

# HOLY TRINITY TIMES

FEBRUARY  
2024  
NEWSLETTER



Sundays at 10am  
(Worship & Communion)  
[Sunday School following  
children's message, except  
on Family Sunday]

February 4th

February 11th  
[Family Sunday]

[No Sunday School]

February 18th

February 25th


Indoor, Facebook Live, and  
Local Radio Broadcast  
89.1fm

The Sunday bulletin can be found at  
[holytrinitylutheranchurch.org](http://holytrinitylutheranchurch.org)

You do not need a  
Facebook account  
to view the online services,  
just go to:

[holytrinitylutheranchurch.org](http://holytrinitylutheranchurch.org)

click the "Find us on Facebook" link.

If you get a "log in" pop  
up, just click on Not Now,  
or click the 

After worship join us for  
Fellowship & Coffee Hour



*A church  
that actively  
shares a  
living, daring  
confidence  
in God's grace  
with our community and the world*



Grace and peace be unto you from God, our  
Father and our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.  
Amen.

...all the time.

*"Beloved, let us love one another, because love is  
from God; everyone who loves is born of God and*

*knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love."*  
+1 John 4:7-8

And by know, if you have been to a summer camp...I'm sure you are  
singing. 😊 February seems to have that special day that is  
supposed to be the day for recognizing those you care about. And  
yet, that is something that God calls us to each and every day, every  
waking moment we have – to choose to know God, to know love,  
and to see this same thing in every single person we encounter.

Valentine's Day is associated with St. Valentine. But who is that, and  
why do we attach that day and those feelings/emotions to it. Well...  
like most holidays we celebrate, it's a mixed bag of people involved,  
seasonal events, and a story which gets exploited to highly  
questionable commercialism.

There has been more than one faithful martyr named Valentine, and  
there is still some confusion as to whom we attach this day, or  
perhaps it is attached to multiple. Yet typically, the story revolves  
around a 3rd century AD Roman priest. He was imprisoned for his  
faith and persecuted for presiding over the marriages of soldiers.  
Soldiers could avoid being sent off to war at the time if they

## CHURCH HOURS & CONTACT INFORMATION

### **Lisa Gregg, Finance Secretary**

Mondays  
12pm-5pm  
(906) 523-4315  
finance.htlc@gmail.com

### **Julie Judson, Church/Office Assistant**

Tuesdays,  
Wednesdays & Thursdays  
10am-5pm  
(906) 523-4315  
office.htlc@gmail.com

### **Pastor Soren Schmidt**

Mondays, Wednesdays, &  
Thursdays: 9am-2pm  
(906) 523-4315 ext. 4  
Cell: (906) 290-1405  
pastorsoren.htlc@gmail.com

If you would like something included in the Holy Trinity Times March issue, please have your information to the office no later than February 14th

Call the office at  
523 -4315 or email:  
office.htlc@gmail.com  
Thank you!

were married. Some think that this was Valentine providing this aid to soldiers so that the pagan power at the time was not supported, others merely believe that Valentine was welcoming the coming together of two people in marriage – a faithful, and beautiful, blessed joining. So, Emperor Claudius II didn't appreciate, however, his army numbers dwindling and had Valentine imprisoned and eventually sentenced to death as Valentine sought to share Jesus with Claudius II.

Yet, stories and accounts differ and another tells that Valentine was martyred in Rome, and that he (as Bishop of Terni, Italy) was buried with his relics in Rome on the Via Flaminia, and a church was built on top of him.

And another account tells of how, while Valentine was imprisoned he had written to the jailer's daughter and had a somewhat close relationship. His letters would be penned at the end: "From your Valentine".

Most of these accounts have Saint Valentine being executed on February 14th in the 3rd Century A.D. which is why our now celebration day is on the same date in remembrance of the martyr who believed in Christ and in romantic love and relationships. Throughout the years, account records have become sporadic and some are overly embellished, yet the poignant meaning and purpose of those accounts and stories remain: expressing love, offering gestures of kindness, and in faith and community - seeking to see God/love in one another and to express and encourage God as love.

I see God in you.

*God is Good. All the time!*

I love you all,  
+ Pr. Soren



(906) 523-4315 ext. 4

[pastorsoren.htlc@gmail.com](mailto:pastorsoren.htlc@gmail.com)



email or call Pr. Soren if you are interested in becoming a HTLC church member.

February 18, 2024 **4-5pm**

Located at: Gloria Dei, Hancock

Hosted by: Phi Kappa Tau





## The season of Lent is upon us

It is a time of reflection on the passion of Jesus' 40 days in which we reflect on the hugeness of what our Salvation is and the plan that God had for each of us through Him, Jesus Christ. It's also very baptismal in nature. A prayerful time in which we prepare ourselves to celebrate the grace of our forgiveness, our gift of salvation and the hope in the Resurrection.

### UPCOMING EVENTS



Wednesday 2/14/24

Drive-thru ashes: 12-1pm

Soup & Bread Supper: 5:45pm

Worship Service: 6:30pm

### LENT mid-week activities

Soup, Bread & Worship

Soup & Bread Supper: 5:45pm

Worship Service: 6:30pm

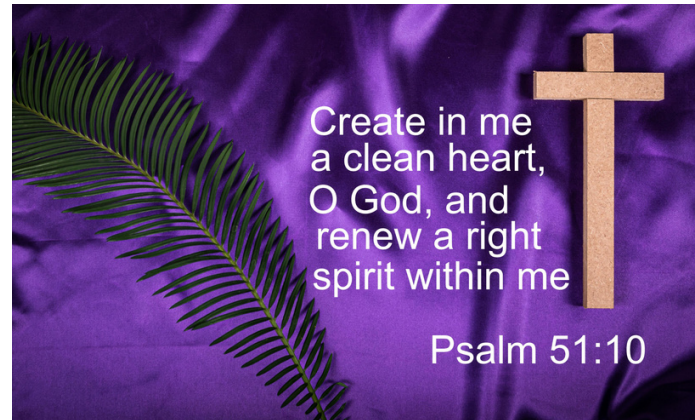
February 21st

February 28th

March 6th

March 13th

March 20th



### *Passion Week*

Palm Sunday Service: March 24th at 10 am

Maundy Thursday Service: March 28th at 6:00 pm

Good Friday Service: March 29th at 6:00 pm

Holy Saturday/Vigil of Easter: March 30th at 6:00pm

Easter Sunday Service: March 31st at 10 am



Our Faithful Innovations Group [FIGs] have been training and centering themselves in listening to the community since summer 2023. We now slightly shift and add to that focus and are needing and asking YOU for your participation in our developmental stages and outcomes from our training process.

We need YOUR voice. We are seeking to hear YOUR story, YOUR call, YOUR words of faith and development, of listening to the Spirit being active in YOUR life and how YOU see that within and toward your community.

The FIGs are asking for YOU to share in some of the following questions. Please feel free to choose and please email your responses to Pr. Soren: [PastorSoren.htlc@gmail.com](mailto:PastorSoren.htlc@gmail.com) We will also have a box by the offering plate for any written responses, if you feel called to share your story in that manner.

ALL responses will be in confidence with the FIG team, unless we ask permission for otherwise.

If possible, feel free to also answer perhaps as a family or a couple. Share stories of family or perhaps stories from others if you've visited and chatted, such as: with the sick, shut-ins, etc.

\*Please send us your stories and words by FEBRUARY 29th.

The questions to choose are:

- + Do you have a faith story you would be comfortable and willing to share?**
- + Tell us a time when you didn't think you could make it through a situation unless God was there to help you through.**
- + Describe a time when you knew God was enabling you to utilize your God-given gifts to bless others.**
- + Share when you perhaps experienced God walking with you, watching over, or guiding you.**
- + Who are some faith mentors you look up to and why?**
- + What are some gifts/blessings that God has given you that you share or can share with others?**
- + How do you feel prayers are heard, processed, and answered in your relationship between you and God?**

THANK YOU for your willingness to participate in this process through your answers and stories.

More about HTLC's FIG group: Pastor Soren, Wendy Hackman, Monica Markham, and Annette Lawrence had begun in Faithful Innovations training journey during the summer 2023. Aside from our training events, we were called to begin everything with zero agenda and with a call to simply LISTEN to our community (needs, pleas, stories, etc). While doing so, we participated in community events to listen further to those involved. We participated in community walks, Strawberry Festival and parade, UP Wild Church events, Senior meals, etc. Through these, the process continued as we took time to notice God active in the community, listened to needs and only then began a developmental process of possibilities which included grant prospects, and honing in on specific needs heard through the community. FIGs shared their faith stories with one another and with our training cohort (which also included a FIG group from Immanuel, Menominee), and we continue to be eager to hear YOUR stories as we continue to process and develop opportunities through active listening and responding to those in our community.

# UPCOMING FUNDRAISERS TO RAISE MONEY FOR FLLC CAMPERSHIPS



**SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 11<sup>th</sup>**  
**VALENTINES**  
**BAKE SALE**  
**FUNDRAISER**

help support HTLC's fundraising efforts...  
 enjoy some yummy treats for yourself and/or  
 purchase some for a loved one.

Funds raised will go towards Fortune Lake Camperships

## Fundraiser starting soon!

HTLC youth will be selling Saykly's goodies to raise funds for camperships. Sale will run Feb 11-25 and goodies will arrive before Easter



Contact Erica Bates with any questions.



## WORLD HUNGER

Blue Can for the months of February, March, & April will be for ELCA World Hunger.

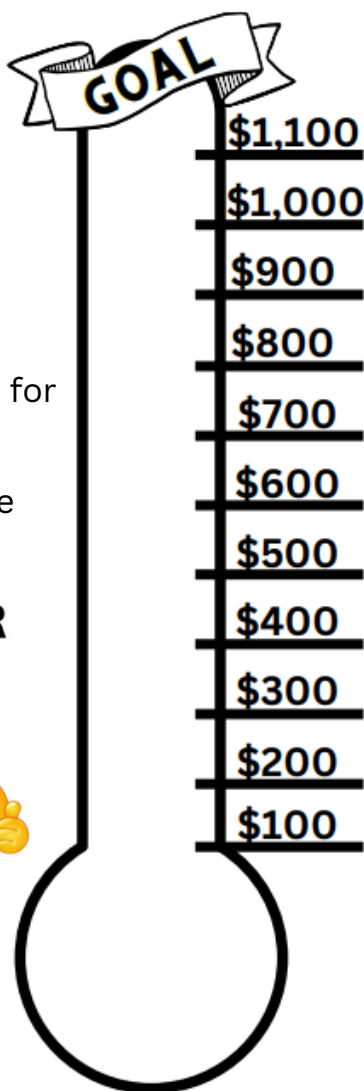
Memo of check and envelope should read: World Hunger.

HELP US REACH OUR

WORLD HUNGER



GOAL!



Direct your  
 Thrivent Choice  
 Dollars  
 Today!



Thrivent Choice can have a tremendous impact! Eligible Thrivent clients with memberships, please consider directing Choice Dollars to HTLC.

To learn more, go to [thrivent.com/thriventchoice](http://thrivent.com/thriventchoice)  
 Or call 800/847-4836 and say "Thrivent Choice" after the prompt.



Bivins, Amanda  
 Archambeau, Erica  
 Bower, Kirstin  
 Chosa, Heather  
 Cote, Paul  
 DeGrave, Tonya  
 Durocher, Danica  
 Erickson, Dolly  
 Fenili, Kim  
 Gerdes, Rose  
 Gerrad, Billie  
 Haataja, Janet  
 Hartwig, Gene  
 Hazel, Vera  
 Heikkila, Hiedi  
 Hilman, Olive  
 Hoban, Chris  
 Irwin, Laurie  
 Jalkanen, Dave  
 Kaipio, Mary  
 Kalliainen, David  
 Kerschensteiner, Jill  
 Kramer, Byrd  
 Lassila, Lorraine  
 Lexson Mary Anne

McGee, Pr. Merle  
 Makela, Diane  
 Martino, Linda  
 Nicholson, Howard  
 Niemisto, Kimberly  
 Nordstrom, Mary Lee  
 Orzel, Ben  
 Pleshe, Rose Marie  
 Povich, Trina  
 Powel, Amanda  
 Saarinen, Ray  
 Sauvola, Jason  
 Schaaf, Heidi  
 Schmidt, Barbara  
 Schmidt, Leigh  
 Schreiber, Joe

Tormala Carolyn  
 Walikainen, Dennis  
 Walitalo, Bruce  
 White, Bill  
 Wilder, Julie  
 Wilson, Fritz  
 Wisti, Mark & Amy  
 Yambor, Debby

Continued prayer for...  
 Military, Police officers  
 & First Responders,  
 Medical staff, and our  
 Government leaders



**IF YOU WOULD LIKE  
 SOMEONE ADDED TO  
 THE PRAYER LIST,  
 OR KNOW OF  
 SOMEONE WHO  
 SHOULD BE TAKEN  
 OFF, PLEASE  
 CONTACT THE  
 OFFICE.**



**Bill & Lois Budreau**  
 PO Box 13  
 Chassell, MI 49916

**Bob Freeman**  
 26171 Portage Entry Rd  
 Chassell MI 49916

**Rose Freeman**  
 Canal View  
 1100 W. Quincy St  
 Hancock, MI 49930

**Patrice Juopperi**  
 PO Box 194  
 South Range, MI 49963

**Geri Kaiponen**  
 Courtyard Manner  
 2205 N. Long Lake Rd  
 Fenton MI 48430

**Patti Kananen**  
 Mission Point  
 1400 Poplar St  
 Hancock, MI 49930

**Lorraine Lassila**  
 1000 Bluff View Dr apt. 215  
 Houghton MI 49931

**Elsie Lauluma**  
 39853 N Lauluma Road  
 Chassell, MI 49916

**Evelyn Lescelius**  
 42767 Willson Memorial Dr.  
 Chassell, MI 49916

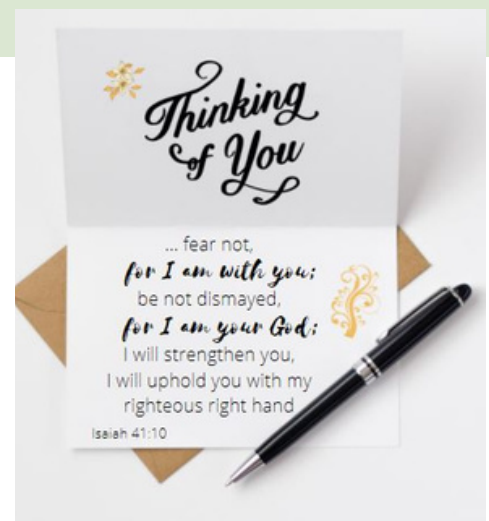
**Paul & Diane Makela**  
 PO Box 632  
 Chassell, MI 49916

**Carolyn Tormala**  
 40066 North Entry Rd  
 Chassell, MI 49916

**Doris Veldhuis**  
 1200 Earhart Rd. Apt. 335  
 Ann Arbor MI 48105

**Do you know of someone who  
 needs encouragement; that they  
 are being thought of and  
 prayed for?  
 If so, contact Lynn Walker  
 from the  
 Service & Witness Committee  
 at: [lcw1956@up.net](mailto:lcw1956@up.net) or  
 (906) 523-0084**

**OR you can contact the office at:  
[office.htlc@gmail.com](mailto:office.htlc@gmail.com) or  
 (906) 523-4315**





**from January 2024**

**Public Comment:**

- none

**Correspondence:**

- Zoom pro has been canceled

**Old Business Discussions:**

- Discussion: Hub computer that was hacked is currently being worked on to be fixed.
- Discussion: Roadside sign/Industrial Graphic quote will be tabled until February.
- Discussion: The outside lighting issues will wait until the Sacred Space Grant is awarded. Two bids were received.

**New Business Discussions:**

- Discussion: Annual meeting will be held in the fellowship hall after service on January 28th.
- Discussion: Nominating Committee update; difficulty finding members for council.
- Motion: Sue Wiles has been approved to replace Janey Sargent on the Endowment Committee. Due to the Endowment bylaws, with Janey being on the Audit Committee, she is unable to also be on the Endowment Committee.
- Discussion: Work bee slated for February to organize and declutter the church. A lunch will follow.
- Motion: Fellowship Hall usage approved for March 2nd and March 12th.

**Treasure's Report/Finance Committee:**

- Income for December: \$20,179.99 vs expenses for December \$12,022.49 leaves HTLC with a gain of: \$8,157.50. End of year 2023: +\$10,457.26
- Motion: 2024 budget draft approved to bring before the congregation at the January 28th annual meeting.

**Committee updates:**

- **Building & Property:** none.
- **Fellowship & Hospitality:** none.
- **Keeping the Connections:** verbal updates and ideas about expanding Keeping the Connections.
- **Memorial Committee:** none.
- **Parish Ed:** Written report given; upcoming fundraisers planned for raising money for camperships. Report available on sanctuary overflow bulletin board.
- **Service & Witness:** none
- **Worship & Music:** none
- **Pr. Soren:** verbal report given; planning a once a month movie night. His written report will be in the annual meeting report.

**Next Council Meeting: February 20th @ 7pm**

*[the fully completed January meeting minutes will be posted online and on the overflow bulletin board after approval at the February meeting]*

Council Meeting minutes can be found at:

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1Gjsf5eRRqleXveSoSRZmx-EQ-uxvxFLb>

(or contact the office).

**A big THANK YOU to all who participated in last month's Annual Meeting, and to our new (and returning) Council & Committee members!**



### New Council Members

Paulette Archambeau  
Wendy Hackman  
Linda Kantola  
Amy Schmaltz  
Sue Truelove  
Lynn Walker  
Mark Young

### New Endowment Committee Members

Stacy Lassila  
Tracy Schmaltz

### New Nominating Committee Members

Erica Bates  
Julie Judson  
Jim Lassila  
Annette Lawrence

Electronic Giving is simple and a consistent way to help our church grow. Consider scheduling a recurring electronic contribution today. It's easy! You will no longer need to write our checks and prepare envelopes every week. Even when travel, illness, or other circumstances prevent you from attending services, your electronic contributions will continue to be received on an uninterrupted basis.

**MyVanco** is a program administered by Vanco Services, which allows you to make one-time or recurring donations from your checking or savings account (an ACH transfer) on a secure donation site. Your donation setup can be managed entirely online. Donations can be started, changed, put on hold or stopped at any time. It's a safe and simple way to give! Anyone can sign up for **MyVanco** by enrolling online.


Click [LOGIN](#) to sign up for **MyVanco**.

Or you can also sign up for electronic giving by filling out a [SimplyGiving Vanco paper authorization form](#) and submitting it to the church office.

Many people already use electronic giving in their giving plan and we are so appreciative for the ongoing support of our vital ministry. Contact the church office at (906)523-4315 or [office.htlc@gmail.com](mailto:office.htlc@gmail.com) with any questions. Thank you for supporting HTLC!




# FEBRUARY 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2 Pastor's day off	3
4 Sunday Worship, 10am [Sunday School] 11am Fellowship hour  A.A.: 8-9pm	5	6 Quilting: 9am-noon Pastor: -Text Study -Visitations	7	8	9 Pastor's day off	10
11 Sunday Worship, 10am Family Sunday; [NO Sunday School] 11am Fellowship hour  Let's Eat, 4-5pm at Gloria Dei, Hancock  A.A.: 8-9pm	12	13 Quilting: 9am-noon Pastor: -Text Study -Visitations  Finance Meeting, 6pm Council meeting, 7pm	14 Newsletter article(s) due for February Newsletter.   drive-thru ashes: noon-1pm Soup & Bread Supper: 5:45pm Worship Service: 6:30pm	15	16 Pastor's day off	17
18 Sunday Worship, 10am [Sunday School] 11am Fellowship hour  A.A.: 8-9pm	19	20 Quilting: 9am-noon Pastor: -Text Study -Visitations	21  mid-week activities Bread & Soup Supper: 5:45pm Worship Service: 6:30pm	22	23 Pastor's day off	24
25 Sunday Worship, 10am, [Sunday School] 11am Fellowship hour  A.A.: 8-9pm	26	27 Quilting: 9am-noon Pastor: -Text Study -Visitations	28  mid-week activities Bread & Soup Supper: 5:45pm Worship Service: 6:30pm	29		



For those who make purchases through Amazon, HTLC is a charity set up under AmazonSmile. Go through the link below for your amazon purchases, the church gets 0.5% from the price of eligible purchases! <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/38-6078952>

## Tadych's Marketplace Community Care [register receipt] Program:

Our current receipt totals come to **\$27,146.88** We receive 1% of receipt totals. This then goes towards Camperships. Keep those receipts coming! :) 

February				
	February 4 <sup>th</sup>	February 11 <sup>th</sup>	February 18 <sup>th</sup>	February 25 <sup>th</sup>
Snow Shovelers(s) also to sprinkling salt	Bella Kotila	<b>VOLUNTEER NEEDED</b>	<b>VOLUNTEER NEEDED</b>	<b>VOLUNTEER NEEDED</b>
Musician	Deb Young	Pr. Soren	Deb Young	Kristiina Vanhala
Reader	Sandi Engel	<b>YOUTH VOLUNTEER NEEDED</b>	<b>VOLUNTEER NEEDED</b>	Nancy Paananen
Greeter(s)	Sue Wiles & Lynn Walker	<b>YOUTH VOLUNTEER NEEDED</b>	Roberta Tapani	<b>VOLUNTEER NEEDED</b>
Communion Assistant	Wendy Hackman	<b>YOUTH VOLUNTEER NEEDED</b>	Roberta Tapani	<b>VOLUNTEER NEEDED</b>
Sunday School Teacher(s)	Amber Tuttle	<b>Family Sunday/ NO Sunday School</b>	Amber Tuttle	Erica Bates
Acolytes	Michael & Emma Rothenberger, Bella and Robert Sarau	Olive & Jude Schmidt	Dylan Hoffman, Maija & Kiefer Mechlin	Tanner Elenich, Mannie & Russ Trewartha
Coffee Servers	Tammy Monette	<b>VOLUNTEER NEEDED</b>	<b>VOLUNTEER NEEDED</b>	<b>VOLUNTEER NEEDED</b>
Counters	Sue Wiles & Lynn Walker	Becky Moyle, Breigh Lawrence, & Julie Judson	Paulette Archambeau & Roberta Tapani	Mary Jurgensen & Tracy Schmaltz
Altar Care	Annie Soumis			



Greetings from Fortune Lake!  
 Things have been heating up here -- both literally and figuratively -- as the temperatures warm and summer registrations continue to roll in. I wanted to send some important updates for you and your congregation.... NOW is the time to register for Summer Camp!

Our summer theme is "Created to Be" and we can't wait to dig in! With some programs filling quickly and your families' schedules filling just as

fast, NOW is the time to register! Here's the registration link: <http://fortunelake.org/summer-camp/>  
 Please note that Week 8 Intergenerational Camp is FULL, and Week 2 is filling quickly. Youth programs are heating up. Dates to keep in mind: March 1 is the FREE T-shirt deadline, and April 1 is the Early Bird \$25 discount deadline. We hope to see you at camp!

Grace & Peace, Amanda Rasner (she/her), Camp Director

WEEK	DATES	CAMP PROGRAM & AGE/GRADE COMPLETED	COST
Week 1	June 9-14	Victory Camp (Adult 18+ with disabilities)	\$625
Week 2	June 16-21	Intergenerational Week (all ages) <i>New!</i> Treehouse Adventures (Grades 7-12)	See website \$475
Week 3	June 23-28	High School Week (Grades 9-12)   LIT Training Week (Grades 10-12)	\$475
	June 30-July 2	Mighty Ones (Grades 1-2)	\$225
Week 4	June 30-July 3	Mini Camp (Grades 2-3)   MashUp (Grades 4-8) LIT #1 Option (*No charge)	\$305 No charge
Week 5	July 7-10	*Mini Camp (Grades 2-3)	\$305
	July 7-12	*Villager (Grades 3-4)   *Vagabond (Grades 5-6)   *Venturer (Grades 7-8) Camp ACTS (Grades 3-12)   LIT #2 Option (*No charge)	\$445 \$475
Week 6	July 14-17	<i>New!</i> Evergreen Camp (Adults 55+)	\$260/\$305/\$405
	July 21-26	LEGO® Camp (Grades 3-9)   Jr High Night Owl (Grades 6-8) Art Camp (Grades 3-9)   LIT #3 Option (*No charge)	\$445 \$475
	July 22-25	Onsite Day Camp (Grades K-5)	\$130
Week 8	July 28-Aug 2	Intergenerational Week (all ages) Vagabond (Grades 5-6)   LIT #4 Option (*No charge)	See website \$445
	July 30-Aug 2	Intergenerational Half Week (all ages)	See website
Week 9	August 4-7	*Mini Camp (Grades 2-3)   *Villager (Grades 3-4) *Vagabond (Grades 5-6)   *Venturer (Grades 7-8)	\$305

2024 SCHEDULE

More info at FortuneLake.org

*Scholarships Available*

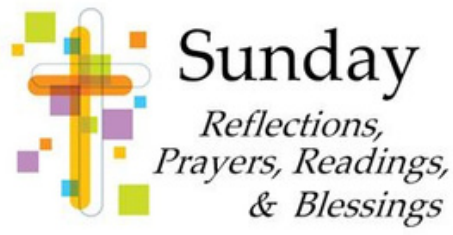
\*LIT program requires an application process. Week #1 has a fee; subsequent weeks do not.

HAPPY  
 Birthday

- Wyatt Bates 2/2
- Mary Lou Morris 2/4
- Jeremy Lassila 2/7
- Katie Sarau 2/8
- Mary Jurgensen 2/9
- Alia Palosaari 2/11
- Carolyn Tormala 2/11
- Claudie Spiroff 2/15
- Bella Kotila 2/16

- David Saunders 2/19
- Lorraine Lassila 2/20
- Chuck Kautto 2/21
- Larry Hermanson 2/22
- Kenneth Lassila 2/22
- Paul Tormala 2/26





## for the Month of February

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### **Fifth Sunday after Epiphany February 4, 2024**

In Isaiah the one God who sits above the earth and numbers the stars also strengthens the powerless. So in Jesus' healing work we see the hand of the creator God, lifting up the sick woman to health and service (diakonia). Like Simon's mother-in-law, we are lifted up and healed to serve. Following Jesus, we strengthen the powerless; like Jesus, we seek to renew our own strength in quiet times of prayer.

### **Transfiguration of our Lord February 11, 2024**

The Sundays after Epiphany began with Jesus' baptism and end with three disciples' vision of his transfiguration. In Mark's story of Jesus' baptism, apparently only Jesus sees the Spirit descending and hears the words from heaven. But now Jesus' three closest friends hear the same words naming him God's Beloved. As believers, Paul writes, we are enabled to see the God-light in Jesus' face, because the same God who created light in the first place has shone in our hearts to give us that vision. The light of God's glory in Jesus has enlightened us through baptism and shines in us also for others to see.

### **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

God, our rock and refuge, we pour out our hearts before you. We have known you but have not always loved you. We have wounded one another and sinned against you. We have not always recognized the Holy Spirit dwelling in each of us. Remember your covenant. Renew your creation. Restore us, that we might proclaim your good news to all. Amen.

### **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Everlasting God, you give strength to the weak and power to the faint. Make us agents of your healing and wholeness, that your good news may be made known to the ends of your creation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

### **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Almighty God, the resplendent light of your truth shines from the mountaintop into our hearts. Transfigure us by your beloved Son, and illumine the world with your image, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen

### **READINGS**

First Reading: Isaiah 40:21-31  
Psalm Reading: Psalm 147:1-11, 20c  
Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 9:16-23  
Gospel Reading: Mark 1:29-39

### **READINGS**

First Reading: 2 Kings 2:1-12  
Psalm Reading: Psalm 50:1-6  
Second Reading: 2 Corinthians 4:3-6  
Gospel Reading: Mark 9:2-9

### **BLESSING**

God who names you, Christ who claims you, and the Holy Spirit who dwells in you, + bless you and remain with you always.  
Amen.

## First Sunday in Lent February 18, 2024

On Ash Wednesday the church began its journey toward baptismal immersion in the death and resurrection of Christ. This year, the Sundays in Lent lead us to focus on five covenants God makes in the Hebrew Scriptures and to use them as lenses through which to view baptism. First Peter connects the way God saved Noah's family in the flood with the way God saves us through the water of baptism. The baptismal covenant is made with us individually, but the new life we are given in baptism is for the sake of the whole world.

## Second Sunday in Lent February 25, 2023

The second covenant in this year's Lenten readings is the one made with Abraham and Sarah: God's promise to make them the ancestors of many, with whom God will remain in everlasting covenant. Paul says this promise comes to all who share Abraham's faith in the God who brings life into being where there was no life. We receive this baptismal promise of resurrection life in faith. Sarah and Abraham receive new names as a sign of the covenant, and we too get new identities in baptism, as we put on Christ.

### CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Holy God, we confess that we are caught in snares of sin and cannot break free. We hoard resources while our neighbors are hungry and cold. We speak in ways that silence others. We are silent when we should speak up. We keep score in our hearts. We let hurts grow into hatred. For all these things and for sins only you know, forgive us, Lord. Amen.

### PRAYER OF THE DAY

Holy God, heavenly Father, in the waters of the flood you saved the chosen, and in the wilderness of temptation you protected your Son from sin. Renew us in the gift of baptism. May your holy angels be with us, that the wicked foe may have no power over us, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

### PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God, by the passion of your blessed Son you made an instrument of shameful death to be for us the means of life. Grant us so to glory in the cross of Christ that we may gladly suffer shame and loss for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever Amen

### READINGS

First Reading: Genesis 9:8-17  
Psalm Reading: Psalm 25:1-10  
Second Reading: 1 Peter 3:18-22  
Gospel Reading: Mark 1:9-15

### READINGS

First Reading: Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16  
Psalm Reading: Psalm 22:23-31  
Second Reading: Romans 4:13-25  
Gospel Reading: Mark 8:31-38

### BLESSING

Beloved, we are God's own people, holy, washed, renewed. God bless you and keep you, shower you with mercy, fill you with courage, and + give you peace. Amen.

# February

MAY THE  
GRACE  
OF THE LORD  
BE UPON  
YOU



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The mission of Holy Trinity Lutheran Church: Growing in Christ,  
Worshiping God, and Serving Others.