

# April Trinity Tidings

Trinity Lutheran Church

328 George St., West Chicago, IL 60185

Church Office: 630-231-1175

[www.trinitywc.org](http://www.trinitywc.org)



He is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluiah!

We closed the month of March with Easter Sunday. The Easter season will continue through the month of April and well into May. It is a season of joy and celebration as we continue to worship our victorious and glorious Lord. By His death on the cross, Jesus paid the price for all of humanity's sin. He suffered, so we won't have to. He paid the price in full. He took upon Himself all the rage, abandonment and suffering that the world's sin deserves. He gave up His innocent life for sinners like you and I.

On the cross, the battle was fought and the victory was won. From the cross, the lifeless body of Jesus was laid in a tomb. For many, this was "the end" of the story. But it was far from the end! It was really only the beginning! Having won the victory, Jesus rose again on Easter morning, revealing to the world His victory. Jesus lives! He is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Christ is risen, alive and active. He is as active and alive today as He was when He walked this earth and as He was at the dawn of Creation. After His resurrection, He ascended back into heaven to take His position of power at the right hand of God the Father.

But that doesn't mean He has left us! Not at all. 10 days after His ascension, Jesus poured out the Holy Spirit upon His disciples, filling them with energized faith. On that day, through the preaching of the Word, many were brought into the faith. This was the start of the Christian church—the living and active earthly body of Christ. Through the Church, through the right proclamation of the Word and the proper distribution of Christ's gifts—His Means of Grace—Jesus continues to act. Through His Church sins continue to be forgiven, souls uplifted, and sorrows erased.

On April 14th, we celebrate 140 years of the risen Lord working here, in and among this congregation. We celebrate that for 100 years He has blessed us with a building in which He can work to serve us. That day we will celebrate with special guests and a special luncheon. It should prove to be a wonderful day. This will mark the end of our months-long Cornerstone Celebration. It has been a fun time to look back at all that the Lord has done. He truly is our Rock, our Cornerstone.

But, just as Peter wanted to stay up on the Transfiguration mountain, he couldn't. Jesus knew they needed to head back down. There was work to be done. Likewise, we too must "get back to work." We must get on with doing the work the Church is called to do—the work this building was built for and this congregation formed to do—proclaiming the Gospel of Christ to a world lost in darkness. To actively seek out the lost, serve the needy and welcome the stranger.

*(Pastor's Message Continued)*

It's been wonderful to look back on the past and see the work our risen Savior has done here, but how much more exciting it will be to see what He has planned for the future! How honored we are that He has a place for us, a job for us, where we can share in His work.

Christ is risen! He lives and He is active. He is active here, on the corner of George and Sherman! He is active in His Word, in His Sacraments and in His people! He is active now and He will be active tomorrow! What a joy to be part of His Church!


Pastor Gaede



**Assistants....** If you aren't available for your assigned Sunday, it is your responsibility to find a substitute.

<b>2024 SCHEDULE</b>	<b>Count Team</b>	<b>9:30 Worship Asst.</b>	<b>9:30 Usher</b>	<b>Altar Guild</b>	<b>Lay Reader</b>
4/7/2024	Laura Grobe, Sue Mennecke and Jeni Siekmann	Wayne Matejka	Doug Schmidt	Sue Mennecke	Nancy Planek
4/14/2024	Nancy Westra and Ron Benes	Doug Schmidt	Wayne Matejka	Eldra Rakow	Eldra Rakow
4/21/2024	Greg & Sharon Garcia and Cheryl Perkis	Ron Benes	Larry Kotke	Nancy Planek	Lois Kovarik
4/28/2024	Laura Grobe, Sue Mennecke and Jeni Siekmann	Larry Kotke	Jim Grobe	Elder	Marvin Boorsma



Find us on   
**Trinity Evangelical  
Lutheran Church**  
West Chicago

Have something you'd like to post?  
Email [secretary@trinitywc.org](mailto:secretary@trinitywc.org) or  
[Darcy.I.lee@gmail.com](mailto:Darcy.I.lee@gmail.com)

**FYI—The current  
Trinity page has  
no comma in it's  
name. If the pic-  
ture associated**

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod  
LCMS Stewardship Ministry  
April Newsletter Article



***Whose Is It Anyway?***

If you have ever bought or sold a house, you are acquainted with the concept of a “title search.” Before you can sell your house, and before anyone else will feel comfortable putting down the money to buy it, you have to prove that you really own it. So a title company looks through the public records to ensure that you bought it from the person who really owned it, who bought it from the person who really owned it before that, all the way back to the earliest records of your state, including when your state was only a territory or colony of England.

Peak into a preschool classroom during playtime and you’ll see a simplified version of this. A child starts playing with a ball, but another child says, “That’s mine: I had it first.”

You can’t understand the Seventh Commandment without understanding this concept of ownership or title. As the Small Catechism puts it:

You shall not steal. What does this mean? We should fear and love God so that we do not take our neighbor’s money or possessions, or get them in any dishonest way, but help him to improve and protect his possessions and income.

Your neighbor’s possessions are *his*: you don’t have a right to take them. And likewise, your possessions are yours. Ownership and property rights are foundational to any functioning society.

But there is something deeper to know about ownership, and that is the question of who has the title and ownership *to you*? Paul says, “Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God? You are not your own, for you were bought with a price” (1 Cor. 6:19–20).

If you yourself are owned by God, then of course everything that you own, you really only possess by God’s leave: all of it, at bottom, belongs to Him since *you* belong to Him. For you were bought with the blood of Christ.

This notion is the foundation of all Christian stewardship. It all belongs to God. It should all be used for things that bring honor to His name, blessings to our neighbors and the extension of His kingdom.

Do you know of anyone that should be included in our **Prayer Chain**? If so, please contact Rita Dauber at 630-293-0518 or [rita.dauber3@gmail.com](mailto:rita.dauber3@gmail.com)



### ***Cornerstone Celebration Service and Luncheon***

It is April and it is time for the final event of the Trinity Cornerstone Celebration! The Luncheon will be held on April 14th at St. Andrew's Golf & Country Club. 2241 Route 59 in West Chicago, IL. Banquet Hall doors will open at 11:45 AM. Please bring your ticket and enjoy a delightful luncheon buffet celebrating our devoted congregation. A cash bar will be available. Thank you to all for your generous support!



***Christ is Our Cornerstone*** long sleeve tee shirts are available for purchase, please see Laura Grobe.

***Cornerstone Celebration*** Picture Display and historical artifacts will remain on display in Fellowship Hall through Sunday, April 14, 2024.

***Please join us for Fellowship Time*** on Sunday mornings immediately following the Divine Worship Service. Donations of baked goods and light snacks are always welcome!

### ***Upcoming Fellowship Events:***

We have scheduled an evening at a Kane County Cougars Game on Friday, August 2, 2024. The game will begin at 6:30 pm and will be followed by fireworks! Tickets will be \$9.00 each, more information to follow.





The LWML Zone 6 Spring Event will be held:

When: Saturday, April 13, 2024  
(Coffee & at 8:30 AM)

What: Cathy Dular (Executive Director of Belize Mission Society) will speak about the benefits of serving on a Foreign mission team.

Where: St. John Lutheran Church  
215 S. Lincoln St.  
Lombard, IL

Donations of new or gently used backpacks will be accepted.

If interested see Eldra Rakow, Lois Kovarik or Sue Mennecke. All are welcome to attend. There will be a sign up sheet in the narthex. Please indicate if you will need a ride.

**JOIN US AT ZONE 6 LWML SPRING EVENT**

**Belize  
Mission  
Society**



SERVING THE LORD IN

# Latin America & the Caribbean: missionaryMAC



Home Service 2024

News from Volunteer Coordinator Erin Mackenzie | [missionaryMAC.blogspot.com](http://missionaryMAC.blogspot.com) |  [erin.mackenzie5](https://www.facebook.com/erin.mackenzie5)

(If you received a hard copy of this and would like to help me be green and save on postage, please email [erin.mackenzie@lcms.org](mailto:erin.mackenzie@lcms.org).)

The Rev. Ross Johnson, Director of LCMS Disaster Response, joined the LAC regional team for our February 2024 biannual meeting in Panama. His work intersects with our multinational efforts on many levels, from instilling a survival mindset to readying our homes, families, and church communities for fleeing in a flash (3 minutes) to being the immediate boots on the ground in the wake of the unthinkable—and staying for the long haul. Ponder the implications of, and possible reasoning behind, the following, from one of his slides:

### Where Natural Disasters Inflict the Most Economic Damage (1995-2015)

1. Americas (\$870 billion)
2. Asia (\$709 billion)
3. Europe (\$262 billion)
4. Oceania (\$40 billion)
5. Africa (\$10 billion)



[source: UNDRR (formerly UNISDR)]



## The Crux of the Matter

It's October 2023. I'm walking from the church in La Victoria, Lima, Peru, to the bus stop with a team when a 20-something yr. old team member makes a beeline for a pile of debris across the street. Is she *trying* to get run over by a *mototaxi* or get tetanus? She rejoined the rest of us before I made it to the end of the worst-case scenario rabbit hole with a bundle of green plastic twine in hand, spewing something about crosses. I'd leave for Jamaica later that night; the team would adhere to the plan I'd painstakingly laid out for them in my absence and leave a full day later.



Fast forward a month. I'm back in Lima, and it all becomes clear: the October team member had taken cast-off bundling material and woven it into crosses. I was surrounded by arguably the weightiest of all Christian symbols yet one whose meaning is shrouded to unbelievers.

*For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. (1 Corinthians 1:18)*

Like the unwanted bundle of twine, intersecting beams on a hill outside Jerusalem appear worthless: splinter-ridden firewood. We the faithful, however, know differently. This Lenten season and always, may the tree on which God's only Son "[became] obedient to the point of death" (Philippians 2:8) be a reminder of His "Wondrous Love" (LSB 543) for all mankind.

**Making  
Disciples  
for Life** 



### Praises and Petitions

1. Thanksgiving for the 6th anniversary of Iglesia Luterana Cordero de Dios's dedication of its current worship space on 2/25.
2. Thanksgiving for the first "Caribbean" Luther Academy continuing education course, held in the DR in early March.
3. Thanksgiving for Mrs. Rebecca Krey and all who stepped up to help the DR FORO, which fell at the beginning of my time in the US, run smoothly.
4. For initial conversations around starting a Cayman Islands FORO.
5. For the families of the 130+ victims of devastating wildfires that raged across Chile in early February.

### 'Ello, Ellyn

Ellyn Petrovic is next in a string of long-term short-term volunteers helping the region tread water until our newly appointed Regional Business Manager [Stan Stigdon](#) deploys. She'll spend nearly three months in Santiago, primarily handling cash and making DR-related payments. Get to know the woman behind the adding machine with these five fun facts:

1. This isn't Ellyn's first time supporting global business operations; she went to Taiwan to help the Asia region switch accounting systems in 2019.
2. This *also* isn't Ellyn's first time serving in LAC; I've hosted her—and her mom!—twice on congregational teams to Peru.
3. Ellyn cat-sat for me while I was in Panama and Peru in Jan/Feb, but she's a dog mom to D.O.G. ("Diogi") and Manners, one of Diogi's puppies, born in September 2023 (coincidentally, during one of Ellyn's Peru trips).
4. Ellyn currently works as a dialysis nurse, having switched careers after 9 years as an accountant.
5. Ellyn is a beekeeper. Her small-batch honey bears a "Betsy's Bees" label after her grandmother, not because she, too, was a beekeeper—it's an homage to her feistiness!



*Left, bottom:* An Aaron/Erin sandwich (L to R: Aaron Wade, Feb. 2024 volunteer, DR; me; Erin Alter, Director, LCMS Short-term Mission Teams); *Right:* A Lenten display at my church, Iglesia Luterana Cordero de Dios in Licey al Medio, DR.

*Left, top:* Enjoying the reception following the Feb. 4 rededication of Redeemer Lutheran Church in Panama City, Panama with volunteer team member Ernie.

### Quote of the Month

"Worry is just a prayer you haven't prayed yet."

—Rev. Will Weedon, St. Paul Lutheran Church, Hamel, IL

To support the LCMS through me, you may give a tax-deductible gift...

- **online**, securely from any device: [lcms.org/givenow/mackenzie](https://lcms.org/givenow/mackenzie);
- by **phone**: 1-888-930-4438 (donor care rep) or text **LCMSMACKENZIE** to 41-444;
- by **sending a check** (with "Mackenzie/Latin America" on the memo line) to:
  - ⇒ LCMS, PO Box 66861, St. Louis, MO 63166-6861; or
  - ⇒ Mission Central, 40718 Highway E 16, Mapleton, IA 51034.





April 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
31	1 Rowan Gregory	2 Ren Hughes	3	4 James Siekmann	5	6
7	8	9 Jake Bradley Jr.	10 Rite Dauber	11	12	13 Lindsay Bruce
14 Gavin Lee	15 Barbara Hughes	16	17	18	19 Jean Musick	20
21	22	23	24	25 Miles Dameron	26	27
28	29	30 Timmy Kotke	1	2	3	4





April 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
31	1	2	3	4 Jerome Planek	5	6
7 Mike Giacomo	8	9	10	11 Dan Rakow	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21 Josie Kotke	22 Lynda Benes	23	24 Kevin Grobe	25 Cynthia Macko	26 Ren Hughes	27
28 Carrie Tedrahn Grayson Matejka Chapman	29	30 Leila Pena	1	2	3	4 Rowan Gregory



April 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
31	1	2	3	4 Lonnie and Doug Schmidt	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	1 Sharon and Greg Garcia	2	3	4

# TRINITY CHURCH CALENDAR

April 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>31</b> Ongoing Historical Photo Display 8:30am - 9:10am Musicians Warmup 9:30am Easter Worship Service 10:30am Fellowship 11:00am Sunday School Easter Egg Hunt 7:00pm - 8:00pm AA Meeting	<b>1</b> Ongoing Historical Photo Display	<b>2</b> Ongoing Historical Photo Display	<b>3</b> Ongoing Historical Photo Display	<b>4</b> Ongoing Historical Photo Display	<b>5</b> Ongoing Historical Photo Display	<b>6</b> Ongoing Historical Photo Display
<b>7</b> Ongoing Historical Photo Display 9:30am Divine Worship Service 10:30am Fellowship 11:00am - 11:45am Bible Study/Sunday School 7:00pm - 8:00pm AA Meeting	<b>8</b> Ongoing Historical Photo Display 7:00pm - 8:00pm PPC Meeting	<b>9</b> Ongoing Historical Photo Display 6:30pm - 7:30pm Joyful Noise Rehearsal	<b>10</b> Ongoing Historical Photo Display	<b>11</b> Ongoing Historical Photo Display	<b>12</b> Ongoing Historical Photo Display 7:30pm Compassionate Friends (Fellowship Hall)	<b>13</b> Ongoing Historical Photo Display 2:00pm Musicians Rehearsal
<b>14</b> Cornerstone Worship Service and St Andrews Luncheon Ongoing Historical Photo Display 8:30am - 9:10am Cornerstone Musicians Warmup 9:30am Celebration Worship Service and Banquet 9:30am Divine Worship Service 9:30am Joyful Noise Sings 10:30am Fellowship 11:00am - 11:45am Bible Study/Sunday School 7:00pm - 8:00pm AA Meeting	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> 7:00pm Long Range Planning Committee	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>

## TRINITY CHURCH CALENDAR

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>21</b> <b>GOOD SHEPHERD SUNDAY</b> 9:30am Divine Worship Service 10:30am Fellowship 11:00am - 11:45am Bible Study/Sunday School 7:00pm - 8:00pm AA Meeting	<b>22</b> 7:00pm Elder's Meeting	<b>23</b> 6:30pm - 7:30pm Joyful Noise Rehearsal	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b> 3:00pm Abigail's Birthday (Tentative)
<b>28</b> 9:30am Divine Worship Service 10:30am Fellowship 11:00am - 11:45am Bible Study/Sunday School 7:00pm - 8:00pm AA Meeting	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>