

The gift of desperation

In a 2012 interview with NPR, author Anne Lamott shared: “I’ve heard people say that God is the gift of desperation, and there’s a lot to be said for having really reached a bottom where you’ve run out of anymore good ideas, or plans for everybody else’s behavior; or how to save and fix and rescue; or just get out of a huge mess, possibly of your own creation. And when you’re done, you may take a long, quivering breath and say, ‘Help.’”

Amid the pandemic and life’s other, more typical trials of life, have you found a silver lining — a gift that has arisen out of your desperation? Sometimes we’re more open to God during times of struggle than when all flows smoothly. As long as we think our ideas and plans for ourselves and our loved ones are pretty good, we don’t feel we need a Savior. But when life is so challenging that we call to God for help, “the gift of [that] desperation” is finding that God’s loving arms have embraced and strengthened us all along.

The NEWSLETTER Newsletter, January 2021



WEEKLY CALENDAR

Fri. (1 st)	Church Office Closed— Happy New Year!
Sat. (2 nd)	5:30 Worship Service
Sun. (3 rd)	8:00 Worship Service
	9:15 Adult Bible Study/ Sunday School
	10:30 Connection Service (C)
	1:30 Bible Bowl Practice
Mon. (4 th)	FLS—School Resumes
Tue. (5 th)	8:30 Staff mtg.
	4:15 Community Cathedral Café
Wed. (6 th)	Epiphany
	8:30 FLS Chapel
	9:00 Quilting
	2:30-4:40 FLS Staff Meeting (Fellowship Hall)
	6:00 Connection Practice
	6:30 Confirmation Class
Thu. (7 th)	3:30 Realife Coop Service
	3:30-5:30 Drive Up Communion
	6:00-7:30 American Heritage Girls
Fri. (8 th)	1:40-2:15 FLS Mentoring (Fellowship Hall)
Sat. (9 th)	8:00 Un-decorating of the Church
	9:00 FLS Brd. Retreat (Fellowship Hall)
	5:30 Worship Service (C)
Sun. (10 th)	8:00 Worship Service (C)
	9:15 Adult Bible Study/ Sunday School
	10:30 Worship Service
	1:30 Bible Bowl Practice

- Serving Trinity Lutheran Church and Faribault Lutheran School -

Rev. Paul Rieger, Senior Pastor Rev. Tyler Werner, Associate Pastor

Rev. Robert Snyder, Pastor Emeritus Rev. Gatluk Reat, Sudanese Evangelical Lutheran Mission Church
Bill Kirkpatrick, Finance/Property Manager Nancy Simonson, Family Ministry Jennifer Kingland, Office Manager
Chrysteena Saehler, FLS Interim Principal Jessica Lewis, FLS Administrative Secretary

Worship Broadcasts: Radio (KDHL 920 AM) Sunday at 8:00am Livestream: www.trinityradioandvideo.org 8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.

Address: 530 4th St. NW Phone: (507) 331-6579 Trinity website: www.trinityfaribault.org Facebook.com/Trinityfaribault
Trinity Radio Website: www.trinityradioandvideo.org Consolidated Communications TV channel 10 & Charter channel 181, Mon. &/or Tues., 3:30pm

Trinity News of the Week

January 2 & 3, 2021

Trinity Lutheran Church
Faribault, MN 55021

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

WEEKLY DEVOTIONAL READINGS

Mon. 1/4: I Samuel 17:31-37	Thu. 1/7: Psalm 72:1-15
Tue. 1/5: John 10:14-18	Fri. 1/8: Eph. 3:1-12
Wed. 1/6: Isaiah 60:1-6	Sat. 1/9: Matthew 2:1-12

Devotions will be posted on our various platforms (Facebook, Youtube, Trinity Radio and Video club site, etc.). Especially on Facebook, be sure to share these devotion opportunities with your family and friends as we seek to get God’s Word out to many!



Join the 2021 Bible Bowl team! We will be studying the New Testament books of Romans and James from the ESV translation. The competition date is set for April 17, 2021. Everyone in grades 7-12 is invited.

Our first practice is scheduled for Sunday, **January 3**, 1:30 p.m. at Trinity Church.

Contact Philip Simonson at 507-213-8121 or at philipsimonson1@gmail.com.

A big thank you to Nancy Boldt and Marilyn Simonson who decorated the votive candles in the candle sets for Christmas Eve. 35 candle sets were distributed to families. Thanks for sharing your talents with so many!



Thoughts on Our Memory Verse

- by Kristin Sellentine

Proverbs 3:5

Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding.

It doesn’t get more straight-forward than that. The following are similar:

6 In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths.

7 Be not wise in your own eyes; fear the LORD, and turn away from evil.

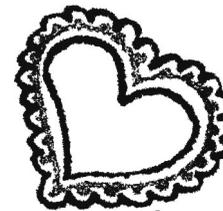
And then comes the pay-off:

8 It will be healing to your flesh and refreshment to your bones.

!!!

Who would have thought that there would be health benefits in trusting God’s brain over our own? Is it because, when we rely on God’s wisdom, there is so much less stress than when we try to figure things out with our own reasoning and logic?

Is 55:8,9 – ***For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways... As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.***



**TRUST IN THE LORD
WITH ALL YOUR
HEART,
AND DO NOT LEAN ON
YOUR OWN
UNDERSTANDING.**
PROVERBS 3:5. ESV

my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.

We try to fit square pegs into round holes; God tells us where the square holes are.

EVANGELISM & OUTREACH

In Our Prayers for Strength, Comfort, and Healing... Brenda; Steve; Sue Anderson; Verna Bahl; DeeAnn Bartkey; Mandy Blume; Don Dugan; Judy Fairclough; Gary Kittleson; Edward Morison; Denise O'Rouke; Cinda Peterson; Mason Prebble; Bob Reineke; Barb Roach; Shirley Rockman; Lou Rolf; Scott Rost; Ray Sanders; Jim Schmidtke; Nancy Schultz; Esther Sipult; Kay Smith; Patty Stonehouse; Gene Trench; Kristine Uter; Jim Velzke

Prayers for those whose names we carry in our hearts.



Prayers of thanksgiving for Charles Glenn Chavie, son of Benjamin Chavie and Alisha Franek, who was baptized on December 30. The sponsor for Charles was Matthew Klapperrich.

For emergencies and after-hour prayer requests, please call one of our pastors:
✝ Rev. Paul Rieger, 636-751-4784
✝ Rev. Tyler Werner, 715-203-2904

Be sure to read the January 2021 Newsletter! The Newsletter is posted online on Trinity's website: www.trinityfaribault.org, under News & Events.

Printed copies are also available in the Narthex.

HUMAN CARE

JOY JOY JOY...this is what is felt when summing up this project!

The Angel Tree Project is a collaboration of so many individuals working together here at Trinity, to be the hands and feet of Jesus—sharing Christ's love as we care for the needs of others. For those of you who purchased gifts; Trinity Quilting Group and JoAnn Boldt for lovingly making quilts; Nancy Boldt, LeAnn Fuchs and Marilyn Simonson (for crafting Angel tags); the Bible Study group for wrapping the gifts and Jennie in the office for her assistance...

To all of you for giving financially and sharing of your time and talents, thank you and God bless.

STEWARDSHIP

Thank you to everyone who ordered Christmas Poinsettias to help decorate the Sanctuary this year. Be sure to take your flower home with you today!

Please do not take the drip trays. Protective plastic sleeves are available in the Sacristy for transporting your poinsettia. Any flowers that have not been claimed after January 3 will have to be disposed of.



Please join us "undecorating" the church on Saturday, December 9, beginning at 8:00 a.m. Many hands make light work!



WORSHIP

Drive up communion will resume Thursday, January 7 from 3:30-5:30 p.m. Please come to the West side parking lot at Trinity and Pastor Rieger and/or Pastor Tyler will conduct a short communion service with you. No reservations are necessary.



COMMUNITY

Life Is a Gift



MN South District Life Ministry Update - March for Life Minnesota | January 22

Concordia University, St. Paul, will host a Life Chapel on Friday, January 22, at 10:30 a.m. at Graebner Memorial Chapel. After the service, those participating in the March for Life will meet at the grounds of the Minnesota State Capitol, with the march set to begin at 12:00 p.m.

If an in-person gathering cannot safely and legally take place because of COVID-19, a virtual March for Life will be held instead at the same time. Check the MCCL website for updates at mccl.org/march. Also check the CSP social responsibility guidelines at csp.edu.

Contact Pastor James Kroonblawd at pastor.kroonblawd@trinityloneoak.org for more information.

Convention Proposal LCMS President Matthew Harrison has put the following proposal before all LCMS congregations:

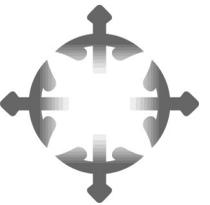
Shall the Synod add a year to the current 2019-2022 triennium, allowing districts to hold their conventions in either 2021 or 2022, and moving the upcoming national Synod Convention from 2022 to 2023? [Thereafter, the triennium cycle will continue forward from 2023 in three-year increments, as before (i.e., with district conventions held in 2025, 2028, etc., and Synod Conventions held in 2026, 2029, etc.)]

President Harrison's full letter is available at the Information Center, as well as FAQs about this proposal. All LCMS congregations will be asked to hold a voters meeting to vote on this proposal. Trinity's voter's meeting will be held sometime in January.

Watch for further information. In the meantime, please familiarize yourself with the proposal by taking home a handout from the information center.

At Home with God

Of all persons, the Christian should be best prepared for whatever the New Year brings. ... In Christ he has disposed of a thousand enemies that other men must face alone and unprepared. He can face his tomorrow cheerful and unafraid because yesterday he turned his feet into the ways of peace and today he lives in God. The man who has made God his dwelling place will always have a safe habitation.



—A.W. Tozer