



The Parish Messenger February 2024

Mission Statement

We are a Christian community rooted in God's love growing in Christ through reaching out and serving.

CHURCHES

Georgetown Lutheran
PO Box 86
Balsam Lake, WI 54810
Office: 715.857.5580

Trinity Lutheran
2532-15th Street
Cumberland, WI 54829
715.822.3001

PASTOR

Diane Norstad
715-501-4129 (cell)
715-268-5706 (home)
revdianenorstad@yahoo.com

WORSHIP TIMES

Georgetown
Worship 10:45 AM

Trinity
Worship 8:45 AM

SUNDAY SCHOOL TIMES

Georgetown
9:15 AM (Sept-May)

Trinity
10:00 AM (Sept-May)

OFFICE HOURS

Mondays 9:00 AM- 3:00 PM

Parish Lenten Service Schedule

Wednesday, February 14

Ash Wednesday
Georgetown
6:30 PM

Wednesday, February 21

Lenten Service
Trinity
Lenten Dinner 5:30 PM – 6:30 PM
Worship Service 6:30 PM – 7:00 PM

Wednesday, February 28

Lenten Service
Georgetown
Lenten Dinner 5:30 PM – 6:30 PM
Worship Service 6:30 PM – 7:00 PM

What Do You Mean That's in My Bible?

Unusual, strange, shocking.... That describes the lent scripture series for this Lent. We have stories about a fire that doesn't burn, a talking donkey, Moses' sister, a prostitute saving God's people and an ancient woman general. We'll explore these stories and how God works in mysterious ways through skits and worship this season. Humor and fun are at the forefront as we delve into those scriptures that didn't make it into the Sunday morning readings. See you there!



UPCOMING ACTIVITIES



Souper Bowl Sunday



Soup Bowl Cook -Off Fundraiser

Sunday, February 4, 2024

Noon – 1:00 pm

Georgetown Lutheran Church

Competitors: Provide and serve a crockpot of homemade soup for tasting. (No entry fee for competitors)

Entrance for Soup Tasters is \$10.

Bring a donation of canned soup or crackers for Loaves and Fishes and get in for \$8. Enjoy the soups made by the competitors, and bid on your favorites.

Extra Votes: \$1 each OR 1 bid per each item donated

Winner will be announced at 1:00PM.

Winner will have bragging rights for 1 year, a trophy, and 50% of event proceeds to their favorite Non-Profit Organization. (50% goes to the Georgetown Lutheran Church General Fund)

Soup Competitors: Sign up by contacting Gretchen Frenedt at frenedt4@gmail.com or calling 715-475-9453. Please have your designated Non-Profit ready at sign-up.

FEBRUARY 2024 CALENDAR

Date	Time	Meeting/Activity
Sunday, 2/4	8:45 AM	Sunday Service - Trinity
	10:45 AM	Sunday Service - Georgetown
	12:00-1:00 PM	Souper Bowl Sunday Soup Bowl Cook Off - Georgetown
Monday, 2/5	9:30 AM	Bible Study - Georgetown
	7:00 PM	Bible Study - Trinity
Thursday, 2/8	6:30 PM	Council Meeting - Georgetown
Sunday, 2/11	8:45 AM	Sunday Service - Trinity
	10:45 AM	Sunday Service - Georgetown
Monday, 2/12	9:30 AM	Bible Study - Georgetown
	7:00 PM	Bible Study - Trinity
Tuesday, 2/13	6:30 PM	Council Meeting - Trinity
Wednesday, 2/14	6:30 PM	Ash Wednesday Service - Georgetown
Sunday, 2/18	8:45 AM	Sunday Service - Trinity
	10:45 AM	Sunday Service - Georgetown
Monday, 2/19	9:30 AM	Bible Study - Georgetown
	7:00 PM	Bible Study - Trinity
Wednesday, 2/21	5:30-7:00 PM	Lenten Service - Trinity
Sunday, 2/25	8:45 AM	Sunday Service - Trinity
	10:45 AM	Sunday Service - Georgetown
Monday, 2/26	9:30 AM	Bible Study - Georgetown
	7:00 PM	Bible Study - Trinity
Wednesday, 2/28	5:30-7:00 PM	Lenten Service - Georgetown




February 5	Gene Palas (GT)
February 6	Cash Rouzer (T)
February 7	Will Bergmann (GT) Emily Jones (T)
February 9	Melinda Hansen (GT)
February 12	Robin Denver (T)
February 17	Pete Mangelsen (GT) Hunter Sellent (*) (T)
February 20	Lillian Otto (GT)
February 23	Sherry Doornink (GT) Shelly Hermansen (GT)
February 26	Larry Veenendall (GT)
February 29	Janice Jensen (GT)

Trinity Lutheran Church Mission of the Quarter


Building two new solar-powered deep drilled borehole wells
Memorial to Bishop Bob Berg

BISHOP'S INITIATIVE

WATER IS LIFE



WELL PROJECT
With the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Malawi



Malawi's population is 18.6 million. More than 50% of the population is under 18 years old.




65% of rural areas have access to clean water services.

1 in 3 people don't have clean water to drink.



Thousands of children die each year due to water-borne illnesses. This worsens after natural disasters.





73% of health care centers don't have access to sanitation facilities.

Access to clean water increases safety and education for women and girls.




Deep-drilled wells can provide clean water for thousands of people in a single area.





Solar well designs can withstand more effects of climate change & extreme weather disasters.

GOAL:
\$25,000 raised by Synod Assembly - June 7-8, 2024.




PROJECT:
Assist ELCM in building two new solar powered deep drilled wells.




Gifts for this initiative can be given via check, online, or on the synod app.

Northwest Synod of Wisconsin
"Bishop's Initiative - Water is Life"
944 24 1/4 Street Suite 2
Chetek, WI 54728



Northwest Synod of Wisconsin
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America



COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Loaves & Fishes Monthly Report

Open Tues. & Thurs. 11 am-1:00pm
 Lions Hall, 300 W. 3rd Ave. Luck, WI
 P.O. Box 554 Luck, WI 54853



December 2023

# Households served	40	Luck 30
Adults:	68	Unity 11
Children:	20	
Total people:	88	
Donations: Money: \$5,007		

(Below includes TEFAP, purchased food, donations)
 Weight of food coming in: # 2,680
 Weight of food going out: # 2,432.50
 Volunteer hours: 66 hours

Needs for next month: milk, mayonnaise, sugar 4# size, bar soap, dish and laundry soap. Personal products, men & women.

We are currently operating with two interim food shelf coordinators. We would like to get a full time coordinator. We will train people who are interested. We can always use more volunteer workers.

If interested, please contact Pam Girtz 320-232-7541 email: girtzp@gmail.com

January Shelter needs
 CRA provides shelter & services to survivors & their families who have experienced domestic/sexual violence. CRA's services are free & confidential. CRA provides services to all people who are in need, regardless of their ethnicity, nationality, gender, race, religion, age or orientation.

<u>Pantry:</u>	<u>Miscellaneous</u>
Garbage Bags	All size Batteries
Liquid Laundry Soap	Tampons
Paper Towels	Body Wash
Window Cleaner	All size Winter Boots
Deodorant, women & men	
Kleenex	
Cling Wrap	
Aluminum Foil	
Gallon Ziplocs	
Toilet Bowl Cleaner	
Dryer Sheets	
Hand Soap	
All Purpose Cleaner	

Looking or WalMart gift cards for clients to purchase warm boots for their families. Gift cards make it easier to get the perfect sizes!

Community Referral Agency (CRA)

CRA provides shelter & services to survivors and their families who have experienced domestic/sexual violence. CRA's services are free and confidential. CRA provides services to all people who are in need, regardless of their ethnicity, nationality, gender, race, religion, age or orientation.

Please give if you can!



Dear Coworkers in Christ;

We're barely into a new year and we often focus on what the future will bring us. I'd thought about asking you where you think the new year will lead you but the problem with that is that we often haven't a clue. Let's face it, God's in charge and not us. That's okay. God is faithful and will always see us through. I like the way that the hymn "Borning Cry," puts things in verse three:

In the middle ages of your life not too old, no longer young,
I'll be there to guide you through the night, complete what I've begun
When the evening gently closes in and you shut your weary eyes
I'll be there as I have always been, with just one more surprise.

God has wonderful ministry here at Georgetown and Trinity and will indeed complete what God's begun. Sadly, for us very human followers of God, we don't get the details of what God's going to be doing with and through us here in 2024. So what do we do with that? I suggest that we greet this year with open hearts. We don't need to worry whether or not God will provide for us. We know that God will for that's what the scriptures tell us.

Luke 12:22-32 "He said to his disciples, "Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat, or about your body, what you will wear. For life is more than food, and the body more than clothing. Consider the ravens: they neither sow nor reap, they have neither storehouse nor barn, and yet God feeds them. Of how much more value are you than the birds! And can any of you by worrying add a single hour to your span of life? If then you are not able to do so small a thing as that, why do you worry about the rest? Consider the lilies, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin; yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these. But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, how much more will he clothe you—you of little faith! And do not keep striving for what you are to eat and what you are to drink, and do not keep worrying. For it is the nations of the world that strive after all these things, and your Father knows that you need them. Instead, strive for his kingdom, and these things will be given to you as well. "Do not be afraid, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom. "

Wow, what a different perspective than the world around us! What a neat opportunity to look at the world around us through God's eyes and not our own.

This year we have much to do. There is need all around us and we have the Gospel of Jesus Christ to share with others in both word and deed. We have all we need to continue to grow in both numbers and in spirit. We have all we need to make a positive difference in people's lives. We have all we need to be a loving, caring and supportive family and place of worship.

I believe in this parish. Let's have a great year being church and sharing God's word.

Peace and Joy, Pastor Diane Norstad

NEWS FROM OUR COUNCILS

Trinity Lutheran Church Council Meeting Minutes 01/09/2024

Present: Mandy Rouzer, Steve Anderson, Rick Sellent, Lacy Sellent, Shane Beecroft, Deedra Wagner, Kathy Grenquist, Pastor Diane Norstad

Missing:

Shane opened the meeting at 6:35 p.m.

Secretary's Report: Minutes were read from 11/14 and 12/13/23 meetings. Steve Anderson motion to approve, Rick Sellent 2nd, all approved.

Income: \$8648.37

Expense: \$5700.49

Net Total: \$2947.88

TLC Checking has \$10150.07

TLC Savings has \$640.10

MI Fund has \$13291.32

CD has \$ 15189.23

Endowment Fund Savings has \$241.39

We still owe \$894.54 to replenish the general fund for the shed building.

Steven Anderson made a motion, Deedra Wagner 2nd, all approved.

Pastor's Report: Everything is going really well right now. No baptisms or weddings, 8 confirmations, a couple of funerals and 11 new members added at Trinity in 2023. Pastor was contacted by someone that is 71 and wants to be baptized. That will take place on the 21st. Lent will be every Wednesday and will rotate between Trinity and Georgetown.

Youth Report: None at this time.

Old Business:

Water Nitrates - water was at 1.2 instead of over 10. One hose outside wasn't getting treated, so that has to be labeled, which the DNR labeled, and he locked the bypass valve, so water has to go through the bypass.

Lighted Cross - haven't found an electrician yet, have tried 5.

Updates to Fundraising for shed - Debbie is thinking of having a garage sale this spring to put towards the shed.

Website Updates - Christine has the website figured out, now. 😊 Policies/Building Use, booklets are in the kitchen, library and safe.

New Business:

Furnace Issues - Maxwell came out and said our heat exchanger was nearing the end of its life. Also needed exhaust fan. Both are getting replaced, heat exchange is under warranty, but we'll have to pay labor.

Quarterly Mission - last two have been Lutheran World Relief and Interfaith Caregivers. For the 1st Quarter of the year a mission that Rev. Bob Berg supported was brought up, and monies would go in his name/honor. It's called Water Is Life. Shane Beecroft made a motion, Rick Sellent 2nd, all approved.

Synod Assembly - June 7th and 8th at UW-Eau Claire.

Treasurer - We are in need of a new Treasurer for the church. Please contact a council member if interested. Kathy will be able to train you! 😊

Audit of Financial Books - need to find 2 people to audit the books. We will look this Sunday.

Nominating Committee - Rick Sellent, Shane Beecroft and Mandy Rouzer are outgoing council members. Need to find 3 people willing to join. If interested in joining, please see a current council member.

Sunday School Room Update - Ladies' group is asking to take a small section of the double Sunday School room to turn into storage for missions, quilts, etc. Deedra will get quotes.

Lenten/Holy Week Services - Ash Wednesday at Georgetown at 6:30 p.m, March 28th Maundy Thursday at Georgetown at 6:30 p.m., Good Friday at Georgetown at 6:30 p.m. We will have service every other Wednesday, opposite of Georgetown with food at 5:30 p.m., service after for Lent. Easter Service at each church at normal times.

Motion made by Steven Anderson to adjourn the meeting. Second by Mandy Rouzer. Closed with the Lord's Prayer. Meeting adjourned at 8:00 pm.

Next Council Meeting February 13 at 6:30 p.m., tentatively depending on what the new council decides.

Respectfully, Mandy Rouzer

Georgetown Church Council Meeting Minutes
January 11, 2024

Members Present: Sherry Doornink, Bruce Peper, Judy Gammel, Nicole Norlund, Keith Ward, Roberta Hansen, Treasurer.

Members Absent: Felicia Braastad, Ryan Braastad, Dale Jensen, Stephanie Fansler, Pastor Diane Norstad.

The meeting was called to order by Council President, Keith Ward.

Prayer and Devotions: Keith commented on how we pray and acknowledged that we often pray silently. He encouraged members to pray “out loud”.

Secretary’s Report: Minutes from the December meeting were read and accepted.

Treasurer’s Report: Members reviewed the Treasurer’s Report passed out by Roberta Hansen. Opening balance on December 1, 2023 was \$20,864.50. After income and expenses, the balance was \$21,184.40 as of December 31, 2023. Based on the proposed income and expenses for the 2023 Annual Budget, we are currently behind \$5,951.50 in the budgeted offerings. Treasurer’s Report approved.

Pastor’s Report, Calendar, and Family/Visitor Update: Pastor submitted a list of activities that took place throughout the year.

Council Member Reports:

Elders: The Elders continue to work on paperwork.

Deacons: Nicole ordered a bible for a new Sunday School attendee.

Trustees: The hot water faucet in the kitchen needs a replacement rubber so it doesn’t leak. The light on the deck doesn’t work and the sliding doors in the entry way need some work.

Old Business:

1. Water improvement grant application. No action as the nitrates in our water have not increased.
2. Update regarding the Parsonage and Call Committee. No update on the Parsonage. The Call Committee is reviewing the 30 responses currently received to the questionnaire mailed out to Church members, asking for input into the selection of a new pastor. Over 100 surveys were mailed out and the Committee is attempting to get more responses. We need to have a survey ready for the Congregation at the Annual Meeting in January.
3. Nomination Committee Report. The Committee contacted a number of Church members to consider serving on the Church Council. At this time, it appears that Dennis Weise and Tim Frenndt will consider being nominated.
4. Janitorial service. Sherry contacted several companies that might be interested in providing janitorial services to the Church. She received some information about their charges and the work they do. Further discussion needs to take place with the Congregation about how to

keep our facility clean without over burdening Church members. The Shepherding groups also need to be involved in this discussion.

New Business:

1. Building Use Requests: No new requests at this time.
2. Annual Meeting plan. Sherry reviewed the agenda for the Annual Meeting scheduled for January 21. We discussed the line items for the proposed Annual budget for 2024 that will be presented to the Congregation. We were reminded that we will have a Pot Luck after the meeting.

Open Discussion:

Discussion took place regarding future fund raisers that might include a pancake supper and our annual “Souper Bowl” which would possibly be scheduled for February 4, 2024.

Meeting adjourned and closed with the Lord’s Prayer.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Judy Gammel

The next Georgetown Church Council Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, February 8, 2024 at 6:30 pm.

	<u>Dec-23</u>		<u>YEAR TO DATE</u>
INCOME	\$7,350.00		\$79,346.00
EXPENSE	\$7,148.10		\$73,332.15
DIFFERENCE	\$201.90		\$6,013.85

FEBRUARY BRAIN TEASERS



Valentine's Day Complete The Words

The first and last letters of these Valentine's Day words have been removed.
Fill in the blank spaces to complete the words.

1. __urpl__	2. __lower__
3. __uddl__	4. __ov__
5. __oetr__	6. __omanti__
7. __and__	8. __isse__
9. __ear__	10. __ulip__
11. __espec__	12. __wee__
13. __riendshi__	14. __upi__
15. __e__	16. __ouque__
17. __alentin__	18. __alloon__
19. __in__	20. __nge__
21. __uggin__	22. __ar__

The Puzzle Tree - <http://www.teacherspayteachers.com/store/ThePuzzleTree>

SUDOKU CHALLENGE - give it your best shot!

				2	1	5	7	
3						1		
		7	4	8			6	
	4	1				6		
					4		8	
6	3		1	5				