



You can watch this program on Sunday morning at 10:30 AM on Direct TV Channel 377

March 5, 2023 – 2nd Sunday in Lent Psalm 121; Romans 4:1-8; John 3:1-17 “Gospel in a Nutshell” – Sermon Text: John 3:1-17 – Rev. Paul Shoemaker

March 12, 2023 – 3rd Sunday in Lent Psalm 95:1-9; Exodus 17:1-7; John 4:5-30, 39-42 “The Man at the Well” – Sermon Text: John 4:5-30, 39-42 – Rev. William Mueller

March 19, 2023 – 4th Sunday in Lent Psalm 142; Ephesians 5:8-14; John 9:1-7, 13-17, 34-39 “The Measure of a Life” – Sermon Text: John 9:3 – Rev. Dr. Thomas Ahlersmeyer

March 26, 2023 – 5th Sunday in Lent Psalm 130; Romans 8:1-4, 11; John 11:17-44 “The Resurrection and the Life” – Sermon Text: John 11:17-44 – Rev. Dr. Walter Maier II



During the month of February, the following people were in the hospital, had surgery, recovering at home or our shut-ins – **GARY GANN, VIVIAN RUFF, KATHY RAMSEY, DR. ERIC CURE, DON FEAGLEY, AL & GLORIA ARENDT, ARLENE HARTMANN, and DON & ALICE KECK**

<u>CHURCH ATTENDANCE</u>	<u>BIBLE CLASS/SUNDAY SCHOOL</u>
Saturday, February 4.....10	
Sunday, February 5.....55	13
Saturday, February 11.....13	
Sunday, February 12.....59	NO BIBLE CLASS
Saturday, February 18.....19	
Sunday, February 19.....50	16

WHAT'S COMING UP

NEWSLETTER ITEMS: If you have an item for the monthly newsletter it must be in no later than the 20th of every month! Nothing will be accepted after business hours on the 20th. You can also submit items by emailing them to: trisha@tldarm.org

DIVINE CALL: **PASTOR TEMME** received a Call from Heritage Lutheran Church in Valparaiso to serve as their pastor. Please keep Pastor Temme and his family in your prayers as he prayerfully considers this Divine Call.

LENT SERVICES: Midweek Lent services began with Ash Wednesday on February 22 at 7:00 PM. The theme for this year is *The Miracles of Lent*, which looks at the important and significant miracles and events that God the Father performed to set apart His Son's death from all others. The miracles performed were: the three hours of darkness, the torn temple curtain, the earthquake, splitting of rocks, the Real Presence in the Lord's Supper, the death of God's Son, the descent into hell, the opening of graves with many of God's people being raised to life and appearing to many in Jerusalem after Christ's resurrection, as well as the unbelievable faith of the Roman soldiers. The five Lent services on March 1, 8, 15, 22, and 29 will be preceded by a supper at 6:00 PM. March 1 – LWML, March 8 – Youth, March 15 – LLL, March 22 – Music, March 29 is open.

SARAH BIBLE CLASS: When the Sarah Class meets in the Fellowship Hall at **1:30 PM** on **Thursdays** to continue their studies in the synoptic Gospels (i.e., Matthew, Mark and Luke). Coffee and treats available beginning at **1:00 PM**. All ladies of the church are most welcome to attend. Please take note of the time change. All Ladies and their Friends are invited to attend.

CALENDAR IN THE OFFICE: There is a calendar in the office for all the events that are happening at the church this year. If you know when things are happening during the year, they need to be put on that calendar.

LUTHERAN SERVICE BOOK: The Lutheran Service Book is now available in Large Print. The Large Print Edition offers generous 14-point print and 8.4" x 12.6" binding to make it easier for all members of your congregation and guests to participate fully in the Divine Service. If you would like to see a sample or would like to order one, please let Trisha in the office know and she can help you.

2022 CHOICE DOLLARS®: If you haven't already, you can still direct 2022 Choice Dollars® till the end of the month. With over 45,000 organizations to choose from, you can make an impact on the causes you care about most. Don't miss this opportunity to recommend where Thrivent gives back! If you have any questions about directing Choice Dollars or making a personal donation, contact our call center at 1-800-847-4836 and say "Thrivent Choice" at the prompt.

FORMER TEACHER HONORED: Our former Lutheran school teacher **JUANITA KRUEGER**, who taught first and second grade in our elementary school in the 1990's, was recently honored by the Minnesota South District as their 2022 Outstanding Elementary Teacher of the Year. If you would like to wish Juanita well with a card or letter with any special memories, you may send it to Pastor Juan Palm of Trinity Lutheran Church and School at 10500 215th St. W., Morristown, MN 55052.

ELS-PTSL VENDOR FAIR: Evansville Lutheran School is hosting a vendor fair on Saturday, March 11 from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM at Immanuel Lutheran Church on Volkman Road.

BABY SHOWER: Our former members **CHEROKEE & JULIA MEADOWS**, who now reside in Ft. Wayne where Cherokee is preparing for the seminary and Julia is working as a nurse, will be having a baby shower in our fellowship hall on Saturday, March 4, beginning at 1:00 PM. Members of the congregation are welcome to stop by and wish them well.

40 DAYS FOR LIFE campaign runs through Lent. Every day from 7:00 AM to 6:00 PM, you have the opportunity to pray on the sidewalk in front of Planned Parenthood at 125 N. Weinbach Ave. Sign up to pray for one hour by calling 812-474-3195 OR at <https://www.40daysforlife.com/en/evansville>. If you would like a 40 Days for Life yard sign (which you may put in your yard and/or hold while praying at Planned Parenthood,) you may pick up one by the coat rack. Be a voice for the voiceless! Contact **LINDA TEMME** if you have any questions

PRESCHOOL

Our next open house is March 21 from 5-7 PM.
Spring Break is March 27 – March 31

Breenna Smith – Director - Trinity Lutheran Preschool

“CHEERS & TEARS”

Cheers to the following people who celebrated milestone birthdays in February:



Cheers to: **DON & ALICE KECK**, who celebrated their 69th wedding anniversary on February 28th.

THANK YOU

I want to thank everyone for all the prayers sent my way. Thanks to Pastor Temme for visiting and giving me communion. God's Blessings, Eddie McCoy

Many thanks to Pastor Temme for his visit and giving me communion and for all the prayers and kind expressions of care and concern for my recovery. Blessings to you all, Kathy Ramsey

THANK YOU to the chocolate covered strawberry makers and the gift box designers. Again, thank you for the gracious donations given to the music program. May we praise God with beautiful songs and music. God be with all of you.

THANK YOU to all the greeter volunteers. It's been so nice to see you smiling faces on Sunday mornings. There are still a couple of months available if someone wants to take a turn. **MARK & DARLENE PRIES** are this month's volunteers. God's Blessings

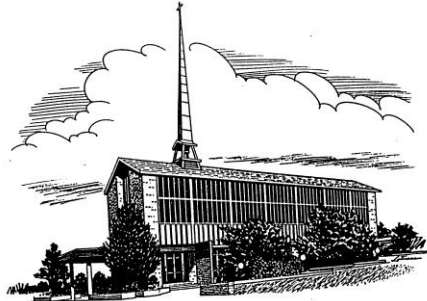
THANK YOU to **TRISHA LETTERMAN** and the **BOARD of PARISH FELLOWSHIP** for hosting the Valentine's Brunch with food, fellowship, and prizes.

THANK YOU to **JEFF SENSMEIER** and all those who helped with the Renaissance Music Concert and Reception.

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

DARMSTADT

NEWSLETTER



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Our Life in the Church

In last month's article we looked at our confession, "I believe in . . . the holy Christian Church." The Church is the communion of saints, the total number of those who believe in Christ. Through faith in Christ we receive forgiveness of sins and eternal life in heaven. But what do the Scriptures teach about our life in the Church on earth?

The Bible teaches that we should seek always to be and remain members of Christ's Church, his body, by sincere faith in him. Jesus said, "I am the vine; you are the branches. If a man remains in Me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from Me you can do nothing." (John 15:5) How do we remain in Christ? Through his Word and through his Sacraments for this is where Christ promises to be. The Holy Spirit works through the Word of God, Baptism, and the Lord's Supper to create and sustain our faith in Christ.

But where do we find these things? We certainly read our Bibles at home and have family devotions. Those who cannot leave their homes may watch the Sunday morning service *Worship Anew* on television or watch online. But we find these things every week when the body of Christ assembles for worship. Indeed we have the command, "Remember the Sabbath Day by keeping it holy." What does this mean? "We should fear and love God so that we do not despise preaching and his Word, but hold it sacred and gladly hear and learn it." Those who cut themselves off from the body of Christ also cut themselves off from Christ. A person cannot say, "I want

Christ as my head but not his body." We cannot walk around with Christ's head, severed from his body, tucked neatly under our arm. For a person to remain in Christ means to be part of his body. As the early church practiced, "They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and to the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer." (Acts 2:42) Therefore, we should seek to be members of Christ's body the Church.

Will any church do? Some people join a church because it is close by or because of its grand architecture or because they already have friends there, regardless of what doctrine is taught and preached. But according to the Scriptures, we should avoid false teachers, false churches, and all organizations that promote a religion that is contrary to God's Word. Jesus said, "Watch out for false prophets. They come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ferocious wolves. By their fruit you will recognize them." (Matthew 7:15-16) The apostle John tells us, "Dear friends, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God, because many false prophets have gone out into the world." (1 John 4:1) Therefore, we should seek to be members and remain faithful to that visible church or denomination which professes and teaches all of the Bible's doctrine purely and administers the sacraments according to Christ's institution. Jesus said, "If you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples. Then you will know the truth, and the truth will set you free." (John 8:31-32)

Concerning our life in the Church, the Scriptures also tell us that we should maintain and extend God's Church by telling others about Jesus Christ, by personal service, and by prayer and financial support. The apostle Peter reminds us of who we are as the body of Christ. "You are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people belonging to God, that you may declare the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His wonderful light." (1 Peter 2:9) As members of the Church we give witness. "Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect." (1 Peter 3:15) We pray "Thy kingdom come," meaning we desire God to use us to extend his kingdom of grace on earth. "The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into His harvest field." (Luke 10:2) We also support the ministry of the Church with our tithes and offerings. "Anyone who receives instruction in the word must share all good things with his instructor." (Galatians 6:6)

What is the motivation for our life in the Church? We will discuss that in next month's article as we look at our confession in the Third Article of the Creed, "I believe in . . . the forgiveness of sins."

Pastor Temme