



Monthly Monitor

March 2023

Clear As Mud

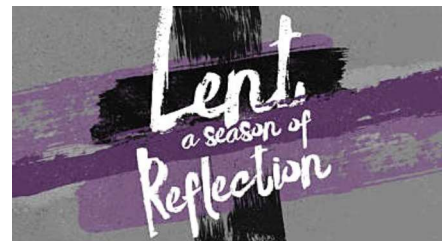
It's hard to believe, but we've already come to the end of our 2nd month in 2023 and March is just around the corner. And when I think of one word to describe the weather in March here in the Midwest, the word that comes to my mind is mud. If there is ever a month that you can count on it being muddy, it's March.

March is that transition month between winter and spring, and just like most transitions in life, things can get messy.

As a kid I can remember sledding and playing in the snow at the beginning of March and splashing through the mud puddles and making a mess of my clothes by the end of the month. I remember growing impatient as a child during the month of March. Much of my free time was spent in the house waiting. Waiting for spring, waiting for the mud to dry, waiting for the sun to shine. It was hard as a child to grasp the big picture. I just wanted the beautiful spring and summer months to be here and I didn't realize that it was only because of the muddy, mucky, melty March days that a beautiful spring was even possible. It was all part of the process, but I just didn't see that; I couldn't see past the mud.

In John chapter 9 we can read a story about mud. In this account from scripture, Jesus spits on the ground and makes mud. He then uses that mud to heal a blind man by putting it on his eyes. Once the blind man washes the mud away, he can see for the first time in his life. Jesus used the mud as part of the healing process that gave the blind man sight.

We are also in the midst of the season of Lent right now in the church year. It is a season for reflection and repentance as we wait in the gloom for 40 days for the Passion of Holy Week and the joyous celebration of the Resurrection when the Son comes out, dries all of our tears and brings forth for us the beauty of eternal life and salvation.



So, what kind of "mud" are you dealing with in your life right now? Do you feel like a cooped-up kid stuck in the house waiting for the sun to shine and the mud to dry? Remember that going through the gloomy days of Lent and the "muddy" days of life is all part of the process. Our Lord has great plans for all of us, but sometimes we need to be patient. If you are stuck in a muddy rut right now, remember that God can use the "muddy" situations in life to help us see better.

That is my prayer for each one of you this March. No matter what situations you are in, good or bad, I pray that God would use them to improve your "vision" of His plan for you and help you grow closer to Him as we patiently wait for our Easter celebration.

Thank God for March, thank God for Lent and for mud, and for the promise of better vision and new growth by faith in Christ.

-Pastor Seth Kaiser



Enjoying God's Gift of Money

"God...richly provides us with everything to enjoy" (1 Timothy 6:17). Of all the wonderful gifts that God gives us, the one we struggle with the most is money. In order to enjoy money, we need to control it rather than letting it control us. Controlling our money requires spending some time and effort in planning how we are going to save, spend, and give it. If we fail to control and plan how we are going to manage our money, our financial lives will be filled with disappointment, frustration, and chaos, rather than the enjoyment of the money God enables us to earn (Deuteronomy 8:18).

God's Word gives us wisdom on the importance of saving, spending, and giving money so money can be a blessing that we can enjoy.



Saving: It is not easy to save money because our sinful nature is always craving for more and more possessions, as luxuries become, in our minds, necessities. The Bible tells us that saving for the future and investing what we save is a wise thing to do. In Proverbs 21:20 we read, *"Precious treasure and oil are in a wise man's dwelling, but a foolish man devours it."* We are also told to observe the ant who gathers food for the winter (Proverbs 6:6-8). Saving money will help us make better decisions and ensure that we will have money to pay for things we need without incurring interest charges. Saving will enable us to enjoy our money because we won't always be in a financial crisis.



Spending: Televangelist John Hagee wrote, "Since my money is God's money, every spending decision I make is a spiritual decision." In Matthew's Gospel, we are warned, *"Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy..."* (Matthew 6:19). Only by controlling our spending on luxuries for ourselves will we be able to save and to give in ways that lay up treasures in Heaven. In order to use wisely and enjoy the money God gives us, we need to have a spending plan.



Giving: By God's grace, we will live wisely in order to give generously. Jesus said, *"It is more blessed to give than to receive"* (Acts 20:35). Through the work of the Holy Spirit, we will be able and willing to give money through our church on the first day of every week according to the blessings that we receive from Him (1 Corinthians 16:2). As Rev. Stephen Olford, a 20th-century Christian leader, aptly stated, "Giving satisfies the soul, edifies the church, and magnifies the Lord." God's Word exhorts us to give cheerfully and generously (2 Corinthians 9:7). In giving, we emulate God's nature of giving, which enables us to experience the joy of giving.

Stewardship Corner

God Makes People Extraordinary

Scripture is full of instances where God has used ordinary people like us to accomplish extraordinary things. He chose a stammering Moses to lead His people out of bondage, self-serving fishermen, James and John, to lead His Church and spread the Gospel, impulsive Peter's confession upon which to build His Church, and Paul, who spoke of a thorn in his flesh, to be the first great missionary of the Christian Church. God uses imperfect people, those whom the world considers weak and flawed, to extend His kingdom. When we allow ourselves to be used by God in whatever way He chooses, He takes our meager talents and blesses them.





Trinity Lutheran School

The Classroom Chronicles

March

February brought with it mid-year NWEA testing, snow days, our annual school-wide bowling field trip, the end of our "A" team basketball season & pep assembly, Valentine's Day, and our winter break long weekend. There is never a dull moment in our school!

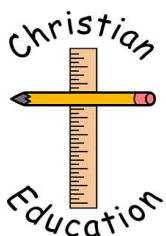
The month of March brings not only the promise of Easter and the excitement of spring, but also school enrollment / re-enrollment. We have an Open House / K-8 Art Fair scheduled for Thursday, March 2nd from 5:30-7:30 p.m. If you know families with school-age children, please encourage them to attend and check out what makes Trinity special. We always look forward to welcoming new families to our school and church community. Anyone who is interested in our school is welcome to call the office to ask questions or set up a tour. We do try to limit our classroom size in an effort to appropriately provide a quality academic experience for our students. Call the school today to set up a tour!

March is also "Reading Month" and our teacher committee has some exciting things planned for our students to celebrate throughout the month. Be sure to watch for pictures of our fun in the next Monitor. We will finish out the month with Spring Break - which has to mean spring weather, right? Let's hope so.

In HIS Service,
Mrs. Karen Friebe



The kindergarten class celebrating the 100th day of the school year.



Our Mission is to provide a Christ-centered education for all of God's children.

Our Vision: We prepare students for the future by equipping them with **spiritual strength**, establishing a foundation of **academic achievement**, and creating **Christian leaders**.





Trinity Lutheran School

The Classroom Chronicles

March

**K-8TH OPEN HOUSE
& ART FAIR**

**MARCH 2ND
5:30-7:30 P.M.**



**VISIT THE STUDENT ART
"GALLERY"**

**TOUR THE SCHOOL
EAT ICE CREAM**



2nd Quarter

Honor Roll with Distinction GPA 4.0

*Brevin Chambers
Grant Herbolsheimer
Mairyn Smith
Micah Tomaszewsky*

High Honor Roll GPA 3.5 –3.9

*Molly Beethe
Grant Jeske
Jack Kohn
Adam Mazure
Brycen Reszke
Nathan Wuerfel
Isabella Damore
Alaina Gushow
Alexander Gushow
Ahnuh Mazure
Kaitlyn Neiman
Libby Paveglio*

*Tyler Day
Cal Freehling
Ella Freehling
Avery Giffel
Owen Kunding
Jared Wuerfel
Emily Beethe
Emerson Chambers
Christian Cummings
Rachael Demott
Robby Samborn
Heiress Trawick
Kash Warmbier*

Honor Roll GPA 3.0 –3.49

*Alaina Burk
Hadley Eauclaire
Brady Giffel
Isaiah Nuffer
Olivia Rytlewski
Elena Johnson
Evelynn Wojciechowski
Wyatt Jeske
Addisyn Kotewa
Alina Starke
Chloe Tasior*



2023-2024 School Year

Enrollment Dates

March 15th	Re-Enrollment start date for all current students AND Preschool Enrollment Opens
March 22nd	Trinity Monitor Congregation Enrollment
March 29th	Open (Community) Enrollment

Enrollment Fee

March 1st-May 31st <i>for the following year</i>	Grades K-8th \$100/child
After May 31st	Grades K-8th \$200/child

Announcements



Thank you to everyone who has taken home a Tie Blanket Kit to complete for Phil's Friends. You have

helped cancer patients by taking time to tie a blanket that will keep them warm while they receive Chemo treatments. You have been such a blessing!

Just a reminder: please return your blanket to the bin in the church narthex by Sunday, March 19 in the bag you received your kit in. This way we can check off that your blanket has been returned. Thank you again for your help and participation!!

SPECIAL VOTERS MEETING

The members of Trinity have approved the request to continue researching the requirements necessary to convert the parsonage into an early childhood center. At the special voters meeting Monday the 6th members overwhelmingly approved a motion to draw up plans and solicit construction bids for the project. The initial cost will be roughly \$15,000, paid for with school funds and the church general fund. Donations will also be accepted. If the project proves to be viable, voters will be asked for additional approval before moving forward.

What's Your 80's

Thank you, Trinity Members! The Friendship Guild would like to thank all of Trinity's members who donated pairs of socks for our LWML "What's your 80?" sock collection last fall. 71 pairs of women's socks, 58 pairs of men's socks, and 72 pairs of children's socks were collected, making a grand total of 201 pairs of socks. Special thanks to Janice Feinauer for delivering half of these socks to the Women's Shelter on Midland Road and the other half to the Samaritan Rescue Mission in Bay City. Thanks to your generosity we were able to fulfill the "What's your 80?" program 2.5 times. Praise God!



Need for Serviceable Men's and Children's Clothing **Orphan Grain Train--Michigan**

Most people give little thought to how valuable clothing is to war refugees or people elsewhere in the world who live in distressed or impoverished conditions. They do not have closets like ours or the bounty we enjoy. In so many cases they have little more to wear than what presently covers their bodies. That is why Orphan Grain Train—Michigan gathers and distributes the goods we do.

Experience shows that women's clothing has more commonly been donated. But men's clothing and all sizes of children's clothing is especially needed. Whether for children in the tropics of Panama or the midwinter of Kyrgyzstan, the mission of Orphan Grain Train is committed by the mercy of Christ to supply those with critical human needs. Won't you help? Please survey your own closets and perhaps find what you no longer need but others would treasure. Orphan Grain Train, located in Sebawaing, is currently preparing its next and tenth international shipment—each distribution of which carries more than ten tons of life-sustaining goods.

For more information contact Pastor Dave Reed at
PastorDaveReed@gmail.com, Branch Manager - Orphan Grain Train--Michigan



Lenten Worship Schedule

Lenten Worship

Wednesday

March 1, 8, 15, 22 & 29
6:00 p.m.

Palm Sunday

April 2 at 8:30 & 10:30 a.m.

Maundy Thursday

April 6 at 6:00 p.m.

Good Friday

April 7 at 6:00 p.m.

Easter Sunday

April 9 at 7:00 & 10:30 a.m.

Lenten Dinners

Dinner will be served from
4:30-5:30 p.m.

*Free-will offering
to benefit class field trips.*

***If school is canceled because of
inclement weather,
the dinner will be canceled
as well.***



Relief for Human Need Worldwide



**TRINITY MONITOR
LUTHERAN CHURCH &
SCHOOL**

SATURDAY, MARCH 18, 2023 | 7:05 PM
DOW EVENT CENTER, SAGINAW



VS.



THE SAGINAW SPIRIT WELCOMES TRINITY MONITOR LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL FOR A FUN NIGHT OF HOCKEY AND FUNDRAISING. CHEER ON THE SPIRIT AS WE FACE-OFF AGAINST THE HAMILTON BULLDOGS.

TO PURCHASE TICKETS ONLINE:
VISIT:
<https://www.saginawspirit.net/groupsales/>
USERNAME: TRINITYMONITOR
PASSWORD: SPIRIT

\$15 UPPER LEVEL TICKET

\$5 FROM EACH TICKET SOLD BENEFITS TRINITY MONITOR LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TICKETS, CONTACT
989-497-6507 | GBOUVY@SAGINAWSPIRIT.COM

ONLINE GIVING

Follow the "Giving" link on the Trinity website at
www.trinitymonitor.org

or

Text the word "GIVE" to 989-270-0281 and follow the directions.

Thank you

for your ongoing support of the ministry here at Trinity Lutheran Church and School. Your offerings are gifts to God. They help us serve Him as a witness to our community. Know that we seek to use these resources to the glory of God and the furthering of His Kingdom.



Holy Land Trip 2024

Visit the Holy Land in 2024! Walk where Abraham and King David did. See where Jesus preached to the crowds. Ride a boat on the Sea of Galilee. Visit Jerusalem and the site of the temple. Mr. Patrick Winningham, a Valley Lutheran High School teacher, will lead a trip to Israel (with an optional extension to Jordan) in June of 2024. There will be an informational meeting on Monday, March 6 at VLHS in the RC. Please consider attending for more information about this exciting opportunity. Contact Patrick Winningham (pwinningham@vlhs.com) for more details.

Music Department Tour Home Concert

The VLHS Music Department will present a Lenten worship concert on Sunday, March 19 at 3 p.m. at Trinity Lutheran Church, Reese. This service is the final concert of a 5-day, 6-concert tour through Ohio, Kentucky, Tennessee, Indiana, and Michigan. We invite you to join us as we reflect on God's 'Love Unknown' - the overwhelming and incomprehensible love the Father showed us through his Son.

Spring Information Night

Valley Lutheran invites current 6th, 7th, and 8th graders and their parents to our Spring Information Night, a station-based, one-hour, informative tour of Valley Lutheran. Hear how Valley is a place where students prepare, belong, and excel! Arrivals begin at 6 p.m. on Monday, March 20, 2023 with the last tour beginning at 7:00 p.m. Please let us know you're coming and choose your arrival time at www.vlhs.com/InfoNight. Contact Director of Communications & Admissions Amy Cooper at acooper@vlhs.com or 989-790-1676 with any questions. We look forward to seeing you there!