



trinity

LUTHERAN CHURCH,  
MISSOURI SYNOD

# Trinity Trumpet

March 2023



Watch Services on [Trinity McAlester YouTube page](#)

## Our Precious Sacraments – Visible Grace

Dear Friends in Christ,

A man facing terminal cancer told his Lutheran pastor that he was sad to be headed for hell because he had not only missed church for 25 years, but had openly refused every encouragement by his family to join them at services. He felt that these sins against the Third Commandment would damn him, overwhelming any good works he had done through the years. After finding that the man was baptized as an infant and had an active faith life as a child, the pastor pronounced forgiveness for confessed sins and pointed to his baptism as a daily reminder of his salvation. This man found out the meaning of being baptized into Christ – the assurance of heaven! Have you ever wondered what makes Lutheran beliefs precious? Some people love their church be-

cause of the relationships they have there. Others love their church because it is the family religion, passed down from Mom and/or Dad. A few love the church for the pastor. Alongside the cross of suffering that brings salvation, Lutherans hold the sacraments' in very high esteem. Not to worship them, but to value the grace they impart to us that our physical senses can experience. Those who come into the Lutheran church from other faith backgrounds see the precious gift others take for granted – the gift of forgiveness through Baptism and the Lord's Supper in tangible form. We feel the water and hear the Word. We touch and taste the bread and the wine, his very body and blood given for our salvation. These are unde-

served gifts from God that many denominations do not have in their belief systems. Too many of them see mere symbolism in the sacraments, denying their power to save and pronounce it objectively to us. Now when you hear the siren song of false teaching that the only important thing in a church is to believe Jesus is your Savior, you can realize that the sacraments may well be missing in other churches. Missing is the constant assurance that you are saved by grace received in Baptism ... that you are forgiven through Christ in the Lord's Supper. How sad for so many to be left wondering about a future in heaven! Lutherans cling tightly to our precious Savior, raised from the dead so that we are saved. We cling to our Baptism as



physical evidence that we are saved. And we cling to the Lord's Supper that brings us forgiveness and strengthens our faith.

Yours in Christ ,

*Pastor Glenn*

*"There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear. For fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not been perfected in love. We love because he first loved us." (1 John 4:18-19, ESV)*

## MINISTRY NEWS

**Stewardship:** Please remember that all church expenses go on even if you worship remotely or miss entirely. You can still do an offering as your act or worship to God by sending your offering envelope/check to Attention: Julie Atkinson Trinity Lutheran Church, 190 E. State Hwy. 31, McAlester, OK 74501. It remains confidential as only Pastor handles the mail and Julie handles offerings.

**Evangelism:** We are on hold with our church tri-fold brochure to update it as we consider ministry future shapes in McAlester and Clayton. Please pray for Carol and Pastor as they work on this. Pastor is starting a spiritual discussion group with light meal in His Place following the Thursday Night mixed doubles disc golf mini. *Carol Niedfeldt*

**Education:** Men Cooking Bible Study meets again in March continuing the class “How to Read the Bible” at 8:30 am. Deep Dive Cell Group Bible

Study finished studying angels. Clayton Mission continues the study “A Clash of Kingdoms”.

*Carol Niedfeldt*

**Youth:** no report. *Loretta Meyer*

**Fellowship:** Our next event is the Family Night March 4th. Please make plans to attend the fellowship event – a potluck meal during the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter Voter’s Meeting, Sunday, March 26<sup>th</sup>.

**Social Ministries:** Don takes old Portals of Prayer booklets to nursing homes.

*Don Niedfeldt*

**LWML:** The February meeting was a trip to the theater on the 25<sup>th</sup> to see Jesus Revolution, a new release movie featuring a true story.

*Loretta Meyer*

**Olive Branch Outreach**

We are contemplating more advertising. There is a need right now with people stressed by so many things about each other leading to conflict.

**Disc Golf:** The club is collecting annual membership dues for 2023, which they split

with the church. They plan to do a fundraiser tournament October 28<sup>th</sup> to raise more money for the club goal of buying a new zero-turn mower and adding the New eastern side 9 holes.

**Trustees:** The trustees are getting ready for outdoor projects on hold till spring. Jerome will be installing the last 2 cameras for the new 10-camera video security system. Our contractor has ordered gutter insert materials to redo a few sections on the NW side. The plan is to install them in March. We need to do a spring workday, perhaps during the week.

**Cross Wall Project:** We need to buy the wood, cut and stain it for the cross wall and install it. Also planned is painting the wall within it.

**First Experience Entryway Remodel:** We’re contemplating whether another passage on a wall would help be a focal point from other directions.

### BIBLE STUDY GROUPS (See calendar page for dates)



Men Cooking Bible Study Breakfast 2nd Saturday 8:30 am  
 Deep Dive Cell Group Bible Study Thursdays at 1:00 pm  
 Sunday Morning Bible Class, Sundays at 9:15 am  
 Clayton Bible Study, 1st and 3rd Sundays at 4:00 pm

### Rev. Jason & Anna with their sons Johanes and Immanuel

Dear friends and family would like to introduce Missionaries,

Rev. Jason and Anna Marie Steffenson serve the Lord as missionaries through The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS) at a new seminary in Shinyanga, Tanzania. Jason is the professor of Greek and Hebrew and assists in pastoral formation.

Jason, Anna Marie, and their sons Johanes and Immanuel are currently members of Trinity Lutheran Church, Ardmore, Okla.

Our Lord Jesus is sending Jason and his family Tanzania to teach Greek and Hebrew in Swahili at a new seminary built in the city of Shinyanga. By training new pastors to read Greek and Hebrew, the pastors can more deeply understand the Word of God and the testimony of the saving work of Christ Jesus.

Pray for the Steffenson family as they serve in Tanzania. Ask God to bless their efforts to learn Swahili and to acclimate to their new home. Pray also for the new seminary where Jason serves, that it would equip students to serve the church and share the Gospel message to the best of their ability. Let us give thanks to God that the Steffensons are serving His people in this part of the world.

We have been asked by Rev. Jason and his family to take part in supporting the work God is calling them to do.



**BIRTHDAYS**

**March**

- 12th Sheila Curtis
- 13th Briana Brown
- 14th Archie Miller
- 17th Dillon Brown
- 23rd Sue Borgelt
- 29th Michelle Fields



Prayers to Puff Blow

**BAPTISMAL BIRTHDAYS**

**March**

- 5th Carol Niedfeldt
- 10th Jim Lyles
- 20th Joshua Billos



**ALTAR FLOWERS**

**March**

Jerry & Karen Yagher  
 For Karen's Aunt Sylvia Tendricks  
 100th Birthday



**ANNIVERSARIES**

**March**

None



Please contact Pastor and Karen Brown when a name can be removed or changed to another category

**LORD: We Implore You to Hear Our Prayers**

**For Healing of Chronic Ills:** Squeaky Brown, Primary lateral sclerosis, Sheila Curtis health issues, Harold Dunlap, health issues, Darlys Hutten, cancer & health issues, Chris Meyer, head and neck pain, Rick Meyer, Parkinson's, (Pastor's brother), Lisa Milton, COPD & heart blockages, Laura Moore (Primus & Veronica Moore's daughter-in-law), Teresa Reese, neck pain, Esther Valenta, health issues (Linda Valenta's mother-in-law)

**Mourning:** the family of Gerald "Gerry" Valenta, Sr.

**In War Times:** for Ukraine striving to defend their country; for our enemy Russia and its leader waging war

**Thanksgiving:** For gentle soaking rain last week, for deep meaningful worship experienced by 22 persons on Ash Wednesday, for Thrivent sponsoring our Family Night outreach this Saturday, for the His Place Community Center with all its games and facilities for food and fun, for the new Lenten purple altar paraments, for repairs made to our church sign by the road,

**Enduring Cancer:** Rev. Barrie Henke, end stage cancer (former OK District President), Paul Holbrook, throat cancer (Reese family uncle) Curtis Jacobson, cancer, Linda Ketchum, cancer (friend of Karen McGee), Ronnie Loman, melanoma, Marlys Melchert, cancer (Julie Atkinson's sister), Charlie Riddles, cancer (Bill Borgelt's cousin), Roger Stainbrook, cancer, Kelly Richardson, bladder cancer (Matt's brother)

**Special Healing Needs:** Rev. Barrie Henke, in hospice care (former OK District President), Curtis Jacobson, in hospice care, Micah Neidfeldt, hospitalized AFIB and high BP, Teresa Reese, various pains, Kelly Richardson, bladder cancer surgery soon (Matt's brother) Charlie Riddles, cancer surgery & treatment (Bill Borgelt's cousin), Roger Stainbrook, cancer treatment,

**For Strength:** Audrey Brown & family, Curtis Jacobson family, Raven Jacobson, Jason Alexander Luvenburgh & family, (toddler grandson of Harold Dunlap), Donnie & Lisa Milton (Clayton friends), Primus Moore family, John Peasha Jr. family

**Serving in or with the Military:** Cole Jackson (Connie Loman & Teresa Dove's cousin), Teddy Stevens (Audrey Brown's brother)

**For Transformation:** That we are feeling empowered by the Holy Spirit to keep inviting the lost to church so that God might save them and equip his kingdom workers at Trinity as evangelists.

**Prayer Focus for the Month of March:** Pastors & Congregations of the Tulsa Circuit Leaders of our Synod & District.

**Trinity Prayer Warriors**

If you have a request for special prayers, please contact Karen Brown 918-569-7885 or email her at karensd-brown@hotmail.com. Also call Pastor Glenn 918-916-4469 cell.

**Lenten Midweek Services**

Lent started February 22 and so does our midweek sermon series on Moses' most important book—Exodus. In it Moses asks Pharaoh to let God's people go seven times (Exodus 5:1; 7:16; 8:1, 20; 9:1, 13; 10:3) and Pharaoh finally does it! When he does, God's salvation is so amazing that the event becomes the Gospel of the Old Testament. The exodus is mentioned 125 times in Israel's Scriptures! Throughout the book of Exodus God reveals who he is through his absence and his presence, through his silence and his speech, through his wrath and his mercy, and through his judgment and his amazing grace. In doing so the book paints a beautiful portrait of Jesus. Midweek special service themes and schedule are as follows:

- March 1, Wednesday 7 pm  
**"How God Changes Us"** (Exodus 3:1-14)
- March 8, Wednesday 7 pm  
**"Stop Trying and Start Trusting"** (Exodus 14:1-29)
- March 15, Wednesday 7 pm  
**"Strike the Rock!"** (Exodus 17:1-7)

- March 22, Wednesday 7 pm  
**"Mine!"** (Exodus 20:1-17)
- March 29, Wednesday 7 pm  
**"Digging Ourselves into a Hole"** (Exodus 32:1-14)

**USHERS CAPTAIN**  
Don Niedfeldt

# March 2023

**ALTAR GUILD**  
Karen Yagher

**COMMUNION ASSISTANT**  
Jerome Atkinson

**GREETER**  
Don Niedfeldt

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> <b>Altar Flowers for the Month</b>                      Jerry &amp; Karen Yagher                      For Karen's Aunt Sylvia Tendricks                      100th Birthday                 </div>						
5 Bible Study 9:15 am Communion Worship 10:30 am Clayton Study/ Service at 4:00 pm	6 Pastor will be away at Spring Professional Church Workers Conference	7 Pastor will be away at Spring Professional Church Workers Conference	8 Lenten Evening Service 7:00pm	9	10 Pastor's Day Off	11 Pastor's Day Off Men Cooking Breakfast at 8:30 am
12 Daylight Savings Time Begins Bible Study 9:15 am Worship 10:30 am	13	14 Church Council Meeting at 5:30 pm	15 Lenten Evening Service 7:00pm	16	17 Pastor's Day Off St. Patrick's day	18 Pastor's Day Off
19 Bible Study 9:15 am Communion Worship 10:30 am Clayton Study/ Service at 4:00 pm	20 Spring Begins	21 Newsletter Article & Calendar Events are Due	22 Lenten Evening Service 7:00pm	23	24 Pastor's Day Off	25 Pastor's Day Off LWML Meeting at 10:00 am
26 Bible Study 9:15 am Worship 10:30 Voter's Meeting after Church followed by Church Potluck	27	28	29 Lenten Evening Service 7:00pm	30	31	



