

Blue Ridge Trinity Lutheran Church

5757 Blue Ridge Blvd., Raytown, MO 64133
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Trinity Tidings

From the Pastor's Desk

Dear Saints,

Greetings in the name of our crucified, risen and ascended Lord and coming Savior Jesus Christ!

Andrew and Simon were disciples of John the Baptist. Then, Andrew accepted Jesus' invitation and stayed with Him. He brought his brother Simon to Jesus the Messiah and the rest is history according to John.

Not so according to Matthew. When Jesus called Simon and Andrew, James and John, they were fishermen. Although they knew how to fish, this was a new job and as such they needed new tools to fish for God.

Before they needed boats, but that's when they fished for themselves. Now they needed the Spirit to fish for God. Before

they fished with nets, now they were to fish with words and deeds. Before they fished with bait, now the bait was the Word of God. If fishing on the sea of Galilee was an act of acquired skill, fishing for people was that and more. It was an act of pure faith in Jesus Christ.

Among us, the practice of fishing has been for too long tradition. We wait for someone to swim into our net. But we learn from the Master as Andrew and Peter, James and John did, that fishing is intentional and goal oriented. As we will hear in Jesus' Sermon on the Mount on Sundays leading up to Lent, the reign of God is built by doing certain things. Praying, fasting, giving alms. Seeking God's righteousness daily and NOT worry-

ing. Loving our enemies. Turning the other cheek.

In baptism, Jesus called us to fish for people. That makes us servants of God. So, we just don't go along with the flow. We do not follow the crowd. We just don't wait for things to happen. Instead, we live for Jesus as missionaries, preachers, teachers, witnesses, and evangelists not for one hour on Sunday, but in our daily life.

Living for Jesus is a radical change. We break old habits and work for transformation. Living for Jesus is not being stuck in tradition or focused on security or inheritance for Jesus teaches that the church's power comes from God and

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Feb/Mar 2020

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Our Mission:
**"Seeing God's
Plan,
Answering God's
Call,
Doing God's
Work"**

Notice

NOTICE OF SPECIAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

More than 10% of the voting members of BRT have requested a special meeting of the congregation to be held immediately following worship on **Sunday, February 23, 2020**, for the purpose of prayerfully discerning the path forward for our congregation. Questions? Please contact Council President, Susan Marple.

2020 Council Officers

Susan Marple
President

Morrie Carlson
Vice President

Kris Riddell
Treasurer

Jackie Harvey
Secretary

Carolyn Tyler
Financial Secretary



we experience it in our walk with Him as we bring others to Him as John the Baptist, Andrew, and so many of our spiritual ancestors did.

I am glad that you did NOT quit Raytown. Although Raytown is not a growing city like Capernaum was in Jesus' time or like Lee's Summit or Grain Valley is today, by choosing to be the church in this place you demonstrate commitment that you have fishing to do here.

So, be true to your

mission. Be faithful to your baptismal vow. Be the light! Fish for God!

In Christ's service,

Pastor C.

LET your
LIGHT
SHINE
BEFORE
OTHERS
Matthew 5:16



Congratulations

Congratulations to Reid Marple on the completion of his Culinary Arts Degree!

Thank you!

Dear BRT Family, we would like to express our deepest gratitude for the generous Christmas gift!! We are truly humbled and blessed by your generosity. Blessed New Year to you all!

Love,
Cummings' Family



February Worship Assistants

Assisting Ministers

- Feb. 2 Bob Jones
Feb. 9 Ken Riddell
Feb. 16 Chris Gannan
Feb. 23 Susan Marple

Lectors

- Feb. 2 Troop 469
Feb. 9 Fred Barth
Feb. 16 Eleanor Kramer
Feb. 23 Bob Jones

Ushers

- Feb. 2 Troop 469
Feb. 9 Diane Babbitt &
Joyce McFadden
Feb. 16 Kris Riddell
Feb. 23 Eleanor Kramer &
Kathy Musson

Acolytes

- Feb. 2 Nathanael C.
Feb. 9 Samuel C.
Feb. 16 Nathanael C.
Feb. 23 Samuel C.

President's Article

Above all else,
guard your heart,
for everything
you do flows from it
Proverbs 4:23



Welcome, February! Who says that? Ever? Here in the Midwest, we know that February marks the half-way point of the coldest part of the winter. For some, I suspect that three more months of cold and unpredictable weather fluctuations is anything to welcome. But February represents hope to me: hope that the days are getting a little longer, there's a little more light, and with the light, there's purpose and anticipation of new beginnings. Lying under the brown, frozen grass lies new life waiting to bud from last year's crop: life that seems dead, but that is feeding new life. I guess in Walt Disney's lingo, it's "the circle of life."

The Apostle Paul writes about hope that cannot be seen but that provides an Eternal New Beginning in his letter to the church of Corinth: ¹⁶*Therefore we do not lose heart. Though outwardly we are wasting away, yet inwardly we are being renewed day by day.* ¹⁷*For our light and momentary troubles are achieving for us an eternal glory that far outweighs them all.* ¹⁸*So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen, since what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal.* – 2 Corinthians 4:16-18

Welcome, Eternal Glory! Who says that? Believers, brothers and sisters in Christ. Therefore, let us all embrace the changes life throws at us. Let us turn our backs on despair and frustration. Let us laugh in the face of adversity. Why do I say that? Because as Christians we carry in our hearts the Eternal Flame of Hope for a

better tomorrow and Eternal Glory awaiting us at the end of each arduous journey. All our trials and tribulations are temporary. Really, we are temporary.....But Jesus Christ will live on in this place, in this community, on this planet and in this reality forever, and that is what gives me the confidence in saying: Have Hope and Fear Not!

As we prepare to usher in another Lenten season, we are continuing our tradition of gathering each Wednesday during Lent at 5:15 pm, beginning March 4th through April 1st, to break bread together, followed by worship at 6, to feast on Christian brotherhood in the act of simple meals and devotion to God's word. We welcome all to this fellowship.

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President's Article Cont'd

I would also like to encourage members to consider attending the Central States Synod Assembly, which is June 4-6, 2020, in St. Louis. The Synod prefers to have one woman and one man from each congregation attend to be voting members of that congregation. This year's theme is *God's Vitality Among Us: We are Church*. If you would like to attend the assembly, early registration ends April 15, please let me know.

Susan Marple
Council President

March Worship Assistants

Assisting Ministers

- Mar. 1 Bob Jones
- Mar. 8 Jackie Harvey
- Mar. 15 Chris Gannan
- Mar. 22 Ken Riddell
- Mar. 29 United Service

Lectors

- Mar. 1 Eleanor Kramer
- Mar. 8 Fred Barth
- Mar. 15 Larry Gonnello
- Mar. 22 Kathy Nevans
- Mar. 29 Susan Marple

Ushers

- Mar. 1 Jerry Nevans
- Mar. 8 Diane Babbitt & Joyce McFadden
- Mar. 15 Jerry Nevans
- Mar. 22 Eleanor Kramer & Kathy Musson

Acolytes

- Mar. 1 Samuel C.
- Mar. 8 Nathanael C.
- Mar. 15 Samuel C.
- Mar. 22 Nathanael C.
- Mar. 29 United Service

Troop 469 Chili Cook-off Fundraiser

When: Saturday, February 22, 2020

Where: Raytown High School Cafeteria

Time: 5:00-7:00 p.m.

Cost: \$5.00



Prayer Chain

Henry Mendoza {Michael Hokenson's father-in-law}, Darren Garmer {Samantha's brother-in-law}, Mike Nawikas {Diane Babbitt's brother-in-law}, Jan Felzien, Dale Setzer, Sue Marsten {friend of Cummings' family}, Louis Metcalf, Walter Ferguson {Nancy Ferguson's son}, Kathy Musson, Mary Burge, Michael Woodcock {grandson of Bob and Chris Jones}, Chris Jones, Evan Burnham {grandson of Louis Metcalf and nephew of Kathy Nevans}, Carol Lutz {Diane Babbitt's sister}, Darlene Metcalf {Kathy Nevans' mother}, Aspen Deke {friend of Mary Burge}, Megan Walsh, Charles Owens {son-in-law of Mamie Robinson}, Les Tebbenkamp {Mary Burge's brother}, Larry and Deb Gonnello, Cera Hawkins {Inge Howard's granddaughter}, Doris Merrick, Vivian Moffitt, Norma Phillips, Vitula Zimmerschied {Joyce McFadden's mother}, Frances Smith, Hollis Mundhenke, Eunice Lynn, Louise Latta {Linda Gippner's aunt}, Angela Beaman {Gonnello's daughter} and Roy Javner {friend of Jerry Nevans}.



February & March Birthdays

February

5 *Frances Smith*
 14 *Carole Barth*
 15 *Fred Hellman*
 15 *Doris Merrick*
 18 *Kathy Musson*

March

1 *Jerry Nevans*
 9 *Diane Babbitt*
 11 *Trudy Moffitt*
 27 *Hollis Mundhenke*

Lent: Faith Practices

“Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of Lent, a season when God calls us to reflect on the meaning of Christ’s death and resurrection. The imposition of ashes – when you receive ashes in the sign of the cross on your forehead – sets the tone for Lent. Each moment you encounter your reflection, your ashes are a striking reminder that “you are dust, and to dust you shall return” (Genesis 3:19b). But the cross, a symbol of Jesus’ crucifixion, offers hope.

Similarly in baptism, you received the sign of the cross on your forehead. Many of us begin our Christian life with baptism, called “to live among God’s faithful people, to hear the word of God and share in the Lord’s supper, to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed, to serve all people, following the example of Jesus, and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth” (ELW 236). In the ELCA, we describe these instructions as faith practices to guide our daily living. But what do faith practices mean? And how do we practice them?” Think about these as you begin your Lenten journey.

LENT FAITH PRACTICES:



Excerpt from *Living Lutheran: Lent: Taking up Faith Practices*

February 26, Ash Wednesday at 6:00 p.m.

Assisting Minister - Ken Riddell

Acolyte - Nathanael Cummings

Lector - Samantha Cummings

Usher - Jerry Nevans

MAUNDY THURSDAY - April 9 at 7:00 p.m. at St. Matthews

GOOD FRIDAY - April 10 at 7:00 p.m. at BRT

EASTER SUNDAY BREAKFAST - April 12 at 8:00 a.m., Worship at 9:30 a.m.



LENTEN SEASON OFFERINGS

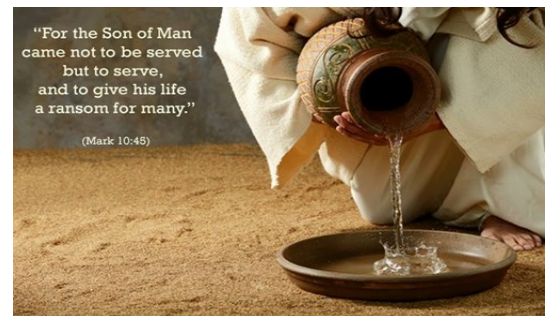


This year during Lent, we will collect personal hygiene items for MLM and REAP. Please bring these items and deposit them in the bins in the narthex, or make financial contributions, envelopes are located in the pews: be sure to designate that the funds are for "Lenten Offering". Items in need are:

- Bar Soap
- Toothbrushes
- Toothpaste
- Deodorant
- Disposable Razors
- Lotion
- Feminine Hygiene Products

LENTEN MEAL SCHEDULE

- March 4 @ 5:15 pm – Choir (Sloppy Joes, Chips & Dessert)
- March 11 @ 5:15 pm – TLCW & Ruth Circle (Soups & Dessert)
- March 18 @ 5:15 pm – Men’s Group
- March 25 @ 5:15 pm – Altar Guild (Chili & Dessert)
- April 1 @ 5:15 pm – BRT Council (Deli Tray, Chips/Salads & Dessert)



Another year is underway. Our Annual Meeting is in the books. A great year lies ahead. A few of our infirmed have been hospitalized; at this writing all are ok. Dale Setzer is in rehab in St. Louis and will be coming back to KC in near future. I have heard that Jim Mills has received a kidney transplant. I saw Linda one day who told me about the need for this.

Samuel Cummings participated in the Midwest Honor Band Concert held at UMKC. Reid Marple has graduated and is studying in Denmark. Lenten dinners should be good this year; however, I pray he will be a part of them in 2021. Please inform me if you have folks graduating so I can put their names in print. February is Heart Month and the 7th is actually Wear Red Friday. It is also send a card to a friend day. February 14th is National Donor Day. Shrove Tuesday is Feb 25 and is also chocolate covered nuts day.. March is National Kidney month and Poison Prevention month. Daylight Savings time starts March 8th.

Upcoming: Scout Sunday/SuperBowl Sunday
 Royals Spring Training
 Shrove Tuesday/Ash Wednesday
 Lenten Suppers
 MLM fundraiser in March

"Call me into the work of your kingdom, Lord Jesus, and use my gifts in service to all. Amen" from Christ in our Home

Linda Hokenson

BEST CHOICE UPC'S



Thank you one and all for your hard work. We got enough Best Choice to reach our goal last year. Please continue to keep up the good work. If you want to bring the whole label, you can. If you cut out the UPC's, please leave the words-"Best Choice" on the UPC Code that starts with 700. I will bring some more bags; please take one for yourself, family, friends and neighbors to help collect. The dollars we receive go directly toward the Christmas Store. If you have any questions, contact Wanda Clemons.

Wanda Clemons

Trinity Tidings

This is a monthly publication of Blue Ridge Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church. Articles or information pertinent to the life and mission of the congregation may be submitted to the Church Office **by the 20th** of each month. Space limitations may require editing of material.

Church Schedule

Sundays:

Worship - 9:30 a.m.

URGENT NEED OF PASTORAL CARE CALL:

Office:

816-353-5446

Pastor:

816-785-4006

Church Staff

Orin W. Cummings
Pastor

Jackie Harvey
Choir Director

Mary Burge
Organist

Bob Harvey
Contemporary Worship







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SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
Sunday Morning Schedule 8:45 a.m. Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Worship 10:30 a.m. Fellowship						
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
4th Sun after EPIPHANY 9:30 a.m. SCOUT SUNDAY	7:00 p.m. Scouts & Cubs		10:00 a.m. Al Anon 7:00 p.m. Choir		OFFICE CLOSED	8:00 a.m. St. Matt's Men's Breakfast
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
5th Sun after EPIPHANY 9:30 a.m. Traditional Service	7:00 p.m. Scouts & Cubs	10:30 a.m. Care Team 	10:00 a.m. Al Anon 7:00 p.m. Choir			Flying Solo – St Matthew's
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
6th Sun after EPIPHANY 9:30 a.m. Blended Service			10:00 a.m. Al Anon 7:00 p.m. Choir		OFFICE CLOSED	Troop 469 Chili Cook-off Fundraiser 5:00-7:00 p.m. at Raytown High Cafeteria
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
TRANSFIGURATION OF OUR LORD 9:30 a.m. Brief Liturgical Service Special Congregation Meeting	7:00 p.m. Scouts & Cubs	11:00 a.m. Ruth Circle Luncheon 	10:00 a.m. Al Anon 6:00 p.m. Ash Wednesday Service 		OFFICE CLOSED	



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SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
Sunday Morning Schedule 8:45 a.m. Sunday School 9:30 a.m. Worship 10:30 a.m. Fellowship						
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1st Sun in LENT 9:30 a.m. Contemporary Service		6:00 p.m. Church Council Meeting	10:00 a.m. Al Anon 5:15 p.m. Dinner 6:00 Lenten Service 7:00 p.m. Choir		OFFICE CLOSED	
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
2nd Sun in LENT 9:30 a.m. Traditional Service	7:00 p.m. Scouts & Cubs	10:30 a.m. Care Team 	10:00 a.m. Al Anon 5:15 p.m. Dinner 6:00 Lenten Service 7:00 p.m. Choir		OFFICE CLOSED	8:00 a.m. St. Matt's Men's Breakfast
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
3rd Sun in LENT 9:30 a.m. Blended Service	Raytown Schools' Spring Break Begins		10:00 a.m. Al Anon 5:15 p.m. Dinner 6:00 Lenten Service 7:00 p.m. Choir		Raytown Schools' Spring Break Ends OFFICE CLOSED	Flying Solo – St Matthew's
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
4th Sun in LENT 9:30 a.m. Brief Liturgical Service	7:00 p.m. Scouts & Cubs	11:00 a.m. Ruth Circle Luncheon 	10:00 a.m. Al Anon 5:15 p.m. Dinner 6:00 Lenten Service 7:00 p.m. Choir		OFFICE CLOSED	
29	30	31				
5th Sun in LENT 11:00 a.m. UNITED SERVICE at St. Matthew's	7:00 p.m. Scouts & Cubs					