



TRINITY TIDINGS

A monthly newsletter for the people of Trinity Lutheran Church of Athens, WI

Pastor's Corner

April 2021

Our Mission:

To Know Christ...

and make Him known.

WORSHIP TIMES

Saturday 7:00pm

Sunday 9:00am

With Holy Communion
every 1st & 3rd weekend (N/A)

HOLY WEEK / EASTER

Maundy Thursday 7:00pm

Good Friday 1:30pm,

4:00pm & 7:00pm

Easter 6:00am, 9:00am &

10:30am

Bible Study

Sunday 10:00am

Church Phone: 715-257-7526

School Phone: 715-257-7559

Pastor Mark: 715-218-8814

Inside this issue:

Principal's Message	3
Church News & Events	4
Memorials	4
Official Acts	4
April Acolytes / Birthdays /	
Baptism Birthdays / Anniv.	5
Youth News	6
March Council Mtg Minutes	7 - 8
March PTL Meeting Minutes	9
Child Care Newsletter	10 - 11
Church Calendar	12

Only once in the 30 years that I've been a pastor has Easter come on April 1. It happened three years ago in 2018. We had fun with that. The empty tomb was the greatest "April Fool" ever celebrated! This year, April Fools falls on Maundy Thursday – the day we celebrate Jesus' institution of the Lord's Supper. I imagine the world pointing at Lutherans and saying, "What? Jesus' body and blood are really present in your celebration of the Lord's Supper?" "April Fool – right?" Not really, but it sure sounds like an April Fool prank.

Call it what you like, but as members of the Lutheran Church, we have to take Jesus as his word:

**While they were eating, Jesus took bread,
gave thanks and broke it, and gave it to his disciples,
saying, "Take and eat; this is my body."
Then he took the cup, gave thanks and offered it to
them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you.
This is my blood of the covenant,
which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins.**

– Matthew 26:26-28

In the original Greek, Jesus' words are literally: "This is the body of me" and "For this is the blood of me." He held up a piece of unleavened bread and a cup of wine when he said these words. If you want to be honest in translating that Greek phrase, that's exactly what it says. An honest translation cannot read: "This becomes my body.. my blood..." (Roman Catholic teaching) or "This represents my body... my blood..." (almost all other non-Catholic or non-Lutheran denominations). "Is" means "is." Which means that when they (and we) eat the bread, we also receive the very body of Christ. When we drink the cup (wine) we also receive the very blood of Christ. For what purpose? Jesus explains in five simple words:

"...for the forgiveness of sins."

(continued...)

April fool? Nope!

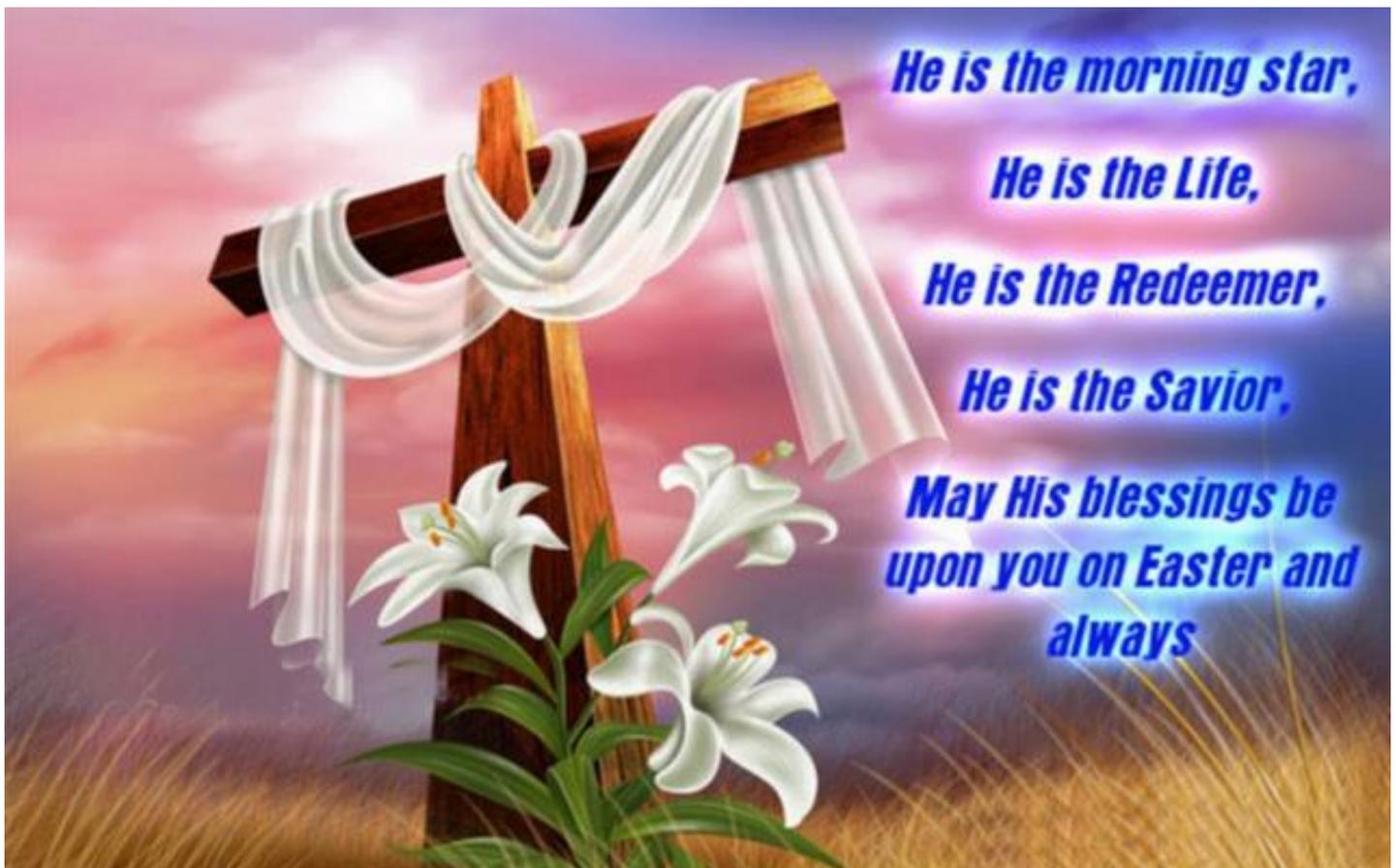
All God's grace! In eating and drinking bread and wine, we receive the very body and blood of Jesus for the forgiveness of our sins and the strengthening of our faith. No fool'in!

There is no more personal way for you to come into contact with your Savior (this side of heaven) than in the Lord's Supper. It's like getting a "hug" from Jesus... The Lord's Supper is the most tangible, intimate gift of love we have from Jesus to sustain us until we make that journey home and eat at that heavenly banquet with Jesus and all who have died in the faith.

Until then, may Jesus' love and real presence in his Word and the Lord's Supper fill you with unending hope, and peace, and joy.

Happy Easter!

Pastor Mark



Trinity Lutheran Church, School & Child Care

Mark Schwalenberg
Pastor

Dean Frick
Principal / Grades 7th & 8th

Tanille Hartwig
Teacher / Grades 5th & 6th

Kim Mroczenski
Teacher / Grades 3rd & 4th

Becky Van Rixel
Teacher / Grades 1st & 2nd

Deb Frick
Teacher / 3K, 4K & Kindergarten

Diane Tolk
Aide / 3K, 4K & Kindergarten

Judy Weise
Administrative Assistant

Kaye Schwalenberg
Custodian

Laurie Brodziski
School Cook

Mark Schroeder
Sarah Lemmer
Organists

Randalyn Ellenbecker
Child Care Director

Trinity Elders

Ken Punke – 715-257-9312

Kevin Kottke – 715-257-9971

Dwight Tolk – 715-581-8090

Mark Mroczenski – 715-257-1485

Keith Niemann – 715-506-0047

Brian Luther – 715-257-9301

*A congregation of the
Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod*

www.trinityathens.net

Principal's Message

I came across this picture of a view from the empty tomb. Now I realize this newsletter is printed in black and white, but I think everyone can still appreciate the perspective. Before anyone with Biblical geographical knowledge says that it would be impossible to see the crosses from the actual tomb, I acknowledge that this is a fictitious picture. However, let's just imagine, by putting ourselves inside the tomb, that this view was possible.

Could this have been the view of the Peter and John after they ran to the tomb to verify Mary's story? After they saw the strips of linen and the burial clothe, was this what they saw when they turned to leave? John 20:8 says, "Finally the other disciple, who had reached the tomb first, also went inside. He saw and believed." As believers, it might seem easy to see what this picture represents for us. God's plan for our salvation is complete in this picture. Many people say seeing is believing, yet the cross means nothing them. Only the disciples were able to experience this view.

Can your life, your actions, and your words paint the picture that leads others to "see and believe"? You might be the only picture that someone needs to see to start them down the path of salvation. Share what this view means to you with those around you!

Mr. Dean Frick, Principal



He is Risen! He is Risen indeed!

Church News & Events

Trinity Ladies Aid/LWML

Trinity LWML has not started meeting in person again but we continue to hold our monthly Bible study via live-stream. Please join us on the stream or come to the church if you prefer. We meet in the sanctuary so there is plenty of room to spread out. Our Circuit 10 Fall Rally will be held at Trinity, Medford on Saturday, April 24 beginning at 9 AM. The quilting ladies have been masked and working every Wed. morning since Dec. Many lovely quilts have been constructed and sent to Orphan Grain Train for distribution around the world. Thanks to those dedicated women for all their hard work! Kaye and Nancy Schwalenberg will be attending the National LWML Convention in Lexington, KY at the end of June. We look forward to hearing about the work of the LWML this past biennium and what's in store for the future.

Kaye Schwalenberg, Secretary



March Memorials

Thank you for your gifts!

In Loving Memory of Marcy Scheithauer, gifts were given to the Altar Guild, Major Building Repair Fund, General Fund, and Debt Fund by Luann Thurs, Bruce & Donnie Radloff, Ken & Karen Gauerke, Jerry & Jodi Bloch, Eugene & Doreen Weise, and Dennis & Nathalie Fladvid.

In Loving Memory of the 10+ relatives that were lost over the past years (not to Covid), a gift was given to the Major Building Repair fund by Joe & Karen Weiler

In Loving Memory of Dorothy Punke, gifts were given toward the general operating expenses of our church and school, the Altar Guild, Major Building Repair Fund and to the Mortenson Living Trust by Tom & Shirley Raymakers, Dennis & Nathalie Fladvic, Cheryl Eckert, Eugene & Doreen Weise, Luann Thurs, and from many other friends and family members.

In Loving Memory of Ken Zocher, a gift was given to the Debt Fund by Bruce & Connie Radloff.



Official Acts & Monthly News

New Members: Sherri Nehrbass, Rev. Roland Golz & Violet Golz

Released: Cheryl Lenz

Weddings / Births: none

Baptisms: Silas Gabriel Garcia, son of Jorge & Samantha Garcia, was baptized before our altar on Saturday, March 13, 2022.

Willow Lee Roesler, son of Treyton Roesler & Katie Hart, was baptized before our altar on Saturday, March 27, 2021.

Jazzalyn Grace Hardin, daughter of Eric Hardin & Jennifer Bloch, was baptized before our altar on Saturday, March 27, 2021.

Deaths: Marcella B. Scheithauer was called home to be with the Lord on Monday, March 1, 2021. Her Celebration of Life was held here at Trinity on Saturday, March 6, 2021.

Dorothy Paula Punke was called to her heavenly home on Thursday, March 11, 2021. Dorothy's Celebration of Life was held here at Trinity on Saturday, March 20, 2021.

Hospitalized: Ray Baumgartner, Eugene Weise

LLL Zone 10 Rally

The **LLL (Lutheran Laymen's League) Zone 10 Rally** will be hosted by Trinity Lutheran Church of Medford and will be held on April 11th. The Rally will begin at 1:30pm with a devotion followed by short business meeting and part of the DVD "This is the Life". No lunch will be served.



April Acolytes

<u>Maundy Thursday, April 1</u>	7:00pm
Abby Diethelm & Malaina Telschow	
<u>Good Friday, April 2</u>	
Ava Ford & Eli Paul	1:30pm
OPEN	4:00pm
Natalie Salber & Autumn Diethelm	7:00pm
<u>Easter, April 4</u>	
Alex LaVake & Eli Schaer	6:00am
Colton Frandsen & Chance Schienebeck	9:00am
None need for the Drive-In at AHS	10:30am
<u>Saturday, April 10</u>	7:00pm
Abby Diethelm & Autumn Diethelm	
<u>Sunday, April 11</u>	9:00am
Swayne Stencil & Brinly Stencil	
<u>Saturday, April 17</u>	7:00pm
Aleah Frahm & Nick Pittman	
<u>Sunday, April 18</u>	9:00am
Gavin Frahm & Garrett Frahm	
<u>Saturday, April 24</u>	7:00pm
Addisyn Kottke & Aubrey Kottke	
<u>Sunday, April 25</u>	9:00am
Ava Ford & Natalie Salber	

April Birthdays

- 1 - Perry Haehlke
- 2 - George Stauske
- 3 - Jaxson Perkins
- 4 - Linda Murkowski, Allan Riemer
- 5 - Virgel Weiler
- 6 - Lois Balz
- 8 - Helen Schreiber
- 9 - Ashley Kottke, Rachel Ostrander, Linda Westfall
- 10 - Kian Ellenbecker
- 11 - Adnay Luetschwager, Deb Sprotte
- 12 - Connor Lewandowski, Dominic Lewandowski
- 13 - Mary Miller, Michele Swanson
- 16 - Mark Mroczenski, Carmen Woiak
- 17 - Luke Sprotte, Derek Wheatley
- 18 - Glenn Belanger, Dae Frahm, Kasandra LeSieur, Easton Thom, Stacy VanDerLinden
- 19 - Cassie Call, Jenna Handschke, Ava Lemmer
- 20 - Mr. Kim Kottke, Matthew Wassmann
- 21 - Jordyn Gross
- 23 - Patty Riske, Sheila Scheffler
- 24 - Gerald LeMay
- 25 - Tyler Brodziski
- 26 - Caden Frandsen, Dusty Gross
- 29 - Bitsy Ewan, Natalie Salber
- 30 - Shannon Lemmer, Blake Hein, Russ Schneveis



April Baptism Birthdays

- 1 - Betty Baumgartner, Heidi Hein, Ed Schultz, Jr.,
- 2 - Suzanne Rudolph
- 3 - Heidi Denzine, Larry Sprotte
- 6 - Raedynn Fredrickson, Parker Tischauser
- 8 - Denise Bunkelman, Wallace Walters
- 9 - Jeremy Hart
- 10 - David Nowacki, Carol Roesler
- 11 - Karen Guralski
- 12 - Curtis Balz, Randy Jeppesen, Brody Lipinski, Mary Schreiber, Tasha Stencil, Michael Zorowski
- 13 - Jordyn Kralcik
- 15 - Rebecca Van Rixel
- 16 - Ryan Tolk
- 17 - Gary Belanger, Ben Hartwig
- 20 - Shirley Denzin, Perry Haehlke, Judy Weiler, Evan Thurs
- 21 - Joe Kepner, Nick Pittman
- 23 - Ava Ford, Andrew Schaer, Brooklyn Westfall
- 24 - Taylor Albrecht, Archie Becker, Ty Bunkelman, Linda Murkowski
- 25 - Joel Mroczenski, George Stauske
- 26 - Gage Punke
- 27 - Sandy Koeller
- 28 - Allison Halvorsen, Nadie Drekew
- 29 - Lois Balz, Mike Dahl, Ava Lemmer
- 30 - Donna Houlihan, Connor Lewandowski, Dominic Lewandowski, Daniel Trimner, Ava Zettler



aries

<i>Mike & Nancy Pecher</i>	<i>04/01/1978</i>
<i>Ed & Donna Sandle</i>	<i>04/02/1988</i>
<i>Tim & Jamie Diethelm</i>	<i>04/04/2008</i>
<i>Adam & Vicki Halopka</i>	<i>04/05/1997</i>
<i>Ken & Kathy Brice</i>	<i>04/06/1968</i>
<i>Don & Cindy Hardt</i>	<i>04/07/1993</i>
<i>Brian & Kandi Lavicka</i>	<i>04/08/1995</i>
<i>Glen & Lynn Luetschwager</i>	<i>04/08/1978</i>
<i>Ken & Nancy Ellenbecker</i>	<i>04/09/1965</i>
<i>Wallace & Lorna Walters</i>	<i>04/11/1970</i>
<i>Dave & Robin Sauter</i>	<i>04/12/1993</i>
<i>Ryan & Karen Ellenbecker</i>	<i>04/13/1996</i>
<i>Derek & Michelle Urmanski</i>	<i>04/13/2013</i>
<i>Jerry & Linda Murkowski</i>	<i>04/19/1975</i>
<i>Joshua & Giana Brubaker</i>	<i>04/20/2015</i>
<i>Jeramie & Katrina Penney</i>	<i>04/21/2000</i>
<i>Don & Marlene Westfall</i>	<i>04/24/1965</i>
<i>Larry & Ronda Frane</i>	<i>04/26/1986</i>
<i>Tim & Sally Westfall</i>	<i>04/27/1968</i>
<i>Tom & Tanya Schaer</i>	<i>04/28/2001</i>
<i>Archie & Sue Becker</i>	<i>04/30/1977</i>

Youth News

Crusaders for Christ
5th - 8th grade Youth Group

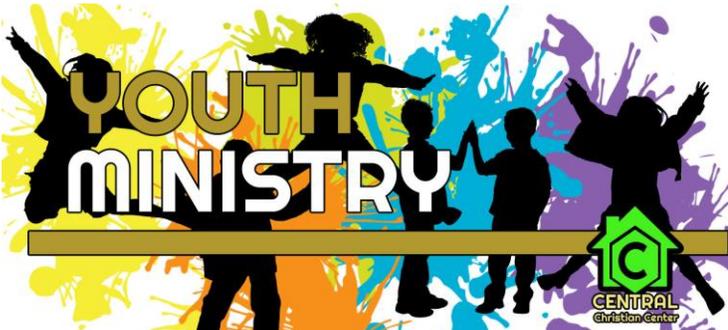


We will finally be meeting again! Sunday, April 18th at 6:30pm 😊 We hope to hear a replay back soon from the Athens High School as to whether or not we will be able to host our Cancer Walk on the track during June.



THANK YOU!

All the youth working hard to raise money for the summer Mission Trip to Benton Harbor, Michigan send out a **HUGE THANK YOU** to everyone for your continued support! The Lent Soup Suppers were great, but thank you mostly for all your prayers. We feel extremely blessed to be a part of this beautiful church family.



Mission Trip Bound!

July used to seem so far away at the beginning of our planning. Now it's just 3 months away!

The YouthWorks 2021 theme is..

NEIGHBORS

Not where, but how. Not if, but how?

Being NEIGHBORS isn't just about where we live but about how we love the people that God puts in our path. We are reminded that being neighbors isn't a question of **if** we love, but **how** we love!

Please continue to keep the youth and the families in their prayers as they continue to plan for this life changing week-long event. The group will be meeting on Sunday, April 18th at 7:30pm

PUZZLE

EASTER MORNING message

Early Sunday morning, some women who followed Jesus encountered a great surprise. Solve the puzzle to see what the angels told them.

Directions: Cross out every other letter in the maze. Write the remaining letters in order to complete Luke 24:5-6, NIV.

LUKE 24:5-6, NIV

Answer: "Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here; he has risen!" Luke 24:5-6, NIV

Monthly Council Meeting - March 10, 2021

Meeting was called to order by President Rick Guralski. Pastor opened with prayer.

Officers:

President- Rick Guralski (P)	Board of Elders (P)
Vice President- Andy Thurs (P)	Board of Christian Education- (P)
Secretary- Renee Tessmer (P)	Board of Trustees- (P)
Admin Assistant- Judy Weise (P)	Board of Stewardship- (P)
Principal- Dean Frick (P)	Youth Coordinator- Renell Wassmann (P)
Rev-Mark Schwalenberg (P)	

Secretary Report: Motion made by Andy Thurs and seconded by Cheryl Eckert to approve the secretary report as printed in the monthly newsletter.

Financial Report: Checking Account Balance at the Credit Union \$23,657 Petty Cash \$1. Savings Accounts: Organ Fund \$645, Major Building Repair Fund \$41,882, Enhancement Fund at \$1,215, Endowment Fund-Thrivent \$122,298, Special Interest Fund at LCEF \$309, Balance of our Line of Credit at Forward Bank \$0, Mortensen Progressive Fund, \$17,458. Payment for School Choice, \$13,488. Total Income for February \$45,523, Total Expenses \$54,865 resulting in a loss of \$9,342. Motion made by Ken Punke and seconded by Dawn Mroczenski to approve the financial report as read. Motion carried.

Boards of Elders: Transferred in Sherri Nehrbass. Marcy Scheithauer passed away. Talked about the Easter services please sign up for a service, one of the services will be held at the High School and is open to the public. The High School students asked if on 3/27/21, which is prom, could we move the service to 4:00 p.m instead of 7:00 p.m. so students could attend. Change will be made and will be announced on Facebook.

Board of Christian Education: Still looking for a replacement for Dawn Mroczenski for Board of Christian Education but they do have some ideas for that. Voted to increase the school tuition for the 2021-2022 school year by 5%. There is more than \$12,000 available for tuition assistance plus with School Choice there are options there for anyone that needs tuition assistance. Looking at the budget and salaries for the April meeting. Sarah Paul got a computer and is sent up to do the work that she needs to do for School Choice. School Choice application period is still open until 4/15. Maple Grove has been added to the Athens School District so more vouchers should be available due to increased enrollment. 3rd payment of School Choice came in \$13,488. Working on a virtual learning policy and getting that in place to stress the importance of in person learning. Accreditation board's have been meeting and going through the process for accreditation. Health insurance option need to have a meeting with the Board of Elders, the Board of Education and Board of Trustees to come up with a policy that covers all employees and if they want to opt out of the health insurance and take the pay they have that option, however, Concordia will want our employees to have health insurance coverage so the intention is that this would apply only if the employee has the ability to go on a spouses plan or we would want them to take the health insurance. There are some Emergency Assistance funds available to non-public schools Discussed the equality act some. Want to get the web site up and going especially with School Choice so people outside the district can access the site and know what is going on.

Principals Report: Dean Frick will be working on putting together a Power Point presentation to show all of the fun things that happened during National Lutheran Schools Week it was a bit different this year but staff and Pastor and Kaye came up with great ideas and the students enjoyed themselves. To continue with Lutheran Schools Accreditation some surveys will be going out to parents and some to staff to gather information for accreditation. Looking to redo some staff handbooks. Emergency System

(continued...)

Funds available to non-public schools is in the roll out phase. Dean will be attending a Webinar about this on 3/15, schools that want to apply for it will have to apply through the state. This money will not come through the school district like the other assistance funds do. Preliminary numbers that came out would be about \$400 a student so this would be around \$32,000. This money could be used for expenses that we accrued last Spring such as plexiglass or items we needed for COVID. This money could also be used for any technology to help students that may have fallen behind or the money could be used to install an infiltration system. This is another grant that came from the Federal Government. More information to come. Chrome books came in so 1st and 2nd graders will now get Chrome books this was through Title funding and through Government Assistance Funds with little cost to the school. Very low issues with COVID in students right now. Dean stated there has been a stomach bug going around but those students have not tested positive. Things continue to go well.

Board of Trustees: Last of the light bulbs have been changed. 3rd and 4th grade faucet was fixed and is working well. Talked about the leaking roof, Judy has a leak in her office and there is one in the hallway. Dan Trimner stated that as soon as the weather permits they plan to replace the furnace and fix the leaking roof. A new rubber membrane will be placed.

Board of Stewardship: Did not meet in February. Will be meeting on 3/15/21 to talk about the chili sale that is coming up. Talked a bit more about the envelopes.

Pastor: Happy to say he is able to get into more care facilities. Most of home bound people are doing very well. Excited about Holy Week and the Easter Celebration. Please sign up for a service. One of the services will be held at the High School, there will be a stage set up this service will be at 10:30. All are invited. Church on Good Friday will be at 1:30, 4:00 and 7:00. Pastor and Kaye are signed up to be volunteer staff at Athenian Living so they were able to get their first Covid Vaccine. Streaming service is still very well attended. Will need a few volunteers to set up sound system at High School for the Easter service.

Youth: Crusaders: Did do the Dance for Diabetes event at the Hamburg Town Hall in honor of Aubrey Kottke. They are planning a meeting for Sunday 4/18 at 6:30 p.m. They will be discussing the Cancer walk that will hopefully be held in June. All money raised goes to the Aspirus Cancer Center in Wausau. Mission Trip: The Lenten dinners are going very well. They will meet together as a group on Sunday 4/18 at 7:30 p.m.

Old Business: Officially voted to move the Synodical Convention to 2023 and the District Convention to 2022.

New Business: There will be a benefit on Sunday 4/25 for Billy Blake at the Community Hall from 10:30-2:00. There will be 4 different kinds of soup that can be pre-ordered and picked up for take-out. Orders can be placed up until 4/23, Judy will also be taking phone calls for orders. All proceeds will go to the Billy Blake family to help with medical expenses. May put together a basket for raffles as those will be available too. Dean asked if we could do a door offering on 3/27 and 3/28. Motion made by Andy Thurs and seconded by Renee Tessmer to do a free will offering on those dates. Judy asked if we could move the monthly council meeting one week later to 4/21 in order to get budget items together before that. Budget meeting will be held on 4/15 at 6:30. We talked about officers and who will be off and who would run another term.

Motion made by Dawn Mroczenski and seconded by Danny Trimner to adjourn the meeting. Meeting adjourned. Pastor and council closed with the Lords Prayer.

Respectfully Submitted,

Renee Tessmer, Secretary

PTL Meeting Minutes

March 14, 2021

1. President Laura Ford called the meeting to order at 10:08 A.M. with 5 members present.
2. Dean Frick opened with a prayer.
3. Secretary's minutes were presented in the green sheet. Motion was made by Keri Salber and seconded by Randalyn Ellenbecker to accept the February minutes. All were in favor. Motion carried.
4. **Committee and Officer's Report**
 - a. **Treasurer's report** -Treasurer's report showed a balance of \$2500.79 in the checkbook. Motion made by Keri Salber and seconded by Randalyn Ellenbecker to accept the treasurer's report. All were in favor. Motion carried.
 - b. **Principal's Report**- New drop off procedure will be implemented for safety and ease starting on Monday.
 - c. **Scrip Report**- No Scrip report.
5. **Old Business**
 - a. Lutheran School's Week March 1-5
 - b. Seroogy's Fundraiser-running through March 19. Reminder letter will be sent home.
 - c. Jenna Ellenbecker will take over Box Tops fundraiser for the remainder of the year.
 - d. Outdoor Education-5/6 grade-May 12-14. Deposit was sent in.
6. **New Business**
 - a. 8th grade banquet-7th grade parents will organize and handle this.
 - b. Benefit for Bill Blake on April 25-Discussion. Was decided that next mission will go to Bill Blake instead of a basket for benefit.
 - c. Administrative Professional Day-April 21-Discussion. Table until April meeting.
 - d. Crosses for Baptisms-Motion was made by Keri Salber, and seconded by Randalyn Ellenbecker to approve \$200 for additional crosses. All were in favor. Motion carried. Part of a standing motion.
7. Next meeting will be April 11, 2021.
8. Keri Salber made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:23 A.M. Randalyn Ellenbecker seconded. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted by Randalyn Ellenbecker, Secretary