



trinity

LUTHERAN CHURCH,  
MISSOURI SYNOD

# Trinity Trumpet

April 2024



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## How Can I Pray for You?

Dear Friends in Christ,

In the Bible story of Job, God destroys all of Job's children and grandchildren, his wealth and even his health. His closest friends come and sit with him, in repeated attempts to comfort him. They presume his misfortune is punishment from God for some horrendous wrong he has done and urge him to confess it.

Have you ever felt like everything and everybody had turned against you? Have you even pondered that God may be punishing you and had even abandoned you? We have the story of Job to comfort us in such times. God did not punish him. His three well-meaning friends ... were just wrong. In the end, God admonishes the erring friends: "Now therefore take seven bulls and seven rams and go to my servant Job and offer up a burnt offering for yourselves. And my servant *Job shall pray for you*, for I will accept his prayer not to deal

with you according to your folly. For you have not spoken of me what is right, as my servant Job has.'" (Job 42:8, ESV) The italics are mine to emphasize God's resolution, *having someone pray for another*. One of the powerful gifts Christian's have is the ability to pray to God on behalf of another person. Just having gone through Holy Week, we remember Jesus' example of praying for the soldiers that crucified him on the cross (Luke 23:34). We marvel that he could still love the ones who treated him so. Yet, he died for their sins – gave his life for them, too! Such love kept him on that cross.

We can show our love for others by praying for them, as Jesus did. There is no more powerful demonstration of our loving care and concern for someone than to say:

*"How can I pray for you, now?"* Just imagine how

the people you meet each day might be changed if you asked each one: "How can I pray for you?" Then consider, if everyone in our church family did that? We know from James 5: 16, "the prayer of a faithful person has great power." Continuous, ongoing and fervent prayer has the power to do great miracles in the lives of the people for whom we pray. In the season of Easter, 7 weeks following the day, I challenge you to commit yourself to the Lord as his prayer warrior. People all around us have feelings like Job, needing support from friends and assurance from God. Make it your practice in every conversation with every person you meet to ask: "How can I pray for you, right now?" In so doing, you will spread the love of Jesus far and wide as you touch hearts for him. You will be transformed into a more caring person and God will come closer to you as



your prayers rise to him. If we all do this, our church will change overnight in the same way. God will bless such prayer, as he promises, with joy and peace. So, let us keep the Easter joy in faith and prayer, displaying our loving relationship with Jesus and all the people we meet! Amen.

Yours in Christ,  
Pastor Glenn

*"And Jesus said, 'Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do.' And they cast lots to divide his garments." (Luke 23:34, 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.

**Evangelism:** Please pray for Carol, our leadership and Pastor as they work on developing a congregation led outreach program to replace Olive Branch. The LCEF grant applications are coming this month so we need a program to fund! Pastor's Hope4Life spiritual discussion group with light meal in His Place following the week-night mixed doubles disc golf mini will likely restart in April as 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 will pick up in April. Deep Dive Cell Group Bible Study is doing a new study on John's letters. Sunday Bible class started a new video-based study from Lutheran Hour titled: "The Bible on Trial." *Carol Niedfeldt*

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

**Fellowship:** The previous church potluck was for the Voter's meeting in March.

**Social Ministries:** Don N. takes old Portals of Prayer booklets to nursing homes. Don attended the Local Service Coalition and found out things in the community that strengthen families, while sharing our Olive Branch outreach. The food pantry is well stocked so invite some poor, hungry friends to use it. *Don Niedfeldt*

**LWML:** The OK District LWML Convention is April 12-13. Loretta, Jennifer Mieritz and Carol are going. *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.

**Disc Golf:** Things look to be picking up! 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.

**Trustees:** We need to use our load of large gravel to fill in our many washout holes by downspouts. A new electric outlet is being installed for the TV that faces the altar.

**Cross Wall Project:** 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,

It has been an eventful time since the last newsletter. Rev. Jason sprained his ankle and was not able to walk on it for a couple weeks without crutches and is just now this week feeling like it is getting back to normal. Then, we caught Covid, then we caught stomach parasites again. Then, three of us caught malaria last week. We rest in the grace and strength of our Lord Jesus as we celebrate this Easter Service. We have been researching parasites, and from what we can tell with discussions from friends here and our fellow missionaries is that it sounds like we are taking the proper precautionary procedures. Please pray for our health in adjusting to a new location. We are thankful to our Lord Jesus for recovering malaria, and different parasites. . Every evening, we thank the Lord for our family being safe at home together. Thank you for partnering with us in this work of the Lord among His people in Tanzania.

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

### **Michael & Naomi and baby Ford Ersland**

Dear friends and family,

Naomi has been working with a healing group in Gbintiri. "The Lord is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit" (Ps 34:18 NIV). During this time of the year, we think of the trauma in our lives. We think of its hurt, shame, pain, and separation. There is the death of the friend and family member, the drought that demolished crops, accidents, sicknesses, etc. It is pretty gloomy. It is real. It is dark. It is painful. This is the world that God entered and dwelt in—to be present and near. Jesus knew pain, the pain of the world. In the Word of God, we have the incarnation brought for humans, across all languages. The Komba Bible is that incarnation brought for people here, into their context. The light is coming brighter. It is here with us to stay. It is coming to dwell, for people to easily return to and know that God is here. He is present. He always has been. Through Jesus' birth, suffering, death, resurrection, and ascension, we have hope. Healing is coming. Hope is rising. May the hope of Jesus Christ be with you this Easter season and forevermore.

- Praise God for Jesus Christ, who entered the world and became sin for us so that he might die to give us life.

*Confident in Christ, Michael and Naomi and baby Ford Ersland*

**BIRTHDAYS**

April

1st Zachariah Edwards  
 24th Christy Jo Baugh-Cooper  
 27th Jonathan Hummel  
 27th Tessa Hamilton



Don't Forget to Pray for  
 them

**BAPTISMAL BIRTHDAYS**

April

9th Karen Yagher  
 22nd Michelle Fields  
 22nd Rick Curtis  
 22nd Sheila Curtis



**ALTAR FLOWERS**

April

Pastor & Loretta for Easter



**ANNIVERSARIES**

April

Jerry & Karen Yagher 14th



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 Don Gleichman, for families of those that died in the Baltimore bridge accident

**In War Times:** for Ukraine vs. Russia, for Israel vs. various enemies, for various civil wars in African countries

**Thanksgiving:** For Men's Holy week breakfasts this past week and for the sponsoring churches, for repairs completed in the Men's restroom, for Don Niedfeldt, recovering from hand surgery, for the economy driving investments to new highs, for medical equipment that is life sustaining for some of us, for Dobson fiber internet coming available in some McAlester neighborhoods,

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

**Special Healing Needs:** Robert Daniels, rehab after brain aneurism, (former Salvation Army pastor), Jenny Holbrook, health issues, (Reese's aunt), Rev. John Huss, awaiting stem cell transplant for brain cancer, Karen McGee, health issues, Don Niedfeldt, hand surgery last week, Charlie Riddles, seeking more cancer treatment (Bill Borgelt's cousin), Carrie Ann Swain, immunotherapy for cancer (Youth Director at Immanuel, Broken Arrow)

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

**Prayer Focus for the Month of April:** Seminarians & Vicars Receiving Divine calls & All Calling Congregations.

**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](mailto:karensdbrown@hotmail.com). Also call Pastor Glenn 918-916-4469 cell.

**Easter Sunday Potluck Breakfast**

Thanks to everyone that brought such delicious food for the potluck breakfast this morning.

**Church Council Meeting Rescheduled**

Due the conflict with the solar eclipse on the original date and time for the April Church council meeting, we have rescheduled it for Wednesday, April 10, at 2:00 pm.

**Don Gleichman Memorial Service**

Mark your calendars for April 27<sup>th</sup> at 3 pm for a community celebration of life memorial service honoring the life of Don Gleichman. It will be at Life Church.

**USHERS CAPTAIN**  
Jerome Atkinson

**ALTAR GUILD**  
Loretta Meyer

# April 2024

**COMMUNION ASSISTANT**  
Jerome Atkinson

**GREETER**  
Don Niedfeldt

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 <i>April Fool's Day</i>	2 <i>Pastor will be away on Vacation day</i>	3	4 <i>Deep Dive Bible Study cancelled for today</i>	5 <i>Pastor's Day Off</i>	6 <i>Pastor's Day Off</i>
7 <i>Bible Study 9:15 am Communion Worship 10:30 am</i>	8 <i>Pastor will be away on Vacation day</i>	9 <i>Pastor will be away at Inksa Circuit Meeting</i>	10 <i>Church Council Meeting at 2:00 pm</i>	11 <i>Deep Dive Bible Study at 1:00 pm</i>	12 <i>Pastor's Day Off</i>	13 <i>Pastor's Day Off Men Cooking Breakfast 9:00 am LWML Convention</i>
14 <i>Bible Study 9:15 am Worship 10:30 am</i>	15	16	17	18 <i>Deep Dive Bible Study at 1:00 pm Pastor will be away on Vacation day</i>	19 <i>Pastor's Day Off</i>	20 <i>Pastor's Day Off</i>
21 <i>Bible Study 9:15 am Communion Worship 10:30 am</i>	22	23 <i>Newsletter Article &amp; Calendar Events Due</i>	24	25 <i>Deep Dive Bible Study at 1:00 pm</i>	26 <i>Pastor's Day Off</i>	27 <i>Pastor's Day Off LWML Meeting at 10:00 am Family Night at 6:30 pm</i>
28 <i>Bible Study 9:15 am Worship 10:30 am</i>	29	30	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: fit-content; margin: 0 auto;"> <p><b>Altar Flowers for the Month</b> Jerry &amp; Karen Yagher for their son Jeff's 55th Birthday</p> </div>			





