



## TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

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[trinity4jax.org](http://trinity4jax.org)

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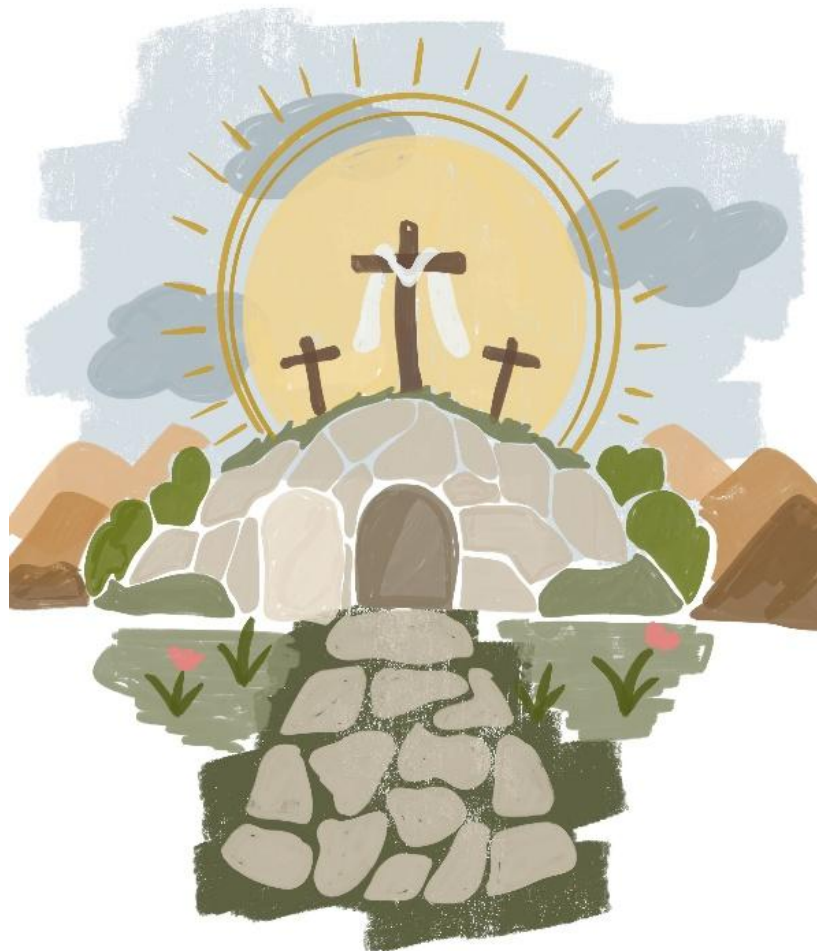
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**Trinity Lutheran Church**  
**Blood Drive**  
**Sunday, April 6**  
**9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m**

**LIFESOUTH**  
Community Blood Centers

## VOICE OF TRINITY

*Proclaiming Jesus Christ to the World*



*Joy Comes in the Morning:*  
*Easter Sunday*

## From Our Pastor

### April Fools' Day—also known as All Fools' Day—is once again upon us.

It's a day marked by practical jokes and playful hoaxes, often ending with the familiar cry: "*April Fools!*" From friends and family to neighbors and even bosses, no one is off-limits for these lighthearted pranks. This tradition has been celebrated in various ways around the world for centuries.

Though the exact origins of April Fools' Day remain a mystery, similar customs can be found in cultures across Europe, the Middle East, and throughout Spanish-speaking countries. Some even trace the roots of this day all the way back to the book of Genesis. According to one legend, Noah sent out a dove from the ark before the floodwaters had fully receded—on what would correspond to the first day of April on the Hebrew calendar. Whether or not this connection is historically accurate, it reminds us that even in the earliest stories, there are moments of human misjudgment—and even, perhaps, a touch of humor.

As we enjoy the mischief of April 1st, we're invited to reflect on something deeper: the upside-down nature of the Gospel. At the heart of our faith is a Savior who triumphed not through power and prestige, but through humility and sacrifice—a message that turns the world's values on their head.

Before we celebrate Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem—an arrival that "fooled" the world with its quiet humility—we must first journey with Him through His final days. From the joyful cries of *Hosanna* on Palm Sunday to the solemn sorrow of Good Friday, the path to resurrection is one of deep love, great cost, and eternal hope.

Please join us as we walk this Holy Week journey together in Christ

- **Maundy Thursday – April 17<sup>th</sup> 7:00 PM**

Our Holy Week begins with Maundy Thursday worship, where we remember Jesus' command to love one another and His gift of everlasting life, given through His own body and blood.

- **Good Friday – April 18<sup>th</sup> 12:00 Noon**

This contemplative service invites us to follow Jesus to the cross. Through prayer, scripture, and music, we'll reflect on His passion as we move through the Stations of the Cross contemplating what this all means in our lives.

- **Holy Saturday Prayer Vigil – April 19<sup>th</sup> 9:00 am – 4:00 pm**

As Lent comes to a close, we pause in prayerful reflection. This quiet vigil invites us to sit with the sorrow of the past days and prepare our hearts for the joy to come.

- **Easter Sunday – April 20<sup>th</sup> Resurrection of Our Lord – Services at 8:30 AM and 11:00 am.** Join us as we celebrate the risen Christ, who has conquered sin and death and brings new life to all!

This April, may we embrace the paradox of our faith: that in seeming foolishness, there is divine wisdom; in suffering, there is redemption; and in death, there is eternal life. I look forward to shouting Alleluia with you!

**The Trinity Family** would like to extend a very warm welcome to Pastor Carol Gates. She became our Interim Pastor on March 1, 2025. We are so blessed to have Pastor Carol join us at this time of transition. She comes to us with many years of experience working with other churches through their pastor transition processes. We have much work to do in the coming months, but we will be well guided with Pastor Carol's experience, wisdom and guidance!

With 23 in attendance our Lunch Bunch had a great time this month at Silver Star. What a nice way to catch up with those that we don't get to see very often. Friends and family are always welcome as well. Even if you forget to sign-up you can show up and we will make room for you. Nothing is impossible! Since Holy Week leading up to Easter is the third week of April, we will be meeting April 24<sup>th</sup> at 11:30 at Monroe's Barbecue. Sign up sheet will be up in the social hall at the 1<sup>st</sup> of each month. Or, you may call or text Kim at 904-635-9104. Peace, Kim

If you would like an electronic copy of **Pastor Robert's Memory Book**, please email Maria at: [MariaLouiseRetter@gmail.com](mailto:MariaLouiseRetter@gmail.com)

### Trinity Lunch Bunch

#### APRIL'S DESTINATION

Monroe's Smokehouse Barbeque  
4838 Highway Avenue  
Jacksonville, FL 32254  
904-389-5551

Thursday April 24, 2025 11:30 am

\*Sign up in the Hall of Memories.

\*Call Kim with any changes:

904-635-9104

# APR 2025

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		01 Choir 10:30am	02	03 Food Pantry 4-6pm	04 Food Pantry 10am-12pm	05
06 Blood Drive 8am-2pm	07 Quilters 9am WELCA 11am	08 Choir 10:30am Circle 12pm Council 6:30pm	09	10 Food Pantry 4-6pm	11 Food Pantry 10am-12pm	12
13 Palm Sunday	14 Quilters 9am	15 Choir 10:30am	16	17 Food Pantry 4-6pm	18 Food Pantry 10am-12pm	19
20 <b>Easter Sunday</b> reSource Service 8:30am Breakfast 9:30am Egg Hunt 10:00am Traditional Service 11:00am	21 Quilters 9am	22 Choir 10:30am	23	24 Food Pantry 4-6pm Lunch Bunch 11:30am	25 Food Pantry 10am-12pm NFAN 11-2pm	26
27	28 Quilters 9am	29 Choir 10:30am	30			



## Pastor Robert Has Retired... What Happens Next?

For the past few weeks since Pastor Robert announced his retirement that will take place in February, there have been many questions and concerns about the upcoming process of calling a new pastor. In order to answer some of those questions and calm some of the concerns, the following is information that was provided to the Congregation Council from the Synod outlining the "Steps in the Calling of a New Pastor." It will give you the general idea of what steps will be taken and the order in which we are to follow.

**Step 1:**

~~Current pastor resigns or retires...~~  
~~A celebration of his service is planned.~~

**Step 2:**

~~Congregation receives a transition or interim pastor.~~

**Step 3:**

Ministry assessment & discernment process occurs.

**Step 4:**

The call process begins...  
Call committee is formed.

**Step 5:**

Congregational Ministry Site Profile is created.

**Step 6:**

Call List is formed.

**Step 7:**

Interview of candidates.

**Step 8:**

Primary candidate identified & interviewed by congregation council.

**Step 9:**

Congregation meets primary candidate.

**Step 10:**

Congregation votes to extend a call; pastor accepts or declines call.

**Step 11:**

Installation

**Step 12:**

Evaluation Process

As you can see, there are many multiphase steps involved in this process and it will take time to complete each step with precision, patience and prayer. There is no way to rush these steps. Taking our time and allowing the Lord to lead us through with faith is the only way for us to move forward on this journey. We are all very excited to learn who it is that the Lord will reveal to us who will lead us into our next century!

### *To the Members and Friends of Trinity*

The outpouring of love and concern I received when recently in the hospital was overwhelming from the calls, cards, visits, gifts and prayers. Each message brought joy and encouragement. My heartfelt thanks for the many generous expressions of thoughtfulness, kindnesses given and still being shown. My heart was touched deeply by the most generous and unexpected monetary giving toward my healing and recuperation. Thank you for your love and support.

*With All My Love,  
Karen Brown*

**Trinity's Yard Sale** will be here before we know it! This year's yard sale will be June 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup>, and set up will be the week leading up to the sale. Items may be brought in any time now and placed on the stage.

**Confirmation Sunday** will be May 25. There will be one service at 10:00am.

This will begin our **Summer Schedule**. All Sunday services will be at 10:00am until September 7.

### **EASTER SCHEDULE:**

**Maundy Thursday** Service at 7:00pm

**Good Friday** Service at 12:00 noon

**Holy Saturday** Prayer Vigil 9:00am – 4:00pm

(Sign-Up sheet for Prayer Vigil is in the Hall of Memories; also need 2 safety monitors for each time slot).

#### **Easter Sunday**

- reSource Service at 8:30- 9:30am
- Pancake Breakfast & Egg Hunt 9:30-11:00am
- Traditional Service at 11:00 – 12:00 noon  
(No Adult Takeaway)

### **POTTED PLANTS**

Please remember to bring in potted plants in bright colors to adorn our altar area on Easter Sunday! Please bring them to the church office during Holy Week, April 14-18.

### **Pastor Robert's Tribute Plaque**

After a Pastor has retired from Trinity, it is customary for us to pay tribute to the retired pastor by adding their name to the name plaque in the narthex with Trinity's previous pastors. The Facilities Committee has received a price of \$375.95 for a 12" x 3" raised bronze casting to match our existing plaque. This casting would include Pastor Robert's name and years of service. If you would like to contribute to the purchase of this tribute, please send payment to Trinity by cash, check or PayPal with a special note specifying "Pastor Robert's Tribute Plaque."

**Choir News**

The Choir practices on Tuesdays at 10:30 am. All are welcome!

**The Love Offering**

The April Love Offering will go to support Inspire to Rise.

**Treasurer's Report  
January 2025**

1/1/2025 to 2/28/2025

**Receipts**

Actual	\$43,406
Budgeted	\$43,297
Actual-Budget	\$109

**Expenses**

Actual	\$38,471
Budgeted	\$45,040
Actual-Budget	(\$6,569)

**Year-To-Date**

Total Income	\$43,406
Total Expense	\$38,471
Surplus/(Deficit)	\$4,934

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**Our Mission:**  
***To Proclaim Jesus Christ  
to the World!***

**We're on the Web!**  
**[trinity4jax.org](http://trinity4jax.org)**

**Trinity Food Pantry Highlights**

Here's a recap of activity for March 2025:

	<b>Patrons</b>	<b>Family Members</b>	<b># of Zip Codes</b>
March 6 <sup>th</sup> – 7 <sup>th</sup>	277	836	26
March 13 <sup>th</sup> - 14 <sup>th</sup>	256	818	25
March 20 <sup>th</sup> – 21 <sup>st</sup>	276	876	28
March 27 <sup>th</sup> - 28 <sup>th</sup> est.	251	900	28
Total est.	1,060	3,430	28

51 Different Volunteers Served at the Community Food Panty during March.

**Current Schedule for April 2025:**

April 3 <sup>rd</sup> - 4PM-6PM	April 4 <sup>th</sup> – 10AM-12PM
April 10 <sup>th</sup> - 4PM-6PM	April 11 <sup>th</sup> - 10AM-12PM
April 17 <sup>th</sup> - 4PM-6PM	April 18 <sup>th</sup> – 10AM-12PM
April 24 <sup>th</sup> - 4PM-6PM	April 25 <sup>th</sup> – 10AM-12PM

Thank you to all the Trinity Members that have volunteered their time and voluntarily donated food and money to the food pantry. There has been a 20% increase in the number of families receiving food so far in 2025 compared to the first three months in 2024.

**CHURCH STAFF:**

<b>Pastor:</b>	Reverend Carol S. Gates
<b>Office Administrator:</b>	Lise York
<b>Organist/Choir Director:</b>	Kim Bloomer
<b>Director of reSource Ministry:</b>	Dean Winter
<b>Hostess:</b>	Rae Ettmyer
<b>Custodian:</b>	Scott Piersall

**CONGREGATIONAL OFFICERS:**

<b>President:</b>	Karen Kuebler
<b>Vice President:</b>	Rusty White
<b>Secretary:</b>	Rebecca Kruck
<b>Treasurer:</b>	Cheryl Hollar

**COUNCIL MEMBERS:**

Pam Piersall	Bekah Alenduff	Geri Buchanan
Rusty White	Sandra Bryant	Gene Harvey
Karen Kuebler	Kyle Lind	Rebecca Kruck
	Dan Retter	