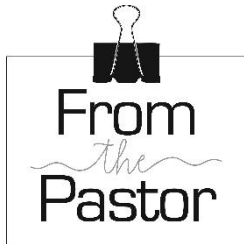


PLATTE, SD

Trinity Lutheran Church

NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 2023



Maintaining a Warm Heart in a Cold Winter

Dear friends, let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God. 1 John 4:7

Given the early onslaught of winter this past December, most of us are already sick of it. We're tired of the snow that fills our feedlots, pastures, and yards. We're tired of the ice that covers our roads, streets, and driveways. We're sick of scraping windshields, spreading ice melt on our driveways and sidewalks, and having to bundle up like an Eskimo just to go outside for a few moments. Parents are tired of snow days and grumbling kids. Kids are tired of being imprisoned in their homes and being unable to spend time with their friends. Cabin fever is at pandemic levels and winter has just begun. How will we survive three more months of this? How can we endure it?

The answer lies in our featured Bible verse. In these long, cold days of winter, the love of God will see us through. His love will give us the ability to display the following virtues.

1. **Gratitude.** Gratitude gives us the ability to see God's blessings in all things. Instead of grumbling about the snow, a grateful heart allows us to see the gift of moisture and nitrogen the snow has provided. Instead of complaining about cabin fever, a thankful heart rejoices in the blessings of a warm home. Instead of grumbling about scraping windshields, a grateful heart thanks God for a windshield to scrape. Instead of complaining about the kids having another snow day, a thankful heart rejoices in the safety of our children and the blessing of their company.
2. **Compassion.** Compassion allows us to put the needs of others above our own needs. Instead of growing tired of the people with whom we share our home, compassion allows us to extend grace,

mercy, and forgiveness to our family members. Instead of losing our temper with our family and friends, compassion allows us to see the world through their eyes and helps us to avoid conflicts and confrontations with them.

3. **Encouragement.** Instead of lashing out at others in anger, God's love allows us to encourage our family, friends, and co-workers by speaking words of life into their lives. Encouraging words can completely transform the atmosphere of our homes, our schools, and our workplaces if we will allow God to use us as a spokesperson for Him.
4. **Joy.** One of the greatest benefits of being in a love relationship with God is the joy He puts inside us. That joy is meant to be shared with the people He puts around us. That joy is meant to not only lift our spirit, but also the spirits of every person we encounter. Let God's joy in you transform every environment you enter.
5. **Love.** When we are living in a love relationship with God, we become conduits of His love. The beautiful thing about God's economy is that He gives us far more love than we require for our own well-being. He gives us a lavish infilling of love so we can know we don't have to be stingy with it. We have enough to love God with more leftover to love those around us.

What we make of this winter, and what we make of our lives, fully depends on how we relate to the Lord. Will we do as Jesus directed us and love the Lord our God with all our heart, with all our soul, with all our mind, and with all our strength? Will we love our neighbors as ourselves? If we will, we have the most fantastic winter and most fantastic life ahead of us that we could ever conceive. Here's praying you experience just such a winter and just such a life! In Christ's outrageous love, **Pastor Dave**

Church Council Minutes

Trinity Lutheran Church Council met Monday, January 16, 2023.

Present: Kyle Meyerink, Pastor Dave Martin, Shirley Johnson, Mike Konechne, Tonya Standy, Tom Boltjes and Jan DuFrain

Absent: Jeff Engebretson, Liz Spawn, Ryan Lantz, Jim Holter and Randy Tegethoff.

The meeting was called to order by President Kyle Meyerink and he led with prayer.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

The secretary's report was reviewed, Mike made a motion to approve, Jan seconded it, the motion carried.

TREASURER'S REPORT

There was no treasurer's report.

TRUSTEE'S REPORT

They put copper t's in sewer vents, this has taken care of the sewer smell. They have had good help with snow removal. Amanda is continuing to paint the hallways when she has time.

DEACON'S REPORT

Visits are being done and bulletins are being sent out.

PASTOR'S REPORT

We reviewed Pastor Dave's report. We will plan to have the same Christmas services next year. Pastor plans to hold quarterly New Members classes.

OLD BUSINESS

After checking with Cole and someone Pastor Dave knows, it was decided the quote for the sound system was a good quote and the equipment is needed. Tonya made a motion to approve the quote from CommTech for new sound equipment, Shirley seconded it, the motion carried.

Mike will check to see if he has some carpet for the extended area on the altar.

They are starting to take mission groups again at Mazahua Valley Mission, the mission board will be contacted about a possible trip to see if there is interest in going there.

Pastor Dave is interested in going to the LCMC Convention, he said it is worth going to, he will find out where it is this year and when it is. He would also like someone else from the congregation to attend, if possible.

The council positions and committees have been filled for the proposed council for 2023.

We reviewed the finalized 2023 proposed budget.

NEW BUSINESS

Kristal Balster would like to use the church for her student's piano recital on April 28. We all felt this was a good use of the church and had no problem with her using the building.

Pastor Dave will be reimbursed for the repairs to the deck at the parsonage.

Tonya made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Tom seconded it.

We closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Tonya Standy



From the WOW Co-Presidents

Pearl Feiok & Dee Rasmussen


Take notice that since we did not have Priscilla Circle in January, in February we will start the 1st lesson in our new book "Exodus". Shirley Johnson will lead the lesson and Donna Boysen will be hostess. Hopefully it will be a beautiful day and we can get started for a new year. If any of you enjoy reading the Daily Devotion (the word for you today) like I do, there was 1 day in January really stuck out to me.

Cast your cares on the Lord and He will sustain you. Ps 59:22 If you grow up in hard times you will automatically do one of these two things. 1. Trust God more because you have experienced His faithfulness. 2. Worry, think and incessantly talk about the "what ifs in life". And there are lots of them to think about because the future rest in God's hands and not yours. It's possible for a thing to seem much bigger to you than it really is. That's the essence of worry. It's like a snowball; it starts small, but as you roll it over and over in your mind, it becomes bigger and bigger until it has the potential to bury you. What's the answer?

"Trust in the Lord with all you heart, and lean not on your own understanding" (Pr 3:5) Fill your heart with God's word. Then develop the habit of letting what's in your heart be more real to you than what you see, think, or feel. You can choose to think about what God can do instead of what you cannot do. If you continue to obsess about the difficulty of your situation you will end up in despair. "Cast your cares on the Lord and He will sustain you". He will never let the righteous be shaken. God may not take you out of the situation immediately, but His sustaining grace will bring you through it. Today, give your problem to God.

WOW Mission Project

The WOW group is collecting laundry products for the Helping Hands Food Pantry for their mission project through the end of February. If you would like to donate, please place your items in the blue totes in the fellowship hall and they will be delivered to the pantry to help those in need.



God's
love
endures
FOREVER.

Psalms 136:1

Bible Study Groups

Martha Bible Study Group

meets Tuesday, February 7 at 7 pm
Lesson 4 "God is With You in the Dark"

Priscilla Bible Study Group:

meets Thursday, February 16 at 9:00 AM
Studying Lesson 1 in new book
Lesson Leader: Shirley Johnson
Hostess: Donna Boysen

Hannah Bible Study Group:

meets Thursday, February 16 at 1:30 PM
Studying Lesson 1 in new book
Lesson Leader: Peggy Martin
Hostess: Pearl Feiok

Children of the LIGHT

This craft celebrates that now we are light in the Lord (see Ephesians 5:8).

What you need:

- A gallon zip-top plastic bag
- Permanent markers (dark colors)
- Black construction paper
- White cardstock
- Scissors

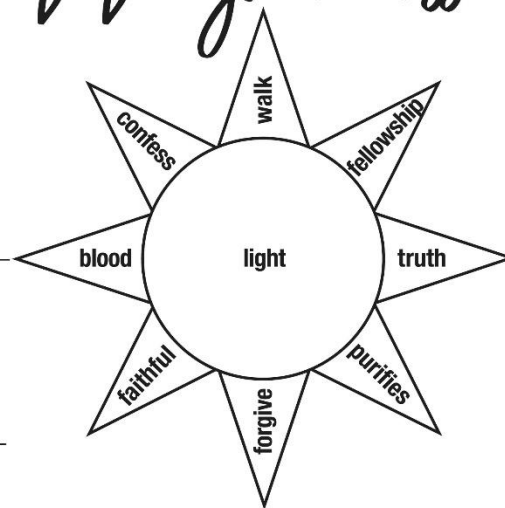
What you do:

1. Draw a self-portrait on the outside of the bag. Add details.
2. Insert the black paper and set the bag flat on a table. It should be tough to see your picture now.
3. On the white cardstock, draw a picture of a flashlight with a long beam of light coming out. Color the flashlight but leave the beam white.
4. Cut out the flashlight and light beam. Place them in the bag, over the black paper. When the white beam covers the black background under your picture, you can see your self-portrait clearly.



The light of forgiveness

The Lord is full of mercy and light. What happens when we confess our sins to God?



Directions:
Use the coded shapes to fill in the blanks and complete 1 John 1:7-9, NIV.

But if we _____ in the _____, as he is in the _____,
 we have _____ with one another, and the _____
 of Jesus, his Son, _____ us from all sin. If we claim to be
 without sin, we deceive ourselves and the _____ is not in us.
 If we _____ our sins, he is _____ and just and will
 _____ us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

1 JOHN 1:7-9, NIV

Answer: walk, light, light, fellowship, blood, purifies, truth, confess, faithful, forgive

The next Children's Worship Sunday is planned for Sunday, March 5. The Sunday School will be participating in the worship service through greeting, ushering, the Children's Sermon, reading Scripture, and special music. We hope you can join us! - Board of Ed



Proverbs 17:17

This Month's Birthdays

**Please remember these special 80+ Birthdays with a prayer, card or phone call*

2/1	Austin Severson	2/16	Shannon Knudson	2/20	Joan Hoversten*
2/3	Reed DuFrain	2/16	Robert Hoffman	2/21	Wendy Qualm
2/3	Emily VandenHoek	2/17	Hayden Strand	2/23	Austin DuFrain
2/6	Richard Gustad	2/17	Kordell DeHaan	2/23	Joel Olson
2/8	Troy Kirsch	2/19	Haley Hoffman	2/24	Donna Boysen
2/9	Carson Vanden Berge	2/19	Brad DeVries	2/26	Terry Boysen
2/10	Jan DuFrain	2/20	Leo Nelson	2/26	Mary Lee Erickson*
2/14	Todd Strand	2/20	Maley DeHaan	2/27	Kyler Strand
2/14	Hayes DeVries				

Communion

Ushers

Coffee & Cookies Servers

February 5 & 19
 5—Jeff Olsen & Kyle Meyerink
 Mike Konechne 12—Eldon Qualm & Toby Qualm
 Liz Spawn 19—Eldon Qualm & Toby Qualm
 Tom Boltjes 26—Darrel Hildebrand & Jim Holter

5—Tammy Darling, Phyllis Daum, Caitlin DeGroot
 12—Josie DeHaan, Jonna DeHaan, Whitney DeHaan
 19—Karen DeGroot, Nicole DeVries, Heidi Dingus
 26— Darice DuFrain, Jan DuFrain, Karis DuFrain

Church Council Installation

The Church Council installation will be during worship on Sunday, February 5.

President: Jim Holter, Vice President: Mike Gilbertz, Past President: Kyle Meyerink

Secretary: Carey Hoffman, Treasurer: Alisha Nachtigal

Deacons: Shirley Johnson, Jan DuFrain, Donna Boysen

Trustees: Ryan Lantz, Tom Boltjes, Tony Schrank

February Mission Offering – God's Way School

The February mission fund offering will be designated towards the God's Way Christian School and will be taken Sunday, February 19. The school is the vision of Paschal Bakundukize, the young man from Tanzania, who shared that vision with us on Aug 21st. Checks can be written out to "Trinity Lutheran Church." We will send check to the Platte Ministerial to hold until the nonprofit fund is established. Or you can give online through Breeze and choose "Mission Fund."

Legacy of Love – Take Two

The "Legacy of Love Seminar" is rescheduled for Saturday, February 11, 2023, beginning at 9:30 AM and concluding sometime around noon—give or take a few minutes. This seminar is designed to give participants practical pointers in making preparations for the day the Lord calls us home, thereby relieving much of the stress our loved ones will have to deal with when we pass.

The seminar will consist of two sessions, separated by a ten-to-fifteen-minute break. Session one will be focused on those practical decisions that need to be made in advance of our passing, while session two will be focused on planning for one's Celebration of Life service. Both sessions provide guidance to take care of affairs that are often forgotten and left in the hands of our survivors.

If you are interested in participating, please sign up on the sheet posted on the bulletin board just outside the sanctuary. We need a minimum of five people to sign up in order to hold this seminar, so invite a friend to join you.



PICTURE DIRECTORY PICTURES ARE HERE!

If you haven't ordered and would like to yet, fill out an order form and drop in the church office door slot. Pictures are now up on Breeze if you would like to preview before buying. Thank you!



February 22nd is Ash Wednesday, and with it, we begin the Lenten Season.

The Platte Ministerial Association recently voted to discontinue Community Lenten Services. In order to at least partially fill the void that creates, we will hold an Ash Wednesday service at Trinity on February 22nd. To avoid a conflict with the Senior High Youth Group meeting, we will meet at 6:00 PM. This service will feature the imposition of ashes within a repentance-centered worship service and will last approximately 45 minutes.

We have also received permission to hold Lenten services at Twilight Vista and at the Avera Care Center on Sunday afternoons. Our schedule is listed below.

Date:	Time:	Location:
Wednesday, February 22nd	2:00 PM	Twilight Vista
Sunday, February 26th	2:00 PM	Avera Care Center
Sunday, March 5th	2:00 PM	Twilight Vista
Sunday, March 12th	2:00 PM	Avera Care Center
Sunday, March 19th	2:00 PM	Twilight Vista
Sunday, March 26th	2:00 PM	Avera Care Center
Sunday, April 2nd	2:00 PM	Twilight Vista

I hope we will have a good turnout from our congregation at these services. They provide a way of growing deeper in our faith while helping to support and encourage the residents of these two facilities. I also invite Confirmation Students to get involved. Students can earn Volunteer Service hours by reading scripture, saying a prayer, or assisting me with Holy Communion.

God bless, Pastor Dave