

TRINITY NEWSLETTER

APRIL 2020

*Saved by Grace we proclaim the Gospel
by sharing the love of Jesus.*

Trinity Lutheran Church
311 SE Schley Street
PO Box 128
Sheridan, OR 97378



A Message from Our Pastor...

WHEN SICKNESS COMES AND PLANS CHANGE

John 11:1-45

Dear Trinity Family, Greetings in Jesus.

I long to meet all of you, to learn your names, and shake your hands, to hear your stories, and to come along side you in life and in ministry. This weekend, March 29, we had planned to come together for worship and my installation. But those plans have changed along with many others you had for life, family, church, work, school, and for spring break. In light of a world wide pandemic, we have been given warnings, orders to stay home, to keep our distance, to change habits, because life right now isn't normal. A virus no one wanted has spread around the world and people are sick, some are dying, and the nations of the world are all taking notice, and speaking out. Life and business are not as usual. Leaders are intent that everyone listens, understands, and responds accordingly.

That much you all know. But did you know what the Gospel reading is for this Sunday? Stefanie sent it out. It would have been the lesson for morning worship and for the installation. As I read it, I thought: "this is long, but it is so full of ministry, of love and loss, fear and faith, death and Resurrection, of grief and glory in the many facets of Jesus, who is the Resurrection and the Life" I encourage you to read this full account. Yes, all 45 verses. You probably have more time on your hands than you wanted. I trust there will be things that jump out at you in light of the Pandemic, what you, what our community, our church, our neighbors and our nation are experiencing.

What jumped out at me is the Context

Sickness and Death John 11 comes after John 10, where Jesus proclaims that He is the "Good Shepherd and all that entails." In John 11, one of His beloved sheep, Lazarus, has become sick. ***Therefore the sisters (Mary and Martha) sent word to Him saying: "Lord, behold, he whom You love is sick." When Jesus heard that, He said "This sickness is not unto death, but for the glory of God, that the Son of God may be glorified through it." vs. 3-4***

In this case, there is a greater purpose to sickness that has infected his friend, and affected this family. The sisters did the right thing informing Jesus. But Jesus, already knows not only the situation, but the greater purpose. Even at a distance Jesus knows how bad it is. Death won't get the final word. He lingers two more days where He is. He knows when Lazarus dies. He recognizes the danger to Himself and His disciples, to go near to Jerusalem, where people want to kill Him. But Jesus is on a Mission. He tells His disciples: ***"Our friend Lazarus sleeps, but I go that I may wake him up." (vs. 11) "Then Jesus said to them plainly, "Lazarus is dead. And I am glad for your sakes that I was not there, that you may believe. Nevertheless let us go to him." vs. 14.*** Jesus let Lazarus die because God the Father had a greater purpose in this sickness and in this death. First for the Glory of God to be revealed (vs. 3-4), and second that "you may believe. vs. 14.

Undaunted Faith and Undying Love

Mary, Martha, and Lazarus, know Jesus, they believe in Him, they know He loves them. Death still comes. When they see Him they proclaim "if you had been here, our brother wouldn't had died. Martha says ***"But even now I know that whatever You ask of God, God will give You." (vs. 22)*** Death, sorrow, disappointment, and grief wouldn't turn Martha away from her Savior. When Jesus tells her that Lazarus will rise again, listen to her words: ***"I know that he will rise again in the resurrection at the last day." Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. He who believes in Me, though he may die, he shall live and whoever lives and believes in Me shall never die. Do you believe this?"***

(Continued on page 7)

KneE-Mail

*Please remember
our church family
members in your prayers.*

- ♥ PRAISE for our new pastor, Pastor Bill Hering
 - ♥ Students and teachers as their school year is disrupted
 - ♥ Zack & Rachel Monroe as they make travel arrangement to return home.
 - ♥ Friends and Family who are ill and/or in the Hospital and all who are affected by the corona virus
 - ♥ Robert N. Schlosser III, our Concordia Adopt-a- Student
- Please send your PRAYER REQUESTS
and PRAISES to Stefanie:*
stefaniem@sheridantlc.org



alleluia!
Christ has Risen!

Administrative Professionals Day
Wednesday April 22, 2020

Stefanie Morrow

*We want you to know
that you are deeply
appreciated, and we
can't thank you enough
for all your work to keep
our church running
smoothly!*
~Your Trinity Family



A belated thank you to the congregation for a lovely time at the potluck last month. Bob and I and our family would like to thank all of you for the kind words of appreciation for the music ministry we have done through the years. It has been our privilege to be able to serve in this way.

Jonny Ann & Bob



Dear Trinity family,

Thank you all so much for the boxes of goodies! My roommate, Brooklyn, and I were pleasantly surprised with everything in them. We enjoyed some chocolate as we unpacked the boxes. The candies, snacks, nuts, and granola bars are going to be a nice treat to have. The other essentials and fun things were awesome to receive as well.

It was really encouraging to see the generosity from my church family. I am truly grateful to have such a large support group behind me. It makes college a little bit easier to manage. Thank you all again for everything.

Love,
Briann M.

CHURCH WORKDAYS

are not being scheduled at this time, however individuals are welcome to come any time they choose to trim spent flowers, pull a few weeds, or do any job they see needing done of their choosing.



Also, if you see a job which needs to be done & you are unable to do it, please let one of the trustees know:

Hal Hagglund, Mat Parlier,
or Bill Young

Thanks! Stay healthy!
The Trustees



PASTOR BILL HERING

OFFICE HOURS:
TO BE DETERMINED

CELL PHONE:
503-407-0722

E-MAIL:
pastorbhering@aol.com

CHURCH OFFICE PHONE:
503-843-4747

WEBSITE: SHERIDANTLC.ORG

PARISH ADMINISTRATOR
STEFANIE MORROW

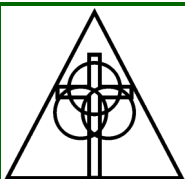
OFFICE HOURS:
Monday through Friday
8:00 AM - 12:00 NOON

E-MAIL:
stefaniem@sheridantlc.org



*Office hours are kept to the best of our ability
but are subject to change as needs arise.*

THANK YOU FOR YOUR UNDERSTANDING.



From the Elders

Pastor Hering is now in Sheridan and has moved into his new home. This will be an interesting time for him as he comes to be our pastor, but is not able to meet with us for regular services right now. The elders are working with Pastor Hering to get an online service ready and recorded so we can worship together, albeit remotely for now. If you can assist with technology, or music, or think of additional ways you could help, please offer your service.

We know it is important to stay connected with one another. Please share your needs and concerns so we can pray for one another. Reach out to other people and Trinity members and check on them. Ask what their needs are. We are still a church body. We can pray. We can be intentional. Make a phone call, chat with a friend online, send a letter or note in the mail and be the salt and the light to others around us – the church in action.

Pastor and Stefanie will be available at the church office if you need to contact someone, or have questions.

Please continue to support Trinity financially with your tithes and offerings. Even though we are not meeting corporately at the moment, our obligations continue. Offerings can be mailed to the church, or donated online through PayPal. (Just be aware that Pay Pal takes a small portion of your deposit.) For payment through your bank - please contact your bank or Gretchen Jones with questions. Information can be found at the bottom of our church website's homepage – SHERIDANTLC.ORG. (Under the worship section you will also find recordings of past services.)

Use this time to deepen and strengthen you own relationship with the Lord. Spend time with the Lord in prayer and praise, and look for the unexpected blessings in each day.

Dan Monroe, Head Elder

RESOURCES

for Continuing Worship & Community

Trinity Lutheran Church audio recordings of past services: <https://www.sheridantlc.org/worship-services>

Living Savior website found here <https://living-savior.org/> with audio of past sermons in the "Worship" section.

Living Savior has launched a YouTube channel to supply sermons from Pastor Alexander <https://youtu.be/rYaxSjEA74c>

The Northwest District has a list of congregations which are live streaming something. You can find it here: <http://nowlcms.org/stories/6968>

Messiah in Seattle offers this: www.Messiah-LCMS.org

Life Lutheran in Old Westbury, NY has this site: www.thelifeny.org

Lutheran Hour Ministries is a Christian outreach ministry that provides The Lutheran Hour radio program, daily devotions, help topics and booklets, and many more resources: <https://www.lhm.org/>

Mustard Seed Daily Devotions, Lutheran Women in Mission <http://www.lwml.org/mustard-seed-devotions>

Bible Gateway, Verse of the Day, Scriptures: <https://www.biblegateway.com/>

Article: "Five Ways to Be the Church When Church is Canceled" <https://www.patheos.com/blogs/irreverin/2020/03/how-to-keep-being-church-when-church-is-canceled>

Center for Disease Control and Prevention: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV/index.html>



Be still AND KNOW
THAT I am God
PSALM 46:10



PACIFIC ZONE RALLY

March 14, 2020

Dear Sisters in Christ,

For I know the plans I have for you, declares the LORD, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope (Jeremiah 29:11).

Since writing you about a month ago, our world has certainly changed. The Coronavirus has put much of our world in a tailspin. However, we know our Lord is holding us and will always provide for our needs. After much prayer and thought, the LWML Pacific Board has decided to postpone the rally.

St. John, McMinnville, invites you to the Pacific Zone Rally, now scheduled for Saturday, May 9. We will start with registration at 10 a.m. President Coleen has sent you a text announcing the change and I am relaying the same information via an updated flyer for you to share, this invitation, and the proposed agenda. The ingathering remains the same. . . items for the McMinnville High School Resource Room. The list of items is included below.

Please change your calendars ... **Pacific Zone Rally ... Saturday, May 9, 2020** ... Registration beginning at **10 a.m.**

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to ask. You can reach me at 503-487-7046 or kroemer2@frontier.com. Looking forward to seeing you at St. John on May 9.

Continued blessings in Jesus' ongoing and abundant joy,
~Char

INGATHERING NEEDS ... (to replenish McMinnville High School Resource Room items):

- Re-usable grocery bags / string backpacks
- Dental floss
- Laundry detergent
- Dish soap
- Body wash
- Chap stick
- Contact solution
- Backpacks
- Shampoo & conditioner
- Deodorant

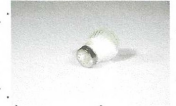
LWML PACIFIC ZONE

*You are Salt ...
You are Light ...*

Matthew 5:13-16



SPRING RALLY
MAY 9, 2020



10 A. M. REGISTRATION

- **INSPIRATIONAL BIBLE STUDY**
- **DELICIOUS LUNCH**
- **EXCITING LWML NEWS**
- **IMPORTANT ZONE BUSINESS**
- **CHILD CARE/RSVP (BY 5/1)**
- **INGATHERING**

ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH
2142 NE McDONALD LANE
MCMINNVILLE, OR 97128

RSVP TO: CHAR KROEMER
503-487-7046, OR
kroemer2@frontier.com



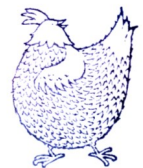
Church Chicks

The Church Chicks will be using Zoom to conduct their meeting on **April 7 at 1:30 pm**. Please let me know if **YOU** are willing and able to participate as I will need to send the link to join the meeting. Let me know if you have questions or need more information.

~Tracy Grauer

ALL ladies are WELCOME and ENCOURAGED to join us as we Serve the Lord with Gladness!

Ladies Aid • Church Chicks • LWML



Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper

\$400 was raised to go towards the new sign from pancake supper.

144 eggs, 200 sausages, piles of pancakes were served!

A big ~~than~~ks for all the help...
especially Mary and Tracy!

Update from Zack and Rachel

Hello from the Monroes,

In our last letter, I said I would try to get another one out in less than a month - I guess that didn't happen! Time really flies. We have just less than two months left here in Zambia.

Another reason I haven't thought of writing a newsletter until now was because since mid-January, things have been pretty quiet. We are beginning to settle into the regular routine of 'work' here at Love's Door. Quiet is not a veiled way of saying that we haven't been doing anything, because we have been busy! But the business is more normal than that of the holidays. Additionally, you will see with the length of this letter that I am still as long winded when there is 'not much going on.'

These days at Love's Door, all of the staff members are back from their vacations, the director and his new bride (Simon and Virginia Ruwa) are in Livingstone, and a US couple is here for two months. For those of you who know the family, that couple is Josiah and Addi Wenger. It is surreal having another Sheridonian here in Zambia. They are here for one of the staff member's wedding (his name is Kelvin, and he is getting married to a woman from Corvallis, OR, named Johannah, who is also here). Suffice it to say, our Love's Door family has grown substantially since Rachel and I first came here! It has been really fun getting to know all of these new faces better. This team is full of fun personalities, so when we are not working, we tend to have fun.

As for me, my days have been filled with planning, Bible studies, and tutoring. I am leading the youth group next month in a discussion of the Spiritual discipline of Meditation, so I have been reading up on that topic. In mid-February, I was told I was preaching 3.5 days before Sunday, which I have found is not an ideal length of time for planning a sermon. I spent many hours during those few days writing that sermon. The Bible studies in the villages seem to be going fairly well. As a missions department we have been really praying for villager leadership, and a good dose of the Holy Spirit to stir up people's hearts. One of the challenges is that people say they are enthusiastic about the Gospel while we lead, but often when we ask a villager to lead next week, they either say no or they say yes and don't prepare/show up. This seems to be one of the biggest struggles with spreading the Gospel in these villages. As a missions department, we have started to rethink some of what we do and have started talking about what we can do differently that might help convict people. For example, God has been showing me growth in other areas. I tutor/mentor/disciple one of the men who helps keep the grounds here at Love's Door. His name is Samson. Originally, he approached me about helping him become a better English to Lozi translator, because during the Bible study we had that day poor Bernard was struggling getting my English into Tokaleya (everyone here can at

least understand Lozi, Tonga, Tokaleya, and Nyanja, if not other languages too). What followed from that conversation has been me encouraging Samson to read his Lozi Bible, tutoring him in English, and generally encouraging him to lead-and me learning some useful Tokaleya words! He has been hesitant in leadership primarily because he thinks he doesn't know very much, but I have been pushing him and explaining that as a believer, he has authority directly from Christ to proclaim the Gospel. I think that's enough about me for now, but I did want to get in that word about Samson. We have enjoyed getting to spend time together and getting to know one another, so I'm sure you will hear more of him before we leave Zambia.

Now on to my beloved wife. Rachel has also been busy! Much of it is planning, for as you know, when you have an event for children you have to have a plan. Otherwise, chaos ensues. One of Rachel's biggest jobs this month has been leading the 'Discipleship' program. On Saturday mornings, after the first tutoring session we split into young men, young women, and children for youth-group type activities and teaching. Rachel led discipleship which is the children's group (I occasionally lead Courage, which is the young men's group). She was teaching them the 10 Commandments this month, and from what I have heard it was a smashing success! All of the kids have all 10 Commandments memorized (in simplified form). She also taught them some new songs-during that hour of discipleship echos of "My God is so BIG, so STRONG and so MIGHTY," can be heard throughout Love's Door. Rachel has also been planning and leading the Saturday afternoon programs for all of the kids that come to Love's Door. This month, we had a debate, a classic field day, Bible story skits, a Bible quiz, and a scavenger hunt. In addition to all of this, Rachel has been trying to plan for the future of these programs. Simon asked the Children's Department to gear these programs more toward character building and also exposing the kids to different activities and ideas that



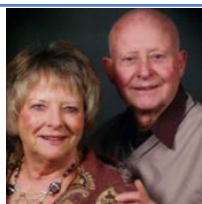
Left to right, Africa, Melody, and Danny.

aren't available in the village setting. March will be a different month, as they make these adjustments. Rachel and Karlee will be leading a small-group or 'club' in drawing, Sarah and Memory will have a volleyball club, and Henry and I will be leading the choir club. Get ready for some

wild news about these shenanigans next month! The last thing Rachel wanted me to mention is about her friend Danny and the growth she has seen in him. When she first met Danny in November, he had just come under sponsorship. Rachel has been his first

(Continued on page 9)

An Update from the Norwoods



March 1, 2020

Dear Friends,

Lest you think that Lani and I have fallen off the face of the earth, we wanted to send along this update. We have been waiting on some additional information that we want to pass on to you. In our last update in Dec., we had mentioned about the possibility of a couple to serve at Copper Center. Since that time we have been in contact with them on multiple occasions. They have ministered in AK for many years and are currently serving at White Mountain, a village near the mouth of the Yukon River. They are very excited about the possibility of serving the congregation and community of Copper Center.

I, Craig, will fly up to Anchorage March 23rd. Elder Ken Johns and I will interview this couple, Ron and Jean. As of today, we believe that this is the Lord's answer to our prayers. If it is, then we will begin a transition schedule that would involve our returning to Copper Center in early May and I would become an interim pastor until they can arrive, sometime during the summer. We will know more after that meeting with them. Please continue to pray that the Lord gives clear confirmation if they are to come to Copper and Ron to become the full time pastor there.

Thank you for standing with us over these past 10 years as we have served in Copper Center. Thank you for praying with us as we have asked the Lord for Him to send just the right family to serve this community. We will send another update after our meeting March 23rd.

On a personal note, Lani and I have enjoyed visiting with 3 of our children since our arrival home last Sept. Our son-in-law, Ben, has finished his chemotherapy and has begun the healing process. He and Sherri are very encouraged at the results and are trusting that all of the cancer has been removed. Ben may be back in the pulpit this month.

We are doing fine except for the fact that Lani will probably have her other knee replaced next fall. Pray that the temporary treatment will ease the pain until the surgery can be done. That is all for now. Again, thanks for supporting us through your prayers and gifts which enable us to serve the Lord in Copper Center in both spiritual and physical ways.

Craig & Lani

(May 1-Sept. 15)

PO Box 164

Copper Center, AK 99573

(Sept. 15 - May 1)

2718 5th St

Union Gap WA 98903



FROM THE HYMNAL SAVIOR LIKE A SHEPHERD LEAD US

Dorothy A Thrupp 1779 – 1847

William B Bradbury 1816 – 1868

Divine guidance is the very essence of Christianity. The Bible equates being guided by the Spirit of God with being a child of God (Rom 8:14). But even as our natural children can sometimes rebel against parental authority, so we too can forsake God's leading in our lives and seek to go our own ways. God's leading, then, doesn't just happen. There must be the sincere desire and willingness to be guided. With implicit faith we must recognize that God has a planned path for each of His children, and we must deeply desire to follow that path wherever it leads. Scriptural promises such as Jeremiah 29:11 become our source of daily encouragement: *For I know the plans I have for you, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and future,* declares the Lord.

The author of this hymn, Dorothy A Thrupp was a British psalmist, hymn writer and translator. She was born in 1779, in Paddington Green, Middlesex, England. Her father was a coachbuilder. She had two brothers and two half-brothers as her mother died at a rather young age. Dorothy spent her entire life in London, where she wrote in children's magazines. She avoided personal publicity and often used pen names for her work. She wrote several hymns; one, "A Little Ship on the Sea", was a great favorite with children. Because she often used a pen name, it has never been fully proven that she was the actual author of *Savior Like a Shepherd Lead Us*, but the hymn first appeared unsigned in her collection *Hymns for the Young* in 1836.

Savior, like a shepherd lead us, much we need Thy tender care; in Thy pleasant pastures feed us, for our use Thy folds prepare: Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, Thou hast bought us Thine we are; blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, Thou hast bought us, Thine we are.

We are Thine – do Thou befriend us, be the Guardian of our way; keep Thy flock, from sin defend us, seek us when we go astray: Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, hear, O hear us when we pray; blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, hear O hear us when we pray.

Thou hast promised to receive us, poor and sinful tho we be; Thou hast mercy to relieve us, grace to cleanse and pow'r to free: Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, early be us turn to Thee; blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, early let us turn to Thee.

Early let us seek Thy favor, early let us do Thy will; blessed Lord and only Savior, with Thy love our bosoms fill: Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, Thou hast loved us, love us still; blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, Thou hast loved us, love us still.

Steve Sommerfeld

~Above content taken from the book *Amazing Grace*, 2nd Edition, by Kenneth W. Osbeck

Grand Sheramina



Food Bank

Donations may be left at the church in the bins under the coat rack in the Narthex (foyer).

Thank you for your generosity and helping if you can.

Please keep donating!

There are lines of people at times waiting for food. The need is great.



TRINITY GATHERS SOCKS!

The socks donated are appreciated - it is still cold and the socks help people stay warm and dry. Please leave your sock donations in the bin under the coat rack in the Narthex (foyer) They will be delivered to the Food Bank for people in need.

ALL BRANDS AND SIZES OF SOCKS are appreciated!

Thank You!

(Continued from page 1)

She said to Him: “Yes, Lord, I believe that You are the Christ, the Son of God, who is to come into the world.” (vs 27)

Despite Jesus’ delay; Despite Lazarus’ death; Despite the disappointment, the loss, and the uncertainty of what life would look like as a result, Martha trusted Jesus. She trusted Him to be her Savior, that even this death wasn’t too great for Him, that His love for her had not changed, that He had a good plan for her and Mary’s life. Death wouldn’t have the final word because of Jesus.

Your Context

As you face uncertain times, let God’s Word, address your fears and feed your faith, let Him speak into your life, and the challenges you face. Draw near to Him, and He will draw near to you. Life will not look the same, or be the same for a while, but Jesus who is the Resurrection and the LIFE, is always the same, and He has you in His hands, and on His heart, and you are in His care. In fact, it could be that this sickness (COVID 19), could have a purpose out there, that somehow, in some way, God will use it for His Glory. It could be, God is allowing it to happen, to get our attention, and the attention of the world, to remind us that there are things in life we can’t fix, and to remind us we desperately need the LORD. Our economy, our health care, our savings, our jobs, our families, can’t save us. He is the ONE on whom our whole life, future, hope, security depends. God is faithful, therefore we need not fear.

As you read the rest of the story, Jesus speaks and Lazarus comes to life again. Death, and four days of decay were no match for Him. Many believed. Others wanted to kill Him. And so the journey continued. The scene was set. Jesus would make His way back to Jerusalem again. Every Holy week we make that journey with Him. From the Hallelujah’s of Palm Sunday, to the shouts “Crucify Him.” Jesus comes to fight the fight we could not win, to die the death we deserved, that by His dying and Rising again, we may live through Him, both now and forever. . . That is the message we proclaim, not just with our words, but with our lives, with our service. We live in the light of Christ and His Resurrection.

Though we can not physically be together right now, we are together in faith, we can connect together with the means God has given: the phone, the internet, and in prayer. If you need something, please let us know. Call the office. We are willing to help. If you need to talk. Please call.

Stefanie has been posting great opportunities to connect with worship over the internet. We have audio recordings of past services and are looking to post services starting soon. There will be a learning curve, both the technology, the team, and how to record a service and maintain the distance that is recommended. I look forward to meeting you, to serving the Lord with you, and to reaching out with Pastoral care.

God bless you as you abide in Christ and in His loving care.

Together in Jesus,

Pastor Bill Hering
(503)407-0722 (cell)



Reception for the Parker Family

A reception of appreciation was held at the February 23rd potluck as Jonny Ann has retired from the position of church organist for Trinity.

Jonny Ann began serving Trinity in 1995 and has faithfully served us for 25 years. Bob also was part of the package as he added his expertise, voice and musical abilities!

We were also fortunate to have their children and grandchildren join us and play for special services, including Christmas Eve and Easter Sunday.



A NOTE FROM TAYLOR

Hello,

As many of you know, our long-time organist Jonny Ann Parker decided to retire from her organist position in February. I am pleased to be taking over for her and look forward to serving the Lord and this congregation with my music.

A little bit about my journey to Trinity. I started taking piano lessons when I was in the 1st grade. I took a liking to it immediately and enjoyed performing for recitals. In the 3rd grade I began lessons with Jonny Ann and continued with them until my senior year of high school.

During this time, I also subbed for Jonny Ann at Trinity for the worship service, choir and children's Christmas program. For the most part I am a self-taught organist. However, thankfully most of my skills on the piano transfer to the organ.

I enjoy all types of music and am always looking for music suggestions or music requests!

Many Blessings,

Taylor Grauer

Taylor.grauer@yahoo.com

503-857-5941



BirThdays & an AnniVersarY

- 3 – Diane Epps
- 7 – Anna Maree Eason
- 9 – Katy Morrow
- 18 – Lindah Hagglund
- 18 – Roy & Liz Crouch ♥
- 20 – Dick Jordan
- 20 – Adam Jordan
- 21 – Laura Griffith
- 23 – Dan Monroe
- 25 – Tim Overholser

*We would like to remember **YOU** on your special day. Please let Stefanie or Gretchen know if we **missed** your birthday, anniversary or have **incorrect information**. Thank you!*



The **DEADLINE** for the
MAY NEWSLETTER is
SUNDAY, APRIL 19

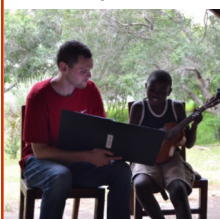
PRAYING we will be back to normal by then, worshiping and meeting regularly.

News, recipes, comments & suggestions are welcome & appreciated! **THANK YOU** to everyone who contributes to and helps with the newsletter!

Please send your articles **BY OR BEFORE THE DEADLINE** to Gretchen: sgjones@onlinenw.com; 503-435-9065 or leave a note in Jones' church mailbox.
THANK YOU!

(Continued from page 5)

tutor. When they met, he could (or would) not string together more than two words in English and knew about three letter sounds. But through a lot of work, and thanks to Danny's natural excitement to learn (excitement that sometimes brings him to our house as early as 6:30 AM) he now knows almost all his letter sounds, six sight words, learned to write his last name (he was really excited about that one), and will speak English to anyone who will listen. What Rachel is most excited about is that he now sings the Bible songs at Discipleship, he worked hard to learn the 10 Commandments, and she can see God working in his heart.



Ukulele Recital (Joshua playing, Zack holding the book).

The last thing I want to mention is the ukulele recital! This one was Rachel's idea, so her, Sarah, and I planned it out and it actually happened! The videos are too large to send over this village internet, but hopefully soon there will be videos on the Love's Door 4 All Nations Facebook page. We really wanted the kids to practice for something, instead of going there just to dink around on the uke and have a dance party (although those are fun too). Ever since the recital and the intentional practice they put in beforehand, we have seen marked improvement in their ukulele playing. We are proud of the confidence they displayed in getting up in front of a group of people. :)



Ukulele Recital (left to right, Chester, Mercy, and Zack open the recital with some worship

So here is our last month or so! We hope this letter finds everyone well back there in the States (and Canada). We will see if another letter gets sent within the next two or three weeks. Rachel and I are going on a safari next Monday, so we might share some photos from that excursion.

Blessings to you all,

Zack and Rachel Monroe

Prayer requests:

1- Pray for these villagers. Pray that their hearts would be softened and that they would have a passion to pursue Christ, rather than a lukewarm attitude.

2- Pray for Rachel and I as we start to think about what we will do this summer and after. We are hoping to find jobs and settle down a bit.

A follow-up note from Zack - March 24, 2020

Dear friends and family,

It is with a heavy heart that we write you all today. After much prayer and deliberation, Rachel and I have decided to leave Zambia and come back to the USA.

looking ahead to ... May



- ♥ Fri. May 1 - May Day
- ♥ Tues. May 5 - 1:30 PM, Church Chicks meeting
- ♥ Thurs. May 7 - National Day of Prayer
- ♥ Sun. May 10 - Mother's Day
- ♥ Sun. May 10 - Coffee Hour
- ♥ Sat. May 16 - Armed Forces Day
- ♥ Wed. May 20 - 1:30 - 3:00 PM, Caregiver Support Group
- ♥ Thurs. May 21 - Ascension Day
- ♥ Thurs. May 21 & 28 - 10 AM TLC Quilters
- ♥ Sun. May 24 - May newsletter deadline.
- ♥ Mon. May 25 - Memorial Day - observed
- ♥ **PLEASE CHECK THIS MONTH'S SERVING SCHEDULE:** Are you a greeter, reader, usher, offering counter...?

Thank you for Serving!

*Please note all meetings are tentative. Watch Stefanie's **Trinity Notes** for changes.*

There are many reasons we are making this decision the foremost reasons being that we feel God is not asking us to remain in Zambia and that we feel it is most prudent to go home during these uncertain times. We were able to reschedule our tickets for this Saturday, which would put us in Seattle on Sunday, March 29. Upon arrival, we will travel to Sheridan where we will serve our 14 day self-quarantine. We don't want to be vectors of this disease!

During that time I'm sure we will write a big newsletter recapping our time in Zambia and reflecting on what we have learned.

We appreciate all of the prayers, notes, and support from every one of you. Please pray for our flights and also for the Love's Door team that will remain in Singanga Village.

Blessings,
Zack and Rachel Monroe

And now, the **REST OF THE STORY!**

March 26

Dear Friends and Family,

Our last letter was brief and said that we were coming home by Sunday, March 28. That letter was a bit

(Continued on page 10)

(Continued from page 9)

premature as there have been some developments since then.

On Sunday, after a time of prayer and meditation, we decided to follow the council of our parents and the Love's Door leadership and switch our tickets to come home. We got our flights switched on Monday, and it seemed like our time at Love's Door was coming to a quick close.

On Tuesday, Rachel and I went to Livingstone for Love's Door shopping. We were enjoying pizza at Da Canton, our favorite Italian restaurant, finishing newsletter #7. On the way back to Singanga, our cousin Sam was messaging us saying that maybe we should check our flights because his wife Linda's flights were being affected by the coronavirus situation. As soon as we arrived at Love's Door, we checked British Airways and found that our flight from Livingstone to Johannesburg was canceled with no notice whatsoever. After some quick research, we found that the last flight leaving this area was on Wednesday the 25th, and it was leaving from Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe, just across the border. We didn't know what to do, so we repacked our things and called Felix who was on his way back to Livingstone after dropping us off in the village. He picked us up again and took us to the airport. We arrived just before 5 pm, and found that the British Airways office actually closes at 4 pm.

What followed were about two hours of calling home, looking at flights, watching ticket prices soar as seats were snatched, and asking God for guidance. As our options were narrowed down to a \$5,500 one way flight (with three stops to boot), we had to take a break and re-examine our options. On Sunday and Monday it seemed like God was making a way for us to go home and be with family. On Tuesday, it seemed like we were grasping at straws, trying to force our way home. After thinking about these things, we decided to cancel all of our tickets, apply for refunds, and wait this thing out. We have a ministry, a community, and a life built in Zambia, and we are at peace staying here. Honestly it felt icky leaving everything on such short notice. We would have been heartbroken saying goodbye to all the kids, our teammates, and other friends here. So for better or worse, in Singanga we will stay.

The British Airways representative we talked to said that flights might open up again in mid-April, so we are hopeful that we will be able to come home around our originally scheduled time. Our return home is pretty much contingent on how the coronavirus continues to affect international travel over the next few months. Keep us in your prayers! We do want to come home but as we said above, we have peace and safety here at Love's Door. When it is our time to go home, God will make that way for us. So please don't worry! Just continue to pray over these villages and that we will be able to come home soon.

Blessings to you all,

Zack and Rachel Monroe

STOP THE SPREAD OF GERMS

Help prevent the spread of respiratory diseases like COVID-19.

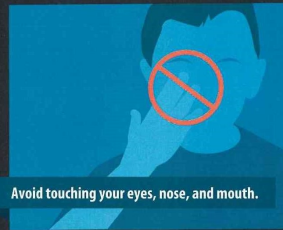
Avoid close contact with people who are sick.



Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.



Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth.



Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.



Stay home when you are sick, except to get medical care.



Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.

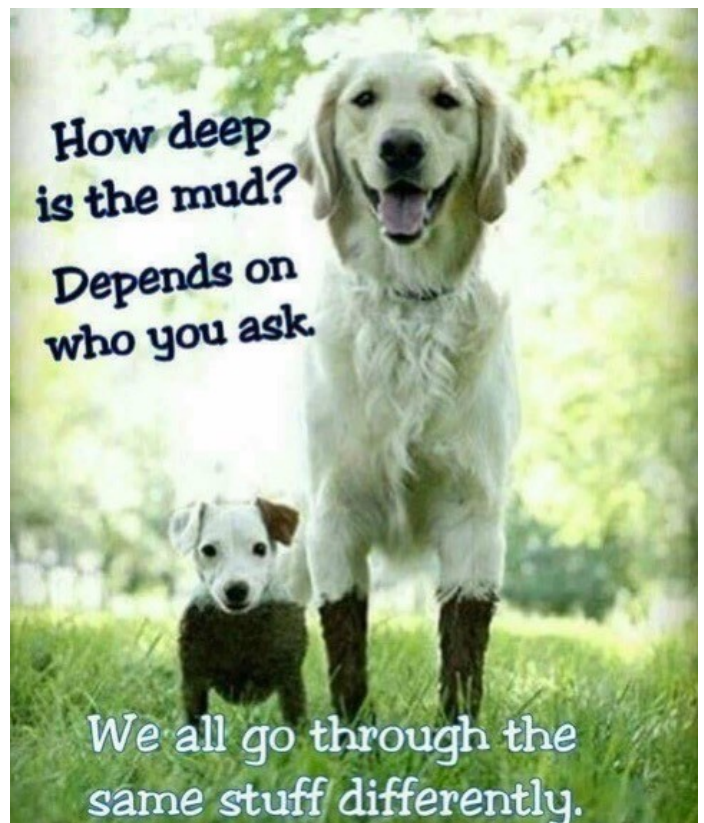


[cdc.gov/COVID19](https://www.cdc.gov/COVID19)

314915-4, March 16, 2020 1:02 PM

How deep
is the mud?
Depends on
who you ask.



We all go through the
same stuff differently.



April 2020
Trinity Lutheran Church

Church: 503-843-4747

Pastor Bill Hering

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 5 Palm Sunday			1	2	3	4 Isaiah 50:4-9a Psalm 31:9-16 Philemon 2:5-11 Matthew 26:1—27:66 or Matt. 27:11-66
5 Palm Sunday	6	7 Ladies Aid-LWML- Church Chicks Virtual Meeting 1:30 pm	8	9 Maundy Thursday	10 Good Friday Service	11 Acts 10:34-43 or Jeremiah 31:1-6 Psalm 16 Colossians 3:1-4 Matthew 28:1-10
12 Resurrection of Our Lord	13	14	15	16	17	18 Acts 5:29-43 Psalm 148 1 Peter 1:3-9 John 20:19-31
19 May Newsletter Deadline 2nd Sunday of Easter	20	21 TLC Council Meeting 7:00 pm	22	23	24	25 Acts 2:14a, 36-41 Psalm 116:1-14 1 Peter 1:17-25 Luke 24:13-35
26 3rd Sunday of Easter	27	28	29	30		

***Due to the COVID-19 health crisis and government guidelines, TLC scheduling will be tentative. We will notify you of any changes.**



**YOU ARE
FORGIVEN**

