

April 2024
Volume 66
Number 4

THIS CANON DOESN'T FIRE



The Lamplighter

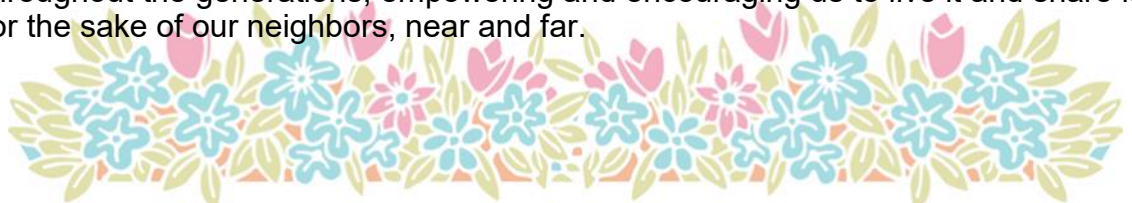
Although in our world there are disagreements about how to understand and use the Bible, folks have no problem agreeing that the Bible holds a unique place in our culture. It has outsold every other book ever published, and is reflected in our ethics and government, and echoes in our art and literature. But the disagreements over how to understand and use the Bible can surely seem like they outweigh the agreements. It is helpful to consider how we got the Bible we have now.

That questions about how the books of the Bible were selected is asking about “canon,” which is not a big gun that blows people away. “Canon” is an English word that comes from a Greek word that means “rule” or “standard.” In the context of the Bible, it refers to the list of the writings that are considered “authoritative.” The canon of the Bible has been a source of lively debates. The popular novel *The Da Vinci Code*, for example, claims that the Emperor Constantine somehow rigged the selection of the books that made it into the “official” Bible in the 4th century, and excluded those books that challenged his imperial authority.

Not every faith group that holds the Bible as authoritative has the same list of books that “made it into the canon.” A Jewish Bible (in Hebrew) has the same books as our Old Testament, but grouped differently. But there was a Greek translation of those books widely used in the time of Jesus (called the “Septuagint”) that included other books also in use at the time. Bibles published by and for Roman Catholics have included some of those books within the Old Testament; other editions of the Bible either do not include them or put them in a separate section called “Apocrypha.” Still other books didn’t make it into the New Testament canon list, but were at one time considered authoritative and used in various places and times in the early Church. Some books that were in circulation collected pious legends that strike us as quite bizarre, and never carried any real authority for faith or life.

What criteria did the early Church use to make its Biblical canon? Factors in deciding which books were “in” and which were “out” included if the writings had a tradition of having been used and held as authoritative within the churches, if the writings had been around a long time and were connected back to the apostles, and orthodoxy -- did their teaching fit with other teachings that were not in question. The process was gradual – it wasn’t until 367 that a list appears that is identical to the one we have now. Yet, the core of that list – the four gospels that we have and most of the letters of Paul—were being considered authoritative throughout most of the Churches as early as the year 100.

Pilate’s question when he is interrogating Jesus is asked a lot these days: “What is truth?” Who gets to say what’s orthodox? A cynic could simply say “the winners.” But we can trust that there is more going on than just jockeying for power and control. God has Good News for us, and the Holy Spirit has been at work throughout the generations, empowering and encouraging us to live it and share it, for the sake of our neighbors, near and far.





REMINDER! Please check the church calendar in the office before scheduling an activity at the church.

If you would like an event/meeting on the calendar, please ensure that the office knows about it! **THANK YOU!**

THANK YOU TO THE MARCH WORSHIP SERVANTS:

Recording/sound engineers: Adam & Jody Pomfret;
Andrew & Elizabeth Eichmiller.

Lay assistants: Linda Afdahl, Pete Gustafson, Gayle Bland, Patricia McIntyre, Carol Hawn, John Neuenschwander, Gordon Afdahl

Ushers: Pete & Donna Gustafson, Ray & Suzi Bloomer, Marv & Barb Mericle, Bob & Denise Taylor, Andrew & Elizabeth Eichmiller, Gayle Bland, Jody Pomfret

Altar Care: Jody Pomfret, Patricia McIntyre, Denise Taylor, Suzi Bloomer, Sue Gosse

Communion Bread: Donna Gustafson, Denise Taylor, Barb Mericle, Jody Pomfret, Carol Hawn, Gayle Bland

Please Note:

Council Items Due - Thur, 4/11@ 9:30a

Council Meeting - Mon, 4/15 @ 7:00p

Newsletter Items Due - Mon, 4/22 @ 9:30a



BIRTHDAYS

- 4/1 Harry English
- 4/3 Tom Yeagley
- 4/5 Tim Seitz
- 4/7 James Rodenberger
- 4/13 Kim Schoffstall
- 4/21 Eli Moffett
- 4/28 Eve Rodenberger
- 4/29 Suzette Bloomer
- 4/30 Mallory Pendergast

ANNIVERSARIES

- 4/11 Lynn & Angie Branz



BIRTHDAYS

- 5/2 Elizabeth Eichmiller
- 5/3 Jean Lapp
- 5/7 Amy Essig
- 5/8 Bill Strecker
- 5/14 Sara Johnson
- 5/17 Sam Gumm
- 5/19 Robert Taylor
- 5/20 Cynthia Olmi
- 5/25 Lori Essig
- 5/27 Robbie Baber
- 5/29 Barbara Mericle
- 5/31 Avery Mathis

Anniversaries

- 5/2 John & Rudie Butler
- 5/3 Larry & Carol Hawn
- 5/14 Greg & Lori Essig
- 5/31 Randy & Gayle Bland



VOLUNTEERS FOR APRIL

Counters for April: Pete & Donna Gustafson



<u>DATE</u>	<u>Lay Assistant</u>	<u>Ushers</u>	<u>Communion Assistants</u>
4/7/24	Sue Gosse	Ray & Suzi Bloomer	Jody Pomfret/Donna Gustafson (set up/clean up) Barb Mericle (bread)
4/14/24	Adam Pomfret	Gordon & Linda Afdahl	Suzi Bloomer/Sue Gosse (set up/clean up) Donna Gustafson (bread)
4/21/24	Tom Weir	Bob & Denise Taylor	Jody Pomfret/Pat McIntyre (set up/clean up) Carol Hawn(bread)
4/28/24	Jody Pomfret	Marv & Barb Mericle	Denise Taylor (set up/clean up) Denise Taylor (bread)



Private Faith, Public Square

What do the two religion clauses of the United States Constitution mean? How do we separate church and state yet guarantee free exercise of religion by individuals? Where are the boundaries of free exercise when one person's faith expression is the direct opposite of his/her neighbor's? The Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) of Indiana State University presents a 4-part inquiry into this problem in April, 2024. Lead by Constitutional scholar, Trinity's own Dr. Patricia McIntyre, the 4 sessions will trace the historical roots and the explore present conflicts that put religion right in the center of today's electoral politics. OLLI courses are open to anyone (\$10-\$40 per year depending on program choices).

For information, ask Pat McIntyre or call the OLLI office at ISU (812) 237-9040.

Sisters of Providence to host Earth Day Festival

Join the Sisters of Providence of Saint Mary-of-the-Woods, Indiana, and White Violet Center for Eco-Justice for the upcoming Earth Day celebration from 11 a.m.-3 p.m., on Saturday, April 20, at Saint Mary-of-the-Woods, located 10 minutes northwest of downtown Terre Haute. There will be something for everyone, including nature shows and earth-related craft activities, spinning, weaving and felting demonstrations. And don't forget the visits with the alpacas! Food options will be available. Admission to the festival is free, but donations would be appreciated.

For more information, visit WhiteViolet.org, call 812-535-2932 or email wvc@spsmw.org.



The Lamplighter

QUILTERS will meet Sat., April 13 at 9am. Bring your scissors and rested hands!

MEN'S BREAKFAST

Cackleberries on Tuesday 4/9 & 4/23 @ 8:30am.



FIRST FRIDAY CARDS: March 1st saw a faithful group of eight gather to battle for position "numero uno" at the tables in the fellowship serving area. The group bantered as plates were filled (as well as bellies) for a light meal prior to the cards being dealt. Danish, fruit, donuts, chex mix, pigs in the blanket, cheese, cranberry chicken salad, pizza, cupcakes (in celebration of an anniversary) and other delicious "healthy" foods rounded out the spread of the evening. The most talked about food item was the pancake and syrup corn puffs. They smelled like pancakes/syrup so most of those present tried them. It was an acquired taste that soon became moreish. Soon the group was down to business bidding, taking tricks, asking what was trump. Cries of "yeah," "yes," "oh no," "why did you trump my trick" or "oh, thank you, for taking that trick" were heard. The word of the evening soon became "WOW!" As always, conversation was good and laughter was heard. Regulars were missed. Scores bounced around and at the end of the evening a winner was declared. Can you guess who it might have been (NOT the writer of this article)? Our next competition at the tables will be Friday, April 5, 6:00 PM. Bring a snack/treat to share and join us. You will be glad you did and the regulars will be glad to have you.

TRINITY RINGERS continue rehearsals on Wednesday at 5:15pm. Bring your rested and relaxed hands and wrists, your sharp eyes, and be ready to laugh and play some music. Thanks for your dedication and willingness to play.

Questions, see Suzi Bloomer (812-877-4273).



TRINITY WOMEN: Will meet on TUESDAY, APRIL 10 at 7 pm in the fellowship hall. Carol Hawn will have the program from 1 Timothy 6:3-19. Gayle Bland will be the hostess. All women are invited.



Now that the Lenten programs are completed the Trinity Choir has resumed its regular 6:30 rehearsals on Wednesday evenings. New members are always welcome and all voice parts are needed. The Easter season and Pentecost are always joyful times to sing. Please consider giving the choir a try this spring. If you have any questions please speak with our music director Sara Johnson or any choir member. You can speak with Sara following worship on Sunday mornings, reach her by phone at (812)360-0897 or email at sarajjohnson72@yahoo.com.

ALL ARE WELCOME!!

TUESDAY ZOOM BIBLE STUDY 11:30-12:30 COME AS YOU ARE!

Topical Bible study using the book, *102 Fascinating Bible Studies*, written by a Baptist pastor, Preston A. Taylor. The unusual thing about this study is that each of the 102 chapters stand alone. There are 102 topics arranged in alphabetical order. Each chapter contains ten Bible passages with questions related to the topic.

We read the Bible passages and discuss the questions. We usually spend two meetings on each chapter.

Talk to Johnny Neuenschwander who sets up the Zoom meetings. He will send you a link and reminder. Everyone is welcome to participate.

If viewing the pdf while you are online, you can click:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/9142075889?pwd=Vku5R3BydFMzMzZozZgyS3kvdjFzdz09>





We extend our gratitude to those who have helped to provide music for our worship services in March. The Trinity Choir provided offertory music on March 3rd, 17th, and for the Maundy Thursday service; The Trinity Ringers provided offertory music on March 10th and made Palm Sunday extra special providing three bell pieces during that service; and John Neuenschwander sang for our Good Friday Worship. In addition, a resounding round of applause is offered to all our musicians who made our Easter Worship a truly joyful celebration of Jesus' resurrection. Thank you Trinity Ringers and Trinity Choir for your many contributions!

Thanks are also offered to our corps of cantors: Elizabeth Eichmiller, John McIntyre, Patricia McIntyre, John Neuenschwander, John Moon, Charles Parks, and Bill Strecker for their faithful service throughout the year.

Thanks are also offered to Dr. Patricia McIntyre for her leadership of our Wednesday Evening Lenten programs and to Elizabeth Eichmiller as she coordinated an art project as part of our 100th Anniversary year.

Thanks be to God for Jenna McFarland, our Parish Administrator, for providing all our printed and online worship materials, keeping us informed of our schedule of activities and performing many unseen but necessary tasks.

And last, but certainly not least, our gratitude is extended to Pastor Karen for her leadership of our worship on Sunday mornings, her guidance of our congregation, her meaningful messages and her pastoral care. We are blessed to have her leadership of Trinity.

Trinity is blessed to have many talented people sharing their talents in service to Christ throughout the year. Thank you all!



BE PRAYING FOR...

Christina Browne, Carla Chapman, Corrine Erickson, Jo Goben, Brenda Hamand, Braden Hunt, Kristan Hunt, Jade, Janet, Don Johnson, Kris Johnson and Debbie, P.K. Johnson, Mary Lee, Deval Lennon, Bruce and Karol Martindale, Richard Martindale, Pastor Dana and Susie Newhouse, Briar Osborn, Charles Parks, Pastor Ben and Pastor Susan Stallings, Pastor Bob Swanson, Sarah VanSell, and Rhoda Wood.



Pastor's Discretionary Fund assists with individuals in need of assistance, primarily utility needs by working with the Salvation Army. Any help replenishing this fund is greatly appreciated. Mark your offering envelope .

2024 PENNY POWER OFFERING

On the last Sunday of each month, our pennies are donated to Lutheran World Hunger in order to buy milk for children in a developing country.

- January 60.90
- February 60.82
- March TBA
- April
- May
- June
- July
- August
- September
- October
- November
- December



2024 Total:

Equals cups of milk for needy children!!



TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH						
Operating Budget Summary at February 29, 2024						
	2024			2023		
	Actual	% of Budget	Budget	YTD Actual	% of Budget	Year End Actual
Giving/revenues received for budget	\$24,890.00	17.2%	\$ 144,816.00	\$24,759.44	16.5%	\$ 150,419.52
Expenses for budgeted items	\$25,617.89	15.7%	\$ 163,385.00	\$26,392.30	17.5%	\$ 150,890.77
Revenues over/(under) expenses	(\$727.89)		\$ (18,569.00)	(\$1,632.86)		(\$471.25)

At February 29, 2024, unified giving and other revenues were \$130.56 higher than the previous year, and were \$754 higher than budget for the year. Expenses were \$1,612.94 lower than budget for the year and \$774.41 lower than the previous year. Year to date expenses exceeded revenues by \$727.89 Please note there is a budgeted deficit of \$18,569 for the whole year.

member spotlight

“What an amazing day it's been! Bob and I were at the Statehouse in Indianapolis to celebrate and honor 78 volunteer firefighters who have been serving their communities for 50 years. Bob is one of those firefighters and I couldn't be more proud of him and all he's done. He started as a volunteer firefighter in 1974 at Seelyville Fire Department and then joined Honey Creek Fire Department in 1981, where he is currently still serving. Thank you to all who give of their time and talents to protect our communities either by fighting fires or working accidents.”

Posted on Facebook by Denise Taylor 2/26/2024



What is a Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD)?

A Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD) from an IRA is a wonderful way to support Trinity's ministries and receive key tax benefits.

Here's how it works: Under IRS tax law, at age 72 you are required to withdraw from your Individual Retirement Account (IRA) a certain amount of money known as your Required Minimum Distributions (RMDs). These distributions made directly to you are taxed as they are withdrawn. However, taxpayers over age 70½ can have their QCD paid directly to their church from their IRA, and thereby avoid federal income tax on this money while supporting the ministries of their church.

Please consult with your tax or legal advisor about proceeding with your QCD gift plan.



BLESSING BOX ITEMS

We continue to collect non-perishable food items and personal care items for the blessing box. Please see the list posted in the narthex of acceptable items. No perishable food, please. Items can be left in the basket in the Narthex. Thank you for supporting this ministry.

LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF

EARTHQUAKE RELIEF

Earthquakes in Turkey and Morocco have cause widespread devastation. Lutheran World Relief is prepared to serve here as we continue to help in Maui following devastating wildfires.

Your help is needed.

Give to Lutheran Disaster Response

P O Box 1809

Merrifield, VA 22116-8009

Give by phone: 800-638-3522

Give online: disaster@elca.org

Friday, April 19, 2024 -- 7:00pm

Trinity Lutheran Church, 2620 Ohio Blvd

Invites YOU to a special *organ and brass* concert to celebrate our new pipe organ and the 100th Anniversary of our church!

Free will offering will be collected and a reception to follow!



Performances by Organist Sara Johnson!



Featuring musicians from Crossroads Brass!



Some historians suggest that April Fools' originated because, in the Middle Ages, New Year's Day was celebrated on March 25th in most European towns, with a holiday that in some areas of France, specifically, ended on April 1st. Those who celebrated New Year's Eve on January 1st made fun of those who celebrated on other dates by the invention of April Fools' Day.

You care for the land and water it; you enrich it abundantly.

Psalm 65:9



Earth Day Fun Facts!

- ⇒ Earth Day became a global event by 1990 with over 190 countries celebrating!
- ⇒ Earth day was created by Wisconsin Senator Gaylord Nelson and other environmentalists.
- ⇒ John F. Kennedy played an early role to promote environmental conservation.
- ⇒ Earth Day was inspired by Vietnam war protestors.
- ⇒ The first Earth Day saw 20 million Americans take to the streets!
- ⇒ Other countries call Earth Day, "International Mother Earth Day".
- ⇒ Earth Day has its own theme song! It is called "Earth Day Anthem" and was written in 2013 by Abhay Kumar.



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IMPORTANT NUMBERS

Pastor: Karen Husby: 812-230-2628
President: Sue Gosse: 812-299-5251
Vice President: Andrew Eichmiller: 812-797-2720
Secretary: Jody Pomfret: 812-243-1130
Financial Secretary: Greg Essig: 812-230-3208

Treasurer: Gordy Afdahl: 812-877-0903
Organist/Music Director: Sara Johnson: 812-360-0897
Administrative Assistant: Jenna McFarland: 812-240-3970
Church: 812-232-7628



Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

	1  6p Lucky Losers	2 11:30a Zoom Bible Study 7p Council & Call Committee @ St. Mark	3 5:15p Handbells 6:30p Choir	4	5  6p First Friday Cards	6
7 10a Worship	8 6p Lucky Losers	9 8:30a Men's Breakfast 11:30a Zoom Bible Study	10 5:15p Handbells 6:30p Choir 7p Trinity Women	11 9:30a Council Items Due	12	13 9a Quilting
14 10a Worship	15 6p Lucky Losers 7p Council Meeting	16 11:30a Zoom Bible Study	17 5:15p Handbells 6:30p Choir	18  National Haiku Poetry Day	19 7p Organ Dedicatory Concert w/ Crossroads Brass	20
21 10a Worship	22 9:30a Newsletter Items Due 6p Lucky Losers 	23 8:30a Men's Breakfast 11:30a Zoom Bible Study 5:30p Mutual Ministry	24 5:15p Handbells 6:30p Choir	25	26  National Pretzel Day	27
28 10a Worship 5th Sunday Luncheon w/ Trivia Penny Power	29 6p Lucky Losers	30 11:30a Zoom Bible Study Jenna Out - 5/9				

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH (ELCA)

Phone: 812-232-7628

Pastor Husby: 812-230-2628

TLC email: office@trinityterrehaute.org

TLC website: <https://trinityterrehaute.org>

Office Hours: Mon. - Fri. 9:30a-1:30p

Sunday Services

10a IN-PERSON &

ONLINE SERVICE

[https://www.youtube.com/
@trinitylutheranchurchterre4439](https://www.youtube.com/@trinitylutheranchurchterre4439)



TRINITY'S PURPOSE STATEMENT

Growing in
Grace,
Sharing
Christ's
Love.



Accompanying Guiding Principles

- Rooted in the Grace of Christ
- Listen, trust, and move with the Holy Spirit
- Generously share God's Gifts
- Love our neighbors
- Accept and welcome all

Trinity Lutheran Church
2620 Ohio St.
Terre Haute, IN 47803



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