



NEWSLETTER



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Contact

Rev. Don McKillop, Vacancy Pastor
 605-840-0554 (mobile)
 prdomc5897@yahoo.com

* OFFICE HOURS *

St. Paul's, Tuesdays, 9–11:30 a.m.
 Trinity, Wednesdays, 9–11:30 a.m.

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
 109 W State St., Plankinton SD 57368
 www.stpaulplankinton.com
 605-942-7364

Elders Justin Everson
 Curt Guindon
 Mike Tuschen

President Rodney Weber
LWML President ... Marlene Johnson

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
 304 S Johnston St., White Lake SD 57383
 www.trinitywhitelake.com
 facebook.com/trinitywhitelake
 605-249-2333

Elders Scott Meier
 David Bogenhagen
 Ben Bogenhagen

President Dan Guericke
LWML Presidents Diana Kieffer
 Hope Circle
 Brianna Bogenhagen
 Ruth Circle



St. Paul's Lutheran Church and Trinity Lutheran Church are members of the South Dakota District of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod.

MARCH 2025

Divine Worship Service Schedule 2025

Divine Services at St. Paul's 8:30 a.m.
 Divine Services at Trinity 10:30 a.m.
 See page 5 for the Lent/Holy Week Schedule.
 This year's theme is "The Lamb Falsely Accused".

Christian Education

Bible Study – Trinity, Wednesdays, 5:30 p.m. Mar. 12, 26
 St. Paul's, Thursdays, 10 a.m.

Adult Instruction Classes — St. Paul's, Sundays, 2 p.m.

Confirmation Classes — St. Paul's, Tuesdays, 6 p.m.

St. Paul's Sunday School — Sundays 9:30 a.m.

Trinity Release-Time — Wednesdays, 2:15 p.m.

Trinity Wednesday School — Wednesdays, 5:30 p.m. Mar. 12, 26

Lutheran Women's Missionary League

Trinity Hope Circle – Tuesday, March 4, 2025, 2 p.m.

Trinity Ruth Circle – Tuesday, March 4, 2025, 6 p.m.

St. Paul's Dorcas Circle – Tuesday, March 11, 2025, 2 p.m.

Trinity Lent Suppers – March 5, 19, April 2, 5:30–6:30 p.m.

See page 3 for more information.

Serving the Lord's Church in MARCH

TRINITY

Elder Ben Bogenhagen

Ushers Dan Meier
 Dean Suelflow

Acolyte Blake Bogenhagen

Altar Barb Gilbertz

ST. PAUL'S

Elder Mike Tuschen

Ushers Curt Guindon
 Merlyn Haak

Acolyte Jenna Haak

Altar Marlene Johnson

Scripture Readings for Sundays in March

Mar. 2 Deuteronomy 34:1–12; Hebrews 3:1–6; Luke 9:28–36

Mar. 9 Deuteronomy 26:1–11; Romans 10:8b–13; Luke 4:1–13

Mar. 16 Jeremiah 26:8–15; Philippians 3:17–4:1; Luke 13:31–35

Mar. 23 Ezekiel 33:7–20; 1 Corinthians 10:1–13; Luke 13:1–9

Mar. 30 Isaiah 12:1–6; 2 Corinthians 5:16–21; Luke 15:1–3, 11–32

The **April 2025 newsletter** will be available on or after March 30, 2025. Articles are due Thursday, March 27, 2025.

Please send newsletter/bulletin items to Nancy Bogenhagen at trinitywlsd@gmail.com. **Weekly bulletin deadline is Thursday noon.** Please email me if you prefer your newsletter emailed to you. Thank you!



FOR US

2 Corinthians 5:21 says, "God made Him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in Him we might become the righteousness of God."

During the season of Lent we see in God's Word, especially in the crucifixion of Jesus, the curse of the Law taken out on our Savior Jesus Christ **for us**. Jesus, the 2nd person of the Trinity, "the Word made flesh" (John 1:14), is human in every way as we are to overcome our temptations, resisting where we cannot. Hebrews 2:17 says, "For this reason He had to be made like His brothers in every way, in order that He might become a merciful and faithful high priest in service to God." That He might make atonement for the sins of the people, Jesus gives Himself, sheds His own blood which purifies us from all sin (1 John 1:7), and heals us by His wounds (Isaiah 53:5); He is "the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world" (John 1:29).

For all who are troubled by their sin, there is great comfort in the Word because the curse is taken from all who sin. We are "redeemed from the curse of the law" (Galatians 3:13a) through Christ who becomes the curse **for us**. We cannot imagine the horrible suffering that Jesus endured **for us**; the whippings, scourging, false witnesses, spitting, and hitting. Everything that Jesus endures is a result of our sin, yet Jesus bears this all **for us**.

Adam and Eve saw the sad results of the fall into sin for the rest of their lives. Their own son, Cain, killed their other son, Abel. As the years went by things got so bad that God

had to destroy the world except for Noah and his family with a flood. And today also, we see the effects of the sinful nature in ourselves and in the world around us. But the good news is that God's mercy is revealed to us in the promise of a Savior who would come and redeem fallen mankind by His death and resurrection.

During the season of Lent in our Wednesday night worship services, we will hear of the great love of God who sent Jesus to redeem us from the curse of the Law by His atoning sacrifice. Then on Easter we will hear once again about Jesus' great victory over death as He rose from the dead to guarantee that all who believe in Him will be raised to life on the last day. To strengthen our faith that we be ready for that day God invites us to **hear His Word in church, to read His Word at home, and to receive Jesus' body and blood in the Lord's Supper**. In the Lord's Supper, we are given a foretaste of the feast to come in Heaven.

God's mercies are new to us each morning. Through it all, God's love is seen in Jesus and what He did **for us**. The Apostle John was almost overcome with emotion as he wrote in I John 1:3, "See what great love the Father has lavished on us, that we should be called children of God, and that is what we are."

Pastor Don McKillop





MAIN STREET LIVING MARCH 2025

All programs are interpreted and closed-captioned for the hearing impaired. For more information visit:

www.mainstreetliving.com

Broadcast on KDLT (NBC) channels 5.1 / 46.1

March 2, 2025

10 a.m. "A Friend in Deed" The Christian's duty to forgive.

10:30 a.m. Rev. Norman Wacker, pastor at Mount Calvary and Bethlehem Lutheran Churches in Sundance and Moorcroft, WY, presents a message titled "Listen to Him!" The sermon is based on Luke 9:28–36.

March 9, 2025

10 a.m. "God of Love" Illustrates that we, as Christians, all have responsibilities. It is a cross we bear.

10:30 a.m. Rev. Robert Hinckley, pastor at Grace and Blessed Emmanuel Lutheran Churches in Deadwood and Sturgis, SD, presents a message titled "A Mighty Fortress is Our God." The sermon is based on Luke 4:4–12.

March 16, 2025

10 a.m. "Adrift" A child's Christian witness.

10:30 a.m. Rev. Christopher McCarthy, pastor at First and Emmanuel Lutheran Churches in Wall and Creighton, SD presents a message titled "The Word More Fully Confirmed." The sermon is based on Luke 13:31–35.

March 23, 2025

10 a.m. "Hand of God" Making opportunities from problems.

10:30 a.m. Rev. David Lindenberg, pastor at Peace Lutheran Church in Rapid City, SD presents a message titled "The Faithfulness of God." The sermon is based on 1 Cor. 10:1–13.

March 30, 2025

10 a.m. "Point of No Return" God's limitless grace.

10:30 a.m. Rev. Dr. Chris Ascher, pastor at Resurrection Lutheran Church in Sioux Falls, SD presents a message titled "Reconciled." The sermon is based on 2 Cor. 5:16–21.



MARCH 2025

Rhonda Peters, TR	March 3
Lindsay Thompson, TR	March 2
Ethan Byrd, TR	March 4
Caleb Baumiller, SP	March 6
Kyanna Guindon, SP	March 7
Lilianna Huff, SP	March 7
<i>Mike & Sandy Tuschen, SP</i>	<i>March 7</i>
Jenalee Huff, SP	March 10
Brenda Anthony, SP	March 11
Kelli Weber, SP	March 11
Karter Weber, SP	March 13
Ariel Glissendorf, TR	March 14
Rick Markhardt, TR	March 14
Ryan Everson, TR	March 14
Destiny Haak, SP	March 16
Vicky (Mrs. Dale) Gerlach, SP ...	March 16
<i>Dan & Pam Hallman, TR</i>	<i>March 17</i>
Travis Geyer, TR	March 18
Peggy Hoffman, SP	March 18
<i>Corey & Jessica Baumiller, SP ..</i>	<i>March 23</i>
Janice Thiry, TR	March 25
Zander Clark, TR	March 30
Stanlee Johnson, SP	March 31
Cory Tobin, SP	March 31

LENT SUPPERS

LWML Trinity Ruth Circle will be serving meals from 5:30–6:30 p.m. March 5, March 19, and April 2, 2025. Free-will offerings will go toward mission service projects and Trinity Youth events.



The 63rd Convention of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod South Dakota District was held at the Sioux Falls Convention Center February 16–18, 2025. Delegates from 105 congregations across South Dakota gathered to conduct the business of the church and to be encouraged by the Word of the God and the fellowship they share under the theme based on Romans 1:16–17, “God’s Gospel, Salvation Power.”

The convention was visited by Synod President, Rev. Dr. Matthew Harrison, who delivered the sermon for the opening worship service, brought greetings from the Synod, and provided updates on work being done nationally and internationally to support the ministry of the Gospel. Convention Essayist, Rev. Dr. Jeffrey Oschwald of Concordia Seminary, St. Louis, reflected on the significance of the theme verses for ministry and the life of faith.

Rev. Dr. Scott Sailer, District President, convened the convention as he concludes ten years in office. He has elected not to seek another term as President, entering retirement. In his report Rev. Dr. Sailer thanked the District for their partnership in ministry as he reviewed the many highlights of his term in office, including pioneering partnerships with Lutheran Family Service offering mental health and adoption services in South Dakota, ministry responses to the COVID pandemic, and continued growth of ministries such as Sioux Falls Lutheran School. The convention thanked President Sailer for his many years of service, both as President and Pastor in the District, and conferred upon him the title of “President Emeritus of the South Dakota District.”

The Convention elected:

District President: Rev. Randy Sturzenbecher of Divine Shepherd Lutheran Church, Black Hawk, South Dakota. Rev. Sturzenbecher had previously served as First Vice President of the District and Circuit Visitor for the Black Hills Circuit.

First Vice President: Rev. Matthew Wurm, Mt. Calvary Lutheran Church, Brookings.

Second Vice President: Rev. Corey Aker, Faith Lutheran Church, Sioux Falls.

Secretary: Rev. Thomas Brown, St. Paul Lutheran Church, Spearfish (incumbent.)

Treasurer: Mr. Kent Harnisch, Resurrection Lutheran Church, Sioux Falls (incumbent.)

Lay Member At Large: Mr. David Bogenhagen, Trinity Lutheran Church, White Lake.

Lay Member At Large: Mr. Doug Klipfel, Our Savior Lutheran Church, Aberdeen (incumbent.)

Delegates considered a number of resolutions to the convention regarding mission, ministry and the work of the District. Voters approved amendments to the District Bylaws and affirmed continued support for missionaries Rev. Jordon Andreasen (Romania), Rev. Samuel Bobby (Latvia), Rev. Jonah Domenichelli (Germany), and Rev. Daniel Jastram (Southeast Asia). The Convention voted to continue to move forward with the Mission and Ministry Council to support and direct ministry resources for the congregations and workers of the District. Delegates also voted to continue the partnership with Lutheran Family Service (Iowa). Other matters approved by the convention include efforts to promote adoption, denounce racism, enhance recruitment of students into church work programs, and develop a strategic plan for church worker health.

Throughout the convention, delegates received greetings and information from several partner organizations and institutions. Numerous individuals, special ministries, and organizations were recognized with thanksgiving for their work in sharing the Gospel.

The District extends the invitation to join us at our next convention in 2028, dates and location to be determined.

HIGHER THINGS® REFLECTIONS

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ASH WEDNESDAY

“Beware of practicing your righteousness before other people in order to be seen by them, for then you will have no reward from your Father who is in heaven.” (Matthew 6:1)

In the Name ✠ of Jesus. Amen. It’s always fascinating that the Gospel reading for Ash Wednesday, the day we put very visible ashes upon our foreheads as a sign of our repentance, is the one in which Jesus says not to let your good works be seen by others. So what did we just do then?

Don’t we want to be seen? Don’t we want the good works, carried out in faith, to be seen by the world? Just a few verses earlier, Jesus does say, “Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.” (Matthew 5:16) Don’t our good works at least get people to ask why anyone would do these things? At least start a conversation?

They may. But remember, Jesus is criticizing those who do things in order that they might be praised for them. And that’s a far more present danger than putting some ashes on in public. Who doesn’t love praise? Yes, please thank me for helping others in need. Shower me with gifts to show how much you appreciate my awesome praying skills. Maybe those aren’t your go-to works. But when we start expecting rewards for doing the right thing, then our hearts are far from being in the right place.

It is better to do good with no praise at all than to do good in order to get something for me out of it. This is how Christ does His greatest work of all. There isn’t anyone patting Him on the back for going up on that cross on the day He goes. They’re all telling Him that they’ll pat Him on the back if He comes down. There’s no one telling Jesus how awesome He is for bearing the sins of the world. They’re scoffing at His inability to do anything for Himself.

However, by Jesus’ very public work of dying on that cross and paying for all our sin, He saved us all. Our sins are forgiven. Our shame has been carried. Our death has been overcome. And we’re made God’s children, clothed in His righteousness, and given a seat at His table.

As far as the ashes go, ask what they’re there for. I mean, it’s possible you might do it for praise. But probably, the response of the world will be, “What did you do to your forehead?” However, if they’re there to remind you of your repentance, then they are well and good. For in repentance, we turn from our sinful hearts and look forward to the sure and certain hope of Christ’s forgiveness and the resurrection that He has for us. In the Name ✠ of Jesus. Amen.

Death you cannot end my gladness: I am baptized into Christ! When I die I leave all sadness To inherit paradise! Though I lie in dust and ashes Faith’s assurance brightly flashes: Baptism has the strength divine To make life immortal mine. (LSB 594:4)

LENT/HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

“The Lamb Falsely Accused”

Ash Wednesday, March 5

5 p.m. at St. Paul’s

7 p.m. at Trinity

Wednesdays March 12, 26, and April 9

7 p.m. Joint at St. Paul’s

Wednesdays March 19, and April 2

7 p.m. Joint at Trinity

Maundy Thursday April 17

7 p.m. at St. Paul’s (with communion)

Good Friday April 18

7 p.m. at Trinity

Easter Sunday April 20

Regular service times

8:30 a.m. St. Paul’s

10:30 a.m. Trinity

Love's Atoning Sacrifice

Devotion for Lent

This is love: not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins (1 John 4:10 NIV).

Last month, the stores were filled with red and pink. Lace and hearts draped across aisles that boasted enough candy to satisfy a small army of children. Stuffed animals and roses invaded drugstores. Every other commercial convinced men that their sweetheart really wanted a diamond necklace this year for Valentine's Day or she might not be so willing to believe his next "I love you."

But now it's March, and where have all the valentines gone? The sugar rush has long since faded, and even some relationships of February may not have lasted longer than the beautiful bouquets.

For a holiday that boasts so much about love, it often falls short. Perhaps that is because the type of love we too often focus on is actually not love at all.

What, then, is love? In 1 John, *the disciple whom Jesus loved* (John 21:7 NIV) describes love to those he called his beloved. Read the opening verse of this devotion to see his definition. It has nothing to do with us, does it? It has everything to do with God.

He loved us. He sent His Son. This Son became an atoning sacrifice for our sins.

What does that mean? Well, some well-meaning greeting cards may proclaim, "I would die for you!" That may or may not be true, but the best any human could do for another would be to die earlier than planned for the sake of someone else's safety until the day they, too, will pass away. They may lose years on earth so that another may have more – and that is a wonderful love.

But God's love is even better. Jesus did not have to die. Ever. While even the greatest human hero will die someday, Jesus could have escaped death completely. But He chose to lay His life down so that we could be saved – not for a few days. Not for a few decades. The life Jesus won for us in His atoning sacrifice lasts forever and ever.

What a love! What a selfless, unconditional, everlasting love.

Now, dearly beloved, what do we do with such a love? Just a little earlier in 1 John 4, John tells us: ... *let us love one another, for love comes from God. Everyone who loves has been born of God and knows God* (v. 7 NIV).

We experience daily the most wonderful love this world has ever seen. Filled with such love, we can't help but want to share it! May God equip us with the strength and joy to share His love with others, that they may know the love of Jesus.

Prayer: Dear Heavenly Father, You give us a love that the world does not understand. Your unconditional, sacrificial love is made clear in the atoning work Jesus completed for us on the cross. Through Your Spirit, enable us to proclaim Your love to others and to share this love in our words and actions. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

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Love's Atoning Sacrifice by Lisa Clark, St. Louis, Missouri
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MARCH 2025



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1
2  The Transfiguration of Our Lord Divine Services 8:30 a.m. SP /10:30 a.m. TR Sunday School 9:30 a.m. at St. Paul's Adult Instruction Class 2 p.m. at St. Paul's	3	4 TR Hope Circle 2 p.m. TR Ruth Circle 6 p.m. SP Catechism 6 p.m.	5 Ash Wednesday TR Release-Time 2:15 p.m. Ash Wed Services SP 5 p.m. / TR 7 p.m. Lent Supper at TR 5:30–6:30 p.m.	6 SP Bible Class 10 a.m.	7	8
9  First Sunday in Lent Divine Services 8:30 a.m. SP /10:30 a.m. TR Sunday School 9:30 a.m. at St. Paul's Adult Instruction Class 2 p.m. at St. Paul's	10	11 SP Dorcas Circle 2 p.m. SP Catechism Class 6 p.m.	12 TR Release-Time 2:15 p.m. TR Bible Class/Wed School 5:30 p.m. Joint Lent at SP 7 p.m.	13 SP Bible Class 10 a.m.	14	15
16  Second Sunday in Lent Divine Services 8:30 a.m. SP /10:30 a.m. TR Sunday School 9:30 a.m. at St. Paul's Adult Instruction Class 2 p.m. at St. Paul's	17	18 SP Catechism Class 6 p.m.	19 TR Release-Time 2:15 p.m. Lent Supper at TR 5:30–6:30 Joint Lent at TR 7 p.m.	20 SP Bible Class 10 a.m.	21	22
23  Third Sunday in Lent Divine Services 8:30 a.m. SP /10:30 a.m. TR Sunday School 9:30 a.m. at St. Paul's Adult Instruction Class 2 p.m. at St. Paul's	24	25 SP Catechism Class 6 p.m.	26 TR Release-Time 2:15 p.m. TR Bible Class/Wed School 5:30 p.m. Joint Lent at SP 7 p.m.	27 SP Bible Class 10 a.m.	28	29
30  Fourth Sunday in Lent Divine Services 8:30 a.m. SP /10:30 a.m. TR Sunday School 9:30 a.m. at St. Paul's Adult Instruction Class 2 p.m. at St. Paul's	31	