

February 2019

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

The Trinitarian



Pastoral reflections *“Love the Lord and your neighbor as yourself”*

It wasn't a day or so after Christmas when Valentine's candy began to fill the shelves. February has come to be seen as a kind of "love month" with hearts, candy and flowers on full display.

Love is at the heart of the Christian faith as well. Yet, love is more than just an emotion or a way that we feel about someone at any particular moment. My love for someone can waver and even those that I love the most can still annoy or frustrate me. There are times when I am not very loveable. Love can be fickle at best. Feelings can wane or be obscured. We use the word "love" for everything from our favorite kind of food to our family, from a sports team to a sunset. We use "love" as kind of catchall term.

So, what is love?

In Greek, there are different words for the different kinds of love – such as: *eros* (romantic), *philo* (friendship) and *agape* (unconditional love). They recognized that love does take many different forms and it is not a one-size fits all.

One of the most used scripture passages for weddings is that one that St. Paul wrote about love (I Corinthians 13). It is often viewed from the romantic vantage point of love rather than the true intent of the Greek *agape*. When we view it from this very human perspective, placing ourselves into the passage, we miss the richness of what Paul is trying to convey.

⁴ Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant ⁵ or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; ⁶ it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth. ⁷ It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things. ⁸ Love never ends.

I want you to read it three different ways:

Read it as printed

Replace all the **bolded** words with your name

Replace all the **bolded** words with Jesus' name

When I read it with my name, I find all the ways that I am lacking, the ways that I have failed to live up to these ideals of love. I can think of times daily when I haven't been kind or patient, when I've been arrogant or boastful. In using this passage at a wedding or for any relationship, it is as if we are setting ourselves up to fail.

Yet, when it read it from the standpoint of *agape* and God's love for us, we find first of all the richness of what God's love looks like for us. Then, trusting in this love that is given to us, we are empowered to share this same love – not from our own meager abilities – but from the fullness of all the love that we have received.

We are called upon the love the Lord our God and to love our neighbors as ourselves. Our love from a human standpoint is not enough – yet God's love is abundant. When our love wavers or is unable to be fully felt or expressed, God's love overflows.

For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son... (John 3:16). This is the proclamation that sustains and calls us forth into the world to share all that we have received.

Thanks be to God!

Peace in Christ, *Pastor Jen*

Faith @ Home

Using "Pastoral reflections" as your starting point, what are ways that you can share the unconditional love of God with others?



Who do you find most difficult to love?



Who might not see themselves as loveable?



Who might need to be reminded that they are loved?

Send a message of God's love to those who most need to hear it.



3rd Tuesday Table Talk

Our next Fellowship meal will be at **Tuesday, February 19th (6:30 PM)** at Luigi's in Carmel. Please sign up in the narthex or contact Pastor Jen to reserve your spot.

Mourning to Morning

Grief does not run on a schedule. It is not something that we “just get over” and “move on” from. Everyone grieves differently – there is no right or wrong way to grieve.

Grief is not just the expression of sorrow when someone dies but can be when other life changes occur.

Even joyful times can be bittersweet such as retirements or kids leaving home.

Grief is often related to some kind of change or adjustment that we need to make in our lives.

We have formed a support group that will be meeting monthly in Pastor Jen’s office – the first Monday of each month (next gathering will be **Monday, Feb. 4th at 7 PM**).

You may not need it all the time, but when you do – we are here as we gather in prayerful support for one another. If this time does not work for you and/or you need to talk to someone in between this time, please contact Pastor Jen.

“Why Jesus?”



During the season of epiphany, we will be asking the question in the context of our weekly readings. Join us during coffee hour as we explore this questions together.

Care of Creation

In the beginning, God placed all of creation into the care of humankind (Genesis 1-2)

Over the past couple of years, we have brought in numerous items to be recycled through Terracycle and bottle donations. These efforts have kept things out of landfills and they are reused so that God’s good earth is taken care of.

There is a group of people who will be looking at additional ways that we can enhance our stewardship of God’s creation. Watch for additional opportunities to come. If you are interested in being a part of this group, please see **Pastor Jen**.

Sunday School Church

Welcome to winter, we are continuing with classes and will be preparing for Mardi Gras Sunday and the start of the Lenten season. Please be aware that there will be emails from pastor and notices on the radio station **WHUD 100.7** of any weather related cancellations. Stay safe and warm. **Jeanette Baldanza**

First Friday is Feb 1st at 6:00 PM. The theme will be Super Bowl and people can bring Super Bowl foods. Please sign up or contact Don Icken

Social Ministry

Putnam CAP

Thank you for your continued generosity in filling the shopping cart each month with food and home items for Putnam CAP. Their clients are very grateful for the extra help we give them with your donations.

Putnam CAP's food pantry is experiencing severe shortages on non-food items that our clients need and are unable to purchase with SNAP coupons. Please help by purchasing some of the following items:

Shampoo/Conditioner

Deodorant

Toilet Paper

Toothbrushes

Laundry Detergent

Bar Soap

Feminine Hygiene Products

Shaving Cream

Cleaning Products

Baby Wipes

Diapers and Pull-Ups in sizes 4-5-6

Here are also a few suggested non-perishable foods that would be greatly appreciated at the pantry:

Cooking Oil

Ensure

Coffee and Tea

Cake Mixes

Baby Food

Condiments

Property News

Winter is upon us. The salt buckets and snow shovels are now stationed outside each entrance. If needed and you can put some salt out and clean the entrance to any of the entrances this would be very much appreciated.

Again, Pat Wills has recruited more organizations to utilize our building. She is constantly getting new groups to utilize our space. Let Pat know if you hear of anyone looking for a place to hold their meetings. Thank so much for your support and for all Pat does on a daily and weekly basis.

Thanks to all the folks that are remembering to turn off the lights. This is greatly appreciated. Wonderful for sure.

If you notice anything not working, please let me know. The restrooms upstairs have automatic switches for the lights, please do not turn them off when you leave.

Ken von Barga has begun the work on the walls outside the back of Fellowship Hall and Shepherds Hall. We may need your help to pay for some of this project. More to follow upon its completion.

If you would be interested in serving on our committee, please give me a call! Thank you all for your continued support to Trinity Lutheran Church!

Thanks for your support.

Ken Mongold, Property Chairman

Trinity Lutheran Church Women of the ELCA



WELCA Spring Schedule

We welcome all women to join us for our meetings as follows:

February 7 – 10 AM Bible Study

February 21 – 10 AM Craft lead by Sharon followed by lunch out at **12:30 PM at TOPS**

In March and April Pastor Jen will lead us in a 4 part Lenten Study:



March 7 -10 AM Lenten Study

March 21 – 10 AM –Lenten Study followed by lunch out at 12:30 PM

April 4 – 10 AM -Lenten Study

April 11 – 10 AM –Lenten study followed by lunch out at 10 AM



We are also collecting juice For **BESP** on **Souperbowl Sunday February 3rd**. Our guest are thirsty when they come and drink a gallon of juice between dinner and breakfast.

BESP

BESP depends on the support of many congregations, individuals and groups to provide overnight shelter during the coldest months of the year. During this year it seems each week we are providing shelter for more people. We served 10 to 11 people each night during Trinity's week in January.



I thank all of you at Trinity for your continued support of BESP's shelter. You provide meals, act as overnight hosts, bring in items to our drive and contribute funds. Our next week for Trinity is **February 18 -24**.

Thanks to all who participated in **Twin Sunday** on Dec 30th. Below is a picture of 9 of the 15 sets of twins here at Trinity Lutheran Church



Celebrations



February Birthdays

SCOTT DZIBELA SR	2/1	AIDAN CASTRO	2/13
KRISTIN FOLEY	2/1	OLIVIA GIACOMELLI	2/13
LUKE LOFTUS	2/1	MELISSA RICE	2/13
PAULA BELMONT	2/3	TIMOTHY SALINGER	2/13
WENDY HEALY	2/3	BRIAN VAN VLACK	2/13
DANIELLE MARKERT	2/3	ADAM BEAL	2/14
URSULA MEROLLA	2/3	CORINA HOHENSTEIN	2/14
NICOLE MORELLO	2/3	ANDREA TIERSCH	2/14
DOWLETTE-MARY	2/4	KARL WESTERVILLE	2/14
ALAM EL DIN		HEIDI BETTCHER	2/15
LAUREN BALDANZA-	2/4	SHARON LUND	2/17
GIACOMELLI		MARY GERHARDT	2/20
LINDSAY WUND	2/4	BRUCE FOLEY JR	2/21
DANIELLE O'LEARY	2/5	ANDREW KLAMMER	2/21
JENNIFER GERFEN	2/6	KATHY MC MORROW	2/21
JOHN GERFEN	2/6	JEFFREY VON BARGEN	2/22
ASHLEY HANSEN	2/6	ADELINA ZHANG	2/22
SOPHIA PUCHALSKI	2/6	ERIN CORBI	2/23
DEREK SMITH	2/6	GRANT CUOMO	2/23
ALDONA GASIUNAS	2/7	SHAUN ENG	2/24
LOIS LAWERENCE	2/7	CAROL FENDT	2/24
FAITH PRISCIANTELLI	2/7	GARY MEISSNER	2/27
MARK MORELLO	2/8	RITA KARLSSON	2/28
SYDNI BAKER	2/10	LARRY RUHS	2/29
ALEX OLIVAPOTENZA	2/10	LORI VAN VLACK	2/29
JOEY MASTON	2/11		
ALYSSA NASTASI	2/12		

WE REMEMBER IN PRAYER THOSE WHO ARE

IN THE HOSPITAL, ILL, RECUPERATING FROM SURGERY, OR UNDERGOING MEDICAL TREATMENT: Anne-Marie, Ava, Beth, Brigitte, Lee, Tamara Bagen, Peter & Helene Basick, Joan Baum, Kitty, Ellen Bell, Barbara Jean Bennet, Mimi Berlin, Joe Bettcher, Nicole Bettcher, Cherish Bliedernich, Bella Bobinski, William Brown, Betty Buckmaster, Chuck, Colleen, Corrie, Helen Conte, Sharon Cooper, Robert Cowen, Linda Cowen, Ben Dalecki, Joanne D, Thomas DeMarchi, Kathren Devine, Dilynn, Heather Evers, Wayne Farber, Tony Ferrajina, Stan and Linda Fitzgerald, Christine Gallegher, George Gilleo, Thomas Ingate, Lloyd Jacobsen, Jennifer Johnson, Janna Kreps, Pastor Tim Kennedy, Sofia Loraca, Judy Lutz, Chaleb McCaughey, Melanie, Raymond Maglio, Michael, Kelly Maxwell, Edward McGuire, Robert Murphy, Karen Myerwold, John Noone, Bob Obuck, Pat, Pr Garry Patrylo Jr, Donna Perrault, John Powell, Carol Richie, Nicholas Rogan, Liam Rogers, Larry Ruhs, Marilyn Schoeller, Sharon, Barbara Siegel, Joe Stark, Meyer Steinhardt, Curt Stiles, Teddi Tom, Greg V., Henry Von Bargaen, Katherine Waldvogel, Alex Wallace, Mary Ann Wilk, Jessica Wilkson.

WRESTLING WITH LONG-TERM HEALTH ISSUES: Thomas Allen, Morgan Andren, Judy B, Lisa Bagnati, Gloria Bretone, Jennifer Rebecca Butvinik, Janet Canor, Tony Cardella, Olivia Casale, Erin Conroy, Deena Cox, Copy Cuomo, Tom Curran, Glen DiSanto, Bill & Mary Duzal, Gabriel Elliot, Donna Ficara, Margaret Fowler, Amanda George, Kira Hansen, Catherine Henneforth, Corina Hohenstein, Sue Kaufman, Raymond Kiernan, Ryan Lee, Kim Marshall, Allen McCaslin, Reneé McElroy, George Miller, Tanya Murgai, Laurie Nuchereno, Ed Ranieri, Rosaleen, Riley Rushia, Zachary Schwartz, Linda Siebold, Zack Small, James Sorge, Phyllis Sorge, Audrey Stone, Dylan Stolper, Kenneth Strawn, Kathy Sullivan, Josephine Talley, Michael Tamborino, Kaeli Tretera, Mary Torlish, **Gina** Venezia, Glenn Wagner, Walt, Stephanie, Donna.

FACING LIFE'S CHALLENGES: Kim Andren, Wanda & Cliff, Della Arndt, Charlotte Berwind, the Bueti family, Catherine, Jeanne D, Marisa Pease Donlin, Liam, Noah, Barbara and JD Dorlin & Katie Ray, Dworkin family, Rebecca Elliot, Fahy family, Elizabeth Goscinski, Jeannie Graham, Terry Gregori, Joanne Halbekath & family, Larry Hampson, Frank Hastie, Lillian K, Logan Keane, Nicola Kenny, Matt, Bill & Debbie Logan, Anita Luhrs, Mary Jane McMahan, Ryan, Mariela Ramirez & family, Alexander Maxwell, Charles Maxwell Wieller, PJ, Sue Rodriguez, Melissa S, Alex Smith, Barbara Sparkes, Wanda & Cliff Strawn, Kristen Sullivan, Michael Talarico, Morgan Watt, Dave, Lisa, Jaimie Zeola, Zaccardo family.

REMEMBERING THE LIFE OF: SYLVIA RIEG, COLIN QUINN

RESTRICTED TO HOME/NURSING HOME: Marge Christie, Gerrit Franssen, Lawrence Henry, Rita Karlsson, Marian Langlois, Horatio Massatti, Elizabeth Waugh, Scott Werner

SERVING IN THE ARMED FORCES: Michael Caitney, Carlos & Alyssa (Torlish) Class, Liam Conroy, Dylan Cumpston, Adam Elliott, Phillip Gerhardt, Ron Hansen Jr., Dylan Kinsella, Pr Anthony Stephens, Kyle Tiersch, Adam Vieux, Jessica Woodall, all those in the service of our country, especially in Iraq and Afghanistan, and their chaplains.

ATTENDING SEMINARY: Dawn Morello

PARTNERSHIP MINISTRIES: The Northwest Diocese of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania, the Brewster Soup Kitchen (Brewster 1st Baptist Church) and Brewster Food Pantry (St. Andrew's Episcopal), Brewster Emergency Shelter Partnership (BESP), local small business owners in challenging economic times.

SERVANTS OF THE CHURCH: Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton, and the Church-wide staff, Bishop Donald McCoid of the Metropolitan New York Synod and staff, Pastor Jennifer Boyd, Deacons Charles Germain, Jr. and Dorothy Kafalas, Minister of Music Franklyn Comisso, Council members, Sunday School teachers, and worship leaders.

Worship Schedule

February 2019

Feb 3 8:30 AM & 10:45 AM Holy Communion

Feb 10 8:30 AM & 10:45 AM Holy Communion

Feb 17 8:30 AM & 10:45 AM Holy Communion

Feb 24 8:30 AM & 10:45 AM Holy Communion

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Trinity Lutheran Church Mission:

As a people of God, we desire to experience the presence of God in our lives that we might be the presence of God in the lives of others.

Location:

2103 Brewster, NY 10509

Phone: 845-279-5181

Website: trinitybrewsterny.org

Pastor Jen's email:

revjedyer1@yahoo.com