

Trinity Weekly Tidings For May 24, 2020

"God's Love - Our Hearts - God's Work - Our Hands"

Trinity Lutheran Church - 612 N. Water Street - Sparta, WI 54656

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Update: May 22, 2020

From Pastor Mark Kvale

Hello Trinity,

Alleluia! Christ is risen! Christ is risen indeed, Alleluia!

It is a big weekend for us at Trinity. First it is high school graduation weekend for some wonderful people! While this milestone is not being celebrated the way we hoped, we are still so proud of all of you who are graduating! I would like to offer this prayer for you:

Lord God, we thank you for what you have done and will continue to do with our daughters and sons. Walk with them in life and keep their path clear. You see all: you know where the water is deep. Keep them from danger. Order their steps and guide their feet while they run the race of faith. May the good work that you have begun in them be brought to completion at the day of Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.

And then, this coming Monday is **Memorial Day**. Monday is a day we remember and give thanks for all those who have given their lives in service to others. Here is a prayer for Memorial Day:

Eternal God, we give thanks for all those who have shown the greatest love by laying down their lives for others. We especially thank you for those in our military throughout history who have sacrificed their lives for their fellow citizens and for us who came after. As we remember their service, keep us mindful of all those for whom this day is a burden, and send your spirit of comfort to them. Be present with all the women and men who are serving in the military today. Though they are at war let them live for the peace known only from you. Help us to be worthy of their legacy, and keep us mindful of their service, that in all things we may live our lives in praise and thanksgiving to you; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Things to share for Friday, May 22

Sunday Worship: We will gather for worship on Sunday at 9 am with a livestream on Trinity's Facebook Group's Page. Please join us at 9, and then a bit later on our website www.tlcsparta.org.

There will be a short worship on Free Conference Call at 10:07 am! Here is the some information:

Daily Devotionals on Conference Call: Devotionals and Worship over the phone! That's right! We have signed up for a service called *FreeConferenceCall.com*. This bit of technology will allow us to provide our members without internet or computer the opportunity to be part of a special worship or devotional time by using their phones.

Devotions are on Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 1:07 pm.

Worship on Sunday at 10:07 am.

Here is how it's done: to join in our call, please dial the number listed below, when prompted, provide the access code followed by the #.

Dial-in number (US): (978) 990-5185

Access code: 5984240#

To listen to a recording of our Sunday worship, or our Monday, Wednesday, and Friday Devotional: Call Playback Number: (978) 990-5096

Access Code: 5984240#

Reference number: 1 for Sunday worship, 2 for daily devotional.

Please note that it is a different number than the live call!

Let our members who do not have internet know about this opportunity!

Sunday School for this weekend: Hey families, looking for a great Sunday School time for you and your children? Check out Family Sunday School from Sparkhouse! Here is the link for this weekend:

<https://youtu.be/5TAL-fX0xvE>

Morning Prayer: We have been gathering for Morning Prayer on Tuesday and Thursday mornings at 8am on Trinity's Zoom Meeting. If you would like to join us, please email Pastor Mark (pastor.tlcsparta@gmail.com) and he will send you an invitation.

We would love to see you!

30 Days of Prayer: June 2020

Speaking of prayer, I would like to invite you to help with something we are putting together for June! Here's how it works: Everyday of June, a short Biblical verse and a prayer will be shared by members of Trinity on our Facebook group page, and on our website. If you would like to help, please email me (pastor.tlcsparta@gmail.com). Please list the day of June that would work best for you. I will send you the verse and prayer. Then, you will take a video of you or your family, reading the verse and the prayer. After this, you will email me the video with your phone, and I will post it on Facebook. **Let's do this!!!**

Those who do not have email or internet: I am asking all of you to please check in with your family members and friends who are members of Trinity who do not have email.

Ask how they are doing, if there is anything they need, and ask in what ways they feel we can help them keep connected with the congregation. Please let Pastor Mark, or any of our leaders know, and let everyone know about our telephone worship and devotionals.

A Thank You Note from the Ecumenical Food Pantry: *Trinity Lutheran Congregation, Thank you so very much for your support of the Ecumenical Food Pantry. Cash donations allow us to purchase food items we are most in need of and support our mission to feed the hungry in our community. Your support is truly appreciated! Lori Ashcher—Board Member*

Prayer Concerns: Please take some time to pray to God over these concerns expressed by your sisters and brothers of Trinity Lutheran.

These are prayer concerns as presented to me to share: We pray for: Tim & Karen McClain as they mourn the death of Karen's mom, Pat Swartz. For Tim Steivang who is recovering from surgery; for Jeff Olson as he recovers from surgery; the family of Roger Thorsen, for Lisa Engh and family at the death of Lisa's mother; for Ron and Karen Wall and family at the death of Ron's mother; For Lenna Hanson, Jan VanWormer; We also For all those who provide medical care; for those who are ill, both with Covid-19 and with other illnesses; for those who are lonely and having a hard time; for those who have been laid off, furloughed, or who have lost jobs; for those returning to work;

*If you have any prayer concerns, please contact Pastor Mark
(608.487.2030 or pastor.tlcsparta@gmail.com)*

Bible studies: If you are interested in being part of an online bible study, please email Pastor Mark (pastor.tlcsparta@gmail.com). He is planning on a study of the book of Acts. We are also planning a study/reading group base on Dietrich Bonhoeffer's *Life Together*.

Looking for a great family devotional? Then check out ["Pandemic Faith: A Family Devotional for Life During Covid-19."](#)

Help Available!

The Bread Basket Ecumenical Food Pantry, located at 114 N. Water St. in Sparta, is open from 10 am to Noon on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays and again on Tuesday Evenings from 5-7 pm. **All with a need for food are welcome!** With the current covid19 issues, only workers are allowed into the pantry at this time. Those needing food are asked to fill out a form which is on a cart outside the pantry door.

These forms let the workers know what type of perishable items each family needs. (All non-perishable items have been pre-packed). The pantry workers will fill the order and bring the items out. **If you know people who are in need of food but can't get to the pantry, please let Pastor Mark know!**

Trinity Lutheran Helping Hands

We have established a fund meant to help our members who are in financial difficulties. If you, or someone in our congregation is in some help, please contact Pastor Mark (608.487.2030 or pastor.tlcsparta@gmail.com) for more information.

***Note: There will not be an update on Monday due to the Memorial Day holiday. Updates will resume on Wednesday, May 27.**

Our Watchword for the Week: *Christ said, "I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself."* John 12.32

Let us pray. . . Great Teacher, we know that our faith as Christians is a journey. Help us to grow closer to you each day through practices of prayer, worship, and acts of love for one another and you. In your name we pray. Amen.

In the love of Jesus,
Pastor Mark

A reminder: The building continues to be locked. The staff of Trinity is working from home. The mail and phone messages are checked a few times a day by Pastor Mark.

Located outside of the main door is a **Resource box**. In it you will find bulletins, newsletters, bible studies and bibles, and other helpful items. If you, or someone you know can use these items, please, help yourselves! We ask that you wipe the handle clean as you leave.

Pastor Mark Updates – Remember to check your email and our website often as Pastor Mark sends an update every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday. Stay tuned and stay safe.

Offering Opportunities

Thank you to all who have continued to support our mission at Trinity. Our good work has carried on. While we have not had the opportunity to contribute through the passing of the plate, the following options are available to us:

1. **Simply Giving** - Automated giving with Simply Giving via a transfer from your savings or checking account to Trinity's bank account. To start, please complete the Simply Giving form located on our website <https://tlcsparta.wixsite.com/trinity/copy-of-give>. Please sign the form,

take a picture of the form, and also take a picture of a voided check and email both pictures to office@tlcsparta.org. In addition, you can mail your Simply Giving form to Trinity (address below) or to Myrt, Trinity's administrative assistant, at Mary Holte, 302 Ulland Ave., Westby, WI 54667.

2. **Check** - Mail your check to the Trinity Lutheran Church, 612 N. Water St., Sparta, WI 54656
3. **GivePlus** - Online giving is available through GivePlus. The link is available through our website. <https://tlcsparta.wixsite.com/trinity/give>
4. **GivePlus Mobile** - Download the GivePlus mobile app from the App store (Apple) or Google Play (Android)
https://giveplushelp.vancopayments.com/images/GivePlus_Mobile_How_it_work.pdf
5. **Text by GivePlus** - Send a text with your donation amount to 844-554-1086. Within a few minutes, you'll be sent a text with a link to register. Click on the link and enter your cardholder name and debit or card information. Once your registration is complete, you will receive a text verification and a receipt of your donation via e-mail.

Bear in mind, any of these electronic/Internet automatic methods can be changed at any time and you can go back to giving in person when you choose to do so.

Looking for help - My name is Carrie Venckus and I am a member of Trinity that is looking for help. I am trying to find someone who might be interested in helping me by caring for my 9 year old daughter while I am at work. As of right now I am working part time (Wednesday, Thursday, Friday) but expected to return to full time (Monday thru Friday). I am looking for someone who will arrive no later than 8am and stay till 3:30pm. My household has dogs, a cat and a turtle. The dogs will remain kenneled during the day. My daughter has gymnastics Tuesdays and Thursday. If the person is interested in taking her to LaCrosse for her classes I will pay more. If not, they should know that Tuesdays and Thursday Grandpa will pick up around 12:15 pm. If you know of anyone interested please let me know at scorporocks@charter.net or 608 797 6782. I greatly appreciate your help.

Please stay safe and healthy,
Carrie Venckus

Youth & Family Announcements for the week of May 24, 2020

God is good all the time! All the time God is good!

**You are "fearfully and wonderfully made." You are a beloved & precious child of God. You matter!
You belong! You are loved! God created you on purpose for a purpose!**

Please talk to Michelle face-to-face; by phone at 269-5081; call/ text at 343-0324;
e-mail at: theyyattfive@gmail.com for additional information.

Faith Formation will have its zoom finale next Wednesday, May 27, at 7:00 p.m. Please watch for an email from Michelle with details.



Sugar Creek Update

Hello, dear Trinity families! I am always praying for all of you. I wanted to relay Sugar Creek's plan so far with postponing the start of summer camp to July 12. They will run camp the weeks of July 12, 19, 26, & August 2, & each week will run from Sunday - Thursday. The most helpful & up-to date information can be found on their website:

www.sugarcreekbiblecamp.org.

Online & paper registration are available, & scholarships will be given to ALL of our kiddos wanting to go to camp! Get signed up today with your \$100 deposit. If you want to go to camp, we WILL get you to camp! Also, we are gearing up for our Trinity Week to be the week of July 12 - 16.

Unfortunately, Day Camps are cancelled for the entire summer season. It's with a sad heart to tell you that Trinity will NOT be able to host our Day Camp that was scheduled for August 2 - 6.

Please continue to keep Sugar Creek, its ministry & staff in your prayers as we continue to walk in faith together with this AMAZING camp!

If you have any questions or financial concerns, please reach out to Michelle on her cell at 343-0324; e-mail at: thehyattfive@gmail.com; or by Facebook messenger.

God is good all the time! All the time God is good!



SAVE THE DATE!!
2021 ELCA Youth Gathering
"Boundless – God Beyond Measure"
June 29 – July 3
(open to current grades 7 – 11)

Every 3 years, 30,000 high school youth and their adult leaders from across the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America gather for a week of faith formation known as the ELCA Youth Gathering. Through days spent in interactive learning, worship, Bible study, service, and fellowship, young people grow in faith and are challenged and inspired to live their faith in their daily lives. We hope you will consider joining us for this experience of a lifetime! More details for will be coming as we plan for an informational meeting in the near future.