

April 2026



## HE IS RISEN.

### NOW PUT DOWN YOUR PHONE.

I want to tell you something that might surprise you: **things are better than your phone is telling you.**

I know, I know. You've been scrolling. We all have. At some point between Lent and Easter — between the solemn procession of Holy Week and the triumphant alleluias of Sunday morning — many of us have also been doom-scrolling, absorbing a curated parade of outrage, anxiety, and general civic despair, all conveniently formatted for a four-inch screen.

But here is the Easter news, and I mean this both theologically and practically: the tomb is empty, and so is most of the catastrophe on your timeline.

A recent piece from Axios makes an observation both obvious and startling: most Americans are too normal for Twitter, too busy for rage, and too neighborly to make the news. They mow each other's lawns, show up to Little League games, and drop off food when someone's sick — and never once post about it. They are, as the article calls them, a “monstrous, if silent, majority” of decent, hardworking, neighbor-helping people.

“The God who created the world from nothing also re-creates life and love so that death no longer has the last word.”—  
David Lose

The theologian David Lose has spent a career writing about Easter, and one of his central insights is this: resurrection is not a conclusion — it is a beginning. The empty tomb is not the period at the end of God's sentence about the world; it is an exclamation point at the start of something entirely new.

*continued on page 2*

## MARK YOUR CALENDARS

**Meramec Bluffs Gathering**  
Wednesday, April 1

**Maundy Thursday**  
Wednesday, April 2

**Maundy Thursday**  
Thursday, April 3

**Easter Worship services**  
Sunday, April 5

**Easter Monday - Office Closed**  
Monday, April 6

**YLY Packing boxes**  
Thursday, April 9

**Gateway Brown Bag assembly**  
Monday, April 13

**Gateway180 Sort Donations**  
Friday, April 17

**Gateway180 Prep & Serve Dinner**  
Saturday, April 25

**Trinity Book Club**  
Monday, April 27

### Trinitell Monthly Newsletter Deadline

The deadline for submitting articles for the May Trinitell is April 15. Email articles or information to Nicole Maloy at [communications@tlc-stl.org](mailto:communications@tlc-stl.org) or mail to Trinity.

# FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

*continued from page 1*

What strikes me about the resurrection accounts in the Gospels — and Lose notes this too — is that **nobody believed it at first**. Not Mary Magdalene. Not the disciples huddled behind a locked door. Not Thomas, whose theological position on the whole business remains memorable to this day. Everyone who encountered the risen Christ did so with fear, confusion, and a healthy dose of “wait, what?” Sounds familiar, doesn't it?

We live in a moment of genuine fear and genuine confusion. The algorithms that govern our phones are, frankly, in the business of manufacturing more of both. They have discovered what outrage-merchants have always known: anxiety is sticky. Fear keeps you scrolling. Despair is monetizable. Which is a sentence I did not expect to write in a church newsletter, and yet, here we are.

Easter says something different. As Lose observes, resurrection doesn't erase fear — notice that the disciples were still frightened on Sunday morning — but it refuses to give fear the final say. Easter courage isn't the absence of worry; it is the stubborn insistence that life is stronger than death, that love outlasts hate, and that the God who raised Jesus from the dead is also at work right now in the people quietly mowing their neighbor's lawn.

And here's the Lutheran kicker: we are simultaneously saint and sinner, yes — but also simultaneously *worse on social media than we are in person*, and better in our actual lives than we would ever guess from watching the news. Luther knew something about the gap between our worst impulses and our lived reality. He just didn't have Wi-Fi.

## TWO EASTER INVITATIONS

**First:** Close the app. Take a walk. Talk to your neighbor. You will find, I suspect, that the world is — as the Axios piece bluntly puts it — okay. Not perfect. Not pain-free. But okay. Filled with ordinary people doing ordinary good, mostly off the record and mostly without a hashtag.

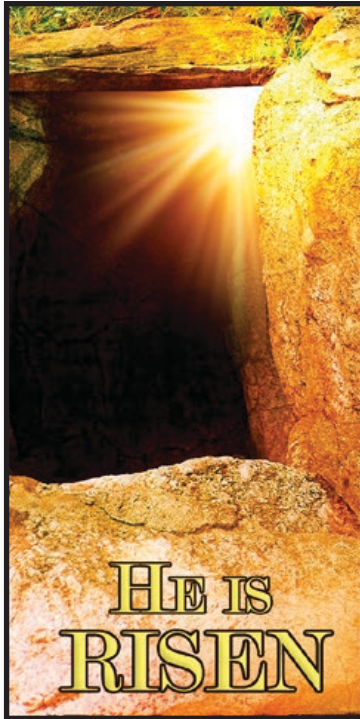
**Second:** Come to church and hear the oldest anti-doomscrolling message in human history. The world that looked, on Friday, like it had reached its inevitable, terrible conclusion — turned out to have more to say. There is a new beginning. There is always a new beginning. That's not naïveté. That's Easter.

***And Easter, as it turns out, has much better news than your phone.***

See you Sunday,  
Pastor Chris



# FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK



## Maundy Thursday Worship

April 2 at 6:30 pm

## Good Friday Worship

April 3 at 6:30 pm

## Easter Sunday Worship

April 5

8:00 am & 10:00 am

Maundy Thursday and Good Friday services will be available online. The 10:00 am Easter Service will also be available online. No childcare is available for these services.

# WORSHIP WITH US

Join Us **SUNDAY  
WORSHIP**

Trinity Lutheran Church

One Worship Service **ONLINE**  
Trinity YouTube Channel

**10:00 AM**

**INSIDE**  
Sanctuary

**ONE WORSHIP SERVICE  
AT 10:00 AM  
IN THE SANCTUARY  
AND ONLINE**

Our 10:00 AM worship service is available in person and online via our Trinity YouTube Channel. If you are unable to watch at 10:00 AM, you may view the services online at your convenience. To watch our worship services, please click [HERE](#).

# PASTOR EMERITUS REPORT

Roy Christell  
pastorroy@tlc-stl.org



When the disciples shared the proclamation of the *'best news ever,'* that is, the Easter announcement, **“He is Risen indeed,”** they added, “and He has appeared to Simon.” (Luke 24:34) In a sense, this was an invitation to talk with Simon, who could then tell the story. As followers of Jesus, we all have a story to tell of how Jesus is Risen and how we know it and what that means to us and for us. The news of Jesus Risen is true for all of us but may have a variety of implications for each of us. What a great opportunity we have, to ask others, “What does Jesus’ resurrection mean to you?” When we ask, think about the great stories we will hear! What great testimonies we will receive when we ask that question.

As we ask and listen, we might also think for a while how we might respond to our own question, “*What does Jesus’ resurrection mean to me?*” How would you put this amazing message into your own words? Is it about forgiveness? Is about life after... Is it about the fulfillment of Jesus’ promise “*I am with you always...*”? Is it about freedom from fear and the grave? What does Jesus, alive again, mean for you?

Long after people have put away their Easter decorations in a place where they will be ready to put them out again next year, we will still have this good news to share! Jesus is never “put away” for another time. Jesus has broken out from any storage place the world might try to put Him.

**Remember this,** the God Who raised Jesus from the dead, the God Who forgives and redeems sinners, the God Who so loved the world that He gave His only Son, is the one who guarantees the trustworthiness of this message.

“He is risen indeed...” and I have seen what the resurrection can mean for a human life. Ask me about it!

Pastor Roy



# ADULT FORUM

## APRIL ADULT FORUM SUNDAYS AT 11:15 AM IN ROOM 123

### **April 5: No Adult Forum—Easter Sunday**

### **April 12: Translations of the Bible - Part I**

Presenter: Dr. Gerhild Williams.

Translation has been central to Judeo-Christian tradition from the beginning, reflected in the biblical emphasis on the “Word” and early examples like Joseph using an interpreter. The idea of the Divine Logos and the spread of scripture across languages made translation essential for Judaism, Christianity, and Islam. This study will trace the history of biblical translation from its earliest stages through Wycliffe, then examine Luther and later translators and their influence.

### **April 19: Immigration from a lawyer’s viewpoint**

Presenter: Amanda Miller - Daughter of members Peggy and Scott Miller.

The Tahirih Justice Center is a national, nonprofit organization that serves women, girls, and all immigrant survivors of gender-based violence. Amanda will be covering the following: Debunking Common Immigration Myths, Types of Humanitarian Immigration Relief, Your Rights & How You Can Help, Overview of the current immigration system in US.

After graduating from Northwestern University in 2015 and the University of California, Davis, School of Law in 2018, Amanda joined the Tahirih Justice Center in 2024. As a Staff Attorney in the San Francisco Bay Area office, Amanda represents women, girls, and other survivors of gender-based violence in asylum. Prior to joining Tahirih, Amanda worked as a Corporate Associate at Simpson Thacher & Bartlett LLP, representing clients across the country in affirmative and defensive asylum proceedings. Right after law school, Amanda also served as Law Clerk to the Honorable Patricia Breckenridge at the Supreme Court of Missouri.

### **April 26: Translations of the Bible - Part II**

Presenter: Dr. Gerhild Williams.

Translation has been central to Judeo-Christian tradition from the beginning, reflected in the biblical emphasis on the “Word” and early examples like Joseph using an interpreter. The idea of the Divine Logos and the spread of scripture across languages made translation essential for Judaism, Christianity, and Islam. This study will trace the history of biblical translation from its earliest stages through Wycliffe, then examine Luther and later translators and their influence.

# MARCH COUNCIL MINUTES

**Date:** March 15, 2026

**Present:** Pastor Chris Naig, Jeff Haferkamp, Mike Hower, Elaine Larson, John Engle, Dan Fry, Eric Halter, Sasi Jeyarajan, Gene Kerr, Mikki Lee, Jim Mueller, and Facilities Manager Mike Sharitz

**Call to Order:** 11:15AM

**Opening Prayer:** Jeff Haferkamp

**Minutes from February Meeting:** Approved.

## **President's Report—Jeff Haferkamp, President**

- Council discussed and approved moving the meeting time to “before the church service” at 9:00 am instead of the current 11:15 am time.

## **Facilities Report—Mike Sharitz, Facilities Manager**

- Mike Sharitz prepared a comprehensive review of TLC's facility capital needs. Items were grouped as follows:
  - Immediate Needs - parking lot-patch, repair, and seal: cost \$16,500. The Council authorized Mike to proceed. Property mulching (80-90 cu yards); \$8,000- \$9,000 is the quote for mulching. Council discussed asking for volunteers to assist in spreading the mulch to save money. No vote taken yet.
  - Future Concerns to be further discussed/scoped - gym floor replacement, west side extension lighting, bell tower base, preschool office windows
  - Longer-Term Planning Items -
    - HVAC systems: 16 total systems, 4 rooftop units (2 replaced two years ago at a cost of \$160,000). Of 12 furnaces, 3 were replaced in last 8 years and 9 are 25+ yrs old. Replacement costs run at ~\$30,000 per unit plus 6 older A/C condensers will also need eventual replacement. Mike to develop time-phased plan; total long-term exposure estimated at ~\$300,000.
    - Parking lot replacement: last completed 10 years ago at a cost of \$178,000. Expected to last another 8-10 years.
    - Roof leak issues: Recommending TPO roofing as is currently on the preschool, should be installed over the atrium.
    - Other areas to consider are skylights, broken sewer pipe, preschool gym floor/cabinets, streaming equipment, gym chairs, & upper hallway paint.

## **Pastor's Report—Pastor Chris**

- Three new members this month
- 3 Baptisms during Lent
- double interment Monday
- Lenten Services are receiving very positive responses especially from the teens.
- Noting the discussion on capital needs: *“Our congregation's priority remains building relationships/serving Christ.”*

*continued on page 7*

# MARCH COUNCIL MINUTES

*continued from page 6*

## **Treasurer's Report**

- February's apparent deficit is a timing issue. Stock transfer paperwork for member giving distribution was delayed pending new officer signatures. The church is in good financial shape.
- Cemetery landscape fund ~\$12,000 received with a \$49,000 total expected by Fred Meyland-Smith.
- 125th mission fundraiser on January 31 raised ~\$33,000. Council agreed to fund the endowment by up to \$20K to match the fundraiser.
- Preschool fundraiser in February (Christy Cole) raised ~\$15,000, combined with the \$15,000 from last year, so ~\$30,000 is now available for preschool improvements.
- Council Discretionary Fund:
  - Two recent charges were clarified.
  - Floor scrubber will be charged to endowment funds.
  - the sewer pipe liner will be charged to repair/maintenance.

## **New Business**

- Preschool playground: sweet gum trees leave balls all over the playground. Two options presented by Mike S (cut trees or try treatment). Council gave approval to proceed this year with cheaper option of treatment of trees (\$580). Christy Cole was given authorization to address small items such as cabinets as needed with her cash reserves (but must coordinate spending with Pastor & Mike S).

## **Next Council Meeting**

- Sunday, April 19, 2026 at 9:00 AM in the Conference Room.

**Meeting Adjourned at 12:35 PM.**

*Detailed monthly financial reports are available upon request. Contact Mike Hower at [how-hep@msn.com](mailto:how-hep@msn.com).*

### **STATUS OF ENVELOPE GIVING THROUGH FEBRUARY 28, 2026**

<b>Budget through 2/28/26</b>	\$98,145
<b>Actual Giving through 2/28/26</b>	\$75,248
<b>Surplus (Shortfall)</b>	(\$22,897)

# FACILITY REPORT

Mike Sharitz  
facility@tlc-stl.org

As I mentioned last month, we have been dealing with several new leaks in the Gym. One leak was due to a leaking drain and has been repaired. We are having trouble keeping the drains clean. These drains clog with leaves and actually stop the flow of water resulting of 4 to 5 inches of water standing on area of the gym roof. This causes water to be higher than flashing and other protrusions on the roof and allows water to seep in. We had all the drains cleaned by Hoffman Brothers. We have over 30 drains on the roof. All were cleaned and drain lines were inspected to be sure there was no blockages. As a result, we will need to periodically clear the roof and drains.

The week of spring break we cleaned, patched, sealed and re-stripped the parking lot. This is done every 5 years to help maintain the parking lot and hopefully help it last another 10 years or more.

Mike Sharitz  
Facilities Coordinator

# COLUMBARIUM

The Trinity Columbarium is now a reality and this new creation will be a point of pride for our church community for the next 125 years...but the work isn't completed.

Trinity is now embarking on a project to upgrade the landscaping to beautify the entire cemetery and you are invited to help. Work with a professional landscaping firm is underway with the objective of creating a welcoming and peaceful surrounding for this special place by the fall of this year.

Please consider making a gift and join this effort to enhance this part of Trinity's "Home". Gifts of \$500 will add a tree and gifts of \$200 will provide a pair of shrubs. Gifts should be labeled "Cemetery Beautification" on the memo line and given to the church office before the end of April.

Fred Meyland-Smith  
Project Leader - Landscaping of Trinity Cemetery



# CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

Stacey Drake  
kidsministry@tlc-stl.org

**VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL**  
**JUNE 22-26, 2026**  
**9 AM - NOON**

Registration is now open for Campers and Volunteers.

Open volunteer positions include crew leader or station leaders which include Bible story, crafts, snack and games.



**2026**  
**Trinity VBS**

**REGISTRATION NOW OPEN**

**\$50 per camper**

**June 22-26**  
**2026**

**9 am - Noon**

**Register by June 1, 2026**

**SNOWBALL MOUNTAIN CHALLENGE**

FIND YOUR STRENGTH IN GOD

Camper Registration

Volunteer Registration

The poster features a cartoon seal character wearing a green beanie and an orange jacket, holding a microphone. The background is yellow with blue and white text. There are two QR codes at the bottom, one for camper registration and one for volunteer registration, with arrows pointing to them from the respective labels.

# YOUTH LEADER

Rebecca Henderson  
yly@tlc-stl.org

## YOUTH LEADING YOUTH

The youth of Trinity are having a busy spring! On February 21st we had a successful game night with fun refreshments. It is so rewarding to witness these young people laughing and interacting with each other! We had nine youth in attendance. (5 girls and 4 boys). If you missed out, there are plenty of upcoming events to participate in.

We decided at our last meeting to start filling up our empty bulletin board in the youth room with photos of our adventures. There isn't much there yet, but we are looking forward to watching our collection grow! Feel free to stop in and see what we are up to.

On Thursday April 9th, we will be packing food boxes at Queeny Park from 6:00-8:30pm for Feed the Need. It is a great opportunity to be the Hands and Feet of Christ! A few things to note-


- We are meeting in the parking lot of the Weidman entrance at 5:00 pm. (I will bring dinner for the kids that they can eat before we get started. We also are asked to show up 30 minutes prior to our shift so I think this should give us enough time.)
- Everyone must wear close-toes shoes and remove all jewelry. Otherwise, they will not be able to participate.
- Anyone who wishes to bring canned foods or shelf stable foods to donate is encouraged to do so.

To RSVP to any of our events or if you have any questions; feel free to email me at [YLY@tlc-stl.org](mailto:YLY@tlc-stl.org). Thank you!

Rebecca Henderson,  
Youth LEADING youth  
Coordinator



**Youth LEADING Youth**



**April  
9  
6 pm**

**Queeny Park**

- wear close-toed shoes
- No jewelry

we will meet in the parking lot of the Weidman entrance at 5:00 pm. Dinner provided.

RSVP to Rebecca Henderson  
[yly@tlc-stl.org](mailto:yly@tlc-stl.org)

**FEED MY STARVING CHILDREN MOBILEPACK™**

**FeedtheNeedSTL.org**

# TRINITY PRESCHOOL

Christy Cole  
Director@tlc-preschool.org



The Preschool students and staff are refreshed and ready for April excitement following our Spring Break in March. This month our Preschoolers learned about God's love for us through the death of His son on the Cross. We will continue through the month of April celebrating new life while experiencing the Resurrection and Ascension of Jesus.

Last month, we held our Parent/Teacher Conferences. It was great to be able to share information of what goes on at Preschool with our parents. We have the best Preschool parents and our teachers love the support that is shared during our conference time together.

In April, we are looking forward to inviting our preschool moms in for a time of Chapel and "Muffins with Mom". Special thanks to Leslie Steinmeyer for designing our invitation and our Chapel presentation. The children are so anxious to honor their mothers at this very special Mother's program.

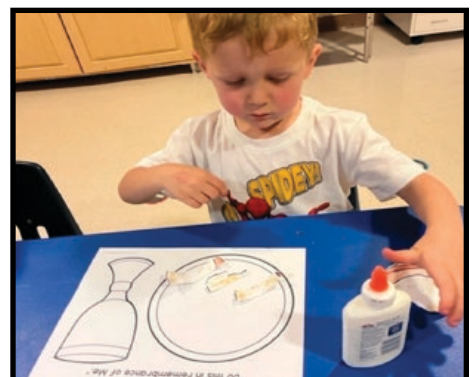
This Spring each class will have the opportunity to watch their class caterpillars change into beautiful butterflies over the weeks to follow. It will certainly be an exciting time and a wonderful learning opportunity for our children here at Preschool!

We are very excited about our upcoming Easter Egg Hunt. Special thanks to the Mission Committee for sharing funds to purchase our Easter Eggs for this special event. Our Easter Egg Hunt in the Outdoor Garden is one of the highlights of the Spring season for our preschoolers!

Please share the value of our Preschool with your friends and neighbors who may be looking for a quality Christian program for their preschoolers (Ages 1 1/2-5). A few openings remain for the 2026-2027 School Year. For more information feel free to visit our website, [www.tlc-preschool.org](http://www.tlc-preschool.org) or contact me at (636) 227-5720.

As always, we appreciate your prayers as we near the close of our 2025-2026 school year!

In Him,  
Christy Cole  
Preschool Director



# TRINITY PRESCHOOL

**Registration for the 2026-2027  
Registration Now Open**



## WE PROVIDE

- Classes for Ages 16 Months - 5 Years
- Christ-Centered Curriculum
- Play Based Approach to Learning
- Handwriting Without Tears Program
- Junior Kindergarten Program
- Child-Initiated Learning Experiences
- Age Appropriate Music Instruction Taught by a Dedicated Teacher
- Low Student to Teacher Ratio
- A Caring and Nurturing Atmosphere
- STEAM-based Program for all students



**For more information, contact us at**

Trinity Lutheran Preschool  
14088 Clayton Road, Chesterfield. MO 63017  
636-227-5720 or [Director@tlc-preschool.org](mailto:Director@tlc-preschool.org)  
[www.tlc-preschool.org](http://www.tlc-preschool.org)

Scan for Enrollment Page



**Best of Egypt: Walk in the Footsteps of Moses & the Holy Family with Trinity Lutheran and Rev. Chris Naig.**

**January 12 - 22, 2027**

**\$3,490 + Airfare**



**Included:** 10 nights in 5-star hotels (Double Occupancy); Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner daily; Entrance fees to all sites; All ground transportation in a private tour bus; Domestic flights in Egypt

**NOT included:** Gratuities for Guide, Driver, Hotels, Restaurants; Airfare; Personal expenses; travel insurance.

**Itinerary-**

- 12 JAN – Departure from USA
- 13 JAN – Arrival in Cairo
- 14 JAN – Pyramids of Giza & Grand Egyptian Museum
- 15 JAN – Coptic Cairo
- 16 JAN – Flight to Luxor & Start of Nile Cruise
- 17 JAN – West Bank of Luxor & Sail to Esna
- 18 JAN – Edfu & Kom Ombo Temples
- 19 JAN – Philae Temple & Nubian Village (Aswan)
- 20 JAN – Travel to St. Catherine (Sinai)
- 21 JAN – Mount Sinai & St. Catherine’s Monastery
- 22 JAN – Departure or Jordan Extension

- 4-Day Jordan Program: Petra, Mount Nebo & Amman
- Day 1: Arrival in Petra – Explore the Rose-Red City
  - Day 2: Petra – Mount Nebo – Madaba – Amman
  - Day 3: Amman City Tour
  - Day 4: Departure

Hope you can join me in Egypt and Jordan for this great expericance. More details in the link below. Peace, Chris

<https://www.eliastours.com/tours/best-of-egypt-walk-in-the-footsteps-of-moses-the-holy-family-with-rev-chris-naig>

# BE THE HANDS AND FEET OF CHRIST



## CLEANING SUPPLIES NEEDED

Several client families of Gateway180 will be moving into housing over the next couple of months. Gateway180 is in need of cleaning supplies to assist these families when they move. Please fill this bucket with **your choice** of cleaning supplies (you do not need to purchase all items listed):

- Liquid all purpose cleaner
- Toilet bowl cleaner
- Glass cleaner
- Toilet bowl brush
- Mop
- Microfiber cloths
- Sponges
- Paper towels
- Dish soap
- Broom & dust pan

**Please return filled buckets by  
Sunday, April 26**

**Thank you!**

# BE THE HANDS AND FEET OF CHRIST

## BREAD DOUGHNATION MINISTRY Every Friday & Saturday



This outreach started in 2004 when Morris Larson began picking up Panera's leftover bread, pastries, and bagels every Friday from the store off Clarkson and delivering them to various charities around the St. Louis area. After 3 years of doing it by himself, he organized a team to help and then we switched to the Panera store at Clayton and 141 when it opened. Panera sends an annual donation list for tax purposes which often totaled over \$30k a year and Morris recalls that one year it was over \$36,000. For 2025, Panera reported that the retail total was \$20,216. Since Panera changed their strategy to par-baking in 2025, the supply has been diminishing to about a bag or a box. To accommodate the smaller amounts, we have changed our routine a bit to make it less rigid.

One of us volunteers to pick up Panera's surplus products on Friday night (arriving at 8:50pm) and then that volunteer decides where they'd like to take it. We are charged to give it to people who are in need, ill, or underserved children.

- One option is to take it to Evertrue (LSS) Hilltop Senior Living in Eureka on Saturday morning. (This is where our 'Serve Sunday soup kits' go to.)
- Another option is bring it to church and store it in the freezer for someone else to take to Gateway 180 (one of our core ministries) later in the week.
- A third option is to take it to an inner city church/ministry the next day. We have been taking it to:
  - Antioch Baptist/St. Phillips ELCA: on Annie Malone Dr.
  - St. Patrick's Center: 800 N Tucker
  - Holy Cross: 8115 Church Road, in Baden

We would love for you to join us in distributing bread to those in need around our city! It can be a very fulfilling experience! You could volunteer for one Friday every other month when it fits your schedule.

Please call or text Corlyn Salisbury at (314) 608-9378 or email me at [salisbury04@gmail.com](mailto:salisbury04@gmail.com) if you are interested or want more details. I will be more than happy to answer any questions you have about this easy opportunity to serve those who suffer from food insecurity in our community.

Corlyn Salisbury

# BE THE HANDS AND FEET OF CHRIST

## GATEWAY BROWN BAG ASSEMBLY

Monday, April 13  
8:30 AM  
Trinity Kitchen

Gateway180 is one of Trinity's 5 core missions. As part of our mission to support Gateway180, once a month we assemble sandwiches to support the homeless served by Gateway180.

Our next Gateway Brown Bag assembly is scheduled for Monday, April 13 at 8:30 am in the Trinity kitchen. If you would like to help out, you can click [HERE](#) to sign up to volunteer or you can contact Ken Hardebeck at [Lhardebeck@aol.com](mailto:Lhardebeck@aol.com) or 314-605-4970. Thank you!

## BIBLICAL CONVERSATION

Tuesdays, 10:00 AM  
in Room 123

Trinity offers a Biblical Conversation on Tuesday mornings. Led by Pastor Chris, this is a chance to share thoughts and dig deeper into the readings for the upcoming Sunday Worship Service. These Biblical Conversations are open to everyone! Please plan to join us for this weekly conversation.

## NURSERY/CHILD CARE

Sundays, 9:45 AM — 11:15 AM  
in Nursery Room

All of God's children, whatever their ages or needs, are welcome in worship! Families with young children are encouraged to sit in the front rows. Childcare for infants to 3 year-olds is available in the Nursery (upstairs near the gym) during worship in September - May. Please sign in.

## HELP SORT DONATIONS AT GATEWAY180

Friday, April 17  
9:00 AM  
Meet in Trinity Atrium

Thanks to valuable partners, Gateway180 receives donations of food, clothing, personal care items, etc. for their clients. Once the donations are received, they are sorted and organized. A dedicated group has developed a well-organized system for managing donations but needs some help.

We are looking for volunteers to join us at Gateway180 on Friday, April 17 to sort donations. We will meet at Trinity at 9:00 am to carpool to Gateway180. If there is enough interest, we may stop for lunch on our way back. If you are interested or have any questions, please contact Kathy Gaal at [kgaal@sbcglobal.net](mailto:kgaal@sbcglobal.net) or 314-540-2690.



## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO PICKUP DONUTS

We are looking for volunteers to pick up pre-paid donuts from Schnucks on Sunday mornings. Contact Amy Jones at [office@tlc-stl.org](mailto:office@tlc-stl.org).

# BE THE HANDS AND FEET OF CHRIST

## APRIL TRINITY BOOK GROUP

Monday, April 27  
11:30 am in Room 123

**A Marriage at Sea: A True Story of Love,  
Obsession, and Shipwreck”**  
by Sophie Elmhirst

Maurice and Maralyn make an odd couple. He’s a loner, awkward and obsessive; she’s charismatic and ambitious. They share a horror of wasting their lives and dream of running away from it all. In June 1972, Maurice and Maralyn set sail in their boat. For nearly a year all went well, until deep in the Pacific, a breaching whale knocked a hole in their boat and it sank beneath the waves. What ensues is a fight to survive in the wild ocean, with little hope of rescue. Alone together for months in a tiny rubber raft, starving and exhausted, Maurice and Maralyn must find not only ways to stay alive but ways to get along, as their inner demons emerge and their marriage is put to the greatest of tests. A Marriage at Sea pairs an adrenaline-fueled high seas adventure with a gutting love story that asks why we love difficult people, and who we become under the most extreme conditions imaginable.

All are welcome to bring a lunch and join our discussion.

Reading ahead:

Monday, May 18  
“Wild Dark Shore”  
by Charlotte McConaghy

All are invited. Questions? Contact Karen Johnson at [mrsdrjx5@gmail.com](mailto:mrsdrjx5@gmail.com).

## PREPARE AND SERVE DINNER FOR GATEWAY180

Saturday, April 25  
2:30 PM  
Trinity Kitchen

Volunteers are needed to help with a dinner for Gateway180, a shelter supporting women, children, and families experiencing homelessness. They provide safe, nurturing emergency shelter and offer supportive housing programs that empower adults and families to become independent and permanently housed.

- The event takes place Saturday, April 25, and involves meal preparation at Trinity at 2:30 pm, followed by serving the meal at Gateway180.
- Meal prep: Starts at 2:30 pm, finished by 4:00 p.m.
- Serving at Gateway180: Depart Trinity at 4:00 pm, return around 7:00 pm. You can choose to only prepare or only serve—whatever fits your schedule.
- No experience needed; support will be provided

To volunteer or learn more, contact Kathy Gaal at [kgaal@sbcglobal.net](mailto:kgaal@sbcglobal.net) or 314-540-2690. Further details will be shared after sign-up.



# BE THE HANDS AND FEET OF CHRIST



## THRIVENT CARDS NEEDED

We are looking for Thrivent cards for these upcoming projects:

- Cleaning Supplies for Gateway180
- Meals Do Matter Cooking Sessions
- Supplies for Lantern Hill
- Summer Enrichment for Lantern Hill
- Gateway180 Lunch Bag Assembly
- Gateway180 Monthly Dinners
- VBS Supplies
- Preschool Summer Camp

Remember, if you are a Thrivent member, you have access to funds to use for your favorite service project or fundraiser! Contact Corlyn Salisbury, [salisbury04@gmail.com](mailto:salisbury04@gmail.com) if you'd like to help.

## NOT A THRIVENT MEMBER? You can join for \$19.95 and become a member

Did you know that anyone can pay \$19.95 to become a Thrivent member? This membership cost allows you to apply for 1 Thrivent card per year, valued at \$250.

The [application](#) is simple and it's a good deal for those who want to apply to Thrivent cards for our Trinity mission projects.

Christie Tietjen is willing to walk interested people through the application process. Please contact Christie at [Christie.Tietjen@experitec.com](mailto:Christie.Tietjen@experitec.com) for further information.



## APRIL MEAL PREP SESSIONS Sunday April 12 & 19 1:30 pm - 3:30 pm in the Gym

### Help Us Fill the MDM Freezer!

You may have noticed that the Meals Do Matter freezer is getting low on meals.

Join us on Sunday, April 12 & April 19 from 1:30 pm - 3:30 pm for Meals Do Matter cooking and assembly sessions. With your help, we can fill up the freezer and show our community that:

## THEY MATTER TO GOD AND THEY MATTER TO US!



# 1-MINUTE "PICK ME UPS"

**April 5, 2026: John 20:1-18, Easter Sunday**  
He Is Risen. Also, John and Peter Just... Went Home.

**April 12, 2026: John 20:19-31, Easter 2**  
In Defense of Thomas (He Was Just Out Running Errands)

**April 19, 2026: Acts 9:1-19a, Easter 3**  
Saul's Conversion: Most Dramatic Entrance in Church History (And the Bravest Walk You've Never Heard Of)

**April 26, 2026: Acts 16:16-34, Easter 4**  
Paul and Silas: Jailbreak Edition (Also, That Young Woman Deserved Better)



*These one-minute weekly video "pick me ups" are available on our [website](#). Click on the graphic and it will take you to the current week.*



# MEMBERSHIP NEWS & UPDATES

## THANK YOU!

- A big thank you to Jeff Haferkamp for going above and beyond! He took the time to blow and pick up all the sweet gum balls that were keeping our preschoolers from fully enjoying the playground. Thanks to Jeff, our kids have a safer and more fun place to play—we truly appreciate it!
- A heartfelt thank you to Ron Jones for all the hard work he puts into cleaning and maintaining our grounds—often without recognition. His dedication and tireless efforts do not go unnoticed. Trinity is truly better because of him.

## NEW MEMBERS

Welcome, Barbara Orzel, to Trinity! Barb knows Sandy & Richard Johnson. She enjoys gardening, reading and dancing. Barb came to us from Gethsemane Lutheran.

**Address:**

1767 Russet Valley Dr, St. Louis, MO 63146

**Phone:**

(314) 691-3845

**Email:**

borzel@live.com



# MEMBERSHIP NEWS & UPDATES

## THANK YOU!

Trinity received a note from Saint Philip's Evangelical Lutheran Church, dated March 19, 2026.

Dear Friends and Supporters,

Grace and peace to you in the name of our risen Lord, Jesus Christ.

On behalf of the St. Philip's Evangelical Lutheran Church family, we extend our heartfelt gratitude for your generous contribution following the devastating tornado that struck our beloved Ville Community on May 16<sup>th</sup>, 2025. In a moment when our community faced loss, disruption, and uncertainty, your generosity became a living testimony to God's promise.

Your gift has allowed us to respond swiftly to the needs of our neighbor's providing food, temporary shelter, essential supplies, and direct support to families whose lives were upended. Because of you, we have been able to stand as a beacon of hope in the midst of hardship, offering not only material assistance but also the reassurance that this community is not alone.

St. Philip's has always believed in the power of faith joined with action. Your magnanimity affirms that belief and strengthens our resolve to continue the work of restoration, healing, and rebuilding. We thank God for your compassion, and your partnership.

Please know that your contribution is already making a meaningful difference.

With deep appreciation and abiding hope,

Rev. Richard E. Ashley, Pastor  
St. Philip's Evangelical Lutheran Church  
2424 Annie Malone Drive  
St. Louis, Missouri 63113

# MEMBERSHIP NEWS & UPDATES

## UPCOMING BIRTHDAYS

Daniel Fry 4/1  
Eli Naig 4/2  
Will Meyland-Smith 4/3  
Amanda Anstine 4/4  
Charlie Forde 4/5  
Matt Goebel 4/6  
Cheryl Hick 4/6  
Austin Hope 4/6  
Walter Goerss 4/7  
Lisa Thomas 4/7  
Kendall Baumgart 4/8  
Carole Borchelt 4/8  
Sharon Hild 4/8  
Gary Kovash 4/8

Karen Person 4/8  
Steve Paquette 4/9  
Ira Snyder 4/10  
Adelyn Johnson 4/12  
Blakeley Merenda 4/12  
Tyler Merenda 4/12  
Owen Hughes 4/13  
Vinny LeMay 4/17  
Anna Ellsworth 4/18  
Karen Henselmeier 4/18  
Colin Wolf 4/18  
Lizzy Johnson 4/20  
Tina Johnson 4/20  
Micheal Patrick 4/20

Bernard McLaughlin 4/21  
Lori Roseman 4/21  
Doug Bruening 4/22  
Wendy Anstine 4/23  
Reed Goebel 4/23  
Colin Hughes 4/24  
Leo Mueller 4/25  
Madeline Blakeley 4/26  
Scott Miller 4/26  
Danny Steinmeyer 4/26  
Tommy Harper 4/28  
Nora Meyland-Smith 4/29  
Aruna Nadar 4/29  
Warren Smull 4/30

## UPCOMING ANNIVERSARIES

Jon & Kristy Baumgart 4/1/2006  
Lorin & Loretta Lofgren 4/8/1967  
Jon & Laura Mueller 4/9/2016  
Terry & Karen Call 4/13/1991

Mike & Heidi Hope 4/20/1985  
Gary & Dianne Kovash 4/22/1972  
Dan & Valerie Fry 4/25/1992  
Doug & Emily Bruening 4/26/2014

*Not seeing your birthday or anniversary? Please let the church office know so that we may update our records, [office@tlc-stl.org](mailto:office@tlc-stl.org) or 636-227-5432.*

If your email address or cell phone number has changed, or if we don't have your information, please use the Church Directory button on our website to update your information. If you would like a copy of the Church Directory, please call the church office at **636-227-5432**.

# MEMBERSHIP NEWS & UPDATES

## PRAYERS FROM MARCH 2026

**Thanksgiving and praise for...** Birth of Eliana Marie Hower Wiederer, granddaughter of Mike Hower and Mary Hepperly; Baptism of Serena McManus, daughter of Ian and Natalie (Patrick) McManus

**Please pray for...**

The Grelle Family (family friends of Megan Green (preschool teacher), Susan Adameck (friend of Paul Pohlers), Lois (Judy Sieve's sister), Harold Hagermann (Judy Sieve's uncle), Better Powers (Judy Sieve's aunt), Dorothy Wilhite, Sandi Thorp, Angie Hild Anderson (Sharon Hild's daughter), Andrew Jaycobsmeyer (family friend of Rick and Mikki Lee), Dorothy Norland, Pete Stirling (Parkway West coach and friend to many at Trinity), Gina (friend of Lori Roseman), Kent Melton, Kim Boschert (preschool teacher), Judy Sieve, Diane (Judy Sieve's sister), Steve Hagemann (Judy Sieve's cousin), Babs and George Holtzman, Dottie Rasche (former member of Trinity), Beverly Jensen (mother of Teri Christell), Kat Rourke, Joyce Evans (mother-in-law of Deb Evans), Joe Clinton, Gary Mertz (brother of Sharon Mertz), Ruth Rangel, Rhonda, Mike Long, Jim Stewart, Polly Sievert, Daniel Paquette (brother of Steve Paquette), Ruth Wiemann (Phyllis Baker's mom), Tammy Surfus Cayer (Sharon Hild's godchild), Jill Leary (friend of Christy Cole and Amy Jones), Garry Melton (son of Kent and Audrey Melton), Olivia Maupin (granddaughter of Larry and Christie Tietjen), Tomi Nevin (sister of Patsy Sobey), Kina Jordan (niece of Patsy Sobey), Loretta Lofgren, Mike Calcagno, Richard, Sharon Mertz, Christie Tietjen, Greg Hild, Richard Leimgruber

**For the family and friends of.....**

- Edward Kindley, who completed his baptismal journey on February 19, 2026

**Those serving our country...** Seth Allison (grandson of Audrey and Kent Melton)

**To make a prayer request...**

- Call the church office-636-227-5432.
- Email [office@tlc-stl.org](mailto:office@tlc-stl.org).
- Prayers remain on the list for two weeks and may be renewed by request.

## NEW ADDRESS

**Christine Gatermann**  
665 South Skinker Blvd, Apt 3G  
St Louis, MO 63105

## CHURCH LEADERSHIP

**Council President:** Jeff Haferkamp  
**Vice-President:** Dave Luethy  
**Secretary:** Elaine Larson  
**Treasurer:** Mike Hower

**At-Large Members:** John Engle  
Dan Fry  
Eric Halter  
Maureen Hoppin

Sasi Jeyarajan  
Gene Kerr  
Mikki Lee  
Jim Mueller

## OFFICE STAFF

**The Rev. Christopher Naig**  
Pastor  
pastor@tlc-stl.org, ext. 1001

**The Rev. Roy Christell**  
Pastor Emeritus  
pastorroy@tlc-stl.org; ext. 1002

**Amy Jones**  
Office Coordinator  
office@tlc-stl.org; ext. 1000

**Mike Sharitz**  
Facilities Manager  
facility@tlc-stl.org; ext. 1005

**Andrew LeFurge**  
Bookkeeper  
finance@tlc-stl.org; ext. 1004

**Christy Cole, ext. 1007**  
Preschool Director  
director@tlc-preschool.org

**Stacey Drake**  
Children's Ministry Coordinator  
kidsministry@tlc-stl.org, ext. 1008

**Rebecca Henderson**  
Youth LEADing Youth Coordinator  
YLY@tlc-stl.org

**Leslie Steinmeyer**  
IT/Digital Coordinator  
digital@tlc-stl.org; ext. 1003

**Nicole Maloy, ext. 1015**  
Communications Coordinator  
communications@tlc-stl.org

**Sandi Thorp**  
Cemetery Coordinator  
cemetery@tlc-stl.org, ext. 1006

**Brian Parrish**  
Director of Music Ministries  
music@tlc-stl.org

**Jonathan Owen**  
Organist  
music@tlc-stl.org

**Graeme Allen**  
Children's Music Minister  
music@tlc-stl.org



YouMatterToGod.org

14088 Clayton Road  
Chesterfield, MO 63017