

# The New Trinity Times

- TRINITY LUTHERAN SCHOOL -

FEBRUARY 2024

Lombard, Illinois



## PRESIDENTS' DAY by Ariana Mehrazar

The story of Presidents' Day begins in 1800. Surprisingly, four United States Presidents have birthdays in February: George Washington (22nd), Abraham Lincoln (12th), William Henry Harrison (9th), and Ronald Reagan (6th). Some people may celebrate these birthdays, but most people don't know these

Presidents were all born in February, even though everyone celebrates Presidents' Day. These four birthdays are generally unknown, and there are three sides to this:  
*continued on next page*

- February 21: Midweek Lent Service, 11 a.m. (lunch after), 5:30/6 p.m. Dinner/Bible Study
- February 27: Hot Lunch - Mostacioli
- February 28: Midweek Lent Service, 11 a.m. (lunch after), 5:30/6 p.m. Dinner/Bible Study
- March 1: Nachos for \$1
- March 4-8: Lutheran Schools Week
- March 5: Hot Lunch - Pizza
- March 6: Midweek Lent Service, 11 a.m. (lunch after) & 5/6 p.m. Dinner/Service
- March 8: Grandparents' Day, 8:30 a.m. chapel, 11:30 a.m. dismissal
- March 10: Students Sing in church, 9 a.m.
- March 12: Hot Lunch - Mac 'n' Cheese
- March 13: Midweek Lent Service, 11 a.m. (lunch after), 5:30/6 p.m. Dinner/Bible Study
- March 19: Hot Lunch - Hot Dog
- March 20: Midweek Lent Service, 11 a.m. (lunch after), 5:30/6 p.m. Dinner/Bible Study
- March 24: Palm Sunday Services, 9 a.m. (and March 25, 6 p.m.)
- March 25-April 1: NO SCHOOL - Easter Break
- March 28: Maundy Thursday Services, 11 a.m. & 7 p.m.
- March 29: Good Friday Services, 11 a.m. & 7 p.m.
- March 31: Easter Sunday Services, 7 & 10 a.m. with Easter Breakfast, 8:30 a.m. (no Service April 1)

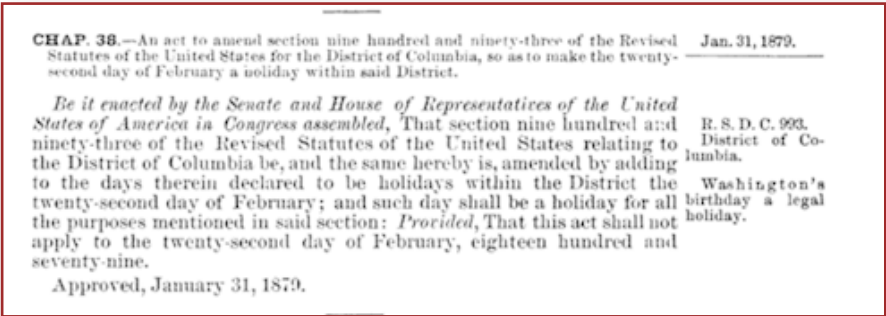
## UPCOMING EVENTS

## PRESIDENTS' DAY *continued from previous page*

one side thinks that we should only celebrate Presidents' Day...the others? One faction believes that we should celebrate all four birthdays, plus Presidents' Day. Yet another group suggests that we don't celebrate Presidents' Day, but instead, celebrate all four Presidential birthdays.

*The story of Presidents' Day began in 1800...*

Following the death of George Washington in 1799, February 22 (his birthday), became a perennial day of remembrance. At the time, Washington was venerated as the most important figure in American history, and events like the 1832 centennial of his birth and the start of construction of the Washington Monument in 1848 were cause for national celebration. In 1862, Lincoln issued a proclamation declaring February 22 a day of celebration honoring Washington.



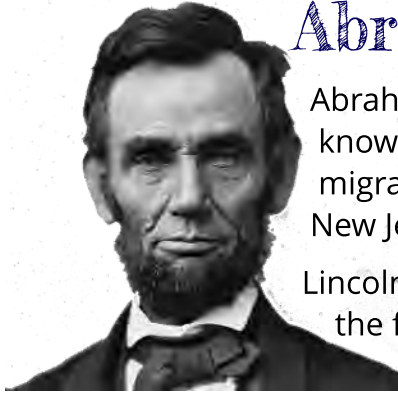
A federal holiday on February 22 was officially passed into law in 1879. Above is an excerpt from the Revised Statutes of the Forty-Fifth Congress. Presidents' Day is recognized as honoring George Washington and Abraham Lincoln. We should all honor Presidents' Day, and as well, we should honor all four (former) Presidents.

## THE ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT ABRAHAM LINCOLN

*by Arian Gomez*



The happiness of a Union victory in America's War Between the States (the Civil War) came to a sudden halt on the night of April 14, 1865, when President Abraham Lincoln was shot while attending a play at Ford's Theatre in Washington, DC, while watching *My American Cousin*. As the president lay dying in a house across the street from the theater, Senator Charles Sumner appeared at his bedside. Then on April 14, 1865, our 16th President, Abraham Lincoln died at 56 years old. The person that killed him was John Wilkes Booth, who was mad that Lincoln had ended slavery.



## Abraham Lincoln *by Sophia Garcia and Angelina Iverson*

Abraham Lincoln was the 16th President of the United States. He is known for abolishing slavery. Earlier generations of his family migrated west from Massachusetts, west passing through states like New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and Virginia.

Lincoln was born on February 12, 1809, in Kentucky. His father moved the family to Indiana, where he lived from the age of 7 through 21. In Illinois, the "Land of Lincoln," he married and entered politics. All three states claim Lincoln as their native son.

When Lincoln was 9 years old, his mother died from milk sickness leaving the young Abraham and his older sister, Sarah, alone with their widowed father. Thomas Lincoln remarried a year later. Ten years later, at age 21, Sarah died giving birth, and Lincoln was devastated.

A fun fact about Lincoln is that he was mostly self-educated. As a teen, he was responsible for many chores.

### His faith

Abraham Lincoln did not belong to any church but did get most of his knowledge from the Bible. When he read aloud or just in general, his writing very often included a Bible verse. He was known as the "First Evangelical President."

As Lincoln grew up, he was raised in a very religious Baptist family. He was seen attending church with his family when he got older. Abraham didn't, and would probably never, disrespect scripture. He said that he was inspired and influenced by it. Abraham Lincoln accepted God's Word and followed it. He used it often in his speaking.

### Lincoln's Words About God and the Bible

"I can see how it might be possible for a man to look down upon the earth and be an atheist, but I cannot conceive how a man could look up into the heavens and say there is no God."

"We pray for God's guidance through the storm of conflict, for His wisdom in the search for peace, for His mercy and forgiveness toward all men, friend and foe."

"In regard to this Great Book (the Bible), I have but to say, it is the best gift God has given to man. All the good the Savior gave to the world was communicated through this Book."

"My concern is not whether God is on our side; my greatest concern is to be on God's side, for God is always right."



# GEORGE WASHINGTON

by Ariana Mehrazar

## ~ INTRODUCTION ~

George Washington is known for being the first President of the United States of America, an American Founding Father, military officer, politician, and statesman who served as President from 1789 to 1797. Though, most people don't know his true backstory.

## ~ FACTS ~

Before you really get to know George Washington's true backstory, you will need to know some facts about him:

- George Washington was born on February 22, 1732.
- On the evening of December 14, 1799, at Mount Vernon, George Washington died of a throat infection. He was buried four days later in the family vault at Mount Vernon.
- His spouse was Martha Washington.
- Legend has it that Washington had wooden teeth, but museum's historians state that's not true.



## ~ HOW IT STARTED ~

(Newly-appointed) General George Washington knew the Continental Army was outmatched by the British in weaponry, manpower, and supplies. He became extremely aware that the Continental Army had no hope of victory in a traditional conflict. He needed to gain a strategic advantage...but how? Because Washington was a student of military strategy, he determined that espionage could be the key to an American victory. What was his solution? He created America's first intelligence community. His spy network of military strategists and average colonials used innovative techniques to gather and share information. They created secret codes, invented new formulas for invisible ink, and turned daily activities into intelligence communications. General Washington's efforts and the work of this first American intelligence community were critical to the Continental Army's victory over the British. They established a strong tradition of intelligence collection and innovation that still remains important to our nation's security today.

## ~ CONCLUSION ~

George Washington was an amazing President and Founding Father, and his birthday is coming up. Spend some time celebrating George Washington's birthday this upcoming Thursday and learning more about him!



## Trinity celebrates Lutheran Schools Week March 4-8

Lutheran Schools Week is a celebration of the more than 1,800 preschools, elementary schools and high schools of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, each of which is engaged in proclaiming and celebrating God's work among us.



## All About Lutheran Schools Week

by Abigail Pilny

**Lutherans Schools Week** is a week when we participate in a fun activity every day of the week.

On **Monday, March 4**, the first day of **Lutheran Schools Week**, we will be having a **D.E.A.R.** event - a time to **Drop Everything And Read**. This is a time in which students partner up to read a book together.

A school field trip to the **Brookfield Zoo** is planned for **Tuesday, March 5**. Please wear your Trinity spirit wear and bring a disposable lunch (I would suggest bringing it in brown paper bags).

**Wednesday, March 6**, we will be attending the **Lent Midweek Service** at 11 a.m. Please dress your best (wear something nicer than you usually do).

We will be having **Pajama Day** on **Thursday, March 7**, and guess what? You can wear your pajamas to school! And that's not all...The students will also be enjoying a breakfast buffet served by the teachers. Isn't that cool!? Oh wait, I forgot we will also be making cheer cards for **Phil's Friends** (a ministry bringing hope to cancer patients and their families)!

And on **Friday, March 8**, (drumroll, please!) it's **Grandparents Day**! Please join us and bring your grandparents to school with you. We will go to a special chapel service at 9 a.m. Next, we will go together to story time, join in creative crafts, and more fun in the gym. Following that, we will hang out in the classrooms until 11:30 a.m. early dismissal. Please note that there is no after care on Friday.

We will also be singing in church on **Sunday, March 10**. The service begins 9 a.m. So we look forward to all students coming to sing with us! And all are invited to a celebration following the service to recognize the retirement of our longtime preschool teacher, Mrs. Arlene Solyom.



In honor of Trinity's celebration of **Lutheran Schools Week, March 4-8**, please enjoy these essays by Trinity 5th grade students.

## What a Lutheran Education Means to Me *by Arian Gomez*

A Lutheran education to me means God loves and cares for me, and that I will go to heaven one day. And being a Lutheran, I know whatever happens, God wanted it to happen. And that the teachers love me and pray for me and I get to pray for people too. And I know that my mom and dad will go to heaven too. And it brings me hope that when I die there's something to look forward to. And it not just looking in the dark, but actually doing something when I die.



## WHAT A LUTHERAN SCHOOL MEANS TO ME *by Abigail Pilny*

My Lutheran school is a great place to be. I go to Trinity Lutheran School in Lombard, Illinois. At my school, we talk about our love for God and how He saved us from our sins. It is a good feeling to know that He does love us. Being in a Lutheran school is way better and different than going to a public school where we cannot talk about our love for Jesus and His love for us (no offense to the public schools because they are still good too). My favorite part of being in a Lutheran school is that we get to go to chapel every Wednesday to talk about Jesus. We also get to sit with the little kids and teach them how to act polite in the church or teach them how to follow along or something like that. So being in a Lutheran school is a lot of fun.

***If you know a family who might benefit from having their children in a Lutheran school, invite them to learn more about Trinity Lutheran School. Interested parents and guardians are encouraged to contact Trinity's office at 630.627.5601 to arrange for a family tour.***



## HARRY STYLES by Addison Meredith and Ava Harrison

Harry Styles is an English music artist and songwriter. He has released three albums, 14 singles, and 13 music videos. If you are wondering why we are writing about Harry Styles it is because his birthday was this month, on February 1. He is now 30, so let's just take a minute to remember all of the wonderful things Harry has done and learn more about him. Harry was a part of the very popular British boy band One Direction, until they split. After that Harry released his first solo album in 2017 called *Harry Styles!* This album features ten songs, including *Sign of The Times* and *Kiwi*. Two years later, in 2019, he released his second solo album *Fine Line*. Some of the songs included *Golden*, *Adore You*, and *Watermelon Sugar*. His most recent album is *Harry's House* - released in 2021. This album includes the songs *Late Night Talking*, *Satellite*, *Music For a Sushi Restaurant*, and *As It Was*. Harry Styles is also considered to be a Christian by some. He was raised in a Christian family and attended a Christian school, though he has said in interviews that he is more spiritual than religious. Harry believes that you should treat people with kindness, or as his fans know it - as *tpwk*. So we hope you listen to some of Harry's songs and *tpwk*!

## National Ballet Day by Ariana Mehrazar

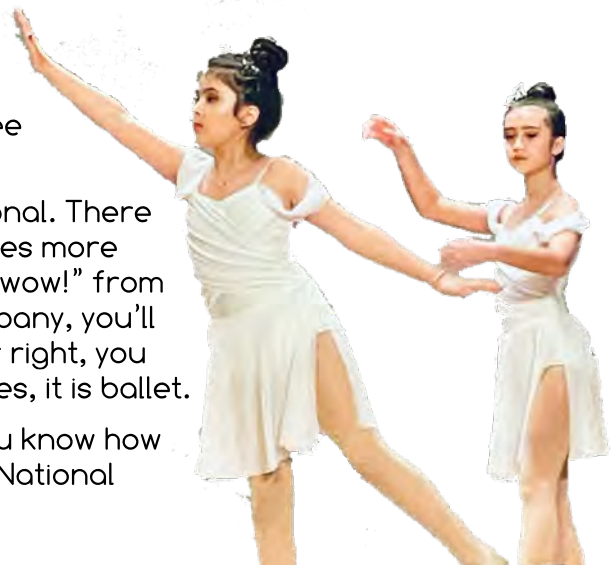
National Ballet Day celebrates, well, what you would assume, ballet. It is observed on February 7, and even though the day has passed, it won't hurt to learn about ballet!

Ballet is a form of dance that originated in the Italian Renaissance courts of the 15th century. Noblemen and women were treated to lavish events, especially wedding celebrations, where dancing and music created an elaborate spectacle. The first ballerina was Mademoiselle De Lafontaine. She was born in 1655 and died in 1738 (at the age of 83). Ballet is not pronounced the way that it's spelled, it's pronounced: balle (or bal-ay).

You may not know this about me, but I've been dancing since I was 18 months old. And, I have mostly done ballet. Some people confuse ballet with lyrical dance, and lyrical is jazz AND ballet. Lyrical is more of a contemporary style, taking elements from Modern dance and Jazz dance. As opposed to the traditional movements of ballet, it incorporates new moves, and "tricks" and tumbling not typically seen in ballet. Plus - you will see more in dance competitions.

Ballet is hundreds of years of old, and more traditional. There typically isn't tumbling, and the impressiveness comes more from the strength and balance need to pull of the "wow!" from people. If you ever go to a professional dance company, you'll see a lot more ballet and classical training. On your right, you will see a picture of me at one of my recitals, and yes, it is ballet.

Today, try and do some turns, leaps, or anything you know how to do in ballet. Next time you see ballerina, think of National Ballet Day!



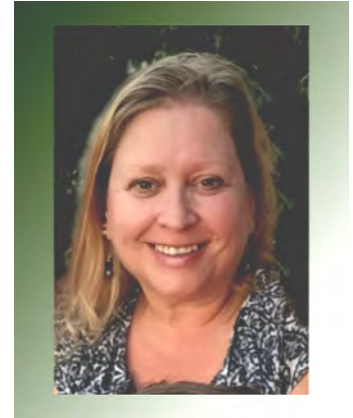


# Meet the Journalism Teacher: Mrs. Lori Solyom

by Francesco Lamphere

## Q. Why did you become a teacher?

A. I am only “officially” a teacher one hour a week – maybe two if you include Sunday School. However, I have been blessed in my journalism career and I strongly believe that it is important to do everything that you do to the glory of God. When the opportunity arose to teach journalism at Trinity, I saw it as a way to share how a Christian worldview can influence the work that you do. It’s a wonderful chance to influence the next generation – Trinity’s students – and encourage them to honor Jesus through the way you make a living. Trinity is a wonderful Christ-centered school, and the power of Jesus is what you need as you grow up and graduate and go out into the world. It’s a honor to be even a small part of equipping these students to carry Jesus with them as they go.



## Q. What is your favorite possession?

A. I have way too much stuff! And really, that’s all it is – stuff. I value the photos and items that are attached to special memories. I really enjoy my books – both for reading entertainment and valuable learning (my Bible is important!) I could not cope well without my coffee maker. But I think I have to select my home as my favorite possession. It’s not big or fancy or even always neat, but I thank God for it every day. It’s a place to keep my family safe, to welcome friends, and enjoy celebrating special moments in life.

## Q. Are you prepared if someone asks about God?

A. YES! 1 Peter 3:15 tells us to always be “prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you.” If I can desire to share with someone how God loves them, generally the Holy Spirit will provide the right words.

## Q. Do you wish to create something?

A. I’ve been creating things for as long as I can remember. Songs, artwork, plays, costumes. Confession: I’m working on an historical novel that takes place over 2,500 years or so. It may take me that long to finish it!

## Q. Why are you the journalism teacher?

A. I’ve been in media my entire adult life. I worked in radio for a long time, then served in news media and am now a public relations strategist. I write in my sleep (seriously, I do!). In Journalism we learn how to research and report, write the school newsletter, create the yearbook, livestream chapel, pen essays, poems, and more. There is so much to try - If you are bored in class, it’s because you are asleep!



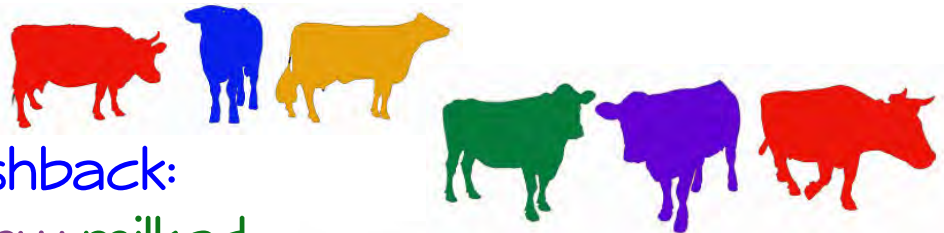
# Wonderful Whales by Addison Meredith



There are 23 different species of whales. The Blue Whale is the largest ocean creature, and even the largest mammal. Yes, a mammal but also a marine creature. They are mammals because whales give live birth, meaning whales don't lay eggs. Whales eat krill (small crustaceans) - in fact they eat up to six tons of krill each day. Whales live in all of Earth's oceans except for the Arctic. Though the Blue Whale is the biggest species of the whales, it has one known predator, which is the Orca. That is a shame because the Orca will kill a Blue Whale which will then either wash up on shore or be eaten. Whales generally range from 80 to 100 feet, and the average weight of a whale is 109 tons. I hope you learned something about these wonderful creatures called whales.



## World Whale Day was February 18



94 Year Flashback:  
 February 18: cow milked  
 while flying in a plane

*by Addison Meredith*

The year is 1930, and it's February 18. Nelli Jay the cow (also known as Elm Farm Ollie) is on an airplane. What is she doing up there? Ahhh, yes, that is it, scientists are studying her. For what reason? The reason is quite odd. Scientists were making an effort to study the effect on a cow's ability to produce milk while at a high altitude. Because of the year this took place, the various measurements and observations might not be the same ones that researchers would study today. Rumor has it that after the scientist had finished their studies, Nelli had to parachute down to ground level. How's that for crazy science?



# ON THE ROAD TO EASTER WORD SEARCH



- |            |               |              |
|------------|---------------|--------------|
| Ash        | Holy Week     | Palm Branch  |
| Wednesday  | Holy Thursday | Forty Days   |
| Sacrifice  | Good Friday   | Jesus        |
| Almsgiving | Holy Saturday | Passover     |
| Prayer     | Easter        | Foot Washing |
| Fasting    | Palm Sunday   | Resurrection |
| Lent       | Purple        | Love         |



**The New Trinity Times** is a monthly newsletter produced by the 5th through 8th grade students of Trinity Lutheran School in Lombard, Illinois. The 2023-2024 staff members are: Addison, Abigail, Aidan, Angelina, Arian, Ariana, Ava, Damian, Francesco, Roscoe, Sophia, and Tyler, under the direction of Mrs. Lori Solyom, journalism teacher.