

# SERVING IN MARCH!

Elder: Paul Haselhuhn

Altar Guild: Deb Lefler, Katie Snow

LWML: Jennie Just-Lightfoot, Stacy Picard

Ushers: Sat. – Gary Langebartels Sun. – Dalton Bredehoeft, Nick Haselhuhn



## ALTAR FLOWERS FOR MARCH

Mar. 1: Katie Snow & Dave Thomas in honor of the birthdays of Ted Snow & Diane Snow Jensen

Mar. 8: Ray & Pat Jenkins in honor of their daughter Justinn's wedding on March 21, 2026

Mar. 15: Lucille Caughey in honor of her son Bill's birthday on March 24; and in loving memory of her son Bob (3/9/62 – 3/7/09)

Mar. 22: Bruce & Deb Lefler in honor of their 45<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary on March 21

Mar. 29: Rich & Bev Foels in honor of their birthdays

## LENTEN SERVICES

**Wednesday, March 4, 11 & 25:** Lenten services will be held at 10:00am and 7:00pm. Soup suppers will be held from 5:00-6:30pm. Sign-up sheets are posted for donations of soups, salads & desserts. Work on the Advent calendars will continue during the supper hour. *There will be no services, supper or choir on March 18.*



## LOOKING AHEAD TO HOLY WEEK/EASTER

**Maundy Thursday, April 2:** Maundy Thursday service with Holy Communion will be held at 7:00pm.

**Good Friday, April 3:** Good Friday service will be held at 7:00pm.

**Easter Vigil, Saturday, April 4:** Easter Vigil service at 8:00pm.

**Easter Sunday, April 5:** Sunrise service at 7:00am; Easter breakfast at 8:00am; Easter egg hunt 9:00am; Easter service at 9:30am.

## THIS & THAT

**THE 2026 YEARBOOKS** are ready – please look yours over and let us know if there are any corrections to be made. First correction: change James Bacon's address to 306 N. 2<sup>nd</sup> St. (not 304).

**THRIVENT MEMBERS:** Reminder to direct your Thrivent Choice dollars to Trinity Lutheran Church by March 31.

**TRINITY CHOIR** will begin rehearsals for the Lent/Easter seasons on Wednesday, March 4 at 5:00pm. New voices are welcome!

**PELLA BIBLE STUDY** will meet at 10:30am on March 2, 16 & 30 at 1108 Washington Street in Pella. Everyone is welcome!

**MORE VOLUNTEERS** are needed to clean portions of the church each week. A sign-up sheet is posted. Thank you!

**IN CASE OF** cancellations due to any reason, please sign up for text notifications. Simply text Tlctext to 84483. There is no charge.

**STREAMING OF** the 10:30am Sunday morning Divine Service begins at 10:25am. You can watch on our website ~ [trinityknoxville.org](http://trinityknoxville.org); follow the link on the church's Facebook page; or on our YouTube channel: Trinity Lutheran Church, Knoxville, Iowa.

**ON THE FIRST** Sunday of each month, drop your spare change into the large LWML Mite Box on the piano. Thank you!

**COOKING FOR A CAUSE**, First United Methodist Church's free sit-down meal, is held the first and last Wednesdays of each month, serving from 5:00-6:30pm. Upcoming menus: March 4 – spaghetti, garlic bread, drink; March 25 – beefburgers, mac & cheese, baked beans, cookie, drink. Everyone is invited and welcome!

### **VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY!**

We are in need of volunteers to help with the Sunday morning livestream of our services. We would like to have enough volunteers so that no one has to do it every week. Volunteers will be trained. If interested, please contact Henry Picard or Julian Bacon.



## **WITH OUR MEMBERS AND FRIENDS**

**WITH OUR MEMBERS & FRIENDS:** We remember in our prayers: Mothers bearing children; the well-being of homes & families; military families; Ron Wauters, LouAnn Perkins, Pete Hansaker, Bob Caswell, Dave Thomas, Marylou Nolte, Doyle Schrader, Mary Meyer, Marlene Waddle, Brennon Nolte, Makayla Bell, Dottie Solberg, Jane Caswell, Rodger Dop, Diane Jensen, Lois Mick, Richard Lienemann, Karen Schwanebeck, David Kline, Bryson & Willow Lefler, Ted Snow, David Stephens, and Camden Underwood. *Please keep us updated!*

**CONGRATULATIONS TO** Nick & Jaime Haselhuhn on the birth of their first child, Elijah Dean, who was born on Monday, February 2. Elijah weighed 8 lb. 6 oz. and was 19.5" long. Proud grandparents are Paul & Deb Haselhuhn.

**OUR SYMPATHY TO** Dana & Molly Tabbert at the death of Molly's father, Jim Mensen of Decorah, Iowa, who passed away on Saturday, January 31 at the age of 79. His funeral was held on Friday, February 6 in Decorah.

**OUR SYMPATHY TO** the family & friends of Lloyd Willoughby, who passed away on Saturday, February 7 at the age of 93. His funeral was held at Pierschbacher's Funeral Home in Melcher on Wednesday, February 11, with Pastor Picard officiating. Lloyd, a Trinity member for 25 years, is survived by his wife of 72 years, Jean, sons Lary & Craig, daughter Tonya Cooper, 12 grandchildren, 32 great-grandchildren, and one great-great-grandchild. He was preceded in death by sons Gary & Perry, son-in-law Dave Cooper, and grandson Jon Willoughby.

**CONGRATULATIONS TO** Lary Willoughby for being inducted into the Melcher-Dallas Athletic Hall of Fame. This is his description for the ceremony: Willoughby, a 1974 graduate, was known for his time and dedication to his chosen sports – basketball and football. Willoughby continues to serve the Melcher-Dallas Community over 50 years later as a coach for both basketball and football, where his legacy as a coach is well known, as he guides, molds, and motivates his student-athletes. He is looked to as an inspiration to all who coach alongside him, as well as all who play for him.

*"We are all so sunk in sin, and so wedded to the world, that we would never turn to God and seek salvation, unless he first called us by his grace." -J.C. Ryle*

## March Birthdays

- |     |                    |     |                      |
|-----|--------------------|-----|----------------------|
| 1)  | Tristan Clark      | 16) | Marylou Nolte        |
|     | Gina Hammann       | 21) | Leann Baumgarten     |
| 4)  | Karsten Roby       |     | Amber Roberts        |
| 6)  | Peggy White        |     | Dana Tabbert         |
| 8)  | Larry Boyer        | 22) | Tom Davey            |
|     | Ted Snow           |     | RaeLynn Langebartels |
| 9)  | Jessica Bacon      | 24) | Justis Bacon         |
|     | Paul Haselhuhn     |     | Bill Caughey         |
| 11) | James Bacon        |     | Brian Perkins        |
| 13) | Willow Bredehoeft  | 26) | Ava Harvey           |
|     | Carolyn Greatbatch | 28) | Bev Foels            |
| 14) | Chris Langebartels |     | Curt Schwanebeck     |
|     | Ashlee Roberts     |     |                      |



## March Anniversaries

- 6) Ray & Pat Jenkins '71  
 12) Dennis & Diane Haselhuhn '83  
 12) Dave & Julie Smith '88  
 15) Eric & Melanie Bell '06  
 16) Richard & Beverly Foels '67  
 21) Bruce & Deb Lefler '81



### **Special Dates for March 2026**

- World Day of Prayer, *March 6*
- Daylight saving time begins, *March 8*
- St. Patrick's Day, *March 17*
- First day of spring, *March 20*
- Holy Week, *March 29-April 5*
- Palm/Passion Sunday, *March 29*

*"The average pencil is seven inches long, with just a half-inch eraser.  
 Remember that, in case you thought optimism was dead."  
 – Robert Brault*

## **OUR FINANCES AT A GLANCE**

2026 weekly budget amount: \$4,920.40	
Jan. 31/Feb. 1:	\$ 7,958.00
February 7 & 8:	\$ 2,087.00
February 14 & 15:	\$ 3,752.00
February 21 & 22:	\$ 3,567.00
Ash Wednesday:	\$ 362.00
Lent (2/25):	<u>\$ 292.00</u>
TOTAL:	\$18,018.00

4-week budget amount: \$ 19,681.60  
 Budget shortfall this month \$1,663.60  
 Budget shortfall year-to-date \$3,575.20  
 Non-Budget: Donation to Youth Group \$200.00  
 Lloyd Willoughby Memorial \$165.00





## Faith That Blooms Anew

"Why are you anxious?" asked our Lord. Then He said, "Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow. They neither toil nor spin; yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these." (Matthew 6:28–29, NIV)

Jesus' words remind us that just as God clothes the lilies of the field in beauty and splendor, he also provides faithfully for his people. The same Creator who tends to the flowers of spring cares for every detail of our lives.

People of faith come to see that truth unfold year after year — in the budding trees, the soft blossoms, and the steady return of color after winter's gray. God's reliability is woven into creation itself.

As poet Adeline Whitney once wrote:

*God does not send strange flowers every year,  
When the Spring wind blows o'er the pleasant places,  
The same dear things lift up the same fair faces,  
The violet is here.*

Each spring, those familiar blooms whisper the same promise: God is faithful still.

*"May you have warm words on a cold evening, a full moon on a dark night,  
and the road downhill all the way to your door."  
-Irish Blessing*

## TRINITY LUTHERAN ALTAR GUILD

Trinity Altar Guild met at 10am on Tuesday, February 3, with eleven members present (Pastor, Deb, Katie, Dave, Pat, Joyce, Denise, Peggy, Cindy, Jessica and Jennie). Pastor opened with prayer. Scrumptious refreshments were provided by our hostesses Kim & Cindy. Pastor Picard presented the program on the Second Commandment, which he feels is the most misunderstood. A young person's interpretation could mean it was about foul language, but it is more. It is more about using God's name as leverage to get someone to do something or to manipulate others to do what you want them to do.

**Business Meeting:** Chairman Deb called the business meeting to order. Pat read the minutes of the January meeting which were approved with the addition that our new members are Angela Essick and Michele Gilchrist. Katie gave the treasurer's report. She has paid \$69.12 for 4 boxes of wafers and \$64.20 to Candi's. Our balance is \$1,309.03.

**Old Business:** The new bottles of wine are in ½ gallon bottles, so Deb will transfer to smaller bottles. All supplies are good.

**New Business:** The ham & bean luncheon is this Sunday. Everything has been signed up for. We received \$250 Thrivent Action Team funds. With these funds, Deb has purchased small plates, napkins and tablecloths, and ordered 8 homemade pies. She will also purchase ingredients for mulligatawny soup, and use any leftover money to purchase paper plates. \* The 3 beautiful new winter banners have been up in January. \* Thank you to Cindy for making the Altar Guild 2026 yearbooks.

**Closing:** Our next meeting will be held Tuesday, March 3 (now changed to March 10) at 10:00am, with hostesses Deb Lefler and Katie Snow. Pastor will continue our study of Luther's Small Catechism. Deb closed the meeting by reading a poem written by Peggy White.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Pat Jenkins, Secretary



## Christian Symbol: ROOSTER

The rooster reminds us of Peter's threefold denial of Jesus on the night of his trial (Matthew 26:34). Because of this, it often symbolizes human weakness and faithlessness — especially when faith is tested. Yet, the rooster also calls to mind watchfulness. Its early-morning crowing echoes Jesus' words about being alert for his return: "Therefore keep watch because you do not know when the owner of the house will come back — whether in the evening, or at midnight, or when the rooster crows, or at dawn" (Mark 13:35, NIV).

## TRINITY LUTHERAN WOMEN'S MISSIONARY LEAGUE

Trinity LWML met on Wednesday, February 11 at 6:00pm, with 11 members in attendance. Hostesses LuAnn Leavengood and Lauren Gangel provided refreshments. Jennie gave the program by sharing Psalm 91. All members then united in praying the Lord's Prayer.

**Business Meeting:** President LouAnn called the meeting to order. Lauren read the minutes of the January meeting and they were approved. Cindy gave the treasurer's report: she deposited mites, dues & birthdays; she paid Peggy \$14.72 for cards. Our current balance is \$1,469.78, which includes \$150.03 for mites.

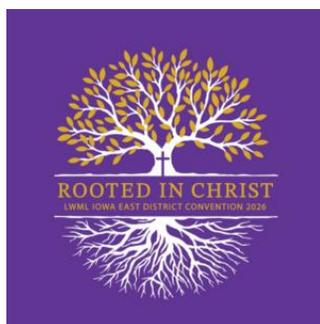
**Cards:** Peggy sent out 8 thinking of you cards and 1 get-well card.

**Old Business:** All the baby blankets have been edged and returned. 18 have been washed and the rest will be done this week. We still need to make tags to attach to the blankets. \* The sign-up sheet for the Ash Wednesday soup supper is filled.

**New Business:** The District Convention will be held June 11-13 in Iowa City. Online registration opens on March 1. Convention prices are not available yet. \* The Spring Zone Rally will be held on Saturday, April 11 at St. Paul, Lacona. \* Peggy Wagner makes crocheted Santa doorknob covers that she offered to sell at the rummage sale for \$4 each. \* This year's mission project for Lutheran World Relief is school kits. We will collect items throughout Lent and again in the fall.

**Next Meeting and Closing:** Next month we will hold a brief meeting on March 11 at 6:00pm, prior to the Lenten service. Hostesses for March will be Jennie & Stacy, and there will be no program. The meeting adjourned at 6:25pm with all members joining in the LWML pledge.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Lauren Gangel, Secretary



**“ROOTED IN CHRIST”** is the theme of the 2026 LWML Iowa East District Convention scheduled for June 11-13 at The Graduate Hotel, 210 South Dubuque St., Iowa City. The hotel is near the University of Iowa campus, shops, museums, and restaurants. Gather with your LWML sisters, participate in servant activities, help fill the Mite Water Bucket and more! Registration is online only from March 1 through May 1. For more information, to register online and reserve your hotel room, visit the IED convention page at <https://lwml-ied.org/2026-iowa-east-district-convention>.

## THE LUTHERAN HOUR

“The Lutheran Hour” can be heard on radio station WHO, am1040, each Sunday morning at 7:30am. Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler will present three of the messages in March.

### March 1: “The Fifth Act” 1 Cor. 4:1

Through the Bible, God invites us to help Him complete the unfinished drama He’s been writing for the world.

### March 8: “What Was the Price on That?” 1 Corinthians 6:19-20

#### Guest Speaker: Rev. Dr. Daniel Paavola

When we couldn’t pay the price of our redemption, God did so completely by the life of Jesus.

### March 15: “No Command from the Lord” 1 Corinthians 7:6-7

Jesus is the only way to God, but there are many adventures with Jesus. Which ones will you pick?

### March 22: “Meeting You Where You Are” 1 Corinthians 9:19-23

#### Guest Speaker Rev. Gregory Manning

Jesus meets you where you are, not where you should have been.

### March 29: “Dime-Sized” 1 Corinthians 13:11

God doesn’t look for valuable, desirable, beautiful people so that He can love them. God loves first, and by loving them He makes people valuable, desirable, and beautiful.



## Lessons From a Little Voice

A woman invited several guests over for dinner. When everyone gathered around the table, she turned to her 6-year-old daughter and asked, "Would you like to say the blessing?"

"I don't know what to say," the little girl replied.

Her mother smiled. "Just say what you hear Mommy say."

The child bowed her head and prayed sincerely, "Dear Lord, why on earth did I invite all these people to dinner?"



## HEARTFELT THANKS

**OUR THANKS TO** Trinity Altar Guild, Jan Ebert and Denise Emal for the beautiful new winter banners which were displayed during most of January & February. The one in front was purchased by Trinity Altar Guild. The two in the choir area were purchased by Jan & Denise in loving memory of Bud Ebert.

**ON BEHALF OF** the Trinity Altar Guild, we wish to extend our sincere thanks to the congregation for supporting our annual Ham & Bean/ Mulligatawny Soup lunch. A special thanks to everyone for providing food items, serving and cleaning up. The proceeds help with the purchase of banners and communion supplies. Thrivent Action Teams provided \$250 for this event! Sincerely, *Deb Lefler, Chairman*

**THANK YOU TO** everyone for your prayers, cards, phone calls & encouragement. I'm doing really good now with my two new hips! ~ *Carolyn Greatbatch*

## OFFERING GUIDELINES

- **Offerings** are recorded with care, accuracy, and confidentiality.
- **Numbered offering envelopes** correspond to a specific individual or family. If you use your assigned envelope, no name is needed.
- **Cash gifts** must be in an envelope to receive contribution credit.
- If **multiple envelopes** are given in the same week, they are added together and recorded as one transaction.
- **Please write clearly** and legibly when information is needed.
- **The first envelope** used each year (Initial Offering) helps cover the cost of the envelopes (approximately \$5 per box).
- Clearly mark **designated gifts**.
- If donating for **multiple purposes** (e.g. Ash Wednesday, Sunday offering, lawn mowing), please **write separate checks**.
- We are also rolling out **Zeffy** as an **online giving option** for those who prefer to give electronically.
- **Questions?** Please contact the church office.
- **Thank you** for your support of Trinity Lutheran Church!



# Online Giving with Zeffy

Zeffy is a secure online giving option for those who prefer to give electronically. Online giving is **OPTIONAL**—traditional envelope and check giving will continue as usual.

- Zeffy allows you to:
  - Give to Sunday offering
  - Give to designated funds (special services, Lawn Mowing, etc.)
  - Receive contribution credit automatically
    - When giving online, please select the correct designation(s) so your gift is recorded properly.
- Online contributions are recorded in the church's giving records and included in year-end statements.
- If you give both online and by envelope, both methods will be credited to you.
- 

## How to Give Online with Zeffy



1. Open the giving page
  - Scan the QR Code, or
  - Visit:  
<https://www.zeffy.com/en-US/donation-form/weekly-offering-3>
2. Enter the amount
3. Enter your contact information
  - This ensures your gift is credited correctly and included in year-end statements.
4. Select the fund
  - Choose one fund (Sunday Offering, Ash Wednesday, Lawn Mowing, etc.).
5. Review the Zeffy support option
  - Zeffy does not charge the church fees.
  - You may choose to add an optional contribution to support Zeffy (this is optional). Change to \$0 as a donation to Zeffy if not giving to support Zeffy.
6. Submit your gift
  - Complete your donation using the payment options provided.
7. Receive confirmation
  - You will receive a confirmation email for your records.

### Important Note About Multiple Designations

- If you wish to give to more than one fund, please submit separate transactions for each designation.

For questions about online giving, designations, or records, contact the church office.

## We Have Tomorrow!

During the Korean conflict, journalist Marguerite Higgins, a courageous and award-winning war correspondent, spoke with a young soldier shivering in the bitter cold. He was eating from a tin can, his face streaked with mud, when she asked, "If I could give you anything in the world you wanted, what would you ask for?"

The soldier paused for a moment, then answered quietly, "Give me tomorrow."

What a simple yet profound longing. For those living in hardship, tomorrow represents hope—the chance to see another sunrise, to experience peace, to begin again.

As Christians, we live with the blessed assurance that we not only have today, but also tomorrow—an eternal tomorrow promised through the risen Christ. Scripture reminds us, "Death has been swallowed up in victory" (1 Corinthians 15:54, NRSV). And again, "Thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ" (1 Corinthians 15:57, NRSV). Because of Christ's resurrection, we no longer fear what tomorrow may bring. Our future is secure, our hope unshaken. In Him, tomorrow is already ours.



## If God Had Voicemail

Have you ever wondered what would happen if God used voicemail to handle all our prayers? Let's imagine it for a moment.

I had just finished gossiping and wanted to confess, so I got ready to pray—or rather, to "call." Immediately, a voice answered:

"You've reached the throne room of Heaven, the Prayer Department. All of our representatives are currently assisting other callers. Your call is important to us, and we want to help you. Please stay on the line, and your request will be answered in the order it was received."

Soft music plays. Then another message comes on:

"Listen carefully to the following options and press the appropriate number.

Press 1 for prayer for a loved one.

Press 2 for prayer for your church.

Press 3 to give thanks.

Press 4 to confess sins.

Press 5 for salvation.

Press 6 for physical needs.

To repeat this menu, press 9."



Since I had a sin to confess, I pressed 4. Another voice responded cheerfully: "We're so glad to help you with your confession of sins. Please select from the following options:

If you cursed, press 1.

If you yelled at your spouse or another family member, press 2.

If you gossiped, press 3..."

The list went on and on.

About then I decided to hang up and keep on gossiping. But then I remembered what the Bible says about God and how he attends to our needs. He doesn't route our prayers through a heavenly call center or put us on hold. We don't get busy signals, menus or automated voices.

Instead, our Father listens instantly, personally, and lovingly. Instead of a voice mail system, he says, "Before they call I will answer; while they are still speaking I will hear." (Isaiah 65:24, KJV)



## **When Life Needs a Little Wind**

Botanists say that trees need the powerful March winds to flex their trunks and main branches, so that the sap is drawn up to nourish the budding leaves.

Perhaps we need the gales of life in the same way, though we dislike enduring them. A blustery period in our fortunes is often the prelude to a new spring of life and health, success and happiness, when we keep steadfast in faith and look to the good in spite of appearances. —Jane Truax

*“Music comes from an icicle as it melts, to live again  
as spring water.” ~ Henry Williamson*