



April 2026 Volume 29, No. 4

TIDINGS

Trinity Lutheran Church

**A welcoming faith community
living together in God's love to
share the joy of Jesus Christ.**

Holy Week & Easter

Maundy Thursday, April 2 6:30 pm Service with Foot Washing. *First will be foot washing, a symbolic gesture of service to one another. We will conclude with stripping of the altar.*

Good Friday, April 3

11 am-2 pm Stations of the Cross - A self-guided prayer journey located in the Sanctuary. Feel free to use them at your own pace. There will be a meditation booklet to be used as you go through the stations.

6:30 pm Service with Seven Last Words and Veneration of the Cross - As we did last year, worship concludes with the invitation to gather where violence has occurred in the Fort Collins Community. We will sing and pray blessing in this spot. *There will be a reading of Jesus' Seven Last Words - a gleaning from all four gospels of the words Jesus spoke from the cross, followed by the Veneration of the Cross. We'll then process the cross outside of the church and will go into the community to a place where we can bear witness to death in our midst and leave an offering of prayer and rose petals.*

Holy Saturday, April 4 at **5 pm** Easter Service with Champagne Fellowship to follow.

Easter Sunday, April 5

10:30 am Easter Service

11:30 am Brunch The Faith Formation Committee and the friends and families of the Trinity youth are hosting Easter Brunch for ALL on Easter Sunday after worship. Head to the fellowship hall after worship for pancakes, sausage, ham, fruit, and juice/mimosas! Free-will donations will be accepted to help our youth get to the ELCA National Youth Gathering in Minneapolis in the summer of 2027. Thanks in advance for your generosity. Many Hands Make Light Work, sign up to bring food, serve, set up, & clean [HERE](#).

Adult Forum

April 5: Happy Easter! No Adult Forum

April 12: If you have ever enjoyed time in a forest, this is your opportunity to learn from two CSU graduate students actively researching people's understanding of old-growth mature forests in the context of climate change, fire risk and indigenous leadership.

April 19: A representative from the City of Fort Collins Environmental Services will bring us up to date on city efforts to progress toward zero waste, including use some physical objects and a "practice sort" to help our knowledge of recycling.

April 26: If you would like to take action to "love your neighbor", bring hope, and champion human dignity, join us in dialog on the new 2025 ELCA Social Statement: Faith and Civic Life: Seeking the Well-being of All.

Clothing Drive for Habitat Restore

The Social Eco Justice Committee and the 301 HH Faith Champions are sponsoring a clothing drive for Habitat for Humanity's Restore. The Restore truck will be in the back parking lot on **Saturday, April 25, from 10 am-12 pm**. We are asking for good used clothing. Items that the Restore cannot take are underwear, shoes, bedding or stained or torn clothing. You may bring your clothing items to the church (there will be a box in the fellowship room) starting April 12. So clean out those closets and bring good used clothing so that the Restore can resale them to help fund more homes for qualified Ft. Collins families.

If you have questions, you can call or email or text Jo Gearhart after April 2. Thank you for supporting Habitat for Humanity. Let's fill the truck!

Donation Corner

Prayer Cards Small Group needs:

- #5 - 1/2 invitation envelopes
- All color card-stock paper
- Any other scrap-booking paper or supplies, even stamps!

Quilting Small Group needs:

- We will always collect donated fabric, Fabric, & more FABRIC.

Thrivent Action Teams: Are you an eligible Thrivent member and have choice dollars available to direct? There are a number of groups that count on the Thrivent Action Teams.

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH



www.trinitylutheranfc.org

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After Hours Emergency:
(970)-400-7252

OFFICE HOURS
MON-THURS 9AM-3PM

WORSHIP TIMES
SAT: 5 PM | SUN: 10:30 AM

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Pastor's Ponderings

Egypt: Faith, History and the Nile - April 7-17, 2027

Greetings! Do you want to discover Egypt? We have a tentative trip planned for April of next year that I will lead with Elias Tours. The cost estimate with flight is \$4500. [HERE](#) is the itinerary if you are interested.

We will have an informational meeting on **April 12, at 11:45 am** following worship with more details. We have 8 people so far that have expressed interest, but if this is something you would like to do, let me know and I will add you to the list.

Here is a bit more from our travel company:

Egypt, a land of ancient wonders and vibrant culture. Home to the iconic Pyramids of Giza, the majestic Nile River, and awe-inspiring temples, Egypt offers a journey through history unlike any other. Explore bustling bazaars, stunning desert landscapes, and pristine Red Sea beaches. Visit historic Coptic churches, including the Hanging Church and the Church of Saints Sergius and Bacchus in Cairo, believed to have sheltered the Holy Family during their journey through Egypt. These sites reflect Egypt's rich Christian heritage alongside the pharaonic past, all while savoring the rich flavors of Egyptian cuisine.

Peace, Pastor Rick

ELCA.ORG Got a Glow Up

elca.org got a makeover! This is a great site to check out to learn what is happening in the larger church or learn more about who we are as a church. For those that may not know, the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) is the largest Lutheran denomination in the United States, with approximately 2.68 million members and over 8,300 congregations. Formed in 1988, it is a mainline Protestant denomination known for a progressive theological approach, including the ordination of women and LGBTQ+ clergy, and a strong emphasis on social justice, grace, and community service.

VBS - Save the Date! Step right up June 8–11 from 9am–noon

Come one! Come all! Step right up and see the marvelous wonders waiting for you at our carnival! Carnivals are more than a place for entertainment—they're an invitation to see something extraordinary. In this four-day series, kids Pre-K–5th grade will explore how Jesus, like a great carnival barker, calls out to us to show us something wonderful.

Day 1: Use the gifts God gave you!

Day 2: Show God's love to someone new!

Day 3: Thank God for forgiveness!

Day 4: Share God's story with everyone!

Registration coming soon!

LuMin Update

Wishing you peace and productive reflection in this lenten season! This is Aaron Graff, the LuMin Congregational Ambassador. I am just reaching out with a mid-semester update! Our LuMin Wednesday activities are going strong, as we are averaging about ten students per week even during the busy and stressful midterm season. Thank you to all who have donated meals this semester, and as a reminder, we have a sign-up sheet for any who are interested in bringing meals for the rest of the semester attached [here](#). Thank you so much for your support!

I have another additional request. For our LuMin students graduating this semester, we are in need of someone to embroider the LuMin logo onto graduation stoles. With an embroidering machine, it would hopefully be pretty straightforward to have the logo added. If you have interest in helping us with this, please reach out to Victoria at minister@lcmcsu.org. Thank you in advance and thank you for your continued support of our ministry!

Your Gifts In Action ~ Trees, Water & People

For many years Trinity has had a supportive relationship with Trees, Water & People (TWP) located in the heart of Fort Collins at 633 Remington Street. They have been working for 27 years to improve people's lives by helping communities to protect, conserve and manage the natural resources upon which their long-term well-being depends. For more details please visit: <https://treeswaterpeople.org>

TWP's Mesoamerica Program supports Indigenous and marginalized communities and organizations in the preservation of their lands, natural resources and cultural lifeways in Mexico and Central America. They facilitate local opportunities that regenerate and heal the territories and history of local communities by creating conditions for families to prosper in their country.

TWP's Indigenous Lands Program was founded in 2005 to support Native American Tribal communities and organizations in the preservation of their lands, natural resources and cultural lifeways. This program continues to evolve to implement the vision and philosophy of the program, partnerships, and ongoing projects.

When you give to Trinity, you give to Trees, Water & People

Sky Ranch

Would your child like to go to Sky Ranch this summer? Upper Elementary, Middle, and High School students are invited to Sky Ranch with other Trinity youth the week of **July 19-24**. Lower Elementary students can go either **June 14-19 or July 26-31**. Please register directly with Sky Ranch: [SUMMER CAMPS](#). You do not need a group hold code this year! Instead, please email [Pastor Kaari](#) when you register. Trinity will cover \$200 per camper! If you decide to go a different week (I know, schedules are complicated) please mark Trinity, Fort Collins on your registration and let Pastor Kaari know what week you've registered for. As always, scholarships are available, contact Pastor Kaari for more information.

301 FP JET ECO Tip; Happy Earth Day on April 22!

As we learn about microplastics it makes a person wonder what can we do to reduce our use of plastics. Microplastics are tiny pieces of plastic less than 5 millimeters now detected in human blood and organs. They are difficult for the body to remove posing long term health issues. It is important to keep in mind that you will never be able to eliminate plastic from your life but that is not a reason to give up on reducing your exposure.

We can start to reduce plastic waste and microplastics by removing single use plastics from our everyday use. There are reusable cloth shopping bags and metal, glass, or food grade silicone containers to use for beverages or leftovers. A single use plastic bottle can take 450 years to break down. We can buy in bulk or large containers to cut down on packaging or try to buy products in paper, boxes, or glass. Beeswax wraps, silicone lids, aluminum foil, and cloth covers can be used to cover leftovers instead of plastic wrap. In our kitchens we can use wood, bamboo, or stainless steel cooking utensils and cast iron, stainless steel or uncoated ceramic cookware. If you are reheating food in a microwave do not use plastic dishes. Keep reusable eating utensils and straws in your cars to use at a drive thru instead of using plastic ware. If shopping for clothing consider cotton or wool rather than synthetic fabrics. When having a celebration we can use eco-friendly decorations instead of plastic balloons.

If this has you wanting to know more ideas [THIS WEBSITE](#) has 100 steps to a plastic-free life. Also check out earthday.org for more information and a quiz to calculate your plastic footprint.

The Joint Ecological Team (JET) meets as needed to plan educational events, bike to work day, volunteer opportunities, and advocacy. If you have any suggestions for future Eco-Tips, please email them to [Amanda](#) in the office. Our next meeting is **Tuesday, April 28 at 5:30 pm**. Be sure to check out the JET table and bulletin board in the NW corner of the Fellowship Hall!

Annual Colorado Science & Engineering Fair (CSEF)!

Education, Creativity and Competition are the three themes of the CSEF which takes place once again at Colorado State University from **April 9-11, 2026**. Why is this so important? This event is an opportunity for students from grades 6-12 throughout Colorado to do research resulting in a display to showcase their project as well as compete for scholarships. Details including Schedule can be found [HERE](#).

This fair is a wonderful experience for these students and is very worthy of our support! Support can include attending a public viewing of the exhibits, volunteering, judging and/or financial contributions. The Joint Ecological Team of the 301 Faith Partners urges you to help fund scholarships that specifically involve reduction of greenhouse gas emissions. Be sure to make out the check to the "Colorado Science and Engineering Fair" and note "CO2 Scholarship/301FP" in the check memo line for receipt of checks by April 1 and mail to: Ms. Courtney Gooding, Colorado Science and Engineering Fair, PO Box 772, Wellington, CO 80549

APRIL 2026

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY
5 Easter Sunday 10:30 am Worship 11:30 am Brunch	6 Office Closed 9:30am Trinity Readers 12 pm Sermon Discussion 6:30 pm Male Spirituality	7 7:30 am Men's Breakfast 6:15 pm FP SEJ
12 9 am Education for All 10:30 am Worship 11:30 am Fellowship	13 12 pm Sermon Discussion 6 pm Property 6:30 pm Male Spirituality	14 4:30 pm Birdhouse Bldg 6:30 pm Executive
19 9 am Education for All 10:30 am Worship 11:30 am Fellowship 11:45 am Faith Form	20 12 pm Sermon Discussion 5:30 pm Pub Theology 5:30 pm Trust 6:30 pm Male Spirituality	21 6:30 pm Council
26 9 am Education for All 10:30 am Worship 11:30 am Fellowship	27 12 pm Sermon Discussion 6:30 pm Male Spirituality	28 5:30 pm FP Eco Justice

ASSISTING IN WORSHIP

April 4/5 / Delores Wisner
April 11/12 / Anastasia Reiten
April 18/19 / Lindsay Reiten
April 25/26 / Rick Aust

WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 5:15 pm Bells 6:30 pm Choir 6:30 pm Tenebrae	2 Maundy Thursday 9:30 am Bible Study 3 pm Spanish Beg. 4 pm Spanish Intermed 6:30 pm MT Service	3 Good Friday 10 am Quilting 11 am Stations of the Cross 6:30 pm GF Service	4 Easter Saturday 5 pm Easter Worship 5:45 pm Fellowship
8 5:15 pm Bells 6:30 pm Choir	9 9:30 am Bible Study 11 am FP Clergy Mtg 3:30 pm FP Get Together 5 pm Finance 6:15 pm FP Co-Op Mtg	10 10 am Quilting 6:30 pm TGIF	11 12 pm Sweet Treats 5 pm Worship 5:45 pm Fellowship
15 5:15 pm Bells 6:30 pm Choir	16 9:30 am Bible Study	17 10 am Quilting	18 5 pm Worship 5:45 pm Fellowship
22 5:15 pm Bells 6:30 pm Choir	23 9:30 am Bible Study 3 pm Spanish Beg. 4 pm Spanish Intermed 7 pm Immigration	24 10 am Quilting	25 10 am Habitat Clothing Drive 5 pm Worship 5:45 pm Fellowship
29 5:15 pm Bells 6:30 pm Choir	30 9:30 am Bible Study 3 pm Spanish Beg. 4 pm Spanish Intermed 6 pm Chap 2 Readers		

**Pull Me OUT! HANG ME up!!
 PUT ME ON YOUR FRIDGE!**

Small Groups

Sermon Discussion Enjoy a discussion of the weekend sermon to share where we see God present in our lives. Join us most **Mondays at 12 pm** in Fireside Rm.

Male Spirituality Carrying on the work of Fr Richard Rohr and Illuman we will utilize the power of ritual, image, and story to expand the depth and breadth of love in ourselves to make a difference in the world, using a circle of structured sharing. Join us **Mondays at 6:30 pm** in Room 5.

Bible Study meets **Thursdays from 9:30-11 am** in Room 2. We are continuing our journey through Romans.

301 Quilters meets **Fridays from 10 am-12 pm** in Room 2. If you'd like to join us, please come!!; NO experience needed, NO need to have been coming last year, NO worries. We're a fun and caring small group that has a purpose of aiding those in need.

Trinity Readers will meet on **Monday, April 6 at 9:30 am** in the Fireside Rm to discuss *On Freedom* by Timothy Snyder, a historian who speaks five languages and reads ten. The focus is on Central/Eastern Europe and the Holocaust. Much of what was written was during the war in Ukraine where he traveled frequently. The author argues that true freedom is not simply the absence of barriers, but the positive presence of conditions and capabilities. Five forms of freedom named are: sovereignty, unpredictability, mobility, factuality, and solidarity. Questions, call Cheryl Smith at 970-218-5750.

Men's Breakfast All men are welcome to join at the Breakfast Club (Ft. Collins) for discussion and fellowship on the **1st Tuesday (April 7) at 7:30 am**.

301 FP Get-Togethers take place the **2nd Thursday (April 9) at 3:30 pm**. The location is picked closer to the date, so watch the e-News for details. All gatherings are informal and no RSVP needed.

TGIF (One Friday a month at 6:30 pm) - Note, Hosts can opt for a Friday of the month that works for them. Come, kick back, relax, and enjoy an evening connecting with others from the Trinity family and meet new faces! Bring yourself, an appetizer/dessert and a beverage you'd like to share. If you have questions and or would like to sign up to host, contact [Liz Johnson](#) or 402-320-3699. **Friday, April 10: Rebecca Roland**. An RSVP to the host is appreciated but not necessary to attend.

Birdhouses Join us on the **2nd Tuesday (April 14) at 4:30 pm** in Room 2 to build and decorate bird houses and feeders to raise funds for Habitat for Humanity. Ages 8 and up invited!

Pub Theology V.3 will meet **Thursday, April 22 at 5:30 pm** at **Odell Brewing Company**. We will explore a variety of texts and discuss how we live out our relationship with God and support each other along the way.

Chapter Two Book Group is an open small group for 301 Faith Partners and the wider community, new participants are always welcome to join the casual discussion. No long-term commitment required! If you have trouble finding any of the books and would like Trinity to order a copy for the library, please let [Maddie Fairfax](#) know at any time. **Thursday, April 30 at 6 pm** to discuss *My Friends* by Fredrik Backman **May 28** to discuss *Small Things Like These* by Claire Keegan

Prayer Cards This group meets to make homemade greeting cards **Saturday, May 2**. No crafting skills needed, just a willing heart to serve others. Open Invitation to come when you are able BUT an RSVP to [Erik Elliott](#) is needed for supplies.

Small Groups cont ...

Little Pantry On behalf of The Little Pantry, we wish to express our deepest appreciation to all who supported this year's Lenten Food Drive. The overwhelming generosity of our contributors — including monetary donations from the 301 Faith Partners community ensures that our pantry remains stocked and ready to serve those who depend on it as we move into spring and summer. Your kindness has a direct and meaningful impact and every item that was donated is truly valued. The Little Pantry Small Group

Palestinian Cultural Festival

Save the Date: Saturday, April 18 from 8am-4pm at TLC

Join with your friends and neighbors for a joyful, family-friendly celebration of the ancient and modern cultural treasures of Palestine! Taste traditional culinary treats, learn about the rich history of Palestine and the challenges Palestinians are facing, hear their music, share in their dance, even explore a Bedouin tent and mini-museum featuring authentic artifacts and heritage clothing. FREE ADMISSION. LUNCH PROVIDED.

Social networking

Social networking is just a fancy term for staying connected with people online - like modern pen pals, but faster and often with pictures! Think of it like the bulletin board at church or the chatter after coffee hour, JUST digital!

So why does Trinity want you to share our Facebook posts?!? Having people share posts is crucial for increasing our visibility and reach, ultimately boosting engagement and awareness. When someone shares our content, their friends see it in their newsfeed, exposing our message to a wider audience that might not otherwise see our posts. This expanded reach can lead to more likes, comments, and clicks, potentially driving traffic to our church, events/activities, and website. Help us spread our reach by liking and following Trinity's Facebook page [HERE!](#)

e-News

Are you getting Trinity's e-News? The e-News is an electronic way TLC shares what is happening in the life of our church. Each week, an email is sent out with the weekend's happenings, upcoming events, and news to share. We also use this method to inform members of funerals and other time sensitive news. If you would like to receive Trinity's emails, please email [Amanda](#).

TLC 2026 Ministry Fund Plan Actuals

	February 2026	Year to date
Receipts:		
Offerings	\$ 31,691	\$ 59,695
SPE and MoM Building Use Donations	4,901	9,802
Building Use	2,001	3,889
Benevity Funds Released	-	800
Total Receipts:	38,593	74,186
Expenditures:		
Operating and Support	\$ 29,781	\$ 59,874
Ministries	13,299	23,204
Benevolence/Gifts (Synod, Sky Ranch, etc)	-	.
Total Expenditures:	43,080	83,078
Receipts less Expenditures:	\$ (4,487)	\$ (8,892)
Total Checking/Savings as of 2/28/2026		\$ 210,601.03
Total Checking/Savings as of 12/31/2025		\$ 245,195.80
Difference		\$ (34,594.77)



Birthdays



Patti Smith	4/2	Jeff Fairfax	4/9	Barb Klaman	4/21
Eric Jurgenson	4/3	Peter Mullarkey	4/9	Barbara Lambert	4/22
Marilyn Bycroft	4/4	Pollyann Sersen	4/10	Jessica Lipscomb	4/22
Karolyn Kufeld	4/4	Patty Telleen	4/12	Colton Hopkins	4/23
Rose Zubradt	4/7	Stephen Zink	4/16	Howard Nornes	4/27
Walter Hansen	4/8	Liz Johnson	4/19	Hope Wolf	4/30



Anniversaries



Doris & Jimmie Schwartz	4/2	Bonnie & Rod McKenrick	4/18
Lori & Karl Schmidt	4/16	Ken & Michele Christensen	4/29

Graduate Recognition

Join us in May to bless our graduates. We will celebrate this milestone in worship as we surround our graduates with support and prayer. If you have a graduate, please email [Amanda](#) their name, picture, where they are graduating from, along with a very BRIEF statement of what they will be doing in the future, before **Sunday, May 10!!**

Ways to Give at Trinity

Become a Realm giver! Call the office to get an invite to REALM, our new giving platform. In Realm you can donate from a checking account, savings account or your credit card. Donations can be done weekly, monthly, or annually. Also, you can look at the history of your giving and even print a statement for your taxes. Check it out!

For **One-Time Donations** go to www.trinitylutheranfc.org and click on “Give” at the top of the webpage. Find One-time Donation and follow the prompts from there. Again, you can have the donation come from a checking account, savings account or your credit card.

Are **charitable rollovers** an option for you? If you are required to take a minimum distribution from your IRA, you might be able have the check payable to Trinity, and not pay taxes on the distribution (please check with your tax advisor, or financial institution). The same applies if you have a charitable donor advised fund. Check with your financial institution on the frequency that works best for you.

Does your bank offer their customers a **bill paying option**? You can check with your bank about this. Some banks do not charge for this convenience. Have **automatic deductions** from your checking or savings account, done weekly, bi-monthly, or monthly.

Have the Venmo app? Trinity is also on Venmo! We are “Trinity-LutheranFC”.

Use Regular Offering **Envelopes**-either brought to worship or mailed in.

Thank you for taking a moment to consider these options. Please feel free to call the office if you have any questions or need help; 970-482-1226 or email bmoore@trinitylutheranfc.org.



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