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VISION STATEMENT

Trinity Lutheran Church is a community inspired by God to share Christ's good news by what we say and do.

MARCH 2022

FROM THE PASTOR

Returning to in-person worship is not a phrase I learned in seminary. Even with the SARS pandemic a number of years ago, the only measures that most churches took during worship were, not shaking hands in the exchange of peace, and not using the common cup in Holy Communion. And those measures only lasted for a few months. The lasting effect was making us aware of the potential health risks that could occur in worship. Today, we are into the 3rd year of coping with this true life altering COVID pandemic, and now the health care leaders are changing the conversation to use the term endemic ... so COVID-19 will be around for a long time acting just like the flu.

But what have we learned from the "never thought possible" closures of our churches for worship? There was an Anglican Bishop who once said, if the churches ever got closed down (meaning permanently), all we need is the Book, the Bread and Wine, and a place to stand. On Sunday mornings we **HAVE** been gathering as a community every Sunday throughout the pandemic. The Book and the Gospel were proclaimed in word and song. We shared the Bread and Wine. We just couldn't be in one physical place. We couldn't hear the other person sing and hear the, "also with you". But now we can. As the restrictions and closures lift, the church can gather

again as one, EVEN when only some of us are in the building. The idea of church community is no long contained by the physical walls, not that it ever really was, but we are doing exactly that – our community now extends for worship to the home – each and every Sunday, and not just as a temporary response to the extraordinary events of the last two years. This is a new way of being community.

We now have a place/way to share the Book, the Bread and the Wine with people even beyond our own community of Trinity. So, have you shared Trinity's live-streaming ministry with friends or family? This kind of evangelism, this sharing of your faith, could not be any easier now with an email, a facebook or Instagram post, or whatever is your social media bent, of a worship service that has touched you ... I invite you to, "Share the Good News".

ALL of our worship services are still available (even the first pandemic one on 22nd March 2020). Do you remember what the very first song was on that

See WORSHIP ARCHIVES www.trinitylondon.ca

historic day? What would you choose for that first hymn? We sang, "I Love to Tell the Story". And we have done that as our Trinity community even when the building was closed. We did share the Good News as a community.

Thank you for your continued support and prayers. But as we go forward, we still need lots of both for the sustainable health our community.

~ Pastor Steve



It is March 2022 and there are still concerns that ALL of our Trinity community are not able to gather as

one. The anxiety of being in public is still a reality for many. I would like to offer TWO services for this ASH WEDNESDAY, March 2nd, at 2 pm in the parking lot and 7 pm in the building.

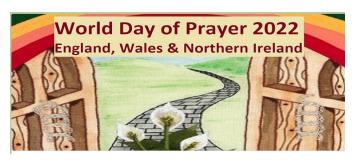
This will be another first for us, to try an in-car only worship. We will gather in the parking lot – you will stay in your car – and our worship service will be over the FM radio. We will sing a little, prayer a little, hear the word of God a little, and confess a little or as much as you need. We will also take communion (probably just bread) and receive the imposition of ashes. These last parts will be a drive through style as you exit the parking lot. You will stay in your car and I will give you bread for your lips and ashes on your forehead through the open window of your car as you exit the parking lot.

The 7 pm service will be the same worship service but held indoors in the church as usual and will also be live-streamed.

~ Pastor Steve



WILL BE HELD FOLLOWING WORSHIP ON SUNDAY 27 MARCH 2022



NATIONAL WORLD DAY OF PRAYER 2022 VIRTUAL SERVICE

Please note that there are THREE different ways of accessing the WDP virtual service as listed below:

1) Exciting NEWS! The full-length WDP 2022 England, Wales and Northern Ireland (EWNI) service video is <u>now</u> available on wicc.org! Watch it anytime

Here is the link to the World Day of Prayer Service Video (found on Women's Inter-Church Council Website: wicc.org): (Copy and paste the following web address)

https://wicc.org/world-day-of-prayer-2022-service-video/

2) Ontario Local Community TV Channels: Rogers TV

London, Woodstock,
Tillsonburg, St. Thomas,
Waterloo Region,
Guelph, Owen Sound

Friday, March 4,
2022 at
8:30 am &
5:00 pm

3) NATIONAL World Day of Prayer 2022 Virtual Service (via Zoom) on Saturday March 12th at 1 pm EST

There will be a NATIONAL WDP 2022 service on **Saturday, March 12th at 1 pm EST**. We are looking forward to our time together! Breakout rooms before and after the service will give us a chance to "catch up", talk and share our thoughts. We will be showing the service video produced by the Women's Inter-Church Council of Canada (WICC). **Please register ahead of time** to receive the zoom link. (Copy and paste the link below into your browser in order to register)

https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/national-world-day-of-prayer-2022-virtual-service-tickets-260452017997

ELCIC SCHOLARSHIPS



The Synod Scholarship Fund is a program administered by the Eastern Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada when funds are available. It was established in

1995 to encourage young Christian people to enrol in a post-secondary institution to pursue a vocation in society as Christian men and women. This scholarship is not normally given to those students studying in educational institutions of theology leading to a vocation in the ordained ministry. This program is not solely based upon academic achievement, rather, it seeks to make awards to those people who have special financial needs and to encourage their pursuit of a post-secondary education.

The Spencer-Barche Educational Trust Fund was established in 1983 and coordinated by the Eastern Synod to encourage young Christian people to pursue a vocation in which they continue to serve their Lord.

The Toolsie Fund was established in 1984 and is a program administered by the Synod Council appointed Scholarship Committee geared specifically to university students.

All three scholarships are administered by the Eastern Synod and applications will be reviewed by a committee appointed by the Eastern Synod Council.

Applications are available from the church office. Deadline to submit applications to ELCIC is **31 May 2022**.

ALTAR FLOWERS



Now that we are back holding services in the church we would like to invite you to sign up for putting flowers on the altar. There is a sign up sheet on the bulletin board next to the Pastor's office. If you would like me to check a date for you, please just call the church office or send an email to Annette.

LUTHERAN MEN'S CLUB

Be sure to mark your calendars. We are having a Lutheran Men's Club Breakfast/Meeting on **Saturday 19 March at 9 am**. Come out and share some good food and fellowship!

CELEBRATING BIRTHDAYS IN MARCH



Marlene Ullerick (2) Otto Danner (23) Orv Ullerick (28) Fred Schmidt (29)

Jonathan Wild (2) David Killinger (28) Audrey Behr (29) Flo Beuermann (30) Nancy Hickling (19) Carlos Rodriguez (28) Doug Hogg (29)