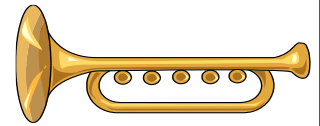




TRINITY TRUMPET

February 2022



PASTOR'S LETTER

"I came into the office today (Thursday) to shovel the walkways. That was not the only, or even the main reasons I came in. The main reasons I came in were 1) the bulletin and 2) the newsletter. Neither of which I could do from home, my laptop having neither a printer nor Microsoft Publisher. But in coming into the office, I first shoveled off the walkways. The plow guy hasn't come yet, so the church looks a little silly right now, my car in a foot of snow in the turnaround next to a perfectly cleared walkway, but it will get there.

Teresa always gives me a hard time when she catches me shoveling the walkways. She tells me that isn't in my job description. I super appreciate that Teresa, and all of you, value my time in that way. But here's the thing. I like shoveling snow. Not in a "I want to shovel snow in my free time" sort of a way, I'm not walking around shoveling other people's snow for them. My own driveway is not shoveled right now, that's tomorrow's project. But you know how Pastor Don was adamant about patching parking lot cracks, snow shoveling is my parking lot cracks. It's a job I can accomplish fully, have a clear beginning and ending, and see success. So much of our work here at Trinity is glacial. Relationships take years of tending, and it is hard to see the outcome. The kitchen project is stalled because other people won't call me back. I don't know what shipping container the windows are stuck in. But the walks look nice, it's nice to see progress

I also like the hospitality of a freshly shoveled walkway. Hospitality, as anyone who's had my assistance setting up a potluck knows, is not one of my spiritual gifts. I don't have that eye for design that makes a space look welcoming and inviting, my eye is much more utilitarian. But I can shovel, and I'm good at it. Thank you, a year in Syracuse, New York (179 inches, third snowiest winter on record) for excellent technique.

I wrote an article in seminary about how ministry is both an intellectual pursuit and a physical one. One of my roles here is to be the resident theologian. Theology literally meaning "words about God." As such, I do a lot of thinking, reading, writing, teaching, questioning, etc. Hard work, sure, but mentally hard. Work that involves me sitting right here at my desk, using only my brain and the muscles in my fingertips.

But ministry is also a physical activity, an act of presence. It requires taking one's body and placing it amid other bodies in the dirt and muck (and occasionally snow) of the world. It is walking with people in their living and their dying. We worship a God, after all, who took on a physical body, a God who still comes to us in the very physical elements of bread and wine and water.

In short, if you beat me to shoveling the walkways, I'm one-hundred percent ok with that. Thank you, especially Wayne, who always makes sure the walk is shoveled well before I get in on a Sunday morning. And Lou, who frequently tackles the job on weekdays. But, don't feel bad if you catch me with the shovel either. Yes, one of you could do it, but so can I. And a bit of time with the shovel connects me to a God who showed hospitality in enfleshed ways. Probably not shoveling, it doesn't snow all that much, or all that often in Israel. But if Jesus came to Michigan, I bet he'd know his way around a snow shovel.

Peace, Pastor Kjersten

PASSION, CONFIDENCE AND PURPOSE

This article has come about in a very weird, circuitous way. I ran across a copy of the famous Sesame Street song, Sing, Sing a Song by Joe Raposo, written in 1971 for the famous Public Broadcasting show and the words and tune kept in my head, and I thought maybe I could create an article around that. I was trying to find the original time it was sung and I found dozens of performances from the Carpenters to Barbra Streisand to Shirley Bassey to a choir of Japanese children. Then, while I was on YouTube, I noticed an interview with the amazing music teacher, Nadia Boulanger. I had heard of the non-ending pilgrimage of famous composers and conductors and pianists who made their way to Paris to study with her in individual lessons or in groups. She was born in 1887 and while I was in college studying music she was still going strong. Composers like Aaron Copland, Igor Stravinsky, Leonard Bernstein, Philip Glass, Michel Legrand, Burt Bacharach, Quincy Jones and many others would make their way to her apartment near Montmartre to discuss their own manuscripts with her or listen to her thoughts on past century composers like Bach, Mozart and Monteverdi. As I read more and listened to her taped teaching sessions and her thoughts on the process of teaching (which I had no idea existed and were floating out there on YouTube), I discovered that even Joe Raposo (creator of much of the Muppets' music) had come to study with her!!! It had all come full circle! So let me share some of her amazing life with you because it truly is an inspiration.

As a baby, Nadia Boulanger hated music — it made her cry or hide under the piano. Then, at age 3, she heard a fire siren outside the apartment, went to the piano to re-create the sound, and stayed at one piano or another for the next 89 years.

Her first music teacher was her mother, a former Russian princess who was strict and a perfectionist. By age 13, Nadia was performing on the organ and piano, and at 17 she began teaching, supervising her younger sister Lili's education.

Lili became a brilliant composer, the first woman to win the Prix de Rome — an important prize in music composition. When Lili died at age 24, Nadia (who got only as far as a 2nd place Prix de Rome) gave up her own composing and concentrated on teaching to support herself and her mother. Women at that time in France were, by law, paid half as much as men doing the same work. Boulanger got around this by deciding to work twice as hard.

Her classes and private lessons became legendary. She had a gift for making things she had said many times sound spontaneous and for giving each pupil close attention. "As a teacher," she said, "my whole life is based on understanding others, not on making them understand me." People started coming to her from all over the world.

She had 2 grand pianos and 1 pipe organ in rooms filled with fresh flowers. Over the fireplace was a white marble bust of her sister, Lili, and everywhere there were gifts from musician friends and thousands of music books covered in brown paper. In her bathroom was a giant metal bathtub you had to climb a ladder to enter.

Boulanger dressed and acted to look older than she was. She carried a big black leather satchel full of music, which students would vie to carry. She seldom smiled, but had expressive hands that could show any emotion. She wore a flowery perfume and adored exotic bath oils.

Nicknamed the "Tender Tyrant," Boulanger was not always popular. After group class, students emerged so drained that they would file across the street to a cafe for coffee or beer, sitting in silence, not even saying

good-bye when they left. One student recalls her saying only one nice thing to him in two whole years of study. On occasion, she would ridicule students and make them cry. She would schedule lessons at 7 in the morning and as late as 10 at night. Your lesson may last an hour. It may last two hours. You never knew. She ate lunch during lessons, and pupils worried about whether her plate would slide onto the piano keys. Between lessons, she ate yogurt or took catnaps. She stayed up late writing letters — she wrote thousands each year. Every New Year's, she gave a costume ball, with lavish food, to which she invited her many famous friends.

With electrifying energy, she worked well into her eighties, teaching, traveling, and touring. She never married. She didn't believe marriage and a career in the arts were compatible.

Boulanger loved rich food and wouldn't stop eating it even when she lost her teeth (at that point, she'd swallow chunks of food without chewing). She died at age 92 of a stomach blockage.

Her own music was played at her funeral, along with music by Bach and Lili Boulanger.

In numerous cities, Boulanger was the first woman to conduct a symphony orchestra, and she premiered many important works. She didn't like being singled out because she was a woman: "I've been a woman for a little over fifty years," she said when asked how she felt about being the first woman to conduct the Boston Symphony, "and have gotten over my initial astonishment."

Nadia Boulanger believed that music has a moral purpose in the world, and that it was crucial for a student to be passionate about it. She would advise her students: "Do not take up music unless you would rather die than not do so."

Sing, sing a song, sing out loud, sing out strong.

Sing of good things, not bad. Sing of happy, not sad.

Sing, sing a song, make it simple to last your whole life long.

Don't worry that it's not good enough for anyone else to hear, just sing, sing a song.|

Sing, sing a song, let the world sing along.

Sing of love there could be. Sing for you and for me.

(words, in addition to the music, by Joe Raposo)

In celebration of the gift of music,

David Lipps

Director of Music



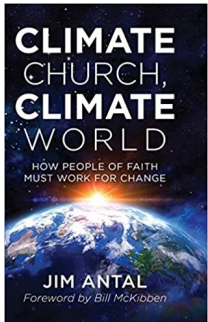
Opportunities for Learning

This is a picture of the room in Wartburg Castle where Martin Luther translated the New Testament into German. Pastor Kjersten was looking for a quippy way to catch your attention, there's no other real reason you'd know this.

Walking with Jesus and Martin Luther Indoor Walking and Prayer Group Tuesdays, January 11 and 25 at 1 pm

Are you someone for whom walking is the best form of exercise? Have you always wanted to study the bible while reflecting on the beautiful and unique qualities of our Lutheran faith? If you answered yes to either question, please join Tresa Tulley for a new walking group, Walking with Jesus and Martin Luther.

The purpose of the group is simply to maintain or increase or physical mobility by walking or rolling inside the church. We will meet together at 1 pm to walk inside the social hall at your own pace and distance. At the start of our time together, we will read a Psalm. The hope is that meditating on the Psalm will strengthen our hearts in the same way that walking/rolling through the church will strengthen our muscles. I hope you will join Jesus, Martin Luther, and me (Tresa) as we meditate on the Psalms and maneuver through the church.



Climate Church, Climate World Book Study

The Synod Environmental Task Force is offering a 5 Week Book Study on the book *Climate Church, Climate World* by Jim Antal. The study will take place over Zoom on Thursdays from 6:30 to 7:30 pm, starting February 10. Led by Pastor Erick Johnson and Pastor John Burrow, this group will have the opportunity to prayerfully consider together: Why and how do we, people of faith, respond to the moral challenge of the climate emergency? This group is intended for those of us who feel concerned, anxious, overwhelmed, perhaps isolated, disappointed by the Church's response and bewildered about what our response could be. One hoped for outcome is for us to feel encouraged, supported, even accountable by and to one another in this struggle. To register for the study, go to: <https://bit.ly/ClimateChangeClimateWorld>. For more information, contact Erick Johnson (erickj74@gmail.com) or John Burrow (pastorjburrow@yahoo.com).

Spring 2022 Wisdom Series: Encountering the Wisdom Jesus

We are invited to join First Congregational Church in reading *The Wisdom Jesus* by Cynthia Bourgeault on Wednesdays throughout Lent. To learn more about the class or register, visit the FCC website: <https://www.fccbc.org/congregationalist/2022/1/11/spring-2022-wisdom-series-encountering-the-wisdom-jesus>



Chalking the Doors for Epiphany 2022

The tradition of blessing houses by chalking the door is part of Epiphany celebrations around the world. The C + M + B stands for the traditional names of the three wise men along with the Latin phrase *Christus mansionem benedicat*: “May Christ bless the house.” Trinity has had the practice of blessing our church home on Epiphany for several years now. Pastor Kjersten had so much fun blessing houses last year, she wants to take it on the road again in 2022. In Epiphany, she is hoping to visit as many houses as she can to bless and chalk your home. Call or email Pastor Kjersten (pastor@tlcbattlecreek.org) to let her know if you would like your house blessed and when.

Note: Sorry Arizona, Texas, and Florida Trinitarians, as much as Pastor Kjersten would LOVE to bless your home, this is a Michigan only offer. The transportation budget doesn't account for cross-state travel.

Wednesday Bible Chats

Recognizing the inconvenience of winter weather, Bible chats are going totally virtual for February and March. There are two opportunities every Wednesday to connect with the Gospel lesson. At 10:30 am, Pastor Kjersten goes on Facebook Live to share some of the things the texts have her pondering. Then at 6:00 pm, we gather on Zoom for conversation on the text. Both of these are great chances to bring your questions and hear what others are thinking. You might even hear your ideas in the next Sunday sermon.

Throughout Epiphany we will be settling into the beginning of Jesus’ ministry in the Gospel of Luke. We will start with the Baptism of Jesus on January 9th. Then on the 16th we will hear of Jesus’ first miracle of water turned to wine at the wedding at Cana. From there, on the 23rd, we will start with Luke 4:14, appropriately titled “The Beginning of the Galilean Ministry,” and go from there. This gives us the opportunity to really settle into Luke for several weeks before we get into Lent, learn some of the characteristics of Luke’s understanding of Jesus.

There will be no Bible chat on Wednesday, February 16th.

Epiphany (e-piph-a-ny)

(n) A moment of sudden revelation; a poignant, sudden, profound understanding of something.

Roadrunners on the Road
11:30 am, Thursday, February 17
Cracker Barrel
4765 Beckley Rd , Battle Creek, MI 49015

Roadrunners are Trinity friends and members on the road checking out local restaurants. On the third Thursday of each month we meet at a different restaurant for fun and fellowship. Everyone is invited and you can bring a friend (or more) to have good food and great conversation.

2022 Tentative Roadrunners Schedule

February 17-Cracker Barrel
March 17-The Griffin
April 21-TLC (Mediterranean)
May 19-R&R
June 16- Bob Evans
July 21- Lucky Rooster
August 18- J B Whiskey
September 22-TBA
October 20- Turkeyville
November 17-TBA
December 15- Clara's on the River (6:00pm)



Wayne Walentowski

Offering Envelopes in Hallway Boxes

Offering envelopes for 2022 are in member boxes in the hallway. New members who don't have boxes yet, we're working on those. But for the time being, check with Pastor Kjersten or Doug Martens. One of them has your envelopes.

Offering can also be made via Paypal if that is easier. There is a link to Trinity's Paypal site on our website: www.tlcbattlecreek.org.

Post/Franklin Food Pantry

One of the ways Trinity supports our neighbors is by volunteering at the Post/Franklin Food Pantry hosted by First UMC. Trinity volunteers help stock the food pantry and distribute food bags twice a month on Tuesdays. We also have a wagon in the entryway for donations to the pantry. For more information on this ongoing ministry, talk to Eileen Martens.

Collecting Family Fare Receipts

As of November 28th we are up to \$124,000. Only \$26,000 to go. It won't be much longer. When we get to \$150,000 Trinity will receive \$1,000 from Spartan Foods. Thank You to all who are bringing their receipts to Church.



**St. Thomas Breakfast Program
Saturday, February 12**

Next Dates: April 9

Trinity and St. Peter are once again partnering up to serve our neighbors by helping out at the St. Thomas Breakfast Program. In the winter, breakfast is served on Saturday mornings. Meals continue to be served "to go" style, which means we need 6-7 volunteers each day. We will need 3 volunteers starting at 7 am, and 4 starting at 8 am. Breakfast is served until 10 am, with some clean up after. Linn Kracht from St. Peter is organizing the effort. Contact Linn at ldkracht@gmail.com to volunteer.

Souper Bowl Sunday

After being in quarantine for two years, I am happy to report that on Super Bowl Sunday we will finally have our Annual Souper Bowl Sunday Collection on February 13. This money stays here in Battle Creek and goes to the Battle Creek Food Bank. These monies help Food Pantries (First United Methodist is our neighborhood Pantry). Eileen, Gloria, Connie, and many others from Trinity volunteer there. So bring loose change, bills, or checks to put in our pail on that Sunday. Those who don't attend in person but attend on Facebook, you may send your contributions to the church. Since I first joined Trinity, Sharon Cutler headed this up. I am proud to be able to follow in her footsteps to continue this great cause. Thank You in advance for giving to this annual event.

Wayne A Walentowski



**Hit Me With Your Best Shot
Trinity Lutheran and Woman's Co-op
Vaccination Clinic and Fun Fest
Monday, February 28, 12 pm to 6 pm**

Covid is a "real tough cookie with a long history" (two years!) of causing illness and disruption. Trinity and Woman's Co-op are partnering with United Way and the Calhoun County Health Department to hit covid with our best shot at this 80s themed carnival and vaccination clinic. The social hall will be filled with games, snacks, and activities, while the sanctuary will be turned over to a medical team who will provide a drop-in vaccination clinic. First and second doses and booster doses will be available for children and adults, from all three vaccine makers. Want to help out? We are looking for volunteers the day of to run stations, and we are looking for people to help plan the event. The next planning meeting will be the Monday, February 7 at 10 am.



WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS

Worship Assistants

February 6—Teresa Momenee-Young
February 13—Kendra Witkowski-Lehman
February 20—Mary Conklin
February 27— Tish Gancer

Sound Volunteers

February 6—Ellis Cutler
February 13—Ellis Cutler
February 20—Ellis Cutler
February 27— Ellis Cutler

Altar Guild Volunteers Needed

Back inside for worship means we once again need volunteers to help prepare communion. Altar Guild volunteers set up for communion and clean up after. Benefits include a fun-filled lesson from Pastor Kjersten on what all the things are called and getting to take part in the sacramental ministry of the congregation. See Wayne Walentowski or Pastor Kjersten to be added to the schedule.

Readings for February

Sunday, February 6

Isaiah 6:1-8
Psalm 138
1 Corinthians 15:1-11
Luke 5:1-11

Sunday, February 13

Jeremiah 17:5-10
Psalm 1
1 Corinthians 15:35-38, 42-50
Luke 6:17-26

Sunday, February 20

Genesis 43:3-11, 15
Psalm 37:1-11, 39-40
1 Corinthians 15:35-38, 42-50
Luke 6:27-38

Transfiguration Sunday,

February 27

Exodus 34:29-35
Psalm 99
2 Corinthians 3:12-4:2
Luke 9:28-36 [37-43a]

February Birthdays

2/16 – Lou Young
2/24 – John Sullivan
2/24 - Cindy Wright
2/26 - Tresa Tulley



February Anniversaries

2/14 - Doug & Judy Markusic

OTHER WAYS TO CONNECT WITH TRINITY

FACEBOOK

Trinity's Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/trinity.church.581>

"Like" the Trinity Facebook page to follow events and activities.

WEBSITE

Trinity website: <http://www.tlcbattlecreek.org>

Check out the **What's New** tab to see the latest events going on at Trinity. You can also find transcripts of Pastor Kjersten's sermons under the **Worship** tab.

TRUMPET

To update your newsletter email/mail preferences, contact the church office at office@tlcbattlecreek.org or 963-5356.

Let us know if you would like to be added our quarterly mailing list to receive a color brochure of what's new at Trinity.

ONLINE GIVING

Trinity now has online giving. Simply go to Trinity's website, <http://www.tlcbattlecreek.org> and click on the yellow button that says "Donate" on the bottom left corner of the page. Or go to Trinity's Facebook page and click on the blue button that says "Donate" on the right side of the page.

CHURCH STAFF

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pastor@tlcbattlecreek.org
(805) 458-6074

David Lipps, Director of Music
lippsdr@gmail.com

CHURCH COUNCIL

Kendra Witkowski, President	967-3474	Kathy Chapman	660-8548
Teresa Momenee-Young, Vice President	753-2411	Tish Gancer	832-4719
Laurie Swanson, Secretary	729-5464	Wayne Walentowski	830-5094
Jeff Andert			

COMMUNITY

Sharon Cutler
Pam Ellison-Krings
Maxine Hammond
Linda Hermann
Rose Walentowski

IN OUR HEARTS/ON OUR MINDS

Family and friends of Don Herdman
Family and friends of Joyce Shaffer
Family and friends of Michael Alpine
Family and friends of Joe Grubaugh
Family and friends of Bill Sullivan
Lanny Johnston, Jr. (Sharon's son)
Jim Himes (Maxine's nephew)
Mary (Tish's friend)
Karen Rambadt (Ellis's niece-in-law)



FEBRUARY 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2 10:30 am Facebook Live Bible Chat 6:00 pm Zoom Bible Chat	3	4	5
6 10:30 am Worship Annual Meeting Choir Rehearsal	7 10 am Vaccination Clinic planning mtg.	8	9 10:30 am Facebook Live Bible Chat 6:00 pm Zoom Bible Chat	10	11	12
13 10:30 am Worship Choir Rehearsal	14	15	16 No Bible Chat	17 11:30 am Roadrunners @ Cracker Barrel	18	19
			Pastor Gone			
20 10:30 am Worship Choir Rehearsal	21	22 7 pm Council Meeting	23 10:30 am Facebook Live Bible Chat 6:00 pm Zoom Bible Chat	24	25	26
27 10:30 am Worship Choir Rehearsal	28 Vaccination Clinic 12pm to 6 pm Trumpet articles due					