

Trinity Lutheran Church – *Messenger*

EMAIL: *Messenger* – you can contact the church office anytime to have the *Messenger* emailed to you!

Thank you to all who have signed up for the *Messenger* via email. But please remember to check your church mailbox frequently. Other mail is distributed through that means.

WEBSITE: Calendar - The church and school events are printed together on one calendar. This calendar is now available on our website: www.trinitybaycity.org

From: [WELS Evangelism Devotion Service: Daily Devotions](#)

You can receive a WELS daily devotion in your email by going to www.wels.net, clicking on the faith link, then the devotions link, and then the daily devotions link.

Over the next few months prayers written by our 7 & 8 grade catechism class will be published throughout the Messenger.

SUNDAY MORNING BIBLE CLASS - THE ODYSSEY OF ST. PAUL—The series is written and hosted by Dr. Paul L. Maier, a Lutheran professor at Western Michigan University. It is good for us Christians today to learn about Paul and his times. Through the Word of God that Paul preached and taught, our faith will grow and become stronger as we view and better understand his conversion, his work, his faith, and his entrance into God's kingdom of glory. Each week there will be thirty minutes of video and thirty minutes of discussion. Plan to join us and bring a friend.



Holy Week & Easter Celebration Services - Please join us & invite a friend!

March 28/29th - Palm Sunday

April 1st - Maundy Thursday, 7 pm. Holy Communion

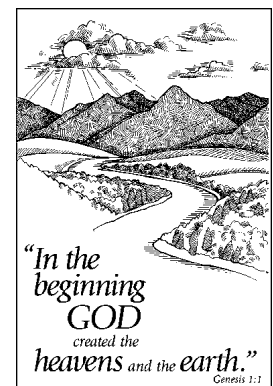
April 2nd - Good Friday, 1 pm & 7 pm

EASTER - 6:30, 8:30 & 11 am. Easter Breakfast served between

services

Lenten Suppers – Thank you to the Elders, Girl's A basketball team, Bell Choir, Youth Group, Church & School staff, and Trustees for providing delicious suppers during the Lenten season.

WEDNESDAYS IN THE WORD— begins April 14 and runs through May 26. Our course for this session is *Answers in Genesis*. We will be covering these topics on the basis of God's Word: "Does It Matter What We Believe?" "Origin of Life." "Origin of Man." "Facts about Apemen." "Creation, Cloning, and Life." "Dating Fossils and Rocks." "Can You Defend What You Believe?" Please join Pastor Starr for this informative and timely class as we learn from God's Word and from science that evolution doesn't have a leg to stand on.



Sunday School – We meet on Sundays, from 9:45 – 10:45 am.

Seniors (SCAT): The next activity will be on Thursday, April 8th, at 1 pm. Rhonda Cunningham, a nurse from Bay Regional Medical Center, will be here to give a presentation on strokes: the risk factors; signs of a stroke; what to do if a person has a stroke; and the treatments for strokes. This is a very important health issue that affects many Americans. Please join us.

SCAT Sponsored Trips – The group is sponsoring a trip on Sunday, May 2nd to see comedian Bill Cosby at the Stranahan Theater in Toledo, OH. The cost is \$95 per person. Deadline for booking trip is March 31st. **LAST CHANCE TO CONTACT RANDY COCHRAN**
The other trip is to Turkeyville on Saturday, June 26th to see a theater production of “Church Basement Ladies II”. The cost is \$75 per person. Deadline for booking trip is May 25th.
You do not have to be a senior to go on these trips.

Youth Group April Activities – Help set up and serve Easter breakfast. April 24& 25: Bike trip and overnight campout. More information soon.

Taped Services – The church service is now being taped on DVD. If anyone would like a copy of the service please contact the church office (892-5435).

Member Hospitalization - When a loved one goes into the hospital, please have a family member contact the church and let us know. One of the pastors will make a visit.

Creation/Evolution Presentation – St. John’s has invited us to a presentation there on creation and evolution by Dr. Kevin Peil on Thursday, April 22nd at 7 pm. He will be speaking about the truth of creation in the Bible and the disparity between creation and evolution in society today. No cost but a free will donation will be taken for Project Share. This is for young and old. All will learn something new.

MLS Updates: The play “Good News” will be presented on Saturday, March 27 at 7 pm and Sunday, March 28 at 2 pm in the chapel/auditorium. Tickets will be available March 1 at the business office or at the door.

Truth Behind the Cross Concert – Trinity will present a concert on Sunday April 25th, 6-8 pm. The choirs and various musical groups at Trinity, both church and school, will be involved. Watch for flyers and more details to follow.

Summer Camp for all Ages – Epic. Adventurous. Economical. Challenging. Refreshing. Faith-strengthening. These words only begin to describe a week at Camp Lor-Ray. An ELS/WELS summer camp near Muskegon, Camp Lor-Ray has five different camps for all ages. Parents can get away with their kindergarteners and connect with other parents at our two-night KinderCamp. 1st - 3rd graders have their own two-night camp with activities geared specifically towards them, and campers all the way through 9th grade have camps for their age-group. Even high school students can enjoy a full-week of camp, with activities and Bible studies up to their level. To register for camp, apply for a summer position or for more information, go to www.CampLor-Ray.org or call Ken Nolte at (269)429-4941.

Thank you –

*Marge and John Obertein want to thank Pastors Starr and Schulz for their prayers and visits while they were in the hospital and nursing home. And also to our friends and neighbors for all the cards for Christmas, birthday, get well and anniversary. 48 days is too long be away from home.

*Dennis and Karen Martens would like to thank everyone for the prayers, cards and words of encouragement during these long four months. God has been with us and continues to answer our prayers. With his help the road to total recovery won't be so long.

Dear Lord, Thank you for today and all days. Please help us on our Science test today. In your name we pray. Amen.

Lorissa Wascher, gr 7

Treasurer's Reports: We do not publish it in the *Messenger* because of the cost of paper. However, one will be provided via your church mailbox if you contact the church office.

End of February Fund Balances

General: \$+18,802 Missions: \$9,845 Building: \$67,331 Project Share: \$5,908

Membership/Pastoral Activity

Deaths: Anna Tuttle, Katherine Thayer

Releases: David Meyer, Deborah Meyer, Matthew Meyer

Marriage: Robert Robinson and Brenda Murphy

Communicants: 681

Souls: 861

Gifts & Memorials:

In memory of Anna Tuttle from family & friends --- \$2,165 for new bell system

A gift from Bob and Carol Schoof --- \$500 for new bell system

A gift from John and Marge Obertein in celebration of their 70th anniversary --- \$70 for new bell system.

In memory of Harold VanDriessche from family & friends --- \$20 for the General Fund

In memory of Roy Schulz from Bob & Darlene Schulz, Marion Bedard --- \$70 for the bell system

ATTENDANCE	Early	Late	Mon.	Total
Feb 21	153	215	37	405
Lent 2				224
Feb 28	135	152	83	370

Lent 3				266
March 7	134	245	47	426
Lent 4				228
March 14 (MLS choir)	181	253	68	502
Lent 5				194

Schedules Usher

Apr 4	Team #1	Team #2
Apr 11	Team #3	Team #4
Apr 18	Team #5	Team #6
Apr 25	Team #7	Team #8

Technicians

S. Heinz	C. French
A. Ferrio	R. Fawcett
J. Arrowsmith	P. Kolb
K. Baeckl	D. Bula

Mon. Apr 5 NO Worship

Mon. Apr 12 George Hausmann

Mon. Apr 19 Earl Jacobs/Everett Jacobs

Mon. Apr 26 Dustin Gwizdala

H. Howard

C. Festerling

C. Festerling

Lent (Wed) 1 pm Jeff Katt 7 pm Dustin Gwizdala

Apr 1 (MT) 7 pm Team #11

Apr 2 (GF) 1 pm Team #12 7 pm Mike Baeckl

Apr 4 (6:30 am) Team #12

Greeters

Apr 4	Bob & Darlene Schulz, Dolores Guettler	Joan O'Hara, Pam Jaskiewicz
Apr 11	Barb McCray, Rob Robinson	Joan Neal, Kathy Packard
Apr 18	Martha Grant, Carol Histed	Ken & Cheryl Blank, Amanda Sherry
Apr 25	Larry Kratz, Mark & Jodi Virant	Amber Eauclaire, Kim Ewald

Mon. Apr 5 NO Worship

Mon. Apr 19 Bruce Obermiller

Mon. Apr 12

Mon. Apr 26 Rachel Gwizdala

Nursery – The nursery is open for worship services. It will be staffed for the 11 am service only.

STILL NEED VOLUNTEERS. Please check the poster sign-up sheet for open dates.

Lord, Thank you for getting us here today. Lord keep us from getting H1N1. In your name we pray. Amen.

gr 7

Chris Urban,

March Reports

Administrative Report – Pastor Starr

TASKS ACCOMPLISHED BY GOD'S GRACE

1. Amazing Grace Bookstore—Sales, as expected, slowed somewhat in February. Work continues on securing a Thrivent grant for publicity. New customers come in each week. As a member of Trinity, have you visited the bookstore? Please tell your friends about our bookstore. Plan to hold a meeting at the bookstore.
2. Bible Studies—Concluded Sunday morning class “Positively Lutheran.” Prepared for new class “The Odyssey of St. Paul,” an eight-part DVD series with Dr. Paul Maier. Wednesdays in the Word Bible class will resume after Easter. We plan to look at “Answers in Genesis” in the new session. Please join us.

3. Conducted services at Sheffield Bay and at the Saginaw Senior Care and Rehabilitation Center (formerly the Martin Luther Home).
4. Church website is being kept updated and current by webmaster Michael Priebe. Michael has added recently a new feature: audio sermons. Check out the website at www.trinitybaycity.org.
5. Counseling—Assisted several couples and individuals with problem areas in their lives, using God's Word to give them direction and guidance.
6. Conducted the Christian wedding of Robert Robinson and Brenda Murphy on February 27.
7. Began learning new worship software, "Easy Worship."
8. Financial Situation—At the end of February, our offerings once again exceeded our expectations, due in part to the sale of the handicap van for \$3,265. We praise God for these gracious and generous blessings!
9. Project Share—Check out the Project Share website at <http://www.projectshare.webs.com>. A separate checking account has been set up for Project Share, allowing us to participate more efficiently in certain government programs for newly released prisoners. This not only assists the newly released but generates some income for Project Share. Work continues on the River Cruise, scheduled for Wednesday, July 28, 2010, at 5:30 p.m.

TASKS PLANNED FOR NEXT MONTH ACCORDING TO GOD'S WILL

1. Amazing Grace Bookstore—procure a new advertising grant from Thrivent for 2010.
2. Bible studies—prepare for new Sunday morning Bible class, "The Odyssey of St. Paul," a video presentation of the apostle Paul's life, times, ministry, and message. Prepare during Lent for a new Wednesdays in the Word Bible class following Easter on "Answers in Genesis."
3. Help train new board members and church council members for their service to our Savior and us.
4. Continue counseling with several people who need help from God's Word.
5. Prepare more informational and motivational materials on finances.
6. Learn and then train our volunteer technicians to use the new worship software, "Easy Worship."

LONG TERM GOALS ACCORDING TO GOD'S GUIDANCE

1. Writing book on homosexuality for NPH with co-authors, Scott Barefoot & Suzie Neas.

Dear Lord, thank you for bringing us, your children, to school today to learn what you Word says. Keep us and bring us back to your Word not only tomorrow but for the rest of our lives. In your name I pray. Amen.

Arrowsmith, gr 8

Evan

Outreach Pastor Report – Pastor Mark Schulz

On February 4th, I gave a one hour presentation on my recent trip to Egypt to some 25 members of St. John's at our Amazing Grace bookstore. I dressed in a white Egyptian gown, and my wife gave my face a brown tinge, to help give the participants a better perspective on Egyptian culture. What was great about this presentation is that it served a two-fold purpose. It gave the members of St. John's a deeper look into the country of Egypt and my experiences there, but also allowed them to see our Amazing Grace bookstore. This kind of activity is a great one to promote our bookstore to the community. In addition, several members of St. John's even made purchases that night.

Since a member of my Tuesday night New Life in Christ class went on second shift, I am

doing a special class on Saturdays with this husband and his wife, so that they can continue the current class. In addition, I am conducting a second public school confirmation class for a single student, since he is unable to make it with the other students on Thursday afternoons.

I made six evangelism calls in February. I would like to be making more of these calls and get a team up and running again, but other responsibilities seem to be consuming my time at this point. As soon as we get past Easter, I hope to have 4 adults recruited and trained to make bi-weekly evangelism calls with me. We are also looking to have a 3 month build-up for a Friendship Sunday in early September 2010. In order to do justice to a Friendship Sunday, you need to have a 4 month timeframe. One month to recruit a taskforce, and three months of publicity build-up.

I have been very pleased with our new greeter system. Our greeters now stand at the front entrance and balcony stairs entrance 15 minutes before the service. During communion, they come to the back of church and are informed by the non-officiating pastor as to where the guests are seated. Then, during the last hymn, our greeters depart early and await the exit of the targeted guests. They give them a guest packet and attempt to find out their name and where they are from. When this information is discovered, the guests are sent a card a few days later in the mail by two members of our card writing committee. I gave the go ahead to Pastor Starr to order some Easter DVD disks that will be given out to all Sunday guests.

Our February youth retreat to Tawas was wonderful. We had 24 teenagers participate, two 20 somethings, and 5 adults. We left on February 27th from church at 9:00 A.M. via our church bus. Once we arrived in Tawas, we went to the church, where we changed clothes and had a sandwich lunch. Then we went to the Nordic Ski shop to get our cross country skis. We traveled to Spring Valley and skied for several hours. Then we went back to the Day's Inn where we settled into our rooms, did a bit of hot-tub and swimming. After relaxing for a bit, we went to Richie Rich's coffee for pizza and pop. After eating a filling pizza meal we traveled to Emanuel Lutheran where the kids did a few mixer games with the Emanuel teens. Following the mixer games, I conducted a PowerPoint Bible study on Dating and Love. We proceeded to play basketball, and finished the evening with a couple of games of bowling at Tawas Lanes. In the morning after breakfast, we took the bus to Standish where we attended church. Our group actually took up 1/2 of the church. The members there really enjoyed us stopping by for worship. After a Taco Bell lunch, we made our way back to Bay City.

At our Christian Day School, I am taking the 7th and 8th graders through a 5 session "Kid Talk to God Talk" class. This helps prepare them to better share their faith in Christ with others. I have also spent time counseling a couple of families in the handling of their finances. The Financial Peace University class has been a great help in sharpening my own skills with finances so that I can better help others be better stewards. Finally, I have been blocking out time twice a month on Saturdays to visit some of our backsliding members with our Spiritual life elder, Jim Schlosser. That's it for now.

Dear Lord, Help those with late work get it done and thank you for bringing us safely to school today. Let us learn more about your, Lord. Amen.
Ryan Bollman,
gr 8

TLC Preschool

We were studying the Bible lesson this week, "Jesus Prays in the Garden." As a response activity we wrote our own prayers to God...very wise thoughts from the mouths of Preschoolers.

Dear God~

I love you so much. You're the best hero ever! Thank you for listening to my prayers. Your will be done, Jacob

Dear God~

I love you God because you love us. Thank you for my family. My Mom and Dad love me A LOT!!!! Your will be done, Ashley

Dear Jesus~

Thank you, Jesus, for my school and teachers. Thank you for loving me always. Your will be done, Elsie

Dear Jesus~

I'm so thankful for hugs because they feel so nice. I can't wait to hug you in Heaven. Your will be done, Abigail

Dear God~

I love you. Thank you for my new baby brother, Jacob, or "Sleepy." Thank you for taking away our sins. Your will be done, Carly

Dear Jesus,

I love you so much. Please watch over my daddy so he doesn't get sick again. Your will be done, Aubrey

Dear God,

I wish my momma well. Please let it be summer again soon. Your will be done, Avarie

Dear Jesus,

Thank you for my Mom and Dad. Your will be done, Dylan

Dear Jesus,

I pray for Papa Scott because he is an angel and God keeps him safe. Your will be done, Hayden

Dear Jesus,

I pray for my mama to stay healthy. Your will be done, Presley

Dear Jesus,

Please take care of Mom and Dad. Keep them safe. Thy will be done, Madeline

Dear God,

Thank you for Grandma S. Please keep her well. Your will be done, Klaire

Dear God,

Please bring spring soon! Thank you so much for flowers. Your will be done, Sofia

Dear Jesus,

Thank you for Batman and Superman toys. Your will be done, Drake

Dear God,

I thank you for Jesus because he takes care of us. Thy will be done, Caden

Dear Jesus,

Please keep my Papa well. Your will be done, Reece

Dear God,

Thank you for my dog, Charlie. Please keep him safe. Your will be done, Josslynn

Dear God~

Please watch over my dog, Rocket. Thank you for loving me. Your will be done, Jagger

Dear Jesus,

Thank you for my Grandma. She's so nice to me. Please be with her and protect her. Your will be done, Madison

Dear God,

Please watch over my family till they are in Heaven with you. Your will be done, Zachary

Dear Jesus,

Thank you for the home I have, all my toys, my great big bed, my family, and my school. Please watch over us. Your will be done, Lydia

Dear God,

Please make my dog better and don't make her old anymore. Please have her be in Heaven with me. Are they having a party with cake there? Your will be done, Brooke

Dear Jesus~

Please help me be a good listener in class. Thank you for your love. Your will be done,
Morgan

Dear Jesus~

Thank you for my family and for dying on the cross for me, Your will be done, Joshua

Dear Father in Heaven,

Please make my sick momma feel better. Please help me play hide and seek really well!

Thank you for my Dad. Your will be done, Christopher