



## THE HOLY TRINITY HERALD

April 2026

*The Holy Trinity Herald is the official monthly publication  
of Holy Trinity Lutheran Church*

### HOLY TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

[www.holytrinitymarshall.com](http://www.holytrinitymarshall.com) + (608) 655-4246

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Office manager: Karen Browne

Tue-Wed-Thur 10:00am – 2:00pm & 2<sup>nd</sup> Tues of  
the month hours are 8:30-12:30

Pastor office hours: Tu, 11:00am-2:00pm, Wed, 5:15pm-6:15pm

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#### FROM PASTOR LISA

There is a particular kind of morning that belongs only to Wisconsin in spring. The ground is soft from snowmelt. The air smells like mud and possibility. Robins have returned, and gardeners are eyeing the seed packets on the shelf.

#### **Into mornings exactly like this, Easter arrives.**

Jesus' resurrection is not a tidy event. The women come to the tomb before sunrise, grieving, exhausted, carrying spices for a body they expected to find exactly where they had left it. But nothing was as they expected! The stone was rolled away. The tomb was empty. And a stranger asked, "*Why do you seek the living among the dead?*"

Sometimes we're like those women, going about our work, doing what is expected, not thinking that things can be different. We carry our grief quietly and our doubt privately, and we go looking for Jesus in the places we last left him, in the comfortable corners of a faith we mapped out years ago.

#### **But Easter refuses to stay put.**

We are a congregation rooted in a place. Many have worshiped in this building for decades. Some were baptized here; some have said goodbye to loved ones here. That's part of what makes Holy Trinity a sacred place. It is a gift to worship beside those whom we know and even love.

#### **Even in this familiarity and sacredness, God can do a new thing. God can roll away stones we've stopped expecting to move.**

- God can do this through an opportunity to meet a neighbor you've never spoken to. Or the chance to do something new for and with this congregation.
- Or by nudging you to return to worship after a long absence, unsure of your welcome (**you are welcome without any hesitation**).
- Or by encouraging you to lay down a burden you've been carrying alone and trusting that this community will help you bear it. (**That's what we're here for**).

Resurrection is rarely a solitary event. Mary Magdalene ran to tell the others. The disciples gathered together. The early church broke bread from house to house. Easter spills out of the empty tomb and into your life, no matter where you are.

And if this Easter finds you tired, you are in good company. The disciples were frightened and confused. Thomas doubted. Peter wept. The women arrived at dawn carrying a grief so heavy they could barely speak.

**None of this disqualified them from encountering the risen Christ.**

You do not need to have your faith polished and presentable today. You do not need to feel the joy **before** you're ready to feel it. **Come as you are**, worn down, wondering, half-believing, or just simply showing up.

This is the outrageous promise of Easter morning: That God meets us not after we've sorted ourselves out, but precisely in the middle of our unfinished, uncertain, muddy-boot lives.

Join us for worship at Holy Trinity on Maundy Thursday, April 2<sup>nd</sup> at 6:30 p.m. and Easter morning, April 5<sup>th</sup> at 8:30 a.m. All are welcome!

**REMINDER:**

If you need to reach Pastor Lisa, email her at [nelsonkosky@gmail.com](mailto:nelsonkosky@gmail.com). The [pastor@holyltrinity-marshall.com](mailto:pastor@holyltrinity-marshall.com) email is no longer checked on a regular basis. Thank you.

**FROM THE COUNCIL PRESIDENT** *Submitted by Candy Lauby*

Is it spring yet? This month Holy Trinity purchased 24 new folding chairs, and we are looking to purchase an additional cart or two for the chairs, so they are able to be nicely stored away. We will be placing a sign-up sheet for back-up ushers and readers so please consider signing up. You would be contacted in the event one or both ushers or a reader cannot attend service. 😊

We received the 2026 quote for insurance "Insurance Summary". I spoke with Larry Clinton from Brotherhood Mutual insurance for a question/answer phone call. I shared the insurance summary with the council at our March meeting and will vote on renewing it in April.

We are also looking to do an annual audit of the church's accounts. This should be done by 3 non-council members, and you cannot be a signer on the account. Please reach out if you would like to volunteer and help with the audit. Have a great month... until next time!!

**FEBRUARY COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS** Submitted by Kathy Deneen

Meeting was called to order at 6:05 pm

Last month minutes were approved

Annual minutes were approved

Treasurer's report was approved

Candy met with Paster to discuss Annual meeting. Candy conducted Annual meeting on January 25<sup>th</sup>.

Worked with Karen Browne on agenda for the Council meeting. Called Larry Clinton, our Insurance Agent to discuss renewal and let him know we have two new furnaces, will review again in April.

Spoke with Owen on Copier Maintenance agreement and signed off on it.

Pastor was not at this meeting so no Pastor report.

Nomination for Officers was held.

Candy Lauby was nominated for President and she accepted and approved by all.  
 Matt Stensven was nominated for Vice President and he accepted and approved by all.  
 Carol Madaus was nominated for Secretary and was approved by all. She said the month before she would continue as Secretary, since she was not at this meeting.  
 Quorum for Annual meeting was changed from 25 members to 20 members. Council and the Congregation all agreed.  
 A sign-up sheet will be put on the bulletin board for Ushers and Readers.  
 We need Fund Raising ideas, since we are going to need three more furnaces and two Air Conditioners going forward. A 520/50 raffle was suggested by Matt Stensven that would start soon and the drawing would be the next Annual Meeting.  
 Candy Lauby will talk to Owen so we can get all our accounts audited. Need 2 people to count money on Sundays and Candy will look into this also.  
 Karen Browne was Okay's by Council to sign up for an Office Depot rewards program at \$49.00 per year. We already saved more than the cost of the reward this year.  
 Resealing the Parking lot. We received a bid last year for \$16,000 and will check to see if this bid is still current. Dave Kiersten by be attending the Council meeting on March 10<sup>th</sup>. Kathy Deneen will ask him.  
 Boy Scouts damage one of the Partitions in the Fellowship Hall. Matt Stensven will talk to the Boy Scouts about this. They would have insurance to cover the Cost. Dave Kiersten said it would probably cost about \$100 to \$150 to repair.  
 New start time for Council will be 5:30, if Pastor Lisa and Carol Madaus is okay with this new time. Candy will check with both of them.  
 WELCA will donate \$100.00 to pay for snacks and prizes for Bingo on March 14<sup>th</sup> at the Trailer Park. Candy will order some chairs to replace some of the broken ones.  
 Next meeting is March 10<sup>th</sup>.  
 Meeting Adjourned at 7:00pm

## 2026-2027 CHURCH COUNCIL

Lisa Nelson, Pastor	608-655-4246 <a href="mailto:nelsonkosky@gmail.com">nelsonkosky@gmail.com</a> (church office)
Candy Lauby, President*	608-235-3807 <a href="mailto:candyann258@gmail.com">candyann258@gmail.com</a>
Matt Stensven, Vice President*	608-219-6123 <a href="mailto:mattstensven@gmail.com">mattstensven@gmail.com</a>
Carolyn Madaus, Secretary*	608-444-1220 <a href="mailto:zarolena@gmail.com">zarolena@gmail.com</a>
Kathy Schluter	608-658-1796 <a href="mailto:schluterka49@hotmail.com">schluterka49@hotmail.com</a>
Kathy Deneen	608-279-0588 <a href="mailto:kldeneen@gmail.com">kldeneen@gmail.com</a>
Karen Browne	608-212-6963 <a href="mailto:kbrowne_5@yahoo.com">kbrowne_5@yahoo.com</a>
Cindy Wotruba	608-358-7490 <a href="mailto:cynw81@hotmail.com">cynw81@hotmail.com</a>
Student Representative	VACANT

*We are still in need of a Council youth representative. All confirmed members up to age 30 are eligible. Please contact Candy Lauby if you would like to be the voice for youth in our church.*

Owen Raisbeck, Treasurer	608-225-3149 <a href="mailto:owenraisbeck@yahoo.com">owenraisbeck@yahoo.com</a>
Laurine Martin, Financial Secretary	608-712-4069 <a href="mailto:laurinemartinbk1010@gmail.com">laurinemartinbk1010@gmail.com</a>

**SUNDAY SCHOOL** Submitted by Susy Pawl

As part of our March lesson we made treats for the congregation. We had a lot of fun making indoors smores and puff pastry treats. Thank you to our young chefs and congregation for leaving no leftovers!

In April Sunday School will be on Sunday, April 19th during service.

**CATECHISM CLASS** Submitted by Kathy Deneen

Thank you to all who purchased from the St. Patrick's Day Sale. It was a great success.

We need some candy for the Easter Egg Hunt on Sunday, April 5. Please drop off at the office.

**EVENT PLANNING** Submitted by Linda Baldrige

The Event Planning Committee will meet on Thursday, April 9<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 PM at church. There will be a review of the Palm Sunday Pancake Breakfast that happened on March 29<sup>th</sup>. This event encourages fellowship and the donations that were collected at the breakfast go towards building maintenance.

The first fundraiser event for 2026 will be the popular Spaghetti Dinner Drive-Thru that will happen this year on Thursday, May 21<sup>st</sup> in the church parking lot from 4:30 PM - till sold out. As before, a complete spaghetti dinner with dessert will cost \$10. In May, look for the "Sticky Note Board" in the narthex of the church. Take an envelope and return it with a donation that can be used to buy dinner suppliers prior to our event. Your donation can be placed in the collection plate at worship or given to one of our committee members. Your generosity will help Holy Trinity provide a great event. Thank you.

**FEBRUARY FINANCIALS**

Income received in Feb	\$5,742.88
Obligations paid in Feb	\$8,655.55
Balance for Feb	-\$2,912.67
<b>BALANCE ON HAND</b>	<b>\$8,707.68</b>

**SECOND HARVEST MOBILE FOOD PANTRY** Second Harvest Food Bank has taken over operation of the Marshall mobile food bank. They have changed the food bank dates to the **SECOND MONDAY** of each month at 3:30 pm in the high school parking lot. **If you wonder if there is a cancellation or not, go to Second Harvest Foodbank of Southern Wisconsin, Find Food, Mobile Pantry Schedule.** The next few distribution dates are:

Monday-April 13	3:30 pm	high school parking lot
Monday-May 11	3:30 pm	high school parking lot
Monday-June 8	3:30 pm	high school parking lot

**RENTALS OF FELLOWSHIP HALL** The fellowship hall is available to rent. The price for active members is a one-time event fee of \$25.00. The fee for all others is **\$50.00 per hour**. If you are thinking you may be interested in renting the hall, please contact the church office by calling 608-655-4246 or sending

an email to [htcstaff@holytrinity-marshall.com](mailto:htcstaff@holytrinity-marshall.com), to check on scheduling and details. **REMINDER: No beer, wine, or alcohol of any kind is allowed in the building or anywhere on the church property.**

### SIMPLY GIVING

The program was created by Thrivent Financial for Lutherans and is operated by Vanco Services, LLC. Simply Giving is an easy-to-use and trusted platform for you to give money online through electronic giving. This program allows you to set up automatic, monthly withdrawals from your bank account. You can get the form from the church office, fill it out, and return it to the office.

### PLANNED GIVING TO HOLY TRINITY

1. One way to ensure a bright future for our church is to make a planned gift **that names HOLY TRINITY in your will**. A bequest is a meaningful way to support the church's ministry without affecting your cash flow during your lifetime. Your attorney can include it when you prepare or revise your will, or you can add a codicil at any time.
2. Gifts that do not restrict their use (**unrestricted gifts**), allow Holy Trinity to use these resources where they are most needed.
3. **Restricted gifts** are monies designated for a specific purpose that advances our mission, such as support to a specific initiative or program.
4. Give to the church's **Endowment Fund**. You may now use our online giving, through [holytrinitymarshall.com](http://holytrinitymarshall.com) to make a gift directly to our Endowment Fund. At a time when secular non-profits are realizing the need to build their endowments, churches are still asking for operating support only. An **endowment gift** helps move us into a more sustainable position. (Dan Timpel has joined the Endowment Committee. If anyone has questions or wants to make a donation to this fund or the Memorial Fund, they should contact Dan Timpel, Todd Madaus, or Owen Raisbeck.)
5. You could also choose to designate **a portion of the proceeds of your IRA to Holy Trinity** each year. We are grateful to members who have chosen this option as a way to make a sizeable annual gift.
6. Naming Holy Trinity **as the beneficiary of a life insurance policy** can convey assets in larger amounts without disrupting your current cash flow.

### CHURCH NEWS

Worship every Sunday at 8:30

Worship every Wednesday at 6:30/Catechism at 6:00

M/W Food Pantry April 1<sup>st</sup> 12:00-1:00

Easter Service April 5<sup>th</sup> Easter Egg Hunt following service

Event Planning April 9<sup>th</sup> at 5:00

Second Harvest (HS parking lot) April 13<sup>th</sup> at 3:30

WELCA April 14<sup>th</sup> at 12:30/Council meets at 5:30 (time change!)

Quilting Day April 18<sup>th</sup> 9:00 – 3:00

Sunday School April 19<sup>th</sup> following Children's Message

Quilt Tying April 21<sup>st</sup> at 12:30

## HEADS UP! WAY UP!!!

If you wish to submit an announcement for a bulletin, you **MUST** submit it to the office ([htcstaff@holytrinity-marshall.com](mailto:htcstaff@holytrinity-marshall.com)) by the Wednesday prior, as bulletins are printed on Thursdays.

For articles to be included in the newsletter for the following month, they **MUST** be received in the office by the 22<sup>nd</sup> or they will not be included! Waiting for late articles puts more stress on office staff and newsletter helpers. Getting your newsletter information in on time is a courtesy to others involved in the process. Your cooperation is needed and appreciated.

**Quilts for LWR** As quilt-making continues here at Holy Trinity, we always have an ongoing need for the supplies that go into making the quilts. Thank you to all our members and friends who keep an eye out for fabric that family members are disposing of and fabric that is available at garage sales and estate sales. We continue to request new bed sheets, used bed sheets, tablecloths, large pieces of fabric, etc. Even well-worn sheets are useful as the middle layer of a quilt. We welcome anyone who wants to get involved in making quilts either by meeting at church, by sewing at home or by cutting fabric squares at home.

One of our quilt groups meets at church 12:30 pm on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of each month to sort donations, prepare donations for use in a quilt, and tie the layers of a quilt together. Our other quilt group comes to church on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of each month starting at 9:00 am. Sewing machines will be provided.

Please join in various quilt tasks on our quilt days for whatever amount of time you have to contribute. We are grateful for all the support we receive from our Holy Trinity family that allows us to donate quilts to the Lutheran World Relief mission of providing quilts to people in need in the US and around the world. \*\*Please continue to provide new fabric that can be cut into squares for making quilts. It's then possible for someone to take the next step and cut 11-inch squares of fabric and donate them. \*\*

**ELCA MEMBERSHIP REQUIREMENTS.** Per Constitution and bylaws of the ELCA, a person must give a monetary gift and receive Holy Communion at least once every calendar year to be a member. Holy Trinity is required to keep records of both giving and communion. (If you put cash in the collection plate, that is not a contribution of record. We need to know that your contribution came from you. (There are extra contribution envelopes on the Welcome Desk in case you need one.) Please fill out a communion card at least once a year and on the day that you commune. That way we can make a record of it. Place your last name and first name of each person taking Communion on the card along with the date. You may place the card in the offering plate or hand it to an usher. You may also request a visit from the Pastor on this card.

**Electronic newsletter** to save paper, you may prefer to receive this newsletter electronically if you do not already. Just e-mail [htcstaff@holytrinity-marshall.com](mailto:htcstaff@holytrinity-marshall.com) and let us know that.

**Our website, [holytrinitymarshall.com](http://holytrinitymarshall.com)**, is regularly updated. With all the latest news and information that you might need. And share the link to our online services with family and friends!



Our thanks and gratitude to those who continue to give so much for the sake of this body of Christ such as our organists, office manager, treasurer, financial contribution secretary, custodian, ushers, readers, communion assistants, WELCA, Altar Guild, those who lead Sunday School, provide catechism instruction and First Communion instruction, and worship leaders. Thank you also goes out to those who serve on our Church Council and the Event Planning Committee. Thank you to our quilters, volunteers who continue to work the Second Harvest mobile food bank, and volunteers on the Wednesday noon shift the first of each month at the Marshall/Waterloo Food Pantry as well as those who help at the Food Pantry throughout the year. Thank you to those who care for our grounds and parking lot. We also appreciate the helpers who assemble the newsletter for mailing, and everyone so willingly donating time and materials to maintain the church. Apologies if anyone was missed. Thank you all.

#### **COMMUNITY NEWS**

**Marshall-Waterloo Food Pantry** Marshall/Waterloo Food Pantry is on the lower level at 117 E. Madison Street (Hwy. 19) in Waterloo. (Please use the door in the alley.) People may visit the food pantry once each month. If you or someone you know needs help, make use of this resource. The hours are Wednesdays from noon-1:00 pm and again Wednesday evenings from 7:00-8:00 pm. Saturday hours are from 9:00-10:00 am.

**Second Harvest Mobile Food Pantry is Monday – April 13<sup>th</sup> at 3:30 in the HS parking lot.**

**Did you know that Staples will take several electronic items in-store for recycling?** Call your local Staples store with questions or check their website.

**Foodshare Helpline 877-366-3635** If you are in need, or know someone who is, contact this agency to see if they can help.

**Wisconsin Home Energy Plus Program at 1-866-432-8947 or 608-267-8601** is available if you need help with your utility bills. Give them a call to find out if you qualify.