

# News

from the

# Pews

April 2023



Christ is risen! He is risen indeed, Alleluia! Easter has come upon us! The weather is starting to turn for the better, baseball season is starting, and spring is breaking out everywhere. On Easter, we will make

a big deal about the Resurrection of Christ and celebrate to the fullest. We will have 2 church services on Sunday instead of one. And we will spend the day with family doing whatever it is that you do when you and your family get together.

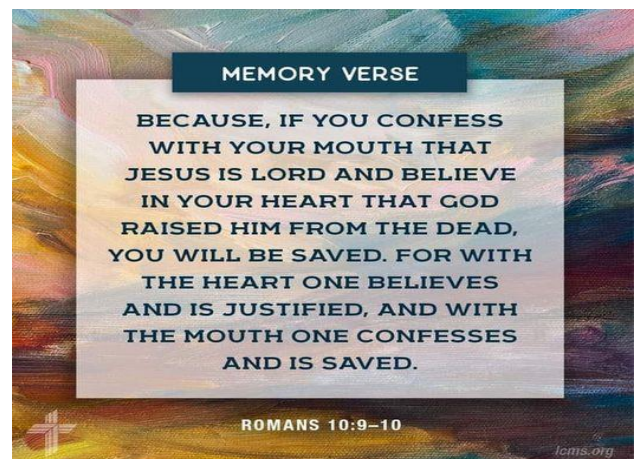
And then it will over. It will seem as if it came and went by so quickly. Just like Christmas, there was great build up and anticipation over Easter, but when it was over, it was over. But is it really over? Well, in our church year calendar, you may notice that there is an Easter **season**, not just a one day Easter festival. And why is that? Because it's 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 has given for 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 on Easter. You have the certainty and 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 reality is, there is a Lenten season, but there isn't an Easter "season", because Easter never ends. Christ's victory is your victory, no matter what your circumstances may be. 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





## APRIL WORSHIP SERVICES

### Scheduled Services

9 a.m. Sundays  
In-person and  
livestreamed

6:00 p.m. Mondays  
In-person only

**Bible Study on Sundays  
is at 10:30 a.m. in the  
Sanctuary** – Enjoy  
Coffee &... after church  
services and prior to Bible  
Study, resuming after  
Easter Sunday

### Easter Week Services:

4-6      **Maundy Thursday**    11 a.m. & 7 p.m.  
4-7      **Good Friday**            11 a.m. & 7 p.m.  
4-9      **Easter Sunday**            7 a.m. & 10 a.m.



Easter Sunday  
*Breakfast*

**Easter Breakfast served  
in the gym – in between  
services.**

4-10. No Monday Service

Guidelines are still in place for in person worship:

- ...Please wear face masks upon entry and exit into church if you are unvaccinated
- ...No mask is required while seated on the left side
- ... Please leave masks in place if seated on the right (Pulpit) side of the sanctuary.
- ... Sit in alternating pews as marked on the pulpit side, not required on the lectern side.
- ... Help yourself to the Order of Worship
- ... Offering plates are in the rear of the sanctuary.

### Facebook:

Find the orders of worship, along with easy to share video and audio versions of the sermons at

<https://www.trinitylombard.org/sermons>.

**Services and Bible classes air live on Facebook @TrinityLombard**

(<https://www.facebook.com/TrinityLombard/>)

and can also be viewed live at

<https://www.trinitylombard.org/>. Worship is online each Sunday morning at 9 a.m.



Lutheran Schools Week (LSW) was a huge success. The students enjoyed the field trip to the Shedd Aquarium; we dressed our best and attended church Wednesday.



The students' favorite day of the year came next, breakfast made and served by the teachers.

Everyone came to school in their pajamas and had breakfast before classes begin.

We finished off LSW with Grandparents Day.

Grandparents came from far and wide to attend Trinity with their students.

Kindergarten, first, and



second graders led the chapel service for Grandparents Day. They did a fantastic job! I want to thank the staff and helpers behind the scenes who made LSW a huge success. THANK YOU! We could not have done it without you!

- April 7 – Good Friday, NO SCHOOL
- April 10 – Easter Monday, NO SCHOOL

Saturday, April 15, 2023, is International Celebration Day at Trinity from 1-3 p.m. Students have researched countries around the world. The students' work will be displayed for everyone during the day. There will be food samples from some of the countries that will be on display during the fair. We will provide an opportunity to write encouraging letters to missionaries, and we will be collecting school supplies for Joe Boway's Liberian Children's Mission.

We are currently enrolling new students for the 2023-2024 school year. If you know of anyone looking for an excellent education, please have them contact the office. We would love to answer any questions about Trinity. We provide individual tours for families as well.

Please continue to pray for the call committee as they work diligently to find a new seventh and eighth-grade teacher and principal. They are working hard to find someone to fill the position.

### *Heads Up,.....*

**Vacation Bible School (VBS) is scheduled for Monday, June 5, through Friday, June 9. Keep an eye out for volunteer opportunities, and donation needs to help support VBS. This year's theme is God's Living Water.**

Blessings,  
**Julie Messina**  
Principal  
7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Teacher  
Trinity Lutheran School  
Lombard, IL  
630.627.5601. ext 205  
[tislombard.org](http://tislombard.org)



## PwtL-sponsored Easter Egg Hunt

Mark those calendars for an all-ages Easter Egg Hunt - Saturday, **April 8** from 9:30-10:30 a.m. How many eggs can you find!?! Only one way to find out...see you there!



**Trinity Lutheran School's**



**Saturday,  
April 8**

1165 S Westmore-Meyers Rd.  
Lombard, IL

**9:30 –  
10:30 a.m.**



**Don't  
forget to  
bring your  
Easter  
basket or  
bag!!!**

**Weather Permitting  
Event will be held outdoors**

## JOIN TRINITY for EASTER BREAKFAST



**Easter Sunday, April 9.** Served between Trinity's 7 a.m. Easter Sunrise Service and the 10 a.m. Service.

A hot buffet breakfast will be served in the school gym. The breakfast is complementary, open to all, with an opportunity to make a free will donation. Donated coffee cakes and pastries will also be gratefully received.



**EASTER BREAKFAST continued...**

**CAN YOU HELP WITH...?**

- Set up and kitchen prep on Saturday, April 8, noon to 2 p.m.
- Dining prep and serving on Sunday, April 9, 7 to 9 a.m.
- Serving and clean up on Sunday, April 9, 9 to 11 a.m.

Sign up online at:

<https://tinyurl.com/EasterHelp2023>

or on the signup sheets found on clipboards in parish hall or Trinity's office.

The Trinity family looks forward to celebrating the Resurrection with you and your family!

**DO YOU PAY TAXES TO THE STATE OF ILLINOIS?**

Would you like to get a **75 percent state tax credit** and, by doing so, help support scholarship at **Trinity Lutheran School?**

Empower Illinois makes that possible. This win-win arrangement is an opportunity to invest in the future - of Trinity and open opportunities for more families to afford a Lutheran education. Visit [EmpowerIllinois.org](http://EmpowerIllinois.org) to learn more contact Trinity's office if you would like assistance in navigating the "how tos" of making the donation and receiving the tax credit.

Mary/Martha extends an invitation to all women to gather together to engage in either a bible study, a project or simply fellowship.



**HELP needed - April 3...**



**Mary/Martha**, working along side of the Board of Evangelism will gather on April 3 in the school kitchen at 6:30 p.m. We will be preparing for a **CURBSIDE COFFEE** the following morning. As students are dropped off at school, an invitation to join in Holy Week services is handed out to parents

along with coffee or hot chocolate and delicious muffins. Mary/Martha invites church members to help make preparations on April 3, at 6:30 p.m. We could also use help on Tuesday morning, April 4, between 6 and 9 a.m. to set up and serve parents. Your help is an act of outreach and evangelism.

**Please call or text Arlene Solyom 630.715.7764 if you can help or have any questions.**

Projected events for Mary/Martha & LWML gatherings :

- May 4**.....National Day of Prayer
- June 2**..... Summer Supper Food & Fun

**All women of Trinity are considered a part of Mary/Martha and LWML. There is no membership, just an invitation to gather together as sisters in Christ's name.**

**You are personally invited to come and enjoy a time of friendship.**





**WE ARE  
AN EASTER  
PEOPLE...**  
Have you  
heard that  
that phrase  
before?

In one form, popularized by Pope John Paul in 1986 but probably originating with Augustine, a 3rd century theologian, these words proclaim a Gospel mindset that "We are an Easter people, Alleluia is our song!"

In another rendition, "We are Easter people living in a Good Friday world!" Christian humorist Barbara Johnson used the expression to explain her hard won faith over the seemingly unbearable tragedies in her life.

While these different treatments of the term "Easter people" may reveal the disparate experiences we have gathered, analyzed, and eventually given over to God, I believe that the words are less about what we have gone through than they are about where we have come from.

Having an unapologetic love of words and their root meanings, I dug into the history of the word "Easter." I discovered that despite several scholarly theories - its true roots are unconfirmed. A 7th century monk attributed the word to the name of a spring fertility goddess called Eostre. No one else agreed. Others traced "Easter" to an old German word for spring that comes from an even older Latin word for dawn. We can even add a Biblical play on words by stating as "the sun rises in the east" - "the Son rises on Easter." As for the word "people," it appears to have always, even in its oldest forms, meant "people." So much for finding

any insight in the etymology.

Turning to the Scriptures, I found that throughout the Bible, God speaks of His people - and He does so with love. Uttered in the words of the Creator-Redeemer-Comforter, "people" becomes less of an identifier than an endearment. When we realize that the ultimate embodiment of that love God holds for us was shown in the events of Holy Week, through Christ's passion, crucifixion, and ultimately His Easter Resurrection, the term "Easter people" takes on new significance.

More than just God's created "people" - we are His dearly loved "people," saved by Christ's Resurrection for all eternity. So we are indeed, "Easter people living in a Good Friday world" and as "Easter people, Alleluia is our song." Most importantly, I believe that we are an "Easter people" because God loved us enough to make us "Easter people," that we might boldly proclaim on Easter morning and ever after, "Christ is Risen, He is Risen indeed. Alleluia!"

-- Lori Solyom



The Missouri Attorney General noted that, like federal law, the laws of many states prohibit using the mail to send or receive abortion drugs. The letter also detailed the inherent danger of the drugs.

"These state laws reflect not only our commitment to protecting the lives and dignity of children, but also of women," the letter said. **"Abortion pills are far riskier than surgical abortions, according to established scientific consensus... Abortion pills carry the added risk that**



when these heightened complications invariably occur, women suffer those harms at home, away from medical help. And finally, mail-order abortion pills also invite the horror of an increase in coerced abortions.”

The horror of increased coerced abortions was also a point made in a letter sent to **Walgreens and CVS** by the Family Research Council and 13 other pro-life organizations, who asked the chain not to sell abortion drugs in any state.

The letter to Walgreens and CVS were signed by Tony Perkins, president of FRC, and principals of other national pro-life organizations, including Susan B. Anthony Pro Life America, March for Life, National Right to Life Committee, and Students for Life Action, and Americans United for Life.

“Pharmacies are meant to be a place of healing, providing medications that sustain and strengthen life at all stages,” the letter said.

“Chemical abortion drugs are not just another pill. Selling these drugs would transform these centers of healing into abortion facilities that kill children in their mothers’ wombs. Both employees and customers will be forced to recognize that any business done with a pharmacy that sells abortion drugs is, in fact, business done with an abortion facility.”



*Not Afraid  
to Speak  
out!*

When the truth is the truth, the enemy of God will get anxious about the possibility that it will be heard. The enemy grooms his followers by dulling the hearts and minds of those who are weak in spirit. Even some in churches can fall pray when they trust false teaching by those who lead them astray.

One person who would **not** allow the enemy to quiet him as he spoke up in a church meeting in North Carolina, is LT. Gov Mark Robinson of North Carolina. Speaking at a church meeting, he stirred the pot by bringing the lies to the top. The dregs of the lies that have been brewing in some churches were scraped off that day in this church by his speech and the truth was brought out. May his words resonate loudly in the neighboring churches.

He boldly said that the Pastors who have left the “door open to the enemy”, are cooking up lies and have been slowly force-feeding them in the churches. They do not honor God. He asked that all churches pray that the hearts and minds of church Pastors and all people would taste the bitter lies being fed to them, from mainstream media, and spit out the foul and evil falsehoods that dishonor our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. He spoke boldly against abortion and all of the industries that profit from abortion, such as those pushing abortion pills, and abortion clinics that label their businesses as “Women’s Health” clinics. He spoke up against political rhetoric that says politicians will support women, but don’t defend women from predatory actions even being taken against women and female children in all directions, and women in sports.

Pray for Mark Robinson, that he is strengthened in his witness of the truth. He is

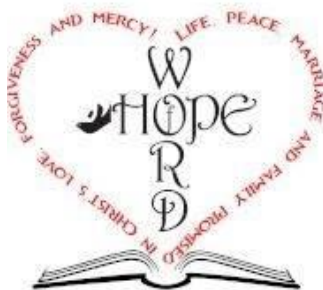
not afraid to speak out against evil. May God be with him in his walk. We need more men and women in leadership roles in our country to speak the truth that honors God.

Mark Keith Robinson is an American politician serving as the 35th lieutenant governor of North Carolina since 2021. A conservative member of the Republican Party, he is the first African-American to hold the office of lieutenant governor in North Carolina.



*Remember...we ourselves witness every day, knowingly or unknowingly, how we witness, is how others see our trust in the Savior. How have you witnessed this past month?*

Rest in His goodness and grace.  
Blessings,  
Board of Evangelism

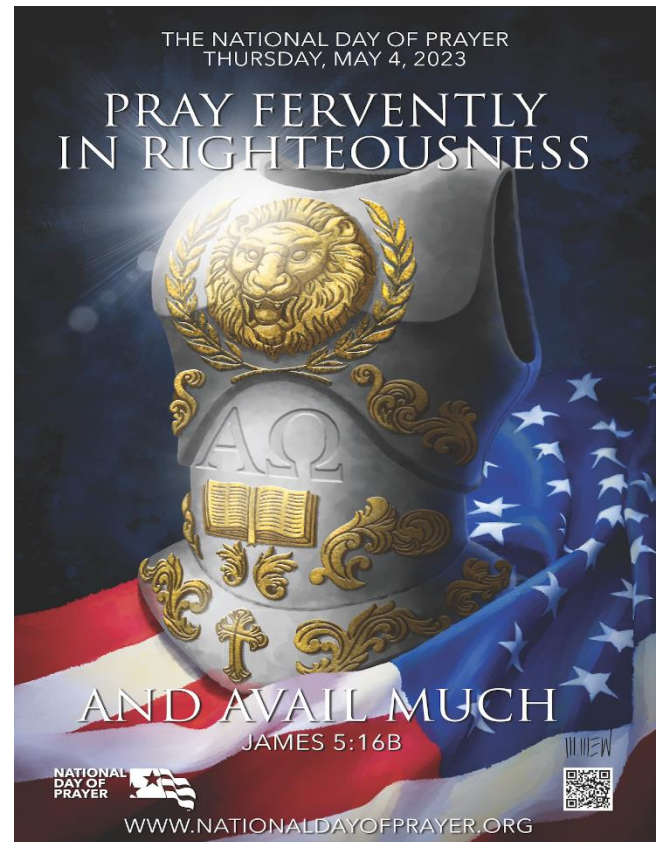


**Love for a Broken Heart  
Are You Struggling? Are you struggling with guilt, sorrow, or anger because of an**

abortion in your past? Do you know that God wants to offer you His forgiveness and healing? He can free you from guilt, hurt and pain. God says, "I have swept away your offenses like a cloud, your sins like the morning mist. Return to me, for I have redeemed you." (Isaiah 44:22) Jesus offers forgiveness for ALL our sins - He gives us a Word of Hope that can begin to heal your broken heart. If you or

someone you know is hurting because of an abortion, call Word of Hope for *confidential* help at 888.217.8679 or email [info@word-of-hope.org](mailto:info@word-of-hope.org). "Return to me, for I have redeemed you." Isaiah 44:22

## Mark Your Calendar for May 4<sup>th</sup>



**Trinity will be celebrating the National Day of Prayer. We will be praying for our Nation, our Families and more. You are invited to join your Trinity Family at 6:30pm on May 4<sup>th</sup>.**

**You are also invited to pray this prayer ahead of the 4<sup>th</sup> to prepare your heart and mind.**

Oh Lord God, our most gracious Father, we know that You are with us at all times. We are within a breath away from You in prayer and You never tire of our coming to



Your throne. First of all, we thank You for each day and each breath we take, knowing that You are the author of life. We pray united today in belief that You hear all of our prayers, spoken and unspoken. We pray for all of our brothers and sisters in Trinity Church and School. We're asking that Your holy angels be with all of us as we gather together with believers all over our nation on May 4<sup>th</sup>, in Your name in prayer. We pray also that Your Holy Spirit gives us a sense of peace so that the enemy does not dissuade our hearts and minds from prayer. We trust the outcome of all of our prayers to be a result of Your love and plan for our nation. We thank You for the kindness of keeping Trinity Lutheran Church and School faithful to Your teaching all these years. You have given us faith as a body of believers through the shepherds You have appointed to lead us in the Word. We pray believing in the name of Jesus that You hear all of the prayers going up to You on behalf of this nation that has been challenged in many ways the past several years. We love You Lord Jesus. Amen

---

## *Updates & .....*

### *Welcome to the Lord's family.....*

*Luke 18:15-16* <sup>15</sup> "Now they were bringing even infants to him that he might touch them. And when the disciples saw it, they rebuked them. <sup>16</sup> But Jesus called them to him, saying, "Let the children come to me,

*and do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of God."*

**WE THANK GOD FOR OUR NEW MEMBERS,** Daniel James Carlson, Amanda Johnson (by profession of faith) and their infant son, Declan James Carlson (through the Sacrament of Holy Baptism). Embrace our new members with the love that is so much a part of our Trinity family.



**Such a beautiful sight to see.**

God bless the parents, and sponsors as they raise up Declan to know his Savior Jesus.

---

**FUNDRAISERS FOR OUR SCHOOL** You can help our school by saving things you would ordinarily throw in the trash. This year we're starting a new fundraiser called Coke Rewards, that is quite generous. We are asking you to save the following COKE PRODUCTS: ~ Coca Cola ~ Diet Coke ~ Coca Cola Zero ~ Sprite ~ Fanta ~ Powerade ~ Mello Yello ~ Dasani ~ AHA ~ Barg's ~ Fresca ~ Smart Water ~ Fuze ~ Pibb Xtra ~ Seagram's ~ Honest ~ Surge ~ Peace Tea ~ Coke with Coffee ~ Coke Energy. There is a tote bin on the wall in the parish hall that is labeled for collection of codes from these

products. Sometimes it's on the inside of the bottle cap, or inside the cardboard case; whatever shows the code for the product you used is what we need. You can also sign up at [coke.com](http://coke.com) under rewards and start entering them yourself, but make sure to put in Trinity Lutheran School, Lombard. With your help, we can look forward to some good rewards. We have received our first check for \$29.80.

Thank you!



*Recipes to Compliment the Fundraiser Brands*



**2 Ingredient Cakes**  
**You pick the pairing.....**

Simply stir together the soda and cake mix and follow the mix's baking instructions for the size of the pan and cook time. The end result will be a delightfully light and fluffy cake with minimal effort, which we view as a win-win.

**Fun.....Fun.....Fun.....**



**IN TIME FOR EASTER!** Bring non-perishables (rice, pasta, mac-n-cheese...) canned goods, breakfast cereals, granola bars etc. along with you when you come to worship services. Some have asked about money. YES, the pantries need money to purchase fresh fruits, vegetables and meat. If you choose to give cash, we ask that you give it to Ron or Dawn Tyler directly. There is a table in the corner of the parish hall where you can place your donations. You may never know who benefits from your generosity (for all you know, it could be your neighbor or a family member), but God does. And He reminds us: "...And the king will answer them, 'Whatsoever you did to the least of these my brethren, you did it to me.'" Matthew 25:40 WOW! Next time you place that bag of food on the

table in the parish hall, picture Jesus Himself standing there with open arms, thanking you for sharing His love!  
FOOD PANTRY Trinity Lutheran Church and School contribute to 3 food pantries: St. Vincent de Paul, York Center and 1st Bethlehem. These food pantries are serving an ever increasing number of people. Trinity has always stepped up when the need is great, and we assure you your help is desperately needed right now. We would like to be able to take a really large amount of donations to the food pantry

## In time for that Spring clean up.....

**May 20 – Free Shredding and Electronic Recycling, 9 a.m. - noon**

**FREE Community Shredding, Electronics Recycling & Food Pantry Drop-Off Event on Saturday, May 20, 2023, from 9 a.m. to noon** in the front parking lot at Trinity Lutheran Church and School, 1165 S Westmore-Meyers Rd, Lombard (northeast corner at Roosevelt Rd). Bring your papers to be shredded and disposed of and hand off your electronics (and other recyclable items) for recycling, while helping provide food for local families and individuals in need via the St. Vincent DePaul food pantry at St. Pius X Catholic Church in Lombard, the York Township Food Pantry, and First Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Chicago. **PLEASE BRING DONATIONS OF NON-PERISHABLE FOOD AND/OR PAPER GOODS TO BE DISTRIBUTED THROUGH LOCAL FOOD PANTRIES.** Recyclable materials accepted include electronics, glass jars, aluminum cans, plastic

bottles and containers, paper, cardboard, and scrap metal.

- Questions? Contact Trinity's office at 630.629.8765 or [secretary@trinitylombard.org](mailto:secretary@trinitylombard.org).

Live and on air....

The weather man knew who to turn to in time of need. He called on Jesus. Thank you Lord for his witness.



**Meteorologist prays for Mississippi residents in path of tornado while on air: 'Dear Jesus, please help them'**

All news articles for the next month's newsletter may be submitted **if possible by the 20<sup>th</sup> of the month in order to get proofread and approved by Pastor by the 1<sup>st</sup> of the month.**

Thank you. Send to [vinjud60@yahoo.com](mailto:vinjud60@yahoo.com)  
Questions ... call or text - Judy Cuchetto 630.698.2208 at any time.