

Pews



Christ is risen! He is risen indeed, Alleluia! Easter has come upon us! The weather is starting to turn for the better and spring is breaking out everywhere. On Easter, we made a big deal about the Resurrection of Christ and celebrated to the fullest. We made worshiping the Lord a top priority, and we spent the day with family as best we could with our Stay at Home order in effect.

And then it was over. It seemed as if it came and went by so quickly. Just like Christmas, there was great build up and anticipation over Easter, but when it was over, it was over. But is it really over? Well, in our church year calendar, you may notice that there is an Easter **season**, not just a one day Easter festival. And why is that? Because Easter is not over! Easter is the basis for your forgiveness because, in spite of dying with all of your sin, Christ was raised from the dead. The grave couldn't hold Him, and now it can't hold you. Easter is about life. It's about rebirth. It's about second chances. It's about Jesus and His life that He gives to you.

And the reason it's not over is because the implications of Easter are yours every single day. You are a redeemed child of Christ every day, not just Easter. You have the certain promise of eternal life every single day – not just **on** Easter, but **because of** Easter. The

entire basis of your faith is God's unbreakable promise of everlasting life. You now have access to the Father that you wouldn't have had because of Easter, and that is true every day, not just on Easter Sunday.

The truth is that there really no such thing as an Easter "season", because Easter never ends. Christ's victory is your victory, no matter what your circumstances may be. Even under these very difficult and trying times, your victory in the risen Christ is still an absolute certainty. In good times or in times of trial and pain, you have Easter victory in Christ – every day of the year! *Christ is risen! He is risen indeed, Alleluia!*

In Christ,

Rev. Wagner



*WORSHIP WITH US –
May 3, at 9 a.m.*

Sunday morning services will again be live streaming only,

on Facebook @Trinity Lombard also

viewable at www.TrinityLombard.org.

Please *DO NOT* come in person. Following the service, the video will be posted both on Facebook and at

www.TrinityLombard.org The sermon will also be available in an audio format. This is the norm for now until further notice.



Principal's Message

SCHOOL IS IN SESSION ONLINE!

Even during a statewide school shut down, Trinity's teachers remain hard at work with Zoom staff meetings, e-learning, video classrooms, online assignments, and home based education activities.

#trinitylutherschool #trinitylombard#elearning #zoom meetings #homebasededucation #videoclassroom



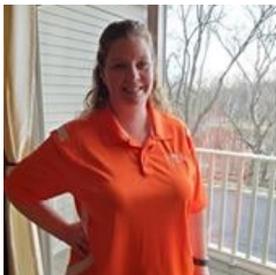
Putting together lessons on-line takes creativity as well as time to put together. We are working as a team even though we are in separate spaces.

To keep everyone's interest in online learning, we include fun things as well, such as:

National Cheeseball Day and Trinity's Orange Day in ongoing virtual spirit days coincided! #trinitylutherschool #trinitylombard #orange day #cheeseball #virtuallspiritweek @trinitylutherschool.org



Because the children can see the teachers



we let them know we are participating in their fun learning, too. The entire school experience is better enjoyed when the children realize they are learning together.



Trinity preschoolers are keeping busy. Miss Rachel's Classroom is on YouTube school mornings and the young students have many projects to help them learn.

#trinitylutherschool #trinitylombard #elearning #preschool #videoclassroom #homebasededucation @trinitylutherschool.org .



It is a challenge for parents having children around, who would ordinarily be in school during the school year. I invite parents to join in the fun with Trinity's ongoing virtual spirit days that have featured

backwards day, scrabble day, and cartoon t-shirt day...can you figure out which photos are from which days?



As directed by the governor, we will carry on at home, valuing the time we have with our loved ones and trusting God each day.

Blessings,

Julie Messina
Principal, 7th & 8th Grade Teacher

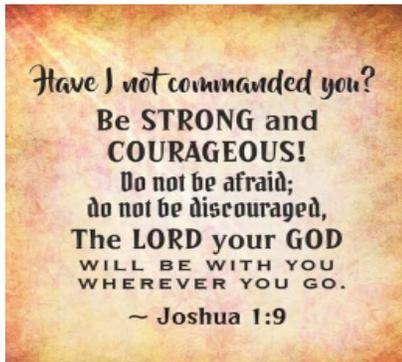
TRINITY'S BEEN BUSY...

During the extended time of social distancing, Trinity has been committed to helping provide "stay home" versions of some of the things that we regularly participate in as a Christian faith community. New online opportunities that Trinity has initiated include livestreamed church services with downloadable orders of worship, video and audio versions of sermons, video devotions, and livestream Bible studies. Find them all on Trinity's website

at: www.trinitylombard.org/sermons-bible-studies-and-more

KEEPING IN TOUCH

Even at those times when Trinity's office must be closed (such as during Illinois' stay-at-home mandate), you can still be connected. Trinity's primary email address, secretary@trinitylombard.org is regularly monitored and voicemails left at 630.629.8765 are listened to. News from Trinity community is distributed via email (*do we have your current email address?*), Trinity's website – www.TrinityLombard.org, and social media sites, Facebook - www.facebook.com/TrinityLombard and Instagram - www.instagram.com/trinitylutheranlombard. School families keep up to date with the JupiterEd app.



If you ever have a critical need, please let Trinity know so that can connect you with appropriate help and resources.



Studying God's Word together is important! Pastor has offered a **NEW BIBLE STUDY**, (never too late to join)

which began on April 22, 2020. Trinity Lutheran Church is offering **Online Bible Study at 6 p.m. (Central) with Rev. Steve**



Wagner. Next Bible study is April 30. It is viewable for you to participate **LIVE** on Facebook [@trinitylombard](https://www.facebook.com/trinitylombard) or email questions by noon on the day of the Bible study to Secretary@TrinityLombard.org.



There will be a specific topic for the study, but Pastor Wagner welcomes any of your Bible related questions.

You can also view it on the internet using www.TrinityLombard.org. View Pastor's Youtube video invitation here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JqFih0JwMkM>

Updates will follow on resuming in person studies on Wednesdays.

PS: The first one went very well, with more than a dozen attending on-line. And many more viewing it on U tube. Praise God!

All are welcome to participate



Our current challenges with the pandemic, make us more aware of the everyday blessings that the Lord provides –

like shoes and water! The Shoes for Water program is now over and the last of the shoes will be sent on their way. Thank you for all of your help.



Now SUNDAY SCHOOL is ONLINE

Like many Trinity programs, Sunday School has been operating in “stay home” mode. For Trinity’s selection of Sunday School activities, projects, devotions, and story time, visit: www.trinitylombard.org/sunday-school-activities

Remember in last month’s newsletter, there was an encouragement to make

CHEER CARDS & LETTERS for Homebound

Well, you have done it! THANK YOU FOR SPREADING that HOPE and CHEER. Many happy responses came back.

A big thanks to the Sunday School families who mailed cheer cards to Trinity’s homebound members and friends! If you would you like to help put a smile on the face of those who are continually homebound (and many who have been unable to have visitors because of recent conditions) it’s easy, and always welcome. Write notes, letters of encouragement or make and decorate cards. Email Secretary@TrinityLombard.org and request a list of addresses to mail cards (please state how many cards you have made) or request arrangement for pickup of the finished cards.

You can check last month’s newsletter for more information, as well, on how to put cards together.



Looking forward to Sunday School in the Fall: Help is always welcome.

Adult and youth members of Trinity Lutheran Church are invited to prayerfully consider serving with Sunday School. At Sunday School, children from age 3 through 8th grade hear weekly that Jesus loves them. Bible

stories and lessons illustrate how God the Father created us, sent His Son Jesus Christ to die for us and rise again, and sends us the Holy Spirit to help us live daily in Christ. Simple snacks are served. Crafts, activities, and mission service projects help student apply the Biblical truths learned.

Helping hands are needed in this multi-age setting that meets in Trinity Lutheran School's early childhood wing. Trinity's children's Bible time meets weekly after church, ***beginning the week after Labor Day and continuing until the week before Memorial Day.***

Chief requirements include the ability to be patient with His little ones! To volunteer, please speak with Pastor Wagner or contact Trinity's office, 630.629.8765 or secretary@trinitylombard.org.



Mary, who are you? I am YOU when you get together with other women to study the Word of God and grow in faith. I am YOU when you are in prayer for those who are homebound, for your church or for our country.

Martha, who are you? I am YOU when you provide a dish to share with a grieving family. I am YOU when you serve the church through altar preparation, provide "coffee and..." for fellowship time, or as you serve others out of love for Christ.

Mary/Martha, who are you? Mary/Martha is ALL WOMEN and girls of Trinity. We are

sisters in spirit, serving our church in Christ's name. YOU are a part of that joy, as a woman of Trinity. And together we are an integral part of the LWML (Lutheran Women's Missionary League)

LWML, what are you? The Lutheran Women's Missionary League is all Lutheran women around the world, uniting together in mission. It is a league of sisters that has been funding projects with their mites for 78 years. Each mite – which is the amount of money each woman is able to put into a small box, called a mite box - combined with hundreds of millions of other mites, has funded such things as roads in small villages and orphan homes. It has supported schools for the deaf, as well as the training of pastors in poor nations and at home. Lutheran women have joined together to serve the Lord with gladness. The only qualification for being a part of the LWML is being a Lutheran woman.

Mary Martha meets one day a month, usually the first Thursday. We will not be meeting in May. We hope to meet in June for a much needed time to be with our sister's in Christ. We will meet at the home of Judy Cuchetto for a backyard picnic. Bring a dish to pass (entree provided). June 4th 6:30pm 118 S Ardmore, VP.

Text Arlene Solyom at 630.715.7764 or call 630.620.0599 to carpool.

BRINGING LIGHT TO OUR COMMUNITY

Many projects have been delayed during the time of "social distancing" and "staying home" – actions necessary to protect the public health. The roll out of many elements connected to Trinity's *Bringing Light to Our*

Community is no exception. Eventually, members will receive dedicated envelopes, be able to view an onsite progress chart, and learn more about the projects in progress to help reach those in our surrounding neighborhoods for Christ. In the meantime, Trinity is grateful to those who have already begun giving to this future-focused initiative.

As we said last month, “Our earthly schedules may have been disrupted, yet God’s timing is always perfect”.

Email BringingLight@TrinityLombard.org or call me at 630.640.0426.

Blessings in the Name of Our Risen Savior
Jesus Christ,
Lori Solyom
Board of Stewardship Chairperson

TRINITY’S FISCAL YEAR BUDGET PROCESS

Trinity’s Fiscal Year Budget Process has been delayed as a result of the “stay home” order brought on by the global coronavirus pandemic. Rest assured, church leadership has been communicating and steps are being made to protect Trinity’s financial health at this time that is both economically and socially difficult. While church boards and Trinity’s Church Council have been able to keep in touch online, we are unable to conduct a Voters Assembly until we can convene in person. Please feel free to mail in your Giving Commitment cards (Trinity Lutheran Church, 1165 S Westmore-Meyers Rd, Lombard, IL 60148) or bring them when

you next return to Trinity’s sanctuary in person.



ALL GOOD GIFTS

Giving back...Trinity relies on your gifts and offerings and is especially grateful for those made during this challenging time. There are two easy alternatives to placing money in the offering plate.

1. Give online
at <https://tinyurl.com/vbb68ns> - or click the green donate button at www.TrinityLombard.org.
2. Mail a check payable to *Trinity Lutheran Church* to: Trinity Lutheran Church, 1165 S Westmore-Meyers Rd., Lombard, IL 60148.

An additional note about charitable giving...

Gifts to Trinity Lutheran Church and School are always tax deductible, but when Congress recently passed the CARES Act in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, it included a partial deduction for charitable contributions. This provision encourages individuals to contribute to religious, charitable and educational organizations by creating a new “above the line” deduction for all taxpayers. This deduction will permit a taxpayer to deduct up to \$300 of annual cash contributions regardless of whether

the taxpayer itemizes contributions or takes the new, higher standard deduction.

If you are still in a position to give charitable gifts this year, we encourage you to take advantage of this opportunity.

“Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of light...” James 1:17



Pray God's Glory

Across the Earth

We still cannot meet in person on May 5th, and yet we are together when we pray. We can pray together no matter where we are.

A reminder that the theme this year is “Pray God’s Glory Across the Earth”. And as was said in the April issue, it could not be more appropriate as the body of Christ, that we continue to pray daily. We reinforce the idea that praying is our defense against the chaos in this country and yes, across the earth.

Pray continually – *“Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.”* [1 Thessalonians 5:16-18](#)

Pray for the Church

Jesus we pray that Your church would be saturated with your glory. Even as the enemy wants to destroy us, what is intended for evil, You will use for good. We ask that Your Holy Spirit draw Your created into the knowledge and belief in You alone for Salvation.

[1 Kings 8:10-11](#), [Colossians 2:4-8](#), [Ephesians 4:11-12](#)

Pray for Families

Heavenly Father, extend and expand your glory through our families and keep them safe as we dwell in You. Holy Spirit, help us to be positive witnesses in the name of Jesus.
[Ephesians 5:22-33](#), [Ephesians 3:14-29](#), [Mark 3:25](#)

Pray for Educators

Lord who gives wisdom, knowledge and understanding, we pray that campuses would be filled with Your glory. We pray that history would be taught for its value in teaching the truth so that future generations would learn what not to do, and what to do for Your glory, not for man’s glory.
[Ephesians 1:17](#), [Luke 18:16](#), [Proverbs 2:3-4](#), [Proverbs 8:10-11](#)

Pray for Business

Lord we pray that You will fill every workplace in our nation with your glory. We pray that the work You have equipped us to do would be fulfilled. We pray that gainful employment would be available for those in need of providing for their families as well as their own self.
[Colossians 1:9b-12a](#), [Luke 9:25](#), [Philippians 2:12b - 16a](#)

Pray for the Military

Jesus King of Kings, we pray that You will fill our military with your glory. We pray that all those who are in foreign lands, or here in our own country, representing freedom from enemy forces, would know that You walk with them. We pray for their families, that they would be provided for in every way.
[Ephesians 6:10-12](#), [2 Chronicles 32:6-8](#), [Romans 13:1-7](#)

Pray for the Media

Lord our creator, we pray that sound, movie scripts would be produced. We pray that media reporting would be filled with your glory. We pray that objective, factual reporting would be

the norm rather than chaos and the promotion of confusion for personal gain, especially during the current health crisis in our nation. [John 7:18](#), [1 Corinthians 10:31](#), [Philippians 4:8](#), [Psalm 119:9](#)

No special skills are required to pray, speak from the heart and trust that God hears the prayers we offer up to Him. God is glorified when we pray together.



PRAYER PARTNERS

If you have a prayer request or would like to give an update on someone we have

been praying for, please contact Pastor Wagner. *Prayer Partners* comes out on the first Sunday of the month. Or you can also submit your request directly to Nadine Anderson at 630.629.2197, or email duke3579@comcast.net.

Are You Struggling? God has not forgotten you "I will never desert you, nor will I ever forsake you." Hebrews 13:5c

THERE IS HOPE...

If time alone leaves you struggling with feelings of depression, guilt, grief, anger or regret and there's an abortion in your past, Word of Hope can help. Word of Hope offers confidential counseling, support, resources and referrals for anyone dealing with the after-effects of an abortion. If you or someone you know is suffering from grief over an abortion, call 888.217.8679 or email info@word-of-hope.org. It's caring and completely confidential.

The April, LWML Zone 6 Rally was canceled, and at this time and there is no plan to reschedule. However, we look hopefully forward to the LWML NID District Convention that is scheduled for September 11-12 at the Holiday Inn in Gurnee. Trinity needs to have two voting delegates. If you would like to get to know more about how the Lutheran Women in Mission has blessed thousands of projects in our own Northern Illinois District, becoming a delegate would give you a perfect opportunity to do that. Feel free to contact me with any questions. Hannah Solyom 630.363.4338.



Teach me to do your will for you are my God; may your good Spirit lead me on level ground. Psalm 143:10

All Lutheran women are a part of LWML – united with women across the nation.

Young Women's Representative
Hannah Solyom

Need Help?

Kevin Tully, a member of our church, has generously offered his services if you are in need. Kevin is willing to run errands, pick-up prescriptions, groceries, and other supplies for anyone who is concerned about going out during this unprecedented time.

If you need that kind of assistance, please call Kevin. He can be reached through email at k-212@live.com or his cell phone at 630-901-5077. Kevin is retired military and was military police as well.

There has been a beautiful outreach from the



Thank you for helping

of love, has not gone unnoticed. Whether big things or small things ... thank you to all of those who have been “standing in the gap” and glorifying God.

body of Christ here at Trinity, to help others. What is being done out

New addition to News from the Pews – suggestions from our “church family”. If you have anything you’d like to contribute, please feel free to text, or email your ideas.



**Recipes
Passed Down**

Ummm good!

This recipe is from Peg Zientara, submitted by her daughter Lisa. Peg was a great baker and Lisa Zientara has taken over her love of baking.

Best Ever Banana Bread

- 1 ¾ C Flour
- 1 ½ C Sugar
- 1 tsp Baking Soda
- ½ tsp Salt
- 2 Eggs
- 2 Ripe Bananas, mashed
- ½ C Oil
- ¼ C plus 1 T Buttermilk
- 1 tsp Vanilla
- 1 C Chopped Walnuts

Mix dry ingredients in a large bowl. Add eggs, milk, vanilla, oil, and mashed fruit. Pour into dry ingredients and mix. Stir in nuts.

Pour into a greased and floured loaf pan. Bake at 325 degrees for 1 hour and 20 minutes.

Cool on a wire rack for 10 minutes before removing from pan.

Recipe does not double well.

If you do not have buttermilk, add 1 T of vinegar to 1 C of milk, wait 10 minutes and stir.

Poem written by Bob Gehrt:

SIX FEET AWAY

By Bob Gehrt

He knew that he loved her quite dearly,
He knew what he wanted to say.

He wanted to hug and to kiss her,
But, he had to stay six feet away.

His heart was just swollen with love, and
He thought of her day after day.

But the romance seemed utterly doomed,
For, he had to stay six feet away.

He tossed and he turned many long nights,
Searching for some kind of way.

But try as he might, there was no answer in
Sight, and he had to stay six feet away.

Then finally, restrictions were lifted,
And, now there was surely a way,

To open his heart to his loved one
But, he forgot what he wanted to say.

He could not recall what her name was...
Her hair, was it red, black or gray?

Time had eroded his passion,
While, he had to stay six feet away.

So, things that seem urgent to us now,
Will most likely have changed on that day.

And then we may laugh at our problems,
While we had to keep six feet away.

All news articles for the following month's newsletter may be submitted by the 20th of the month. Send to vinjud60@yahoo.com

Questions ... call Judy Cuchetto (630)698-2208

Note: Looks like we will have at least one more newsletter via email after this one, considering the stay at home directive.

Articles of interest are welcome as well as suggestions. Enjoy and be blessed!

Principal Julie Messina recommends this:

If you need an escape. Try a digital escape room this weekend!
<https://mamateaches.com/digital-escape-rooms/>

25+ FREE DIGITAL ESCAPE ROOMS

MamaTeaches.com



Abraham Lincoln's Assassination

Alice in Wonderland

American Revolution

Animal Adventure

Asteroid Collision

Camouflage Caper

Cinderella's Escape

Civil War

Dog Man

Dr. Seuss

Escape from Star Killer Base (Star Wars)

Escape the Fairy Tale

Escape the Lion's Den

Famous Americans

Fortnite Reading Comprehension Battle

Halloween Haunt

Harry Potter Escape from Hogwarts

Hunger Games

Looney Tunes

Marvel Avengers

...and so many more!

ALL
FREE!

FIND THE DIRECT LINKS TO ALL OF THE DIGITAL ESCAPE ROOMS AT MAMATEACHES.COM

