Historic Trinity
News Letter
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Pastor's Page

FOOLISHNESS...

Why do you go to church?

Take a moment to review why in the world you bother. And let me see if I get this straight: You go, giving time out of your busy schedules to come together in mass quantities. You sit together on relatively uncomfortable benches. Sitting. Standing. Sitting. Standing. You fuss with your children, trying to keep them quiet so as not to disturb the folks around you. Most put on your Sunday best.

Why?

Think about it… You worship to sing praises to a God whom you have never seen. You worship a Savior whose voice your ears have never heard. Many giving thousands of dollars, some tens of thousands of dollars, every year to a Heavenly Father who has never once given you the keys to the family car.

Not only that, but every other week you practice what appears to be self-professed cannibalism. You claim to eat the very body and drink the very blood of a first century Palestinian Jew.

And to top it off, scattered throughout your place of gathering are predominant artifacts of a cruel and grotesque instrument of torture, mutilation, and death. And yet you have placed this front and center.

So what brings you to worship?

Faith, you say? Show it to me, that I might test it, put it under a microscope, and break down its molecular structure. Show it to me, that I might touch it with my hands, see it with my eyes. Prove it, I say. Prove it! Can you do it?

"*The message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved, it is the power of God*". (1 Corinthians 1:18)

But to those who worship in this house, in His name, and under our cross, we know we are saved by God's grace, and the message of the cross is power. Thus, as we sit beneath the cross of Jesus, what is it that we see?

The Lenten cross is not an empty cross. It's occupied. It is owned by a man of meager means. Many gathered around Jesus on that bleak Friday had come to know who He was, many have come to know what He had done, but by high noon, most were unsure why He was hanging there.

So… what do you see?

I see His sacred, wounded head. His hair matted down and covering His eyes. It is bloodied by the crown of thorns pounded into His skull just hours before. The blood has clotted from His head to His hair, from His hair to His face. They say that the eyes are the window to the soul, and His soul- by His very eyes- was bleeding anguish.

I see His hands. They are restrained to the tree by means of cold and hard nails, thrust through His flesh and into the rugged wood. Were these not the same hands that took little children into His arms to bless them? And these hands, did they not touch the blind eyes and the deaf ears and make them hear? And when the world turned their back on the lepers (all ten of them), did not these same nail scarred hands do what few- if none- had done for years… touch them?

These were His hands- powerful, healing, forgiving, creating. These were the hands that the Roman guards pounded onto a Roman cross.

I see these same hands closing into sleep the eyes of the first man, and mystically reaching into that man's side, and from Adam's rib forming the beautiful and magnificent being called "woman".

I see His side. But from it, I do not see life or creation. I see death and destruction. I see a spear, and a pouring out of blood and of water.

When Adam and Eve fell from grace, was it not God Himself who slay a beast of the field to cloth the man and woman in their shame? (Gen 3:21) When I see the cross, I see that we have chosen to not pay God that same respect. I see God naked on a tree.

I see His feet. The precious feet of the Lord. The feet which walked on water. And traveled around Galilee healing and blessing.

Is that one nail or two hammered through His feet and into the cross? I think it matters not, for what constrains His feet, what binds them up, is not what I see.

My eyes see nails, and a spear, and a bloody crown. My eyes see agony, and affliction, and pain.

But my faith sees so much more than these.

My faith knows this is the God of heaven and earth dying on a cross. My faith trusts His love, and knows of His power- which can raise the dead, and heal the sick, and cast out demons, and forgive the sins of the most vile of sinners.

And my faith asks: What holds those hands there? What keeps those feet from "walking on water"? My God says to my heart but one word:

Love.

Do you see it?

To those without faith, I guess it's pretty silly. For what they see with their eyes is all they believe.

But to you and I, our eyes are the windows to our souls, and our souls have been saved. So when we sit beneath the cross of Jesus, our eyes see pain and death, but our souls see love and life. And this sight brings power. The power of God.

This old rugged cross is perhaps the most infamous of all cruel and unusual punishments. It is the emblem of suffering and shame. But the cross itself, this empty piece of scabrous wood, the cross does not save you- it is the man who hung from it for six hours one Friday morning. It is not the cross that has power, it is *the message* of the cross that holds the power.

When you see the cross, in its shame and in its glory, what message do you see? Love. "God so loved the world that He gave His only Son".

By the mere fact that you worship proves at least one thing. You don't mind being a little foolish. You see with your heart what most cannot see with their eyes- and this moves you rejoice.

If it stops with my eyes, if I am content with only what I see, then I must ask myself, do I really understand what I see? If I truly believe in my soul what I see with my heart, than my mouth and my tongue can only do but one thing: Follow.

And if I believe in the love of God for the world, then even nails shouldn't be able to restrain me from sharing what I see.

DLA

READ THROUGH THE BIBLE

BIBLE STUDIES AT HISTORIC TRINITY

Sunday Adult Bible Study - 9:30 a.m. "The Holy Huddle"
Led by: Rev. Dr. Kieth Gerberding
Men's Bible Study - 2nd & 4th Monday's - 9:30 a.m.
Led by: Rev. Ronald Guettler
Theology on Tap - Monday's - 6:00 - 7:30 pm
Led by: Rev. Darryl Andrzejewski, Rev. Dr. John Herzog, Rev. Dr. John Heins, Rev. Ronald Guettler & Rev. Dr. Kieth Gerberding

HOLY HUDDLE BIBLE CLASS

THE BEST SERMON YOU COULD EVER HEAR...

Will continue to be discussed and dissected (but not disputed) in our **'HOLY HUDDLE'** Bible Class in March. Jesus' **'Sermon on the Mount'** will be the object of our attention as found in the Gospel of Matthew, chapters 5 - 7. We plan to hear and listen to Jesus as He calls us to be His disciples, in word and deed. Please come at 9:30 am to the Hohl Conference Room, Sunday.

THEOLOGY ON TAP – Monday Evenings thru Mar 20th

Theology on Tap is meets weekly on Monday evenings. Led by an All-Star line-up of pastors, Historic Trinity presents a Theology on Tap series on the Gospel of John. Dinner and drinks at 6:00 pm. Study from 6:30-7:30 pm. The study topic for this enlightening series will be:

The Word Became Flesh: A Tap into the Gospel of John

Feb 20 John 17 *with Rev. Herzog*
Feb 27 John 18 *with Dr. Heins*
Mar 6 John 19 *with Rev. Guettler*
Mar 13 John 20 *with Dr. Gerberding*
Mar 20 John 21 *with Rev. Andrzejewski*

"The Evangelist John is a master above all, for he treats the teaching of Christ's divinity and His humanity diligently. He joins these two natures together. When Christ becomes man, He speaks to us..." ~Martin Luther.

LENTEN SERVICE SCHEDULE

March 1st is the beginning of the repentant season of Lent. Our Ash Wednesday Communion Services will be held on March 1st at 12:00 noon and 7:00 pm. Imposition of Ashes will be available at the end of each service. Thereafter each Wednesday through April 5th we will have worship services at 12:00 noon. All afternoon services are followed by a light lunch for a free will offering. This Lenten season our focus will be on:

Here I Stand: Luther's Lenten Reflections
1: Standing on the Word.
2: Standing in Prayer.
3: Standing in Suffering.
4: Standing Unafraid.
5: Standing in Persecution.
6. Standing in Truth.

Please join us on Wednesday's as we meditate on Luther's reflections as we prepare our hearts for Christ's triumphant victory over sin and death and the procurement of our salvation.

PRE-MARRIAGE SEMINARS - Feb 26 & Mar 12

Again, this year at Historic Trinity, Rev. Ronald Guettler will be conducting two pre-marriage seminars. On Sunday, February 26th at 11:00 am please join the discussion on "Getting Better Acquainted". On Sunday, March 12th at 11:00 am the discussion centers on "Strengthening the Bond". The seminars will be held in the Luther Lounge. Please plan on attending these enriching and informative seminars.

REFORMATION 500

2017 begins our year-long celebration of the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation. Throughout the year, we will focus on the Five Pillars or "Solas" of the Reformation. In March and April, we will turn our attention to the Pillar of "Sola Gratia" (Grace Alone):

Grace Alone

At the heart of what we believe is the conviction that salvation is the free gift of God's grace (undeserved mercy) for Christ's sake alone. "Since the fall of Adam all men who are born according to the course of nature are conceived and born in sin" (Augsburg Confession II, 1), the Lutherans confessed before Emperor Charles V in Augsburg, Germany, in 1530. This "inborn sickness and hereditary sin" makes it utterly impossible for people to earn forgiveness. If salvation were dependent on human initiative, there would be no hope for anyone. But God forgives our sins, says Luther in his Large Catechism (1529), "altogether freely, out of pure grace" (LC III, 96).

The basis for the grace of God that alone gives hope to sinners is the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. We believe, as Luther put it in his explanation to the second article of the Apostles' Creed, "that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father from eternity, and also true man, born of the virgin Mary, is my Lord, who has redeemed me, a lost and condemned person . . . not with gold or silver, but with his holy, precious blood and with his innocent suffering and death. . . ." (Luther's Small Catechism with Explanations, p.14).

We believe that the Scriptures teach that God's grace in Christ Jesus is universal, embracing all people of all times and all places. There is no sin for which Christ has not died. Says the Formula of Concord (1577), "We must by all means cling rigidly and firmly to the fact that as the proclamation of repentance extends over all men (Luke 24:47), so also does the promise of the Gospel . . . . Christ has taken away the sin of the world (John 1:29)" (FC SD XI, 28). Therefore, there need be no question in any sinner's mind whether Christ has died for each and every one of his or her personal sins.

During each "Sola" focus, we have invited a guest preacher to join us throughout the year. Our guest preacher during the Sola Gratia focus is Rev. Dr. David Maier (March 19). Dr. Maier, grandson of the longtime founding speaker of The Lutheran Hour, Walter A. Maier, has been President of the Michigan District of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod since 2009.

HISTORIC TRINITY DINNER THEATER - Mar 19

As another way to commemorate the 500th Anniversary of the Reforamtion, Historic Trinity presents a Sunday afternoon dinner theater featuring Alicia Winget in *'A Visit With Katharina Luther'.* This is a wonderful one-woman theatrical presentation about the life and times of Martin Luther's beloved wife Katharina. We plan to have a delicious German dinner, served family style, followed by the one hour play. Immediately after the play sculptor Timothy Schmalz will provide us with a pictorial progress report on the Luther Sculpture along with Q&A time. Please plan on attending Sunday, March 19th at 4:00 pm. The cost for this dinner theater event is $15.00 for adults, $5.00 for children ages 6-12, children 5 and under are free. Please contact the church office to make your reservations (313-567-3100). Reservation deadline is March 15th.

THE COUNCIL OF LUTHERAN WOMEN WOMAN OF THE YEAR - Mar 21

The Council of Lutheran Women's 2017 Luncheon will be held at Wyndham Garden, 34911 Van Dyke, Sterling Heights, MI 48312 on March 21, 2017. The guest entertainment will be Rennie and Esther Kaufmann, a father and daughter duet. The festivities will begin at 11:00 a.m. and will include a presentation to **Historic Trinity's Woman of the Year honoree, Judy Champney.** Reservations are $24 per person and includes a $2 donation to seminarians and CLS-supported food banks. Reservations must be paid in advance and no refunds will be extended. Please contact the church office (313-567-3100) for reservation information. Reservations received after Friday, March 10th will not be guaranteed seating with our Historic Trinity group. Please join us as we honor our Woman of the Year, Judy Champney and the honorees from the other area Lutheran churches.

WOMEN OF HISTORIC TRINITY

You are invited to enjoy the excitement of the LWML (Lutheran Women's Missionary League), now named Women In Mission by placing an individual order for their magazine at $6.50 per subscription. You can do this several ways. The easiest way to do this is to order by phone at 1-800-252-LWML(5965). You can also go online to lwml.org, click on News and Events and go down the drop-down bar to Lutheran Woman's Quarterly. There is also a form available if you prefer not to use the phone or go on-line. For an order form contact Marlene Herzog or Nancy Jones. The subscription runs from Summer of 2017 through Spring of 2018. You are also invited to attend the Guild or Ladies Aid LWML meetings to learn more about Women in Mission.

PEACE LOVE HOPE JESUS PEACE LOVE HOPE JESUS

FROM THE PARISH NURSE COUNCIL

PREVENTING TRAUMATIC BRAIN INJURY

March is the month dedicated to recognition and prevention of **TBI.** Have you ever hit your head and just didn't feel quite right afterwards? You resume your normal activities but perhaps have a headache, sensitivity to noise or light, difficulty concentrating and/or remembering things? A **TBI** can disrupt the normal activity in the brain, ranging from mild concussions to life threatening injuries. Research shows that in the U.S. males are at higher risk than women, also young children and older adults. Adolescents and young adults (age 15-24) have the highest rates of **TBI** sustained from motor vehicle accidents. Adults 65 and over have the highest risk for complications following a **TBI.**

The signs and symptoms include:

MENTALLY
Difficulty thinking clearly
Difficulty remembering recent events
Feeling slowed down
Difficulty concentrating

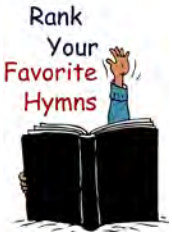
PHYSICALLY
Feeling tired/no energy
Nausea/vomiting
Balance issues/sensitivity to light
Headache/visual disturbance

EMOTIONALLY
Irritability
Sadness
More emotional
Nervous or anxious

CHANGES IN SLEEP
Sleeping more than usual
Sleeping less than usual
Trouble falling asleep

These symptoms may be immediate or delayed for days, even months. If you have any of these symptoms following an injury to the head, they should be evaluated by a doctor as soon as possible.

Blessings and prayers for an early spring. :)
Nancy Jones, R.N.



WHAT'S YOUR FAVORITE HYMN?

Pastor Andrzejewski has created a survey to rank Historic Trinity's favorite hymns. You can do this online at: https://surveyhero.com/c/c960da7 or you can fill out a paper survey available in the church office. Results of this survey will be published in a few months when we count down (and sing!) the top 12 favorite hymns of Historic Trinity during our worship services.

FOOD DONATIONS NEEDED

Remember to bring in your food pantry donations and place them on the counter by the rear door.

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

1 Nancy Bolton
1 Scott Johnson
1 Christian Machesky
1 Michael Murphy
1 Kristie Schmiege
2 Amin Jones
2 Jerry Micham
3 Lybra Lindke
3 Julie Paavola
3 Richard Phillips
3 Cable Thatch
4 Norbert Andrzejewski
4 Paul Bach
4 Spencer Breen
4 Katie Bruning
4 Betty Judge
4 Garrett Male
4 John McMicking
4 Carol Middeldorf
5 Juergen Koehler
5 Katherine Listman
5 Michael Mertens
5 Michael Neymanowski
6 Brian Johnstone
6 Robert Rinne
6 Leo Sander
7 Jacob Carolan
7 Kent Weier
8 Ronald Fett
8 Brie Lambert
9 Cora Claffey
9 JaNel Dantzler
9 Tammy Herrera
9 Matthew Lindquist
10 Kathleen Fiedler
10 Benjamin Keller
10 Emerson Lindke
10 Loana Martinko
10 Harmony Vallee
11 Joseph DiMambro
11 Joe Foerster
11 Madeline Gurley
11 Luke Halliday
11 Nora Schley
12 Andrew Finken
12 Andrew Hill
13 Nicholas Finley
13 Paula Melone
13 Dana Raymant
13 Lise Shirtz
13 Keith Sobosky
13 James Sommerfeld
14 Michael Alter Sr.
14 Judith Glancy
14 Donna Nicholson
14 Lynn Shaw
14 Vivienne Wieczorek
15 Idella Hunt
15 Robert Kitchen
15 Gregory Kovach
15 Helene Lacoste
15 Susan Muldowney
15 Anne Sayre
16 Joanne Champney
16 Connor Kapayo
16 Spencer Kapayo
16 Luke Neuenfeldt
17 Darlene Boyd
17 Christine Davis
17 Zachary Decker
17 Catrina DeRosia
17 Charlotte Dossin
17 David Jones Jr.
17 Mya Kutz
17 Amanda Orlando
18 Stephanie Hoenig
18 Shayla Huminski
18 Carl Klein
18 Marie Montgomery
19 Barbara Asmus
19 Gretel Bourgeois
19 Tammy Eberhard
19 Amy Fiedler
19 Gage Gillam
19 Nicolas Gillam
19 Phillip Kramer
19 William Laitner
19 Kelly Machesky
19 Antoinette McIntosh
19 Roy Montney Jr.
19 Neil Piltz
20 Todd Davis
20 Lisa Gage
20 Brendan Mackie
20 John McIntosh III
20 Stefani Urlaub
21 Marlene Foerster
21 Lynn Henry
21 Nancy Jones
21 Cheryl Perich
21 Craig Schley
23 Mary Cardella
23 Aidan Cellarius
23 Gage Dolinski
23 Chester Gow
23 Jude Simms
23 Susan Smith
23 Megan Worley
24 Dennis Mohr
24 Karen Vandemergel
24 Meribeth Yamin
25 Mitchell Alter
25 Nicholas Alter
25 Kristen D'Anna
25 Laurence King
25 Steve Morris
25 Donna Noll
25 Nicholas Rafferty
25 Gregory Rode
25 Carol Schiller
26 Jack Gliesman
26 Thomas Nicholson
27 Stephanie Bryer
27 Karin Eberhard
27 Ethan Seibel
27 Zachary Seibel
27 Jamie Vollmert
28 Joshua Carolan
28 Elizabeth Drewek
28 Nicholas Galac
28 Scott Simpson
28 Jacqueline Vives
29 Annette Eichberger
30 Daniel Briody
30 Ryan Bruning
30 Dean DeGeer
30 Randall Goddard
30 Nicholas Golembiewski
30 Lachlan Graebner
30 Janet Keppler
30 Norman Malinowski
30 Judy McMicking
31 Judy Gerhold
31 Delbert Hammond
31 Susan Knoblauch

MARCH ANNIVERSARIES

1 David & Patricia Jones Sr.
1 Christopher & Kelly Kiewicz
6 Justin & Heather Walker
14 Steven & Sarah Ruskowski
15 Gary & Virginia Headapohl
16 Ronald & Judy Carmona
17 Matthew & Michelle Lund
18 Richard & Erica Harding
22 Charles & Judith Finley
22 Peter & Linda Harlow
22 Jim & Barbara Krogsrud
24 Timothy & L.Gaic Hartge

WELCOME New Members

Christopher, Danyel & Jason Becker
Nicole Bresinski

Feb 20th Theology on Tap - 6:00 pm
Feb 25th Soup & Chili Cook Off - 5:00 pm
Feb 26th Pre-Marriage Seminar - 11:00 am
Feb 27th Men's Bible Study - 9:30 am
Feb 28th Community Seniors - 12:00 pm
Mar 1st Ash Wednesday Services 12:00 pm (w/lunch) & 7:00 pm
Mar 6th Theology on Tap - 6:00 pm
Mar 8th Lenten Service - 12:00 pm (w/lunch)
Mar 9th Ladies Aid LWML Meeting - 11:00 am
Mar 11th Jr. Confirmation - 10:00 am
Mar 13th Men's Bible Study 9:30 am
Mar 13th Theology on Tap - 6:00 pm
Mar 14th Ladies Guild Meeting - 6:30 pm
Mar 15th Lenten Service 12:00 pm (w/lunch)
Mar 19th Sola Gratia - Rev. Dr. David Maier 8:15, 9:30 & 11:00 am
Mar 19th Dinner Theater - 4:00 pm
Mar 20th Theology on Tap - 6:00 pm
Mar 21st Woman of the Year Luncheon Wyndham Garden - 11:00 am
Mar 22nd Lenten Service - 12:00 pm (w/lunch)
Mar 27th Men's Bible Study - 9:30 am
Mar 28th Community Seniors - 12:00 pm
Mar 29th Lenten Service - 12:00 pm (w/lunch)

Don't forget to follow the link on our website historictrinity.org to the online sermons. Click on Historic Trinity Video Sermons Online and you will be taken to the livestream.com site.

Historic Trinity Lutheran Church

2017 March

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26	27	Feb 28	1 Ash Wednesday 12:00 PM Ash Wed Communion Service w/lunch 12:00 PM LLC 6:30 PM Choir Reh 7:00 PM Ash Wed Communion Service	2	3	4
5 8:15 AM Worship 9:30 AM Bible Class 9:30 AM Worship 11:00 AM Worship-Communion	6 12:00 PM Detroit Historical Houses of Worship Tour&Lunch 6:00 PM Theology on Tap	7	8 12:00 PM Lenten Service w/lunch 6:30 PM Choir Reh	9 11:00 AM Ladies Aid Meeting	10	11 10:00 AM Jr. Confirmation
12 1:00 AM Daylight Savings Time Begins 8:15 AM Worship 9:30 AM Bible Class 9:30 AM Worship w/Communion 11:00 AM PreMarriageSeminar2 11:00 AM Worship	13 9:30 AM Men's Bible Study 10:30 AM Staff Meeting 6:00 PM Theology on Tap	14 6:30 PM Ladies Guild	15 12:00 PM Lenten Service w/lunch 6:30 PM Choir Reh	16	17	18
19 Rev. Dr. David Maier - Preaching 8:15 AM Worship w/Communion 9:30 AM Bible Class 9:30 AM Worship 11:00 AM Worship 4:00 PM Dinner Theater -	20 6:00 PM Theology on Tap	21 11:00 AM Woman of the Year Luncheon Wyndham Garden Strlg Hgts	22 12:00 PM Lenten Service w/lunch 6:30 PM Choir Reh	23	24	25
26 8:15 AM Worship w/Communion 9:30 AM Bible Class 9:30 AM Worship w/Communion continuous line 11:00 AM Worship 12:00 PM Lenten Drama	27 9:30 AM Men's Bible Study 10:30 AM Staff Meeting	28 12:00 PM Community Seniors	29 12:00 PM Lenten Service w/lunch 6:30 PM Choir Reh	30	31	Apr 1
2	3	Notes				