



# The Trinitarian

*Trinity welcomes all to a community in Christ;  
serving others, growing in faith,  
living in hope, and reaching out in love.*

March 2017

## Looking for Loopholes or for Grace to Love?

Matthew 5:21-37

W. C. Fields, who was never known for his biblical scholarship or Christian discipleship, was reading the Bible. Surprised at this sight, a friend asked, "What are you doing?" Fields looked up and growled, "Looking for loopholes!"

Have you ever walked into the middle of a conversation and but you were confused because what you heard did not fit with what you knew of these people or because you didn't fully understand the language? Maybe you feel that way when you hear the Sermon on the Mount. It is a "favorite" of many until they read or hear it. We may find the Sermon on the Mount hard to hear because the issues Jesus raises are things that we say and do. We get angry, have divorces, and we don't keep every promise we have made. The Sermon on the Mount gets to the heart of the matter – the way some use the law to excuse themselves and abuse others. Some of the scribes and pharisees had replaced the heart of the Law – trust in God's mercy that necessarily leads to love of God and neighbor – with a rule book. This is what Jesus, in the Sermon on the Mount, was condemning.

Martin Niemöller was a German Lutheran pastor and theologian during the rise of the Nazis – the new German Nationalist party. Pr. Niemöller was a strong patriot and anti-communist, and therefore he supported Adolf Hitler. Standing against communism is something that I applaud – as would most Christians. But there was something going on that was bigger than being anti-communist. The German Nationalist party had a long-range plan. They used the great fear of communism in Germany to get popular support. But communists were only the beginning. Their ultimate goal was the elimination of others – union leaders, immigrants, homosexuals, the "incurables", and finally the Jews. The German Nationalists began this plan under the cover of patriotism and national security, which led to new laws to give loopholes for the perpetrators of these horrors.

After the Nationalists started their euthanasia program to get rid of the "incurable" sick people (it is cheaper that way), Pr. Niemöller started to speak out privately against the horrors of Hitler. Then some Lutheran pastors with Jewish heritage were arrested and sent to concentration camps. It is as shame that only then did some Lutherans publicly condemn what has come to be known as the Holocaust. Niemöller was arrested in 1937 and placed into prison with communists, the union leaders, the sick, the homosexuals, and the Jews.

Shortly after the war he said,  
"First they came for the Communists, and I did not speak out—  
Because I was not a Communist.  
Then they came for the Trade Unionists, and I did not speak out—  
Because I was not a Trade Unionist.  
Then they came for the Jews, and I did not speak out—  
Because I was not a Jew.  
Then they came for me—and there was no one left to speak for me."

*continued on p. 6*



*WERE Due*  
in January!

PLEASE submit your report now. Thank you for your prompt response.

**Freed  
& RENEWED  
in Christ**  
500 YEARS OF GOD'S  
GRACE IN ACTION



Reformation 500  
Book Fair 5.-19. March  
(9:30 am-1:00 pm Sun.,  
6:00-7:30 pm Wed.) with  
15 titles for purchase by  
the congregation on  
Luther themes.

Sparkhouse Book Fair  
12.-26. March  
(9:30 am-1:00 pm Sun.,  
6:00-7:30 pm Wed.) with  
over 30 children's books  
and videos for purchase.



Trinity Lutheran Church 11200 Old Georgetown Road North Bethesda, MD 20852-3202  
*A Reconciling in Christ and a Stephen Ministry congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.*

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# Freed & RENEWED in Christ 500 YEARS OF GOD'S GRACE IN ACTION

## Reformation 500 Events at Trinity in 2017

The Reformation 500 Task Force at Trinity has planned monthly events recognizing the 500<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the start of the Reformation on 31. October 1517, the day that Martin Luther posted his 95 Theses for debate on the door of the Castle Church in Wittenberg, Germany.

Some are educational as well as social events. We hope that you will find many that will be of interest to you and your family!

8. March to 5. April - Midweek Lenten Services with Luther's Small Catechism as theme, 7:30 pm

5.-19. March - Reformation 500 Book Fair (9:30 am-1:00 pm Sun., 6:00-7:30 pm Wed.) with 15 titles for purchase by the congregation on Luther themes

Sundays in April or May - Adult Forum study of Luther's writings (a Book Fair title?), 9:30 am

22. April - Martin Luther will make an appearance, played by Pastor Jeff J, potluck supper 6:30 pm

6. May - Luther Movie Night No. 2, Movie snacks and beverages, 6:30 pm, featuring BBC's *Martin Luther, Heretic*

17. June - Joint Handbell Concert at Trinity, 6:30 pm with Trinity and Holy Trinity handbell choirs; they will include an arrangement of "A Mighty Fortress in the program"

15. July - Luther Movie Night No. 3, Movie snacks and beverages, 6:30 pm, featuring *Luther* (2003), with Joseph Fiennes as Martin Luther and Peter Ustinov as Frederick the Wise

19. August - Katie Luther will make an appearance, played by Cindy S, potluck supper 6:30 pm

17. September - Rally Day! Make a Tie-dye T-shirt and classes begin, 9:30 am

21. October - Lutherfest Dinner, 6:30 pm, with German dishes and desserts styled after those available during Luther's time

29. October - Reformation Sunday morning, 8:15 am and 10:45 am, with choir, brass, and tympani, including hymns written by Luther or popular during Luther's time

29. October - Reformation Sunday afternoon, the annual joint Lutheran service at National Cathedral Washington DC, 4:00 pm

## General Funds as of 31. December

	2016	2015
Income	\$459,118.72	\$467,579.92
Expenses	\$452,710.87	\$449,057.40
Over (Under)	\$ 6,407.85	\$ 18,522.52



**Pledging Update** as of 19. February 2017  
**Grace Changes Everything** – 61 families have pledged \$289,270 to our annual stewardship campaign.

**BIGGER than a Building!** – 65 families have pledged \$481,440 to our 3 year mission appeal. Total amount received to date for BTAB! is \$252,852.

Thank you for your generous support.

## Trinity Men's Group Meeting

The January meeting will be on  
Wednesday 8. March 2017 at 1:00 pm  
at the home of Larry J.

Please RSVP to Larry.

## Rides to Church

Have you missed Trinity events because you lacked transportation? Trinity has missed you too and the following members of the congregation would like to provide you with a ride to Trinity events:

- 20886 Carol B
- 20850 Marilyn C
- 20850 Margaret F
- 20854 Peggy & Dick J
- 20854 Miriam M
- 20853 Nancy N
- 20866 Len S



Zip codes are provided to aid in finding a driver close to you. Do not hesitate to call. If you would like volunteer to drive, call Dick J, or rbjmmj@comcast.net





14. February 2017

- ✦ The Congregation Council approved the Social Ministry Team's recommended that Trinity sponsor a refugee family in partnership with LSS.
- ✦ The Congregation Council approved the Connections Coordinator Team's recommendation that Trinity hire Luke Wasour Connections Coordinator. Luke will begin his work at Trinity on 1. March 2017.
- ✦ Annie A was nominated and elected Trinity's Financial Secretary (term ending 31. May 2017).

**Jerry B**, Acting Secretary

## Sunday Christian Education Opportunities for Every Adult!

Adult Forum Sundays at 9:30 am Room 10  
We will finish our study of Matthew in March. All are welcome to attend.

*The Trinitarian* deadline is always the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month.

The deadline for every Sunday bulletin is 9:00 a.m. on the preceding Tuesday.

## Cheers from Anita!

I was at the first congregation I served for 4 years, and I had 3 different offices, and 3 different job titles. I went from being the Youth Director, to Youth Minister to Director of Youth Ministries. There was no job description or promotion, just a name change, as they were trying to match the staff names so that all of our job titles matched. I gave them a lot of push back on the title of Youth Minister. I almost ordered an office door sign that said A (not the) Youth Minister.

As Christians, we are ALL called to ministry, and we are all called to minister to each other and the youth. This ministry looks different for each of us. Some of our ministry is very hands on, like teaching Sunday School, or helping out at youth group....Some of our ministry is behind the scenes, like bringing food for youth events, or providing supplies for an event. Some of our ministry is taking an interest in the life of a youth and asking them what they did in Sunday School that day. I encourage you to think about how to minister to others daily, and how you can minister to the youth of Trinity.

## From the Congregation's President

What does it mean to love your neighbor?

I haven't always acknowledged my neighbors. For many years I lived in a seventeen story building with hundreds of residents who mostly kept to themselves. Even if my instinct was to be friendly and express care and concern, most of the time I didn't engage because I feared rejection or difficult conversations. I got in my own way.

The love of Christ has helped me get out of my own way. I speak to my neighbors now and carry out small and simple acts that show care. Lately I have been thinking about inviting neighbors to church. They may say "No, I don't go to church...." Or "I already have a church home...." but I will have opened the door and perhaps connected with them on a different level. They may feel inspired to open up more, discuss topics they may not have otherwise, and maybe one day, come with me to church.

**Nathan L**, President

## ♪♪ Notes ♪ ♪ from Glen . . .

In March we begin the liturgical season of Lent with Ash Wednesday falling on the first of the month.

Lent is a season of forty days, exclusive of Sundays, which begins on Ash Wednesday and ends the day before Easter Sunday, on Holy Saturday. It is a time of remembrance when Christians commemorate Jesus' 40 days and nights alone in the wilderness while being tempted by Satan. Jesus used this time to prepare for His work by fasting and praying.

Lent comes from the Anglo Saxon word lencten, which means "spring." The forty days represents the time Jesus spent in the wilderness, enduring the temptation of Satan and preparing to begin his ministry.

Christians spend the 40 days of Lent preparing for Easter Day by observing time for repentance, fasting and and praying. It is a time of self-examination and reflection. In the early church, Lent was a time to prepare new converts for baptism. Today, Christians focus on their relationship with God, often choosing to give up something, to fast, or to volunteer and give of themselves for others.

Sundays in Lent are not counted in the forty days because each Sunday represents a "mini-Easter" and the reverent spirit of Lent is tempered with joyful anticipation of the Resurrection.

During the Sundays in Lent we will explore the rich musical heritage of the church, with organ works such as "O Man, bewail thy grievous sins" by J.S. Bach, and chorale preludes such as "Ah, holy Jesus" and "O World I must leave you" by Johannes Brahms. We'll also hear the choral music of Tallis, Bach, Brahms, and other composers from the Renaissance to modern times.

**Glen F**, Organist/Choir Director

## In the Mail

Dear Trinity,  
Thank you for your in-kind contribution that we received on 14. December 2016. Your donation is essential for Lutheran Social Services of the National Capital Area in serving the most vulnerable members of our community.



Every mattress, child's toy, blanket, and gift card is an investment in the families, children, and individuals served through Foster Care and Adoption, Refugee, and Immigrant Services, and Youth Haven Program for children and their families affected by HIV/AIDS.

Thank you for helping us serve our neighbors in need.

With warm regards,  
**Christine Connell**  
Chief Executive Officer

### THE SMALL CATECHISM



#### The Lord's Prayer

*Your will be done  
on earth as in heaven*

*What does this mean?*

The good and gracious will of God is surely done without our prayer, but we ask in this prayer that it may be done also among us.

*When does this happen?*

God's will is done with he hinders and defeats every evil scheme and purpose of the devil, the world, and our sinful self, which would prevent us from keeping his name holy and would oppose the coming of his kingdom. And his will be done when he strengthens our faith and keeps us firm in his Word as long as we live. This is his gracious and good will.

Prayer

Faithful Lord, who has promised to sustain us in our daily struggle with the evil around us, help us to reject sin, the devil, and all empty promises. Support us through your Holy Spirit so that all our actions might be in accord with your will, which desires the world to be one in purpose and praise of your name. Amen.

Lesson 1 John 2:1-17

Personal Devotion

Kind and gracious God, you know my weaknesses and my strengths. You are aware of my tendency to do the things I should not do and neglect the things I should. Support me by your power to resist the attraction of evil and submit my life to your holy will. Amen.

## Lent 2017



**Ash  
Wednesday**

1. March  
12:10 pm & 7:30 pm

Holy Communion  
and distribution of ashes

### Wednesdays in Lent

8. March - 5. April

*The Small Catechism*

6:30 pm Soup & Bread Supper

7:15 pm Hymn Sing

7:30 pm Evening Prayer

## Have Mercy on Us

Across the world, church doors stand open in the middle of the week and we come. There is silence, strange and awkward. For a few short moments the frenetic tasks and worries of this world flutter to the ground before God, the God who sees in secret.



This day God grieves over us as a parent over a willful child. In word, in silence, in poignant sign and symbol we know God's deepest desire for us to return to that for which we were created. Yet the limits of our humanity are sealed in the words "Remember that you are dust, and to dust you shall return." We have fallen short, disappointed. Adam and Eve, first to hear these words in the Garden of Eden, lead the procession beneath the sign of the cross.

It is not our God alone who longs for our coming of age. This day we join all creation, with groans too deep for words, in our desire for the dominion of God to be a tangible reality, right now, both in our most secret places and in this world of great good and great evil.

"Have mercy on me, O God" (Ps. 51:1). The psalmist echoes our own secret prayer prompted by our own gray and anxious days that are lived out in this gray and anxious time. Throughout centuries of devotion, this prayer has been the great equalizer of the sure-footed and the frightened, the powerful and the powerless. Open and vulnerable, we join the psalmist's plea for re-formation, that God would return us to that for which we were born.

Lent is bittersweet as a parent's love for a child. Through ash and flame, word and silence, disappointment and longing, God grieves over us and then offers the supreme sacrifice. How can we not live a larger life, give our lives away for the love of God's waiting world?

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My faith story is complicated and taken many turns before I found my way back to Christianity and my church home at Trinity. As a child, I was raised with Christian values, however, neither of my parents attended church. My father was a Catholic in his youth and he had a scholarship to a Catholic High School in Ohio where many students went on to become priests. He graduated from that high school but he was bothered by some of the church dogma, although he was a strong believer in Catholic schools and the education he was given. My mother was raised as a Presbyterian and she rarely went to church, although she wanted my brother and I to attend. I attended a Presbyterian church in San Diego for most of my youth until my parents divorced. We moved to Ocean Beach and I did not attend church during my high school years.



Shortly after I graduated from high school, my brother asked me to come to Los Angeles and live with him and his wife for a few weeks. A few weeks became the whole summer and during that time I audited some college classes with my brother's wife. I loved the atmosphere at UCLA and I applied to that college and within a few weeks and I was accepted. I majored in Anthropology and I became fascinated with evolution and especially early signaling systems of primates. During my college years I went a few times with my roommate to a Catholic service and occasionally to a Presbyterian church. I did not feel that either of these fit me at the time. I became an agnostic – thinking that it was possible that there was a God, but I really wasn't sure of His existence.

I met and married Al when I was in college and we raised our children as Unitarians and attended a Unitarian church in Omaha for years. After moving to Maryland, we joined another Unitarian church, but after several years, I knew that something was missing from my life. I had spent the summer of 2004 training Head Start teachers to do an assessment with all of their students in five different states. On the way back from that trip, I visited a friend of mine in Omaha who was Lutheran and she invited me to attend church with her. She was such a strong believer in the Lutheran faith and she shared that with me. When I returned home, I started searching online and in person for a church home.

I believe that God has guided me to find Trinity and I joined the church in 2004, sponsored by Vimala Philipose. My husband, Al, respects my change in religion and I am blessed that he supports everything I do at Trinity. I can say now that I feel my life has been transformed by God. No, it is far from perfect, but everyday I pray and when I am stressed the first person I go to is God. Sometimes I pray on the way to work and often at the beginning and end of the day. My journey to God and Trinity has been convoluted at best, but along the way, I found my way back to God.

**Susan S**

## Easter Flowers

Please order by Sun 9. April

It is time to order your flowers to decorate the sanctuary for the Easter services. You have the choice of ordering: Easter lilies, azaleas, or hydrangeas.



I wish to order:

\_\_\_\_\_ Easter lilies @ \$19.00 each  
(10+ blooms, double stem)

\_\_\_\_\_ Azaleas @ \$16.50 each (6" pot)  
\_\_\_White \_\_\_Red \_\_\_Pink

\_\_\_\_\_ Hydrangeas (3 blooms) @ \$17 each (7" pot)  
\_\_\_Pink \_\_\_Blue \_\_\_White

Please check if you would like to:

\_\_\_\_\_ donate \_\_\_\_\_ pick-up

Easter flowers are given to the glory of God

By \_\_\_\_\_

In memory of \_\_\_\_\_

In honor of \_\_\_\_\_

Please make your check payable to Trinity Lutheran Church and indicate "Easter Flowers" in the memo line. You may put your check and order form together in the Sunday offering plate or mail them to Trinity.

## Mark Your Calendars Now!

The 28th annual HANDBELL CONCERT, featuring the combined choirs of Trinity Lutheran and Holy Trinity Lutheran, will be held right here at Trinity this year. It will be a musical extravaganza with handbells, handchimes, flute, timpani, and much more as we celebrate the 500th anniversary of the Reformation and our joy of music. As usual, there will be many surprises along the way too.



DATE: Saturday 17. June 2017  
 TIME: 6:30 pm  
 WHERE: Trinity Lutheran Sanctuary  
 COST: A free will offering will be received.  
 PARKING: Free  
 RECEPTION: following the concert - Free!  
 RATING: G = Appropriate for all ages!  
 BRING: your family, friends, neighbors.  
 GUARANTEE: A good time will be had by all.  
 HELP US: By supporting us with your presence

## From the Pastor's Desk

*continued from p. 1*

Today we hear from Jesus, that everyone is a murderer because anger is murder, everyone is an adulterer, whether remarried or not, because any thought of lust is adultery, and everyone is a liar because we all fail to do as we promise. Jesus is not trying to make us feel bad about our anger, divorce, or failure to keep every promise we have made, but to strip away every loophole that anyone might use to elevate themselves over others by quoting religious or civil laws.

I love the example in the Sermon on the Mount that prohibits lust. The religious code condemned women who remarried, but allowed men to write their own letter of divorce as often as they wanted. Jesus' intent was to support women from being put out on the street by making the standard equal for women and men – no loopholes. The point of all the examples of “you have heard it said . . . , but I say to you” is not to excuse OR to condemn us because we are angry, lustful, remarried, or fudge the truth from time to time – but to call us back to trusting in God's mercy alone.

Jesus was attacked for not keeping the law – religious and civil. He healed a man born blind on the Sabbath, so the legalists accused him of breaking the Sabbath law, instead of celebrating the healing. Yes, it was Jesus who broke the rules of the scribes and pharisees in order to do the will of God. And, at the end, Jesus was killed at the hands of those who found loopholes in the religious and civil law to justify themselves for crucifying the innocent one of God.

The choices we are called to make as disciples of Jesus are not easy. Sometime we are torn between two genuine needs. Sometimes we need to chose between following the worldly rules or following the law of love. Sometimes we have no good choices – and need to decide which is the lesser of two evils. Sometimes, with the best of intentions, we will chose the greater of the two evils.

If you see yourself as always right – and give yourself a loophole for every situation – you will find the Sermon on the Mount uncomfortable or offensive. But, if you realize that your also need the mercy of God, you will be led to Christ – and faith in Christ will lead you to love of neighbor and venture forth, seeking to bring hope and healing.

Christ's cross and resurrection, and our sharing in them through baptism, frees us from looking for or inventing loopholes. From the standpoint of the religious or civil law, we are all failures (no one better than any other). But from God's standpoint, we are winners who are regarded as righteous because we trust in Christ Jesus and not ourselves.

**Roger B**  
Pastor



Celebrating 100 years of Serving Boldly

### #LoveBoldly

At LSS/NCA, we choose to love boldly, connecting children in need to families with love to give and a heart for service. These connections save lives, change futures, and create new families to strengthen us all.

Show us how you love boldly by sharing with us on Instagram or Twitter using #LoveBoldly #LoveBoldly at Instagram.com/lssnca

### Into the Streets

Join us on 6. May for the first LSS/NCA Day of Service “Into the Streets:” a bold demonstration of the impact we can create and the good we can do when we work together. We hope you'll join us and lend your heart, hands and voices as we celebrate 100 years of service and action in the community. You can choose to participate in any one of our hosted volunteer activities on 6. May or organize your own volunteer event within your neighborhood or congregation.

Visit our website [LSSNCA.org](http://LSSNCA.org) for more information or contact Kiersten at [RossettoK@LSSNCA.org](mailto:RossettoK@LSSNCA.org).

### Images of Grace:

#### DC Mural Art Competition

To mark 100 years of service, LSS/NCA is commissioning one local artist to join us in making our mark in the community. The winning mural will be installed on our property at 4406 Georgia Ave NW, Washington, DC.

#### Details for Artists:

- ✦ Terms and Conditions will be posted 13. March on our website.
- ✦ Submissions will be accepted 26. April to 30. June.
- ✦ Cash prize for the winning artist.

#### Community Involvement

- ✦ Spread the news! Tell your friends.
- ✦ Vote for your favorite mural online 1. to 14. July.
- ✦ Read artist profiles on our Facebook page, [Facebook.com/LSSNCA](https://www.facebook.com/LSSNCA).
- ✦ Visit our office in September to see the completed mural.



5. March - Intergenerational Sunday School - PRETZELS and Lenten Fair! Join us during the Christian Education hour as we celebrate Lent by making homemade soft pretzels, and learn how pretzels are a sign of prayer, and make some lenten crafts.

12. - 26. March (and the Wednesdays in between) - Sparkhouse Children's Book Fair! You have the opportunity to purchase children's books, videos, and bibles at a discount, and Trinity gets to keep the sample books for the church library.

14. March - Youth Group (6th - 12th Grade) - We will be meeting at 6 pm for dinner and a service project. Please RSVP to Anita.



### Looking Ahead

- 9. April. . . . . Youth Group
- 15. April. . . . . Easter Egg Preparation
- 16. April. . . . . Easter Egg Hunt
- 21. April. . . . . Kids Night Out
- 23. April. . . . . Youth Sunday

## Bishop Younan to receive Niwano Peace Prize

President of Lutheran World Federation



Tokyo (AsiaNews) - The Lutheran Bishop for Jordan and the Holy Land, Munib A. Younan, is the winner of the 34<sup>th</sup> Niwano Peace Prize. The prize is awarded for his perseverance and compassion in encouraging dialogue between faith groups in the Holy Land. His commitment emphasizes the communion between faiths, as an integral part in the fight for peace.

Bishop Younan, born in 1950 in Jerusalem, has been president of the Lutheran World Federation since 2010. During his long career he has held numerous positions in Lutheran organizations. He was also president of the Lutheran Council in Asia - and used his position to create a network among religious leaders of different faiths in the Middle East. Bp. Younan was one of 14 religious leaders who signed the Declaration of Alexandria in 2002, a document in which rabbis, sheikhs, and bishops assured their commitment to establish peace in the Holy Land, holy for all three monotheistic religions.

The reason for the award states that in a world characterized by leaders who seek to highlight differences and contrasts, Bp. Younan has constantly tried to prove the opposite. He embodies the qualities that the Niwano Peace Foundation attributes to religious leaders.

# MARCH

## Birthdays

- |                                  |                          |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 2 Thomas C<br>Amanda P           | 20 Ann K<br>Jacqueline R |
| 4 Logan D                        | 24 Fred K                |
| 5 Mary H                         | 25 Scott D               |
| 9 Wendy C<br>Sutton R<br>Karen W | Connor D<br>Andrei S     |
| 10 Bill K                        | 26 Brooke P C            |
| 14 Annie A                       | 27 Amanda S              |
| 18 Kathy H                       | 29 Theodore R            |

## Baptismal Days

- |                      |                                 |
|----------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1 Louise G<br>Joe M  | 13 Elaine W<br>14 Torsten D     |
| 2 Bruce S            | 23 Timothy F                    |
| 5 Marjorie W         | 30 Bill K<br>Nathan L<br>Mary M |
| 6 David C<br>Nancy N |                                 |
| 9 Nancy J            |                                 |

## Wedding Anniversaries

- 1 Brian & Ione L
- 8 Bruce Stadel & Zidi B
- 15 Linnea A & Victor N
- 31 David & Leslie C  
Tom & Nancy M



## Baptism

Leah Isabelle M  
5. February 2017  
*daughter of Shannon & Joseph M*

## Deaths

Jack de C  
+ 24. January 2017  
*friend of Nancy N*

Dottie B  
+ 28. January 2017  
*member of Trinity*



## Trinity Lutheran Church

11200 Old Georgetown Road  
N. Bethesda, MD 20852-3202

Date Mailed  
27. February 2017

Address Service Requested

  
web  
e-mail  
facebook

301 . 881 . 7275  
[TrinityELCA.org](http://TrinityELCA.org)  
[office@TrinityELCA.org](mailto:office@TrinityELCA.org)  
[facebook.com/TrinityELCA](https://facebook.com/TrinityELCA)

### March Highlights



1. March Ash Wednesday  
Holy Communion & Imposition of Ashes  
at 12:10 pm & 7:30 pm

#### MARCH

3. Youth Service Project, 12:30 pm
5. Intergenerational Sunday School -  
Pretzels and Lenten Fair, 9:30 am
- 5., 12., 19. Reformation 500 Book Fair  
9:30 am & 12:15 pm
- 8., 15., 22., 29. Wednesdays in Lent  
*The Small Catechism*  
6:30 pm Soup & Bread Supper  
7:15 pm Hymn Sing  
7:30 pm Evening Prayer
- 12., 19., 26. Children's Book Fair  
9:30 am & 12:15 pm
26. "Welcome Spring" Congregational  
Potluck Lunch, 12:15 pm

Tuesday 7. March

*Perpetua and Felicity, martyrs at Carthage* + 202

In the year 202 the emperor Septimius Severus forbade conversions to Christianity. Perpetua, a noblewoman, Felicity, a slave, and other companions were all preparing for baptism in Carthage, North Africa. They were imprisoned and sentenced to death.

Friday 10. March

*Harriet Tubman, renewer of society* + 1913

Harriet Tubman was born into slavery in Maryland and remained a slave until about age thirty when, fearing she would be sold and moved farther south, she escaped with the help of the Underground Railroad. After that, she helped about three hundred others to escape until slavery was abolished.

Friday, March 17

*Patrick, bishop, missionary to Ireland* + 461

At sixteen, Patrick was kidnapped by Irish pirates and sold into slavery in Ireland. Up to this point he cared little for God. He escaped after six years, returned to SW Britain, and prepared for ordained ministry. He later returned to Ireland, to serve as a bishop and missionary. He denounced the slave trade. Patrick's famous baptismal hymn to the Trinity, "I Bind unto Myself Today" (*ELW* 450), can be used as a meditation on Lent's call to return to our baptism.