



PASTOR'S THOUGHTS

I preached a sermon on January 30th where I talked about the diversity of people we have in our congregation. I prefaced this part with a couple of questions, “Imagine a very liberal congregation, do you think someone wearing a MAGA hat would be welcomed into that community?” And “now imagine a very conservative congregation, would a gay or lesbian couple be welcomed into their midst?” The point was that our congregation reflects the world outside of the walls of our church, we are a community that is made up of both liberal minded and conservative minded

folks; and if we, as a community can love one another within these walls, maybe God has given us the gifts we have to model that same behavior outside of these walls as well, for the common good.

I was reflecting on some comments and feedback I received after that message and thought about if I were to have expanded that message, if I were to have had a part II so to speak; I want to spend a little time sitting in that part II.

I spent a little time watching a recent Coeur d'Alene city council meeting, I honestly, at this point cannot remember what the issue was that was being discussed, but I remember one young man who got up to speak during the public comment time, I listened to what he said and thought he was making a very good argument, and I remember the moment when he lost me, it was when he referred to the President of the United States as Brandon. Obviously, this is a reference to the popular “Let's Go Brandon” phrase that began last October.

I do not have a problem with people having political perspectives or viewpoints. What I do take issue with is the vitriol that has replaced discussions, the name calling and polarization that has replaced the ability to truly debate and understand another person's perspective. If I were to ask the question now in 2022, when did civility and respect of the office of the President of the United States of America go out the window, I am sure that there are some who would point to the way President Trump was treated by those who opposed him. That, however, tries to sidestep the question, Donald Trump was not he first to suffer these kinds of personal attacks, neither was Barack Obama before him, or George W. Bush before him.

Finger pointing is not going to move us, as a nation, beyond the divide of polarization that has widened over the years. I am sure that you remember times when politicians would “cross the aisle” for the better of our nation, we could say, for the common good; but it seems that this has been replaced with a wariness, and at times a hatred for those who would dare to have different political ideals than the ones that I have.

I have mentioned social media various times, how our ability to be connected to millions of people in an instant has actually driven us further away from one another; the false anonymity that comes when life is viewed or engaged with through a screen emboldens people to see others as less than people and more as anything from an opponent to an enemy. I cannot begin to tell you how much of this type of engagement I witness on social media, from all sides. It would appear to me that there needs to be intentional steps taken by folks to stop this behavior. Harkening back to when we were children, taking to heart the advice of if you cannot say anything nice don't say anything at all.

By all means, disagree, that is what has made our country a wonderful place, the ability to speak

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TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Coeur d'Alene ID 83814

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.....Mike Grabenstein

CHURCH COUNCIL MEETS ON THE THIRD TUESDAY OF THE MONTH.

MUSIC MINISTRY
.....Rose Dempsey, Organist & Choir Director
.....Gerry Fairchild, Violin Accompanist
.....Terry Fairchild, Viola Accompanist

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TRINITY TIMES EDITORIAL POLICY
News and information must be received by the 20th of the month preceding the issue date.

Trinity Times is a continuation of the previous parish newsletter, TLC Heartbeat, published January 1993 - January 2019.

VIDEO / IN-PERSON WORSHIP

We continue to offer livestream of our in-person Sunday morning 9:00 AM worship service online through YouTube. Additionally, you may watch the recorded service at any time on our website, the [Video Worship Archive](#) page.

In-person worship with Holy Communion is available every Sunday at 9:00 AM in our Sanctuary.

In-person worship with Holy Communion is available every Wednesday night at 6:00 pm.

FAITH FORMATION

Men's Bible Study ▶
Tuesdays 1:00 PM at TLC Meets weekly for reading and detailed, lively discussions. Our informal study is 1-1½ hours.

Men's Prayer Group and Bible Study ▶
Saturdays 7:30 AM at TLC Meets weekly for one hour, with breakfast on the first Saturday of the month.

Sunday Morning Adult Faith Formation ▶
Join us after worship on Sunday mornings at 10:15am downstairs for Bible study discussion. You are welcome to grab a couple of cookies and a cup of coffee from the atrium if you'd like!

Women's Circle meets on the third Tuesday of each month at noon with a potluck lunch followed by a scripture-based discussion. All women are welcome.

Please check our website for frequent updates, calendar information, faith resources, youth schedules, news and much more:
www.trinitylutherancda.org.

PASTOR'S THOUGHTS

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opposing perspectives; but do so civilly, that is what allows for respect and understanding. Anger and vitriol only breed more anger and vitriol. And the argument of, "Well that's what they did." Or "the other side started it." Childish arguments like that belong to children; we owe it to our neighbors to act like adults and engage with one another like adults.

It is my hope and prayer that civility still has a place in our society and in our politics, but I do believe that it is going to be a grass roots movement, the people, the masses need to set the example for how we engage with one another. Paul writes in his first letter to the church at Corinth, "And I will show you a still more excellent way." Paul then goes on to talk of the gift of Love. Love is that more excellent way. Peter says that "love covers a multitude of sins." Love allows us to see one another as people, not as something to hate; hatred and love cannot coexist.

"And now faith, hope, and love remain, these three; and the greatest of these is love."

In Christ,
Pastor Dan Forsgren

DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN AND YOUTH MINISTRY POSITION

As you probably have heard Penny Weiss is retiring In August 2022. The search committee has begun the process to fill the Director of Children and Youth Ministry position. The link to the job posting on our website is: <https://www.trinitylutherancta.org/employment>. If you know of someone who may be interested, please share the link with them. Word of mouth can work wonders!

TLC Learning Center Lead Teacher Position

TLC Learning Center has a part-time position open. Lead Teacher in the Waddler Room, teaching children ages 1.5 to 2.5 yrs, 2 to 3 days per week, 8:30am to 5:30pm. Contact Nikki Betts at 208-664-0052 or send resume to directortlclc@gmail.com.

WOMEN'S CIRCLE

Join us on Tuesday, the 15th of February for our potluck lunch at noon followed by the first and second of four parts in a discussion series by New Testament scholar, Mark Allan Powell, titled *The Kingdom of God*. We will explore scriptural definitions of this title phrase and ways to live and share it with others. Copies of the study guide are available in the office. All women are welcome.

JUVENILE JUSTICE OUTREACH

Juvenile Justice Outreach Support: TLC Outreach has again joined in supporting the efforts of the CDA Juvenile Justice Center to collect gently used/new Bibles and Faith-based books for Teens in the JJC program. A collection box has been placed in the Atrium and TLC members are welcome to help encourage NEW LIVES AND DIRECTIONS for incarcerated youth in our community. (Sower Bible Bookstore is a good, local source of popular, relevant faith-based books for teens.)

BITS & PIECES

- **TLC Love Day** meets weekly on Tuesdays at 9:00am for quilting, fellowship, and coffee.
- **TLC Council** will meet on Tuesday, February 15th at 4:30pm.
- **TLC Singles Luncheon on Thursday, February 17th** – Bring your appetite and enjoy a delicious meal prepared and served by a great team of TLC members! Lots of good conversation and fellowship, too! It all begins at 11:30am.
- **Sons of Norway Vinterfest Luncheon**
Med Smorbrod og Suppe
(Winterfest with sandwiches and soup)
Saturday, February 19th, 11:30am-1:30pm at Trinity Lutheran Church
There will be Norwegian soups, open-face sandwiches, a variety of Norwegian cookies, coffee, and lemonade. \$5.00 per Adult – kids eat free. Enjoy two presentations by Tabitha Craak and Pamela Silk. Call for reservations and leave a message 208-262-8020.
The public is welcome to attend.
- **Thrivent Coffee Hour Sunday February 20th, 10:30am** –Brad Blodnick & Gretchen Briske will host talk about actions teams (charitable giving program) and other new programs to Thrivent. There is also a recent update in the financial industry that could increase charitable giving and provide tax benefits to the donor.



Wednesday, March 2nd – Pancake Dinner at 5:30pm and Worship at 6:00pm.
(Kids Club eats at 6:00pm)

Faith's Role in Love



In *It's Okay Not to Be Okay*, Christian author Sheila Walsh looks at the all-encompassing love that Jesus expects of his followers. He commands us to “love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind, and your neighbor as yourself”. (Luke 10:27, ESV)

But we can't love that way without faith, Walsh writes. “I'm not living by faith if I have an answer to everything. If I understand everything God does or doesn't do, then all I need to love him with is my mind. We're called to love him with more.” That “more,” she explains, involves these paradoxes: “We love with all our heart, even when it's

broken. We love with our soul, even when our humanity wrestles against our situation. We love with our strength, even when it's almost gone. We love with our mind, even when we don't understand.”

Even if God's purposes and plans don't make sense here on earth, we can heed this advice from the great preacher Charles Spurgeon: “When we cannot trace [God's] hand, we must trust his heart.”

Blessing Bag Items Needed

Blessing Bag Items Needed – Our list has narrowed to the following items.

Trail Mix (small pkgs)

Gum

Fruit cups

Mints – pkgs

Toothpaste

Shampoo and Lotion – travel size

Soap (small bars)

Deodorant

Brushes and Combs

Lip Balm (Chapstick, etc.)

Nail Clippers

Thanks for all the donations so far. All are welcome to help pack Blessing Bags on Wednesday, February 23rd at 6:30pm. – Penny Weiss



TLC YOUTH

- **Coffee Cup Faith Discussion** for Middle School & High School youth is on Sunday, February 20th at 10:30am.
- **Kid's Club** on Wednesdays at 5:30pm.
- **High School Youth Group** on Wednesdays at 7:30pm

Ash Wednesday, March 2nd – Pancake Dinner at 5:30pm and Worship at 6:00pm.

(Kids Club eats at 6:00pm)

SUNDAY WORSHIP ASSISTANTS SCHEDULE – FEBRUARY 2022

Thank you for your service!

If you are unable to serve on your scheduled date, kindly trade with someone else on the schedule when you have a conflict. Whenever possible, please contact the church office by Wednesday to inform Andrea of your change: 208-664-5743, or: office.trinitycda@gmail.com

9:00 AM	February 6th	February 13 th	February 20 th	February 28 th
Altar Care	Paula Moore	Paula Moore Pam Hunt	Paula Moore	Paula Moore Karen Cook
Assisting Minister	Pam Hunt	Aaron Cloyd	Dick Jurvelin	Janet Gruber
Reader	Jill Dougherty	Barbara Everson	Sue Thilo	Kathy Benson
Ushers	Paul Hunt Tad Johnson	Bob Ray Gary Everson	Bob Ray Harold Fuchs	Bob Ray Tad Johnson
Communion Assistants	Paula Moore Dolores Johnson	Dick & Jill Jurvelin	Tom & Sue Thilo	Kathy Benson Dolores Johnson
Acolytes	Frankie Drake	William Forsgren	Nathaniel Cloyd	Jeremiah Benson

Sanctuary Saints for February: Toby Curtis

(Stocks pew racks, fills oil in candles, etc. weekly for Sunday worship.)



CELEBRATIONS & PRAYERS



Paula Moore	02/01
Kathy Benson	02/02
Ida Vitolins	02/06
Mike Grabenstein	02/06
Lon Lorbecki	02/06
Peter Luttrupp	02/07
Daniel Kirkpatrick	02/09
Josh Ranum	02/13
Dennis Menck	02/13
Reece Walker	02/15
Gavin Weiss	02/20
Lee Weryp	02/20
Sierra Weiss	02/21
Bill Boyd	02/22
Denise Wilbanks	02/23
Elizabeth Whiting	02/26
Ryanne Payton	02/29



Dave & Cindy McManus	02/04/1978
Phil & Margaret Aarhus	02/20/1977

*Watch over your children,
O Lord, as their days increase; bless and guide
them wherever they may be. Strengthen, comfort,
and raise them up if they fall, and in their hearts,
may your peace, which passes all understanding,
abide with them all the days of their lives.*

Prayers

***Please Hold In Your Prayers for Healing, Comfort, Peace
(The † symbol denotes TLC members)***

- Susan Kirkpatrick † Mavis Fuchs † Delores Luttrupp † Sally English †
Marion Keating † Lee Ray † Phyllis Bacon † Carol Price †
Dave Nordby † Ken Amundson † Ray Kincheloe † Carol MacLean †
Wes Deitz (brother, Yvonne Deitz)
Donna Cederwall (friend, Wanda Andrews)
Micah Sharples (friend – Jill Jurvelin)
Janet Wilbanks (mother -Will Wilbanks)
Skip Keiflin (friend – Glenna Knepper)
Jan Johnson (friend – Glenna Knepper)
Jonnie Dempsey (granddaughter – Rose Dempsey)
Roxie Hunt (friend of friend – Glenna Knepper)
Karalee Shenfield (mother/mother-in-law – Larry & Carrie Shenfield)
Terry Fairchild (brother – Terry Fairchild)
Tim Brunelle (son – Ron & Rolaine Brunelle)
Elleyna (gr.granddaughter – Wanda Andrews)
Claude Roberts (son-in-law – Harold & Mavis Fuchs)
Larry Bellender (brother – Pat Muchow)
Diane Knidler (friend – Kathy Benson)
Barbara Erwin (mother – Paul Erwin)
Gary Noyen (friend – Ray & Olivia Simmons)*

In Memorium

- Family & Friends of Peggy Suenkel (long-time TLC member &
grandmother- Katy Graupmann)
Family & Friends of Maxine (sister- Shirley Belstad)*

Trinity
Lutheran Church ELCA
812 N. Fifth St.
Coeur d'Alene, ID 83814

Worship Schedule

Wednesdays

Evening Worship 6:00 PM

Sundays

9:00 AM Worship Service

In-Person and
LIVESTREAM ON YOUTUBE

VIDEO WORSHIP ARCHIVE ON
OUR WEBSITE

www.trinitylutheraneda.org



STEWARDSHIP

Ways to streamline your Financial Offerings ►

- Mail a check to Trinity at 812 N. Fifth St., CDA, ID 83814
- Go to the TLC website, www.trinitylutheraneda.org and use the online Donate button located at the bottom of every page. You may use credit card, debit card or PayPal.
- Fill out a form in the office to authorize electronic fund transfers (EFT) from your account.
- Use the iPad on the front counter in the office to make a contribution with your credit or debit card.
- Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD), up to \$100,000, direct from your IRA to the church, without paying tax on the distribution. You will need to complete the transfer by the 12/31/21 deadline. Talk to your financial advisor.