

TRINITY CHIMES

NEWSLETTER OF THE TRINITY REFORMED CHURCH

April 2014

Resurrection

I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly.
-John 10:10

Trending on social media, Facebook and viral websites, as well as being shared via emails lately are videos showing dairy cows being released into green pastures. Perhaps you're not on Facebook or regularly use other computer-based sharing opportunities, so please indulge me a moment as I set the scene: One video depicts dairy cattle in the English countryside being released into the verdant green grass of a new Spring field. In another, the caption states that a particular herd of dairy cows in Germany were "rescued," after their farmer has retired. Instead of being sent off to slaughter, they are "adopted," given a reprieve and the chance to live on another farm. (Not sure if the details of this second one are true.) In any event, in both videos, the focus and thus the reason for the sharing, has to do primarily with the cows' reaction as they enter the lush green grass. *They actually run, jump, leap, and in all appearances seem to frolic with joy in the field.*

Cows jumping may not mean much to you. But to me, what is depicted is the exuberance of Springtime and unfettered joy—especially if you believe that creation itself can demonstrate joy, which I do! These examples take me back to my childhood and I recall the first time each season when the cows are let out in the spring. They behave like they are excited, given new life after a long winter. Even if you haven't personally experienced a bucolic livestock spring awakening, I imagine you can appreciate the newness and life that springtime brings particularly after this long cold winter.

In a variety of ways Springtime and the responses it brings work beautifully to prepare the stage for Easter. We are ready for new life, fresh growth, birth, and abundance. There is a joy that we too can express. Our wider culture gets this too. Thus, there are Easter sales, bunnies, and a lot of pastel colours.

But in all honesty, that's not enough. Green grass might bring joy, but it's no Easter.

This past Monday I received a phone message from my mother. A particularly full schedule and late evening didn't allow me to return the call until the following morning, and because of traveling to meetings out of state, even that was complicated. On a short layover at Chicago O'Hare I called home and learned that my grandmother had passed away the day before.

Psalm 29 is a beautiful song praising God's power:

Ascribe to the Lord, O heavenly beings, ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.

Ascribe to the Lord the glory of his name; worship the Lord in holy splendor.

The voice of the Lord is over the waters; the God of glory thunders, the Lord, over mighty waters.

The voice of the Lord is powerful; the voice of the Lord is full of majesty.

The voice of the Lord breaks the cedars; the Lord breaks the cedars of Lebanon.

He makes Lebanon skip like a calf, and Sirion like a young wild ox.

The voice of the Lord flashes forth flames of fire.

The voice of the Lord shakes the wilderness; the Lord shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.

The voice of the Lord causes the oaks to whirl, and strips the forest bare; and in his temple all say, "Glory!"

The Lord sits enthroned over the flood; the Lord sits enthroned as king forever.

May the Lord give strength to his people! May the Lord bless his people with peace!

I love this Psalm because like my opening words about cattle jumping for joy, the Psalmist captures creation's moving in celebration of God's presence. But more so, it speaks of the power of God to move. Not only to move the earth, but really, to move alongside us.

In three weeks we will gather in the church to celebrate God's greatest movement, God's

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Our vision is to help people find New Life in Jesus Christ!



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movement overcoming death itself, the good news of Easter resurrection.

Sometimes we in the church can give a kind of lip service to what we believe while embracing more fully that which we can more readily grasp. We go for what is easier. With Easter and spring it is easier to go with the renewal of creation, baby animals, flowers and eggs, and all that stuff. And let me say that that is all good stuff. But I want to provoke you go deeper, to allow your greatest longings to connect with the power of the resurrection, the power of God that is at work in and through us. I want to encourage you not to settle just for spring but to leap and run for joy that Christ is risen. And therefore, so are we!

In Christ's Grace and Peace,

Pastor Tom

Easter Flowers

Please use the insert provided to order Easter flowers *In Memory Of* and/or *In Honor Of* loved ones, or simply as a gift to help decorate the sanctuary for Easter. Flowers may be taken home on Easter Sunday after the worship service. Orders must be received by the church office no later than April 13th. Thank you.

Lenten Bible Study:

Lent for Everyone: Matthew

The Lenten Season provides us with an opportunity for reflection and study, to deepen our relationship with God and one another, and to become more open to the ways in which God is at work in Christ. Our Lenten Bible Study continues to explore the Gospel of Matthew using a book as our guide by popular biblical scholar and author, Bishop N. T. Wright. All levels of bible understanding are welcome. We will gather in the church hall each Wednesday through April 16 from 7:30 pm to 8:30 pm. All are welcome!

Maundy Thursday Service

Please join us for our Maundy Thursday worship service on April 17th at 7:30 pm. For more information, please see our weekly bulletin.

Good Friday Service

Please join us for our Good Friday worship service on April 18th at 7:30 pm. The Grace Notes will be participating in the worship service and we hope you too will be able to join us.

Easter Sunday Breakfast

All are invited to come celebrate the risen Lord and join together in fellowship before worship in a simple breakfast of bagels, toppings, and Easter Eggs on Easter morning at 8:30 am in the Church Hall. So that we may make sure we have enough for all to enjoy, please make your breakfast

reservations with the church office no later than noon on Tuesday, April 15th. Thanks!

New Sexton

We are pleased to inform you that we have a new church sexton, Mr. Bill Mohr. Bill is no stranger to Trinity. He and his wife, Jen, have assisted for a number of years at Vacation Bible School and their son, Billy, has been a participant from the very beginning.



If you have any issues that you feel the sexton should be made aware of, please speak with Theo Hessenius, the chairperson of our property and maintenance committee.

OSTERN

Herr, Jesus Christ, in Tod und Nacht
hast du das Leben uns gebracht
fuer alle Ewigkeiten.

Du hast den Himmel aufgetan.
Nun leuchtet uns dein Sieg voran
in allen Dunkelheiten.

Du, Herr, bist Sieger! Alles Sorgen
und Trauern sei ins Grab gesenkt,
weil du am Auferstehungsmorgen
uns ew'ges Leben hast geschenkt.
Und welch ein Trost zu allen Zeiten
wie Morgenrot nach dunkler Nacht;
Du lebst - und gehst an uns'rer Seiten,
bis du uns einst hast heimgebracht.

aus "Getrost und freudig durchs Jahr" von Kaete
Walter

Lord Jesus Christ, through death and night
You brought us life for all eternity.
You have opened heaven's door.
Now Your victory lights our way
through all the dark times of our lives.

Lord, You are the Victor!
May all cares and sorrows
be buried in the grave,
because You have given us
eternal life on Your Resurrection morning.
And such a comfort at all times,
like light appearing after darkest night,
it is to know:

You live - and walk beside us
until You take us safely home.

Good Morning

Please say "Good morning" to visitors who are new to Trinity. It is important for them to see that we are a welcoming congregation. If you see someone new at the coffee hour fellowship welcome them and invite them to sit with you or your group.

Bequest

A former member, Dorothy M. Curtis, had been living in Florida and passed away recently. In her will she left a portion of her estate to Trinity Reformed Church and we received a check for \$3,854.09. We appreciate her generosity in remembering Trinity.

Happy April Birthdays

Sonja Mains	1 st	Marty Hochenberger	2 nd
Elisabeth Burzynski	5 th	Barbara Burger	7 th
Bill Mains	9 th	Hulda Stetzenbach	10 th
Gena Stimpfel	10 th	Sylvia Adamek	14 th
Nikolas Burzynski	17 th	Jennifer Mohr	19 th
Andy Carrasquillo	22 nd	Timothy Wtorkowski	22 nd
Joanna Pan	29 th	Leonard Schiefer	29 th

Prayer List

Please be mindful of the following members and friends of our congregation in your prayers:

Janet Roth, health; Martha Bauer, health; Frederick Dalm, healing; Groezinger Family; Philipp & Hildegard Febel, healing; Laura Kurtz, health; Debra Meraglia, health & healing; Eleanor Rizzo, health & healing; Donna Dowd, healing; Doris Church, healing; United Presbyterian Church, Ridgewood and Pastor Henry Fury; Bill Albanese, health & healing; Susan Gebhart, health & healing; Maritza Garcia-Castro, health & healing; Fritz & Betty Klaar, health & healing; Anibal Segarra, safety & protection; Martin Seidl, health & healing; Barbara Burger, health & healing; Clara Gomez, health & healing; Mildred Schleeauf, health & healing; Church on the Hill, transitions; Isabel, Marcia, and Jade; Andrew Holbrook, health & healing; Reinhard Groezinger, health & healing; Marie Shanelly Alvarez; Mohr Family; Jennie Cartagena, health & healing; Billie Albanese, health & healing; Trudy Bambach, health & healing; Sara Segarra; Tito Ortiz; Michele Dimino, needs kidney transplant; Alberto Ortiz, serving in military; Erika Brockmann, health & healing; Marilyn Amoroso, health & healing; Carmen Blanco, health & healing; Family of Felder Williams, peace & comfort; Reformed Church in America, Queens Classis, and Regional Synod of New York; Dave & Char Alexander, RCA missionaries in Taiwan; Doug Leonard, RCA missionary in Oman; Peter Mark Trautmann, The Navigators at NYU; Leonard & Linda Schiefer, Gideons International; Pastor Tom and the Consistory.

Stewardship and Finance Report

<u>Expenditures for Month of</u>	<u>Feb. 2014</u>
Personnel Expenses	\$ 6,154.00
Utilities	\$ 1,321.00
Ministry/Supplies	\$ 215.00
Maintenance	\$ 151.00
Spiritual Life/Outreach/Advertising	\$ 0.00
Other Disbursements*	\$ 2,200.00
Total Expenditures	\$ 10,041.00

<u>Receipts for Month of</u>	<u>Feb. 2014</u>
Weekly Envelopes	\$ 58.00
Weekly Plate	\$ 5,980.00
Benevolences	\$ 424.00
Transfer from Memorial Fund	\$ 0.00
Special Offerings	\$ 122.00
Annuity	\$ 1,505.00
Other Receipts**	\$ 954.00
Total Receipts	\$ 9,043.00

*Office Supplies, Flowers, Coffee Hour Expenses

** NA & Alanon Groups, Coffee Hour Donations, Sunday School, Classis Assessment

Worship Schedule for April

April 6, 13, 20, 27 – Worship Service at 10:00 a.m.
 Maundy Thursday – April 17- 7:30 p.m.
 Good Friday – April 18 - 7:30 p.m.
 Easter Sunday – April 20 - 10:00 a.m.

- Prayer Meeting each Sunday at 9:00 a.m.
- Junior Church each Sunday at 10:00 a.m.

Consistory

Rev. Thomas C. Goodhart,
 Minister of Word and Sacrament
 pastor@trinityqueens.org
 www.tomgoodhart.wordpress.com

Elders: Marieanna Trautmann
 Vice President of Consistory
 Theo Hessenius
 Erik Huneke
 Linda Morton

Deacons: Jenny Burger
 Karl Kurtz
 Max Teodorescu
 Bill Voges

April 2014

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Prayer Meeting Sundays 9am Junior Church Sundays 10am		1	2 Lenten Bible Study 7:30 pm	3 UPC Welcome Kitchen 4:00 pm	4 UPC Welcome Kitchen 4:00 pm	5 NA Mtg. 7pm
6 Worship Service 10:00 am <i>Their Daily Bread Collection</i>	7 NA Mtg. 7pm	8 Al-Anon 7:30pm	9 Lenten Bible Study 7:30 pm	10 NA Mtg. 7pm	11	12 NA Mtg. 7pm
13 Palm Sunday Worship Service 10:00 am Easter Flower Order due	14 NA Mtg. 7pm	15 Al-Anon 7:30pm	16 Frauenverein/ Ladies Aid 1 pm Lenten Bible Study 7:30 pm	17 Maundy Thursday Worship Service 7:30 pm NA Mtg. 7pm	18 Good Friday Worship Service 7:30 pm	19 Couples & Friends 2:00 pm NA Mtg. 7pm
20 Easter Sunday Worship Service 10:00 am	21 Last day for newsletter submissions to Bill Voges NA Mtg. 7pm	22 Al-Anon 7:30pm	23	24 NA Mtg. 7pm	25	26 NA Mtg. 7pm
27 Worship Service 10:00 am	28 NA Mtg. 7pm	29 Al-Anon 7:30pm	30	May 1 UPC Welcome Kitchen 4:00 pm NA Mtg. 7pm	May 2 UPC Welcome Kitchen 4:00 pm	May 3 NA Mtg. 7pm