



The Parish Messenger April 2025

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 10:30 AM

Trinity
Worship 8:45 AM

SUNDAY SCHOOL TIMES

Georgetown
9:15 AM (Sept-May)

Trinity
10:00 AM (Sept-May)

OFFICE HOURS

Mondays 10:00 AM- 3:00 PM

Parish Lenten Service Schedule

Wednesday, April 2

Lenten Service – Trinity
Dinner 5:30 PM, Worship 6:30 PM

Wednesday, April 9

Lenten Service – Georgetown
Dinner 5:30 PM, Worship 6:30 PM

Maundy Thursday, April 17

Georgetown - Worship 6:30 PM

Good Friday, April 18

Trinity – Worship 6:30 PM



Parish Easter Worship Service Schedule

Sunday, April 20
Trinity - Worship 8:45 AM
Georgetown – Worship 10:30 AM

APRIL 2025 CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Date	Time	Meeting/Activity
Wednesday, April 2	5:30 PM	Lenten Service – Trinity 5:30 dinner; 6:30 worship
Sunday, April 6	8:45 AM	Worship Service – Trinity
	9:15 AM	Sunday school – Georgetown
	10:00 AM	Sunday school – Trinity
	10:30 AM	Worship Service - Georgetown
	11:45 AM	Council Meeting - Georgetown
Monday, April 7	4:00 PM	Crochet/Knit Group - Georgetown
	9:30 AM	Bible Study – Georgetown
	7:00 PM	Bible Study – Trinity
Tuesday, April 8	6:00 PM	Joint Council Meeting @ Trinity
Wednesday, April 9	5:30 PM	Lenten Services – Georgetown 5:30 dinner; 6:30 worship
Saturday, April 12	8:00 AM	Women of the ELCA Spring Meeting Our Saviors Lutheran Church - Amery
Sunday, April 13	8:45 AM	Worship Service – Trinity
	9:15 AM	Sunday school – Georgetown
	10:00 AM	Sunday school – Trinity
	10:30 AM	Worship Service – Georgetown
Monday, April 14	9:30 AM	Bible Study – Georgetown
	7:00 PM	Bible Study – Trinity
Thursday, April 17	6:30 PM	Maundy Thursday Worship - Georgetown
Friday, April 18	6:30 PM	Good Friday Worship - Trinity
Sunday, April 20	8:45 AM	Easter Worship Service – Trinity
	9:15 AM	Sunday school – Georgetown
	10:00 AM	Sunday school – Trinity
	10:00	Easter Egg Hunt - Trinity
	10:30 AM	Easter Worship Service – Georgetown
Monday, April 21	9:30 AM	Bible Study – Georgetown
	7:00 PM	Bible Study – Trinity
Wednesday, April 23	NO CLASS	Confirmation
Sunday, April 27	8:45 AM	Worship Service – Trinity
	9:15 AM	Sunday school – Georgetown
	10:00 AM	Sunday school – Trinity
	10:30 AM	Worship Service – Georgetown
Monday, April 28	9:30 AM	Bible Study - Georgetown
	7:00 PM	Bible Study – Trinity
Wednesday, April 30	6:30 PM	Confirmation - Trinity



Trinity Easter Egg Hunt will take place on Sunday, April 20 at 10:00 AM. There will be a box in the fellowship area to collect individually wrapped candies, stickers, small prizes, etc., to be put into the plastic eggs. Eggs will be assembled following the Palm Sunday service on April 13.

EASTER MESSAGE FROM BISHOP MARTIN



I can still remember the pound of my heart to this day. It was Good Friday in the year 1995. I was working at Lutherdale Bible Camp as a year-round staff and my task that day was to dismantle the several hundred foot zipline. It was a warm spring day, but I still experienced the wind that caused the tree that I was attached to sway far more than I wanted it to. The tree itself was dying and thus it could no longer serve as the anchor of the zipline where the platform was. It was on that platform where youth and staff alike would find themselves transferring the rabbit ears attached to their harness to the zipline that would lead to the ensuing rush of emotions. As I stood on that platform, connected to a couple of tree staples with my own rabbit ears, I loosened the hardware that secured the zipline cable to the tree, bolt by bolt. It was quite a surreal experience.

As I loosened the final bolt, that cable released about a foot away from my face, causing my heart to beat in a way it has never beaten before or since. The sound haunted me for those few seconds as the cable fell to the ground about 40 feet below. Once I collected myself, all I could think about was how appropriate it was to watch the death of the zipline on Good Friday. That element was always the climax on the high ropes course. It was the final adventure for countless youth as they experienced the challenges of that course. Just step off the platform, trust, and fly!

I was saddened to see that zipline fall. But then I was overjoyed to see it rebuilt in a new and more secure location! It reminds me of that great Easter spiritual that states, "It's Friday, but Sunday's coming." It's the reminder that we call it Good Friday only because as Christian believers, we know that Easter is coming. Without Easter Sunday, Friday would have been even more devastating as it already was. Jesus' followers were lost, confused, and in deep sorrow. Those emotions resulted from the trauma that they were experiencing. But Easter reversed the pain of that trauma and turned it into a joyous chorus of "Alleluias" where we can now see God's almighty power being revealed! We can see how God has power over death itself and not just for Jesus. God's power to give life to all believers in all times and in all places through the death and resurrection of Jesus is what brings us joy, hope, comfort, and faith itself! God's power to renew our lives each and every day through the gift of forgiveness cannot be understated. God's desire to heal our broken relationship because of our sinfulness indicates the depth of that love, knowing that God so desperately desires to be with us forever.

That old zipline was a source of joy for so many people. But when contrasted with the joy we can experience daily, it simply pales in comparison. Friends, live into that joy of the resurrection. Remember the gift that Jesus embodies that is truly the greatest gift we've ever had - the gift of God's unconditional love. Despite the various losses that we grieve each year, some that appear to be quite unbearable at the time, remember the gift of Jesus. We are a resurrection church. We are a forgiven and forgiving people. And we bask in the glory of God's amazing grace.

Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Bishop Martin

UPCOMING EVENTS



**Crochet/Knit Group
Georgetown Lutheran Church
Sunday, April 6 @ 4:00 PM**

Bring a current project you are working on to share with the group, come to learn, or just come to visit and maybe learn a new hobby!

**WELCA Quilting
Georgetown Lutheran Church**

*Quilting will pause for the summer!
If a day is held, it will be announced.*

Thank you to everyone who participated!



SAVE A LIFE



GIVE BLOOD

**Red Cross Blood Drive
Georgetown Lutheran Church
Monday, January 13, 12:00 PM – 6:00 PM**

Please call 1-800-RED CROSS

or

visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter
Balsam Lake WI to schedule an appointment.



GARAGE SALE

Georgetown Lutheran Church

887 190th Ave, CTH G, Balsam Lake (Fox Creek)

Thursday, May 1, 2025 – 4 pm – 6 pm

Friday, May 2, 2025 – 8 am to 5 pm

Saturday, May 3, 2025 – 8 am to Noon

There is something here for everyone!

All proceeds from the garage sale benefit the
Georgetown Lutheran Church winter fuel fund and mission projects

WOMEN OF THE ELCA SPRING MEETING

Spring into Life 2025

TO: Women of ELCA

DATE: Saturday, April 12, 2025

PLACE: Our Savior's Lutheran Church **REGISTRATION & COFFEE:** 8:00 AM
217 Deronda Street **PROGRAM:** 9:00 AM
Amery, WI 54001 **LUNCH:** Noon

THEME: Love Mercy

THEME VERSE: "He Has shown you, O Man, what is good. And what does the Lord require of you? To act justly, and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with your God."
Micah 6:8

Our guest speaker will be Gail Lando. Gail will speak on Racial Justice and the Trail of Tears. Gail is a member of Faith Lutheran Church in Grantsburg, Wisconsin, a retired ESL teacher, a mother of a multiracial family and was involved in refugee resettlement in her former congregation. In 2013 she was invited to attend the WELCA Anti-Racist Seminar in Kansas City. Soon after, she became a part of a team of anti-racists educators for Northwest Synod of Wisconsin.

Please join your "WELCA sisters" for an enjoyable morning! We look forward to seeing you on April 12th!

APPLE RIVER CONFERENCE BOARD

Spring Into Life Registration Form Due: April 5, 2025

Congregation (Unit): _____

Names of those attending: _____

Registration and lunch are \$15.00 per person. Please clip the bottom portion of this form and mail with a check payable to "Women of the ELCA" to Nancy Priebe, 2881 140th Street, Frederic, WI 54837. (715) 645-0947.

LETS CELEBRATE



April 1	Doris Gaetz (GT)
April 10	Sara Sellent (T)(*)
April 12	Diane Veenendall (GT) Marge Filkins (GT)
April 13	Steve Kelch (T)
April 15	Ryan Braastad (GT)
April 17	Lacy Sellent (T) Jeremylee Stacy (T)(*)
April 19	Cash Rouzer (T)(*)
April 21	Jody Binfet (GT)
April 22	Ben Anderson (T)
April 23	LeAnn Jensen (GT) Jean Ebert (GT)
April 24	Bridgett Bergmann (GT) Jim Glenna (GT)
April 25	Dennis Anderson (T) Tom Weaver (T)
April 28	Chelsey Jensen (GT)
April 29	Dorothy Lauritsen (GT)
April 30	Cecilia Renstrom (T)

If we are missing your birthday and/or baptism (*) and you would like it included, please send to church email.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Loaves & Fishes Monthly Report

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

February 2025

Households served: 31 Luck: 19
Adults: 58 Unity: 12
Children: 13
Total people: 71

Donations: Money: \$5,828
(Below includes TEFAP, purchased food, donations)
Weight of food coming in: 1,346#
Weight of food going out: 1,624#
Volunteer hours: 57 hours

Needs for next month: eggs, mayonnaise, sugar, macaroni.

We can always use more volunteers.

Contact Pam Girtz: 320-232-7541 or girtzp@gmail.com

Gena Bugno: nobug115@yahoo.com



COMMUNITY OUTREACH

WAYS TO GET INVOLVED

DONATE

Help support our program by becoming a donor

- Give locally
- Give monthly
- Give a gift in honor or in memory of a loved one
- Plan ahead - name Interfaith Caregivers in your will or trust

Gifts can be mailed to:

Interfaith Caregivers of Polk County
PO Box 833
St. Croix Falls, WI 54024

or Donate online at
www.interfaithpolk.org



We are a local, 501(c)(3), non-profit organization recognized by the IRS since 1995. All gifts to Interfaith Caregivers of Polk County are tax-deductible.

IF YOU DON'T DRIVE ANYMORE
IF YOU CAN'T DO WHAT YOU USED TO DO
IF YOU FEEL LONELY AND ALONE....

INTERFAITH CAN HELP

Our volunteers provide:

TRANSPORTATION / RIDES

- To the grocery store, or food shelf
- Medical appointments
- Cancer or Dialysis treatments
- Medical specialists outside of Polk County
- The bank
- The library



RISE & SHINE



Rise & Shine is a daily check-in call service for seniors and adults with disabilities.

The program is designed for individuals who live alone or families that worry that something could happen to a loved one and no one would know. Not only does Rise & Shine provide a safety net for unplanned circumstances like a fall or illness, it also provides peace of mind.



Interfaith
Caregivers
of Polk County

WHO WE ARE

Since 1995, Interfaith Caregivers of Polk County has been coordinating volunteers who help seniors and adults with disabilities remain independent.

Our services are done by volunteers in the community, who lend a helping hand with things like rides, visits, errands, and other services.



We do not charge for services, and there are no income guidelines. We are not associated with one church or religion. Interfaith continues the rural tradition of neighbors helping neighbors.

CONTACT US 715-483-8500

Interfaith Caregivers
2000 US Hwy 8 Suite 1
PO Box 833
St. Croix Falls, WI 54024



info@interfaithpolk.org



www.interfaithpolk.org



[Facebook.com/interfaithcares](https://www.facebook.com/interfaithcares)

REV. DEC-2023



INTERFAITH
CAREGIVERS
of Polk County

Neighbors Helping Neighbors

OTHER CLIENT SERVICES

- A friendly visit or phone call just to talk, play cards, or games
- Visit a loved one in the nursing home
- Give a break to someone who takes care of a loved one 24/7
- Minor fix-its around the house
- Making a meal
- Helping with Spring & Fall yardwork
- Reading to you
- Delivering food shelf boxes or library books
- Dropping off groceries or prescription medicine
- Light housework



Interfaith
Caregivers
of Polk County

Coordinating volunteers to help seniors and adults with disabilities maintain their independence

SERVICES GUIDE

Matching caring volunteers with clients who need help with transportation and other services



715-483-8500

NO COST SERVICES FOR SENIORS 60 YEARS OR OLDER AND ADULTS WITH DISABILITIES. THERE ARE NO INCOME GUIDELINES

WAYS TO GET INVOLVED

VOLUNTEER

Volunteering is easy and rewarding!

Opportunities are flexible. You choose the dates/times you can help. You can even sign up for requests online if you prefer!



SIMPLY

- Fill out an application
- Agree to a background check
- Attend a short orientation

VOLUNTEERS DON'T HAVE TO:

- Help clients into or out of a vehicle
- Give medications
- Provide personal or hands on care
- Transport wheelchairs

Help keep the rural tradition of neighbors helping neighbors in the community.

Contact us today to get involved!

Dear Parish:

Romans 15:13

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Spring is coming soon. We are brought joy because; flowers will be coming again, the weather will be warmer, we will see family at Easter and so on. Because of this, that and the other we are brought joy. Joy, however, is not just a byproduct of what happens around us. Joy comes from relationship to the one who saved us, Jesus Christ.



I'd like to share a "savior" story of another type. This is the story of Patches the cat. One summer day a couple years ago my husband found a scrawny, injured cat crying for help by our shed. It was emaciated, dirty and one eyeball was completely collapsed. My husband Tim (who is a big softy, by the way) was moved to save this poor cat. We called a veterinarian friend who helped us stabilize her. He called every shelter he could think of and none of them would take her due to her medical condition (even those who stated on the website that they turned no animal away). He knew then that it was us or nothing. Our vet friend told us she was very close to dying when he found her.

Tim made a place for her in the shed where she'd be safe, fed her and spent many hours each day sitting with this poor sick kitty. After she was well enough, she received surgery to close up the bad eye and remove all her bad teeth. He found out she wasn't a small kitten but rather a cat over 10 years old that had been feral for years. He took great care of her and she is, this very night, running through the house like crazy. She's fat, sassy, and has learned to live with her diminished eyesight. When she looks at my Tim, you can see a crazy amount of love. Tim is her "savior" and she adores him properly.

Now, I don't mean to equate Tim to Jesus. He's great and all but he'd certainly agree that he's no Jesus. So what's my point? Joy doesn't come from what is around us. Joy comes from within our relationship to the true Savior, Jesus. Patches found joy in relationship with Tim. We find joy in relationship with Jesus.



All of us, in some way, are found to be a bit scruffy and in need of care. Jesus reaches out to us even when we're at our worst. This Lent we have taken time to look at ourselves and our relationship to Jesus. We examine our sins and faults. We are painfully aware that they are there. Jesus doesn't wait until we're all cleaned up and presentable. Jesus doesn't care what anyone else thinks of us either. Those things don't matter. Jesus loves us right where we're at. Life not going well? He still loves you. You don't feel your life is put together? Still loves you. Have others told you you're not good enough. Yup, Jesus still loves you. Jesus saves us all and Jesus finds you worth saving.

Happy Easter from Pastor Diane, Tim and Patches the cat.

NEWS FROM OUR COUNCILS

Trinity Lutheran Church Council Minutes
March 10, 2025

Members Present: Heidi Wagner, Judy Kelch, Steve Kelch, Randy Mattson, Robin Denver, Bill Anderson, Pastor Diane Norstad

Absent Member: Deedra Wagner

Meeting called to order at 5:30
Opened with Prayer

Secretary's Report: 1st Motion - Heidi, 2nd Motion - Steve Approved

Treasurer's Report: 1st Motion - Judy, 2nd Motion - Robin Approved

Feb. net revenue \$3,746.59	YTD revenue \$ 8,141.95
Feb. expenditure \$5,161.53	YTD expenditures \$10,687.05
Feb. net Revenue (\$1,414.94)	YTD net Revenue (\$2,545.10)

Pastor's Report: Things are going well. There will be an upcoming Baptism & Wedding at GT.

Old Business:

- Robin made a list of Trinity children and gave a copy to Pastor and Judy.
- Sunday School and VBS are being planned. Going to use the World Relief curriculum (it's free). VBS - planning for Wednesdays in June.
- Steve still needs to contact Tom Weaver about the roof.
- Looking at May for a Cancer Awareness Benefit Meal, (picnic, raffles, outdoor games)
- March 30th is the 5th Sunday. We will be using Chosen People for the service with our worship band.
- Mission of the Quarter for April - June will be Lutheran World Relief.

New Business:

- Bat Exclusion Warranty from Bat & Pest Control to expire April 30, 2025. We voted to renew. 1st Motion - Steve, 2nd Motion - Robin Approved
- Robin is making a sign up list for Lenten meals. Recommended 2 families for each.
- Randy will contact Lacy Sellent about Palms for Palm Sunday and flowers for Easter.

Adjourned Meeting 1st motion - Robin, 2nd Motion - Randy

Approved Lord's Prayer

Next Council Meeting is the Joint Council on April 8, 2025, at 6pm at Trinity.

Respectfully, Robin Denver, Secretary

Georgetown Church Council Meeting Minutes

Sunday, March 9, 2025

Members Present: Sherry Doornink, Judy Gammel, Tim Frendt, Nicole Norlund, Kim Doyle, Treasurer Roberta Hansen, Pastor Diane Norstad.

Members Absent: Bruce Peper, Keith Ward, Andrew Frendt, Dennis Wiese.

The meeting was called to order by Sherry Doornink.

Secretary's Report: The minutes of the February meeting were printed in the March issue of the Parish Messenger.

Treasurer's Report: Roberta Hansen passed out the Treasurer's Report for February. She commented that the February budget continues to be in the black, partly because some of our members are donating on a yearly basis. She commented that Endeavors will come to clean the Church this coming Thursday. Our Prudential fund is actually Walmart stock. The funds collected and awarded at the Super Bowl Sunday event were donated to the church. We have not yet received a bill for the replacement of the thermostats. A motion was made and seconded to approve the Treasurer's Report. Motion carried.

Pastor's Report. Pastor is looking forward to a robust Lent. The funds collected during Lent will be used toward cancer research. There will be a Baptism this coming Sunday and it will also be first Communion Sunday.

Council Member Reports:

Elders: Elders from both churches met to discuss the upcoming Lent season. Wednesday services will alternate churches and will include involvement from the Confirmation students. Lent services will include faith conversations during mealtime. Pastor Diane will write skits that will focus on different stages of Jesus life.

Deacons: Deacons from both churches met to discuss a variety of upcoming programs and opportunities for our youth. There is a junior high youth synod gathering coming on April 12, 2025. Families will be made aware of the opportunity and each church will pay for participants attending. A senior high Synod gathering will be held July 8 – 11 at the University of Wisconsin in Roper Falls. Cost is \$325 per participant and our churches will cover the cost. Vacation Bible School will resume this summer for four Wednesdays in June starting at 5:30 pm with a light meal followed by activities from 6:00 – 7:30 pm. We will need chaperones and assistance for all the above events. The spring lock up will be held at Georgetown on March 28-29th. Pancake supper will be held from 5:00 to 7:00 pm with a youth lock-up following.

Trustees: We may need to call to have the fan replaced in the women's bathroom.

Old Business: There was discussion about the collection of disposable plastic bags that could eventually be used for a bench in a butterfly area. Andrew will be talking to school about this effort.

New Business:

1. Building Use Requests: No new requests at this time.
2. Sherry asked for clarification about when and where families may connect with our visual equipment during a planned funeral.
3. We will need to purchase a container for collecting plastic bags. A motion was made and seconded to approve the purchase of an appropriate container. Motion carried.
4. Roberta informed us that she has scheduled ads in the Laker paper to advertise our Church services at a cost of \$31.60 per issue x 7 issues.
5. The Women's group has a spring fling on April 12 at Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Amery. The Georgetown women will be helping to serve coffee fellowship in the morning.
6. An Easter Egg Hunt will take place on Easter Day.
7. A blood drive will be held on April 8th at Georgetown.

Open Discussion: Because of the current increase in the cost of eggs, the eggs for our upcoming Pancake Supper will be coming from either Sam's Club or Costco. The bathroom door closest to the kitchen must remain closed at all times because when it is not closed the heating element in the bathroom continues to run in order to heat the Community room. Please remember, when using that bathroom, to close the door when leaving.

Next Meeting: Sunday, April 13, 2025 at 11:45 am.

Reminder: Our semi-annual joint meeting with Trinity will be held at Trinity on Tuesday, April 8, 2025 at 6:00 pm for dinner and 6:30 pm for the meeting.

Meeting adjourned and closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Judy Gammel

**Georgetown Lutheran Church
Financials – February 2025**

Georgetown	<u>FEBRUARY</u>	<u>YEAR TO DATE</u>
INCOME	\$4,209.00	\$9,868.00
EXPENSE	\$4,357.58	\$8,576.60
DIFFERENCE	(\$148.58)	\$1,291.40