help us celebrate this milestone in their faith journey!

Save the date for **Graduate Sunday on May 21!** Our graduates will be honored during coffee hour between services & at 10:30 worship. Come, help us celebrate this special milestone!

Houston, we have a Gathering!

Any young person currently in grades 7 – 11 interested in going to the **2018 Houston Youth Gathering** can start their fundraising efforts by selling candy bars. Please talk to Michelle to if you would like to pick up a box. Also, the first NON-REFUNDABLE deposit of \$150 is due today. Please talk to Michelle if there are any financial concerns, & rest assured that we will work it out for you to be able to go to the Gathering!☺ Once everyone is signed up, we will have a meeting to plan out our timeline together as we prepare for this amazing, once-in-a-lifetime trip for YOU!! Talk to Michelle if you have any additional questions. Keep up online with the Gathering at: www.elca.org/gathering.

Sugar Creek Bible Camp, here we come!

26 of our incredible young people have signed up to go to Sugar Creek. Join them by signing up today! Registration forms can be found outside of the Youth Room. You can also check it out on the web: www.SugarCreekBibleCamp.org. Trinity Weeks are June 18 - 23 & July 9 – 14, & Explorer dates are being finalized, so please stay tuned for them! Grab a friend, & get registered NOW for the week that works best for you! Every young person will get a \$250 scholarship from Trinity through fundraising, donations, & Thrivent Choice. Woo hoo! We are SO grateful to our very generous congregation! Help us reach our goal of sending 50 amazing young people to camp!

Save the dates for FCA (Fellowship of Christian Athletes) Camp!

It will be Monday, June 26 – Thursday, June 29, on the beautiful Luther campus in Decorah, IA. Check out the website at: www.fcacamps.org. Boys can choose from the following sports: basketball, baseball, cross country, football, soccer, or tennis. Girls can choose from the following sports: basketball, cross country, soccer, softball, swimming, tennis, or volleyball. To get registered, please fill out the camp brochure found outside of the Youth Room, & return it to Michelle with your \$100 deposit. Checks can be made payable to "FCA." All of you will receive a \$100 scholarship from NW FCA, & in addition, you will get a scholarship from Trinity for the remaining \$145 ☺." Help us fill the bus with our awesome young people on our journey to camp!

As always, scholarships are available for ALL kids wanting to go to either camp. There are also fundraising opportunities to help offset the cost of camp. Please mark your calendars for the following fundraiser: Sunday, April 9 (Palm Sunday Breakfast & Egg Hunt). We are also going to sell candy bars as an individual fundraiser. Please let Michelle know if you would like to participate in either of these fundraisers to help towards your camp costs. We want every young person to get to experience camp, & if you want to go to camp, please know that our awesome, supportive congregation WILL get you there!

www.d365.org – Sign up for this FREE daily devotional! It's how I start my day with God!

Faith is a road we walk. It takes us through the wonderful and the terrible times alike. This road has highs and lows and stretches far and wide. In our darkness, the road can feel lonely; our steps falter, and our hearts and minds slip farther from love and truth. Have faith, dear one, Jesus has promised that we will not walk that road alone.

The one named Cleopas replied, "Are you the only visitor to Jerusalem who is unaware of the things that have taken place over the last few days?" He said to them, "What things?" They said to him, "The things about Jesus of Nazareth. Because of his powerful deeds and words, He was recognized by God and all the people as a prophet. But our chief priests and our leaders handed him over to be sentenced to death, and they crucified him. We had hoped He was the one who would redeem Israel. All these things happened three days ago. But there's more: Some women from our group have left us stunned. They went to the tomb early this morning and didn't find his body. They came to us saying that they had even seen a vision of angels who told them He is alive. Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found things just as the women said. They didn't see Him." – Luke 24:18-24

Sometimes we think we are on the right path, but we aren't. We want to mold the road, forcing it to take us where we want to go. Cleopas and his companion wanted Jesus to do things and be things He would never be. They wanted to be on a different path. And when things didn't turn out the way they wanted, they were painfully confused.

Too often in life we do this. The road turns in unexpected way and we find ourselves lost and confused. The road has changed. It can be a real shock to find that we are no longer going in the direction we thought we were.

All we can do is take the turns we are given, continue to put one foot in front of the other, and trust that Jesus knows the way. –Elizabeth Cervasio

Lord, give me the strength to continue on when I find myself lost and on an unfamiliar path. Help me to trust in you and to remember that you know the way. Amen.

Do not fear the road unknown, the twists and turns, and difficult terrain. Remember the Lord will always meet you where you are. The journey may be long, and the going may get tough, but it is always easier when you walk the road with a friend.