

### **Trinity Trumpet**

### March 2024





Watch Services on **Trinity McAlester** YouTube page

### Calling Us Home - More Than a Sermon Series of

Dear Friends in Christ,

As March arrives, we are already beginning to see things of spring: budding and blooming plants, planning Spring Break vacations, and that point of complacency, Lent, that we may put on the wrong end of the list. College and school kids look forward to coming home and being home – out of school for a whole week. Local fishermen are eager for the crappie run that's already beginning. Then there's a few that take a Holy God seriously as they observe this penitential season preceding Easter. Penitential means an attitude of repentance - a change of heart toward God. During the harsh and holiday rich, wintery months, travel and illness and weather and pure busyness have drawn many to distraction. As such, living with an attitude of God in the forefront, driving our life, may have slipped away. For others, the godly actions might go on as always simply out of habit without such things coming from the heart. That heart is like cof-

fee made with lukewarm water, not so rich. lukewarm heart? Return to the foot of the cross in penitence! After all, the cross is the path of Jesus as we chronicle his suffering road to Calvary. Going with him on that journey has great potential to move our focus to one of repentance and remorse for all our sins that

nailed him to that tree, put-

ting him in that tomb for

three days.

He didn't stay in that tomb, though. He rose to glory. We can see a simple parallel then in spring when dead and dormant things come alive, reminding us of the renewal we have in our life with God in his kingdom. Christ Jesus rose as the "first fruits" of all that will rise to their heavenly throne on the Day of the Lord. On that day, he will call home all the living and dead saints to live with him forever. Our sermon series theme this Lent and Easter of

that journey from cradle to life to our heavenly home. Whatever can one do with a So it's right to see ourselves already on the course - en route to heaven. We're preparing now for the annual Easter resurrection celebration. And we're also preparing for that final resurrection and the call home that we are assured to have by faith through grace. For most everyone reading this, the Lord has "called you out of darkness into his marvelous light," calling you to be his own and live with him in his kingdom. All that kingdom language of "a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession" is about what God has made us through his grace.

The challenge for us is to stay out of the darkness, for as the Bible says, our inner nature loves darkness. Graciously, God keeps calling us "into his marvelous light" through faith to repent and come back. When that happens, Easter is just around "Calling Us Home" is about the bend. I invite you to re-



double your effort to attend 6:30 pm Wednesday Lenten services, each Sunday service, the special holy week services, and Easter service on March 31. May we chosen ones take time to renew our hearts for kingdom life in Jesus' resurrection! Amen. Yours in Christ, Pastor Glenn

But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. 1 Peter 2:9 (ESV)

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### 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.

Evangelism: Please pray for Carol, our leadership and Pastor as they work on developing a congregation led outreach program to replace Olive Branch. Pastor's spiritual discussion group with light meal in His Place following the weeknight mixed doubles disc golf mini will stay paused until it warms up and Pastor has time to get people excited about it again. Carol is looking for outreach and evangelism ideas. Note that the Prison

video service ministry is paused until OSP gets a new chaplain.

Carol Niedfeldt

**Education:**: Men Cooking Bible Study restarted in February, but few came. Deep Dive Cell Group Bible Study is doing a new study on John's letters. Sunday Bible class continues a chapter by chapter study of Revelation. Carol Niedfeldt

Youth: no report. Loretta Meyer

*Fellowship:* The next church potluck will be for the Voter's meeting in March.

**Social Ministries:** Don N. takes old Portals of Prayer booklets to nursing homes. We got the schedule for the Local Service Coalition now so that he might attend the meetings and find out more things in the community that strengthen families. The food pantry is well stocked so invite some poor, hungry friends to use it. *Don Niedfeldt* 

<u>LWML</u>: The February meeting was working in the garden beds planting new shrubs and bulbs and seeds. *Loretta Meyer* 

### Olive Branch Outreach

Pastor has a new church conflict case in Missouri that is in prep-stage at this time. He may work on this after Easter.

<u>Disc Golf</u>: Things have been stalled for a while! Glenn Morris plans to donate and install vinyl siding on the back of the garage. Church and disc golf guys are working to acquire thick plywood and get it installed on the inside of the walls to armor them against hand tool-wielding thieves.

<u>Trustees:</u> New sink faucets were installed in both restrooms, funded by the Thrivent action team project. We need to use our load of large gravel to fill in our many washout holes by downspouts. A contractor redid all the roof penetrations. PSO helped us repair a failed connection in the His Place meter box and get power restored.

<u>Cross Wall Project</u>: Currently progress on the cross wall is on hold.



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

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

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

Dear friends and family,

Featured to the left is a picture of a monkey attempting to turn on our water tank spigot. Water in general and especially safe drinking water is an important focus of missionary day-to-day living. Though we have emergency bottled water on hand. We need to prefilter our water through a filter we found here. Recently we researched bats upon discovering them living in the roof. Great care needs to be taken in cleaning up after bats. Our water filtered through gravity fed filters which remove viruses such as deadly diseases like Eboli and Marburg. Currently, our pre-filter broke and we cannot get a replacement for a while, so we are using bottled water.

In the peace of Christ Jesus, Pastor Jason, Anna Marie, Johanes, and Immanuel Steffenson

### Michael & Naomi and baby Ford Ersland

Dear friends and family,

We have begun rebuilding from the flood. We are over halfway completed with updates to the New Testament with only Lamentations and Daniel waiting to be consultant checked. God endured suffering. Jesus knew pain, the pain of the world. God is here. He is present. He always has been. Through Jesus' birth, suffering, death, resurrection, and ascension, we have hope. A pavilion replaces the foundation of the village church. People are engaging life's traumas with God's Word. Healing is coming.





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### BIRTHDAYS

March

12th Sheila Curtis 13th Brianna Brown 17th Dillon Brown 23rd Sue Borgelt 29th Michelle Fields



### BAPTISMAL BIRTHDAYS

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



### ALTAR FLOWERS

March

In Observance of Lent No Altar Flower's till Easter





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, Teresa Dove, in nursing home rehab, Harold Dunlap, health issues, Tina Hile, health issues (former member), Chris Meyer, head and neck pain, Rick Meyer, Parkinson's, (Pastor's brother), Micah Niedfeldt, afib, (Don and Carol's son), Lisa (Milton) Brown, COPD & heart blockages, Teresa Reese, various pains,

**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.

**Mourning:** the family of **Esther Valenta** (Linda Valenta's mother-in-law),

In War Times: for Ukraine vs. Russia, for Israel vs. various enemies, for various civil wars in African countries **Thanksgiving:** For the good Wednesday Midweek service, for the new plants and bulbs the LWML ladies planted outside, for the progress made on Pastor's Sabbatical plan, for the Sunday Bible study group completing the long study of the book of Revelations, for the leap day in February this past week, for Pastor Schuett of 1st Lutheran, Muskogee many years of service as he retires and is preaching his last service there today, for the return of warm weather this weekend

Enduring Cancer: Paul Holbrook, throat cancer (Reese family uncle), Rev. John Huss, brain cancer, Linda Ketchum, cancer (friend of Karen McGee), Ronnie Loman, melanoma, Charlie Riddles, cancer (Bill Borgelt's cousin), Carrie Ann Swain, end stage cancer (Youth Director at Immanuel, Broken Arrow)

<u>Special Healing Needs</u>: Robert Daniels, ruptured brain aneurism, (former Salvation Army pastor), **Don** Gleichman, CHF, Jenny Holbrook, health issues, (Reese's aunt), Rev. John Huss, chemo for brain cancer, Karen McGee, health issues, Micah Niedfeldt, hospitalized, Charlie Riddles, seeking more cancer treatment (Bill Borgelt's cousin), Carrie Ann Swain, immunotherapy for cancer (Youth Director at Immanuel, Broken Arrow)

<u>For Strength:</u> Audrey Brown & family, Raven Jacobson, William Loman family, Lisa (Milton) Brown (Clayton friends), Melissa Niedfeldt, Micah Niedfeldt, John Peasha Jr. family

<u>Prayer Focus for the Month of March:</u> Pastor's & 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 karensdbrown@hotmail.com. Also call Pastor Glenn 918-916-4469 cell.

### Lenten Series and Theme

The theme for our midweek services this year is "Calling Us Home." Each Wednesday we'll delve into 1 Peter and learn truths that are both challenging and comforting for this journey we are on, the journey to our true home in heaven. Join us!

Lenten and Holy Week Schedule					
Wednesdays, Feb. 21-Mar. 20	Midweek worship	6:30 pm			
Alternate Wednesdays, Mar. 6	Soup & salad	5:30 pm			
Wednesday, Mar. 20	Soup & salad	5:30 pm			
Palm Sunday, Mar. 24	worship	10:30 am			
Maundy Thursday, Mar. 28	worship	6:30 pm			
Good Friday, Mar. 29	worship	6:30 pm			
Easter Sunday, Mar. 31	breakfast potluck	9:15 am			
Easter Sunday, Mar. 31	worship	10:30 am			

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### **USHERS CAPTAIN**

Don Niedfeldt

## COMMUNION ASSISTANT Jerome Atkinson

# March 2024

### ALTAR GUILD Loretta Meyer

**GREETTER** Don Niedfeldt

	Sat	2 Pastor's Day Off	9 Pastor's Day Off Men Cooking Breakfast 9:00 am	16 Pastor's Day Off	23 Pastor's Day Off LWML Meeting at 10:00 am	30 Pastor's Day Off	
	Fri	1 Pastor's Day Off	8 Pastor's Day Off LSC Meeting	15 Pastor's Day Off	22 Pastor's Day Off	29 Pastor's Day Off Good Friday Worship Service 6:30pm	
j	Thu		7 Deep Dive Bible Study at 1:00 pm	14 Deep Dive Bible Sudy at 1:00 pm	21 Deep Dive Bible Study at 1:00 pm	28 Deep Dive Bible Study at 1:00 pm Maundy Thursday Worsbip Service 6:30 pm	
,	Wed		6 Lent Midweek Soup & Salad Meal at 5:30 pm Worship Service at 6:30 pm	13 Lent Midweek Worship Service at 6:30 pm	20 Lent Midweek Soup & Salad Meal at 5:30 pm Worship Service at 6:30 pm	27	
Tue	Tue	lowers for the  Observance of  tar Flower's till	5	12 Pastor will be away at Professional church Worker's Conference	19 Newsletter Article & Calendar Events Due	26 Spring Begins	
	Mon		4 Church Council Meeting at 2:00 pm	11 Pastor will be away at Professional church Worker's Conference	18	25	
	Sun		3 Bible Study 9:15 am Communion Worship 10:30 am	10 Daylight Savings Time Begins Bible Study 9:15 am Worship 10:30 am	17 St. Patrick's Day Bible Study 9:15 am Communion Worship 10:30 am Voter's Meeting & Pottuck Meal after church	24 Palm Sundsy Bible Study 9:15 am Worship 10:30 am	31 Easter Sunday Breakfast 9:15 am Communion Worship 10:30 am

Confident in Christ, Michael and Naomi and baby Ford Ersland