



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

As we turn towards Easter I am reminded of our trip to Israel in 2022.

As Jesus and his disciples climbed the mountain to Jerusalem, they would have come to the Mount of Olives. The Mount of Olives is a mountain to the east of Jerusalem. Jerusalem sits on a peninsula of land that has two valleys that border each side of it. The Kidron valley forms the east boundary of Jerusalem. The old city of David is lower and sticks out into the Kidron Valley. As Jesus approaches Jerusalem he is standing on top of the Mount of Olives looking over the Kidron Valley in the walled city of Jerusalem. Remember he makes his one prediction.

*"O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often would I have gathered your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing! See, your house is left to you desolate. For I tell you, you will not see me again, until you say, 'Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.'" (Mat 23:37-39)*

You can just imagine Jesus looking over the city as he sees the utter hopelessness there. He then descends the hill as it is quite steep into the lower part of the mount towards Gethsemane. This is an Olive Grove and the trees would have been thick, except where the pathway was. This area was overflow area for the city. The disciples and Jesus would have picked out an area for them to put the bedrolls down and established their base camp for the coming week. From there they can look over to the city and see the comings and goings of the people. They look over towards the main gates. As they prepare to enter, they move over to the entrance gate. Now the entrance gate is much closer into the old city than it is today. It goes into the city which then would have roads leading toward the Temple complex. Remember that Jesus the week before has healed Lazarus and raised him from the dead. So folks would have been talking about him. As he enters the city, there is a murmur among the people, and they gather by the city gate and as he approaches the gate the disciples bring him a donkey to ride.

*Now when they drew near to Jerusalem, to Bethphage and Bethany, at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two of his disciples and said to them, "Go into the village in front of you, and immediately as you enter it you will find a colt tied, on which no one has ever sat. Untie it and bring it. If anyone says to you, 'Why are you doing this?' say, 'The Lord has need of it and will send it back here immediately.'" And they went away and found a colt tied at a door outside in the street, and they untied it. And some of those standing there said to them, "What are you doing, untying the colt?" And they told them what Jesus had said, and they let them go. And they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks on it, and he sat on it. And many spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy branches that they had cut from the fields. And those who went before and those who followed were shouting, "Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Blessed is the coming kingdom of our father David! Hosanna in the highest!" And he entered Jerusalem and went into the temple. And when he had looked around at everything, as it was already late, he went out to Bethany with the twelve. (Mar 11:1-11)*

The riding of the donkey was a prophecy told by Zechariah in the Old Testament. The humble king riding into the city in triumph, shown by the people as they laid down the cloaks and the palm branches to pave a way into the city. As he winds his way through the narrow streets, they get closer to the temple complex. As he gets to the entrance, he dismounts and walks in with his disciples.

We have the incidents that take place (The money changers), and he goes back out of the city gates and back across the valley to the campsite in the Garden of Gethsemane. Jesus is one of hundreds and of thousands of people there for the Passover celebration. Later in the week they go into the city again to celebrate Passover together. It is early in the day as they must use someone's house/room that will have a family Passover later. After Passover they again go out of the city and back to their campsite. At this point Judas has already separated himself from the group.

They go back to the campsite and then go to pray in one of the empty areas. As Jesus prays the time is getting late, when the troops arrive. How would they know where Jesus is? Judas is their guide. He not only betrays Jesus, but he leads them to where Jesus and his disciples are camped. They take him prisoner and then lead him to Caiaphas house, and then later that morning to the meeting place in the temple complex. Things are moving faster now as they want this over with. They judge him and then take him to Pilate who is at the Temple complex in the Antonia Fortress the Governors palace in Jerusalem.

The Antonia Fortress is where the Pilate judges him and finally condemns him. At this point Jesus must be led out of the city and to the place of the Skull (Golgotha) (The path out of the city is marked by the Via Delarosa, or the way of suffering). The place of the Skull was a landmark. It is by the road, where people can see the victims of Roman judgement. Jesus is processed out of the town to the area where he will be put on the cross. It had to be out of the city as the death sentence was not carried out inside the city itself. Plus, remember he will be laid to rest. He is put up on the cross, it is now about noon. Jesus has now been awake for over 24 hours. He also has not eaten since the night before.

He is not getting water. He has also been scourged (whipped.)

He fails quickly on the cross. It is a form of suffocation. As it is getting closer to sundown and it is the day before the Sabbath, they endeavor to get this over. The order to break the legs is given, however Jesus looks to be already dead. Quickly confirming his death Joseph of Arimathea goes directly to Pilate to petition for Jesus body. (It is very possible he had to pay for this privilege), Jesus is taken down and hurriedly taken to a nearby tomb (hundreds of feet away.) He is then put into the shrouds or cloths and left till Sunday (The first day of the week) Jesus is given an honorable burial. The Ladies will come on the first day of the week will bring spices (Frankincense and Myrrh) and ritually wash the body to prepare it for a proper burial.

Having walked many of these roads and the paths I can tell you it was humbling to think of what took place such a long time ago. One of the most moving experiences was to have communion in The Garden Tomb, one of the two places that claims to be the spot where Jesus was put to death. The Garden Tomb is much lower key compared to the Church of the Holy Sepulcher.

Yours in Christ,  
Pastor Marshall

# OTHER NEWS



## Birthdays for the month of April

- 2 Stephanie Thompson
- 3 Dan Riederer
- 10 Mark Raddle
- 12 Karen Witt
- 21 Brandon Howard

*If we forgot you, we apologize, it means we most likely don't have it. Please see that the office receives it. Thanks*



## Baptismal Anniversaries for the month of April

- Sharon Calabretta
- Art Kroll, Jr
- Siri Richter
- Dorothy Herrod
- Rachel Lochmann
- Lloyd Wessels
- Sherry Reed
- Phyllis Dunger
- Annette Dodge
- Carole Michael
- Don Richter
- Jeffery Bunting
- Brennick Riederer

Thank you to everyone who helped with the church clean up on Saturday, March 21st. The church yard has

## Perfect Attendance!

### Sunday School Attendance for the month of February

#### Students:

- Ainsley Riederer
- Espen Riederer
- Emily Saylor
- Oliver Floyd
- Mannix Reiderer
- Kingston Riederer
- Cormick Riederer

#### Adults:

- Cathy Webb
- Pat Baughman
- Tricia & Harold Jacobs
- Bill & Karen Witt
- Phyllis Dunger
- Julie Shorts
- Steve & Julie Shorts
- Susan Marshall
- Dan & Danelle Riederer
- Brennick Reiderer
- Erin Foster
- Pastor Marshall

Thank you to everyone who helped clean up the church property prior to Arleen Parsley's 95th birthday celebration, to those who were able to attend and to all who stayed afterwards to help clean up. We truly do appreciate and love our church family!!!

The Parsley Family



Sunday Average Attendance for February— 44

Sunday Average Attendance online for February – 31

February Offerings – \$22,117.50

## CRAFT DAY

"You are invited to join us on Saturday, April 4th, at 1 pm for Craft Day in the fellowship hall. Bring anything you want to work on. It is as easy as a coloring book or a crossword puzzle. We enjoy the fellowship and crafting time. It is a peaceful and enjoyable time."

## TRIVIA NIGHT

"We have 2 complete tables for Lutheran Camp at Petit Jean Trivia Night fundraiser. If you have agreed to participate, please give Erin Foster \$5 per person to pay for the tables. If you do not already have a TLC polo shirt, with our logo on it, I will need to get your size. The church is providing the polo shirt and a cap, also with the TLC logo, for you to wear that evening. Our team names will be Trinity Troublemakers Team 1 and Trinity Troublemakers Team 2, unless someone comes up with something better."

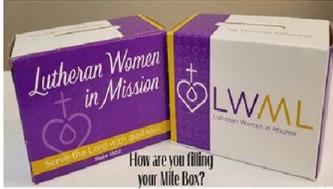
## Thank you to my church family

Thank you so much for helping me Celebrate my 95th birthday and for all who made it possible. Also thanks for letting us use the fellowship hall.

Sincerely, Arleen Parsley

# LWML NEWS

## MARY GUILD



The March meeting of Mary Guild began with a devotion given by Tricia Jacobs. The devotion, "Be Still and

Know that I am God" was based on Psalm 46. With all the violence in the world, Christians must remember that Jesus is at war with the forces of evil.

During the business portion of the meeting, several items were discussed. The members were encouraged to start thinking about a theme and a date for the fall rally here at Trinity. We received a report on the Board Meeting that met recently in Gillette. Information also was presented concerning the LWML Mid-South District Convention. The convention will be in Springdale, AR on June 12-14, 2026.

The March mission project for Mary Guild was to sponsor an animal(s) for Lutheran World Relief. We collected two hundred dollars and were able to sponsor two goats and a pig.

Arleen Parsley presented the topic "We Receive Gift Upon Gift" from God. She used the Lutheran Women's Quarterly as a resource.

Tricia Jacobs served as hostess.

In April, Cherrie Bradley will give both the devotion and the topic. Karen Witt is hostess. The mission project is a monetary collection for Lutheran Bible Translators.

We closed with the League Pledge.

Closed with the League Pledge.  
Submitted by Kaye Meins

## Esther Guild Mailbox Member Group

The March email of Esther Guild Mailbox Member Group focused on Spring. It talked about wiggly kids in church and how we, as adults, can see the service from the eyes of a child. The devotion, Always the Cross, helps us see that. There were coloring projects also attached to help a person meditate on Holy Week and Easter. These resources can be found at the LWML website here Home - Lutheran Women's Missionary League.

If you would like to receive the Esther Guild monthly Mailbox Member email, please let Erin Foster know. She can add you to the list.

Submitted by  
Erin Foster





### INTERESTING FACTS ABOUT HONDURAS

- + Over 700 species of birds live in Honduras
- + Honduras has one of the largest coral reefs in the world.
- + Honduras has a population of 11 million people.
- + The capital city of Honduras is Tegucigalpa. It has a population of 1 million.
- + The favorite sport in this country is soccer but baseball has popularity also.
- + Spanish is the principal language but some native indigenous languages are spoken also.
- + Coffee is the principal agricultural product.
- + The five stars on the Honduran flag represent the five countries of central America with the star in the emiddle representing Honduras

## May the Lord Bless Your Lenten Season!

Warm greetings in the name of the Lord. It is our prayer that you have a blessed Lenten season. The season of Lent prepares us as we follow the steps of our Lord as He prepared himself for the sacrifice on the cross of Calvary hat would bring salvation to all peoples.

A group of seminarians from Concordia Theological seminary in Fort Wayne is visiting the Dominican Republic. During their time here they are getting to know the Latin American seminarians, meeting the missionaries, and participating in the worship services. We thank them for their visit!

This next Tuesday all of the missionaries will get together for our monthly fellowship meal and worship service. All of the missionary families help provide the food in a potluck style dinner. The Tev. Dr. Jonathan Naumann, who serves as our regional chaplain, will officiate the worship service. This event provides a great time of fellowship for the missionaries.

We are happy to announce that two of our seminarians: Jesus Barcelo, and Oscar Saveedra will be graduating this coming May. Jesus will be returning to Venezuela and Oscar will be returning to Mexico. Rember Jsus and Oscar in your prayers as they prepare to serve the Lord as ordained pastors in their rrespective countries.

The congretations in the Dominican Republic are holding Wednesday Vespers services during the Lenten season. This last Wednesday Dan preached th sermon an dseminarian Francisco Orastegui helped with the liturgy. We give thanks to seminarian Francisco for his assistance.



A photo from the local annual orchid festival.



We Pray For

- + Our daughter’s upcoming surgical procedure.
- + Peace among the nations.
- + The people of Cuba.
- + Seminarian Areil who recently arrived from Cuba.
- + Those Christians who suffer persecution

We Give Thanks For

- + Our newly arrived seminarians and their families.
- + Our mission donors who make Gods mission possible.
- + The Lord’s kingdom workers who proclaim the Gospel unto the ends of the earth.



## Personal Notes

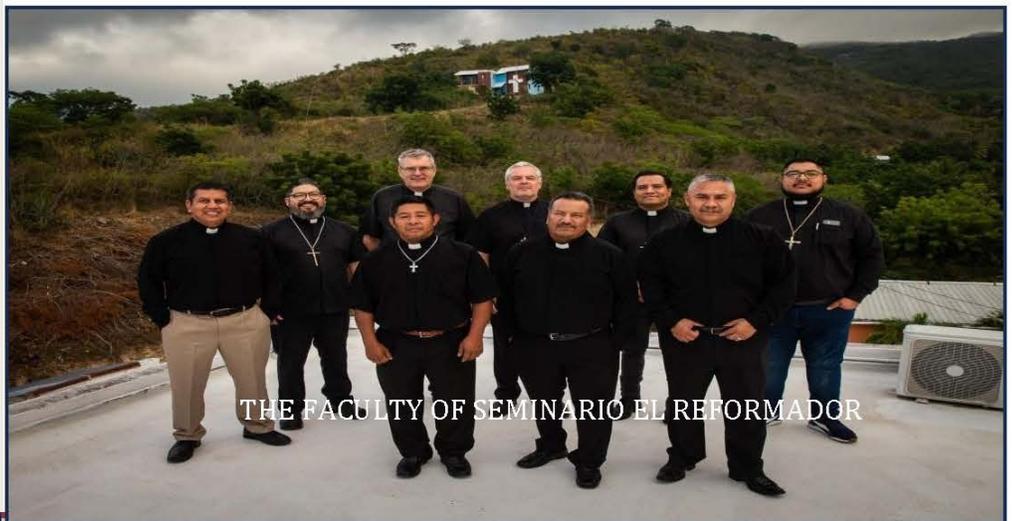
Our daughter Ana had her appointment with her oncologist for the purpose of diagnosing the lump in her breast. He ordered some more medical tests to determine if the lump is malignant. She will undergo these tests on the 26<sup>th</sup> of March. Please remember Ana in your prayers during this time.

We thank God for the mission in Latin America. Your support provides Biblical training for national pastors, deacons, and deaconesses. Prayerfully consider how the Lord may be leading you to support this vital mission. The Lord provides the funding for his mission efforts through the donations of His local churches and its individual members. Through your financial donations national pastors and deaconesses will be formed and mentored so that they may spread the Gospel throughout Latin America. Together we partner with God to take the Gospel to the far ends of the earth. We thank you for supporting the mission in Latin America. God’s richest blessings! Have a blessed Lenten season!



*I thank my God every time I remember you. In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now, being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus. (Philippians 1:3)*

**Soli Deo Gloria**  
*Daniel and Kathy*



To support our work financially, you may send a tax-deductible gift to:  
The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod  
P.O. Box 790089  
St. Louis, MO 63179-0089 Make checks payable to The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod. Mark checks “Support of Daniel Conrad.”

Gifts can also be given securely online through the LCMS website, on our online giving page at [www.lcms.org/conrad](http://www.lcms.org/conrad) or call 888-930-4438 to speak with one of our Donor Care representatives.

You may also donate through Mission Central:  
<https://missioncentral.us/conrad/>

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!



# APRIL

2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
 <p><b>5</b> Easter            9:00 Easter Breakfast            10:00 Easter Egg Hunt            10:45 Easter Celebration Service            Easter Sunday</p>			<b>1</b>	<b>2</b> Holy Thursday No Bible Study 1:00 Mary Guild 6:30 Maundy Thursday Service/Communion	<b>3</b> Good Friday 6:30 Good Friday Service	<b>4</b> 1:00 Craft Day Fellowship
<p><b>6</b></p>			<b>8</b>	<b>9</b> 10:00 Thursday Bible Study	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> 9:00 LWMML Spring Flings- Eldorado
<p><b>12</b>            9:30 SS/Adult Bible Study            11:45 Worship w/Communion            12:00 Elders Meeting            1:30 Confirmation Class            Second Sunday of Easter</p>	<b>13</b>	<p><b>14</b>            9:00 Winkal Schedule at Zion, Uln</p>	<p><b>15</b> Tax Day (Taxes Due)            Newsletter Deadline</p>	<p><b>16</b>            10:00 Thursday Bible Study</p>	<p><b>17</b>            9-5 Home and Garden Show White Hall, Civic Center</p>	<p><b>18</b>            9-5 Home and Garden Show White Hall, Civic Center</p>
<p><b>19</b>            9:30 SS/Adult Bible Study            11:45 Worship w/Communion            12:00 Council Meeting            Third Sunday of Easter</p>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<p><b>22</b> Administrative Professionals            10:00 Newsletter Committee</p>	<p><b>23</b>            10:00 Thursday Bible Study</p>	<b>24</b> Arbor Day	<b>25</b>
<p><b>26</b>            9:30 SS/Adult Bible Study            11:45 Worship w/Communion            1:30 Confirmation Class            Fourth Sunday of Easter</p>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<p><b>30</b>            10:00 Thursday Bible Study</p>		

# April 2026

	Elder	Ushers	Acolyte	Lector	Flowers by...	Counters
SUN 5	Steve Shorts Steve Lochmann	Andrew Raddle Dan Reiderer	Hope Puddephatt	Erin Foster	Easter Lilies	Judy Clinton Julie Shorts Sharon Calabretta
SUN 12	Bill Witt Steve Shorts	Harold Jacob Robert Floyd	Kaleigh Frye	Steve Shorts	Lynne Russell "In memory of Jim Russell"	Phillip & Amanda Dunger
SUN 19	Phillip Dunger Bill Witt	Dan Riederer Andrew Raddle	Ainsley Riederer	Robert Floyd	Lura Campbell "Heavenly Birthday for Lura Campbell"	Tricia Jacobs Cherrie Bradley Lynne Russell
SUN 26	Robert Floyd Phillip Dunger	Harold Jacob Steve Lochmann	Brennick Riederer	Cherrie Bradley	Bill & Karen Witt, 'Happy Birthdays'	Joyce Anne Green Charleen Weathers

## Trinity Lutheran Church Worship Service Attendants

Altar Care: Kaye Meins, Phillis Dunger

Trinity Lutheran Church  
4200 Old Warren Road  
Pine Bluff, AR 71603  
Tel. No. (870) 534-4316

Return Service Requested

Recipient's Name  
Street Address  
City State 95555

Trinity Lutheran Church

Pine Bluff, Arkansas



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