

The New Trinity Times

- TRINITY LUTHERAN SCHOOL -

JANUARY 2024

Lombard, Illinois

UPCOMING EVENTS

• Through January 30: MAP (Measures of Academic Progress) testing

- January 24: Chapel, 8:30 a.m.
- January 26: Opposite Day
- January 26: Hot Cocoa & Cookie for a \$1
- January 28: Trivia4Bibles fundraiser with Pizza Dinner, 4-7 p.m.
- January 30: Hot Lunch - Mostaciolli
- January 31: Chapel, 8:30 a.m.
- February 2: Hot Cocoa & Cookie for a \$1
- February 5-16: Roller Skating at School
- February 6: Hot Lunch - Pizza
- February 7: Chapel, 8:30 a.m.
- February 11: Students Sing in church, 9 a.m., followed by all-Trinity Pot-Luck Brunch
- February 13: Hot Lunch - Mac 'n' Cheese
- February 14: Ash Wednesday - Lent begins, Church Service, 11 a.m. (lunch after) & 5/6 p.m. Dinner/Service
- February 16: Hot Cocoa & Cookie for a \$1
- February 19: NO SCHOOL - Presidents. Day
- February 20: Hot Lunch - Hot Dog
- February 21: Midweek Lent Service, 11 a.m. (lunch after), 5:30/6 p.m. Dinner/Bible Study
- February 27: Hot Lunch - Mostaciolli
- 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.

ABOUT EPIPHANY

by Abigail Pilny and Addison Meredith

Epiphany is the third season in the church year. When you think of Epiphany you might think of stars. Epiphany is celebrated because when the wise men were traveling to see

Baby Jesus,

They

followed a very bright star in the sky which

led them to where He

was. When they found

the Baby

Jesus they gave him presents: gold,

myrrh, and frankincense. This marks the revealing of Christ, who is God -

in His human form. Epiphany is known as the "second Christmas" due

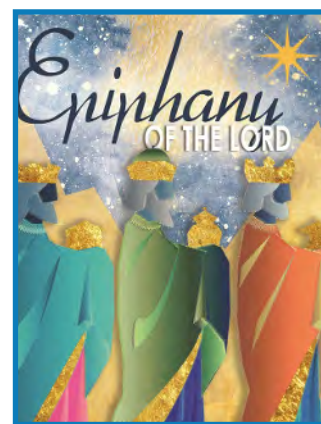
to the fact that in some countries in Europe and Latin America they

celebrate Epiphany with a bigger recognition than the first Christmas.

Epiphany is on January 6, also known as Three Kings Day. Like all Church

seasons, Epiphany is very important, and should be remembered and

celebrated.

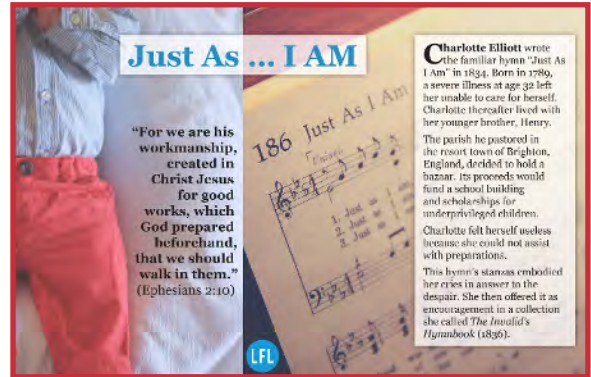


The New Trinity Times is a monthly newsletter created by Trinity's 5th through 8th grade Journalism students.

SANCTITY OF HUMAN LIFE

by Arian Gomez and Tyler Zita

On January 21, 2024, we observed Sanctity of Human Life Sunday. While many Christians recognize the value of human life every day, January is set aside as Sanctity of Human Life month to bring a focus on being made in the image of God, and to raise awareness of the attacks that are waged against human life through the abortion industry. The one sure way of protecting unborn lives is to bringing the light of the Gospel into the darkness of abortion, support pregnancy help ministries, organizations which daily reach women and families with messages of hope and life.



THE CHRISTIAN HISTORY OF VALENTINES! by Abigail Pilny

Valentine's Day, typically associated with flowers, chocolate candies, intimate dinners, and other displays of affection, started as a pagan holiday. The origin of



Valentine's Day started with the Roman festival, Lupercalia, that was held in mid-February. The woman would put their names in a big urn to be chosen by the city's single men to be paired for the year and it often ended in marriage. Pope Gelasius I replaced the pagan festival with one associated with Christian virtues in the 5th century. The Catholic Church recognized three saints that may have been named Valentine.

According to the legend, "an imprisoned Valentine actually sent the first 'valentine' greeting himself after he fell in love with a young girl who visited him during his confinement. Before his death, it is alleged that he wrote her a letter signed 'From your Valentine,' an expression that is still in use today." So basically, the history of Valentines is about when people started falling in love and they would keep it a secret until the right time. That still goes on today, but when you give up your love for others, you give flowers and chocolates or candy to the person you secretly love. The history of Valentines is a great story to learn about and I hope you learned something new about this popular "sweethearts" celebration.

Mrs. Solyom Retires After Long Career in Preschool

by Ariana Mehrazar

Q: What was it that motivated you as a Preschool Aide?

A: After my retirement, I was not ready to leave my contact with the precious preschoolers. Also, I was blessed to have my granddaughter become my "boss!"

Q: Dogs or cats?

A: My husband and I grew up with dogs so we've continued to enjoy them through the years. We were blessed to have one cat who arrived in our yard one day and stayed with us until she passed away.

Q: What is your greatest achievement?

A: The joy of having five of my grandchildren as students. Also having children of my former students in my classroom.

Q: Do you have a specific quote that you taught by?

A: "Love one another as you have been loved by Christ." *John 13:34b*

Q: What was the hardest part of your job?

A: Saying goodbye to my precious ones at the end of the year.

Q: What was your favorite part about being a Preschool Aide?

A: Not having to be in charge.

Q: Have you taught in any other schools or states?

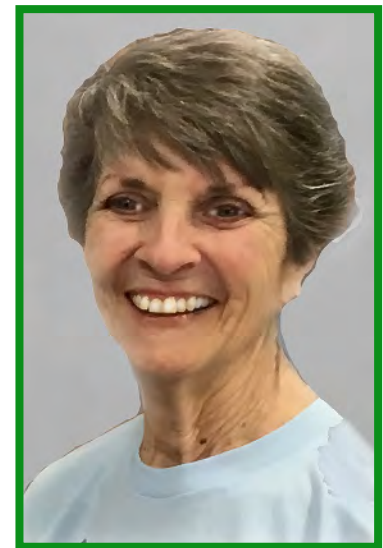
A: Two schools in Villa Park: The Learning Tree and Trinity Lutheran's Nursery School.

Q: How long have you been with Trinity?

A: I believe this was my 33rd year at Trinity, my 48th year of teaching. As one of my friends would say, "We're as old as dirt!"

Q: What is your favorite Bible verse?

A: One I learned in the King James Version. "Trust in the Lord with all thine heart and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge Him and He will direct thy paths." *Proverbs 3:5-6*



Q: What is your favorite holiday?

A: Christmas is such a blessed time with the joy of our Savior's birth and celebrations with family. However, the entire Holy Week is the highlight of joining Jesus through the high of Palm Sunday to the intense sorrow of Good Friday and culminating with the joy of our Risen and Victorious Savior on Easter morning.

Q: How long have you been helping with Preschool?

A: It seems like my whole life!

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Mrs. Solyom Retires...continued from previous page

Q: What is your favorite hymn?

A: Good question! We Lutherans are blessed with such a rich variety of blessed hymns. However, the first one that comes to mind is, "I Know That My Redeemer Lives."

Q: Who is your favorite historical figure?

A: Wow, there are so many who sacrificed greatly so that we could have our great nation. They were all heroes guided by God. If I have to pick one, I'll do like the preschoolers and say two - George Washington and Abraham Lincoln.



Q: Where is your hometown?

A: Good old Lombard, Illinois, the Lilac Town.

Q: Who was your favorite teacher as a child?

A: Again two! My 3rd grade teacher, a woman who made me feel loved and valued. (Unfortunately, I've lost the memory of her name but I remember that she lived on Morningside in Lombard.) And Mr. Hulka in high school. He encouraged my writing ability and for the first time, I felt as if I had a talent in that area.

Q: What grades did you like teaching the most?

A: Only preschool

Q: Which University did you attend?

A: I did not. When I was hired at The Learning Tree, the only educational requirement for an aide was your high school diploma. After joining Trinity's Nursery School and realizing this was my career path, I started attending the College of DuPage to earn my Associate Degree in early childhood. I then was able, after several years, to become Director of that school.

Q: If you didn't become a teacher, what would you be instead?

A: A nanny of infants.

Q: What is your favorite flower?

A: The beautiful lilies that my husband grows. They have such a wonderful fragrance.

Q: What kinds of food do you like?

A: I imagine this will be hard to understand for most children, but my very favorite foods are vegetables and fruit. I was blessed to have a mother who encouraged that.

Q: Why did you retire?

A: Remember I said something about being old as dirt ?

God bless you Mrs. Solyom, in your retirement - Trinity will miss you!



by Abigail Pilny and Addison Meredith



- Q: What schools did you go to?
- A: COD/College of DuPage
- Q: What made you want to teach here?
- A: The people
- Q: What is your favorite subject to teach?
- A: ??
- Q: What is your favorite color?
- A: Pink or blue
- Q: If you were to go on a vacation, where would you go?
- A: Nashville, Tennessee
- Q: What is your favorite thing to do in your free time?
- A: I do not have much free time.

- Q: Do you have any pets?
- A: No
- Q: Where is your hometown?
- A: I was born and raised in Westchester, Illinois.
- Q: What is your favorite food?
- A: Either pasta or sushi
- Q: What is your favorite song?
- A: Anything written by Kylie Morgan
- Q: What is your favorite holiday?
- A: Christmas
- Q: What is your favorite sport to watch or play?
- A: Baseball, volleyball, or cheer.
- Q: What is your favorite TV show?
- A: Grey's Anatomy



Meet Mrs. Pilny by Angelina Iverson and Sophia Garcia

- Q. What is your favorite movie? A: Secretariat
- Q. What is your favorite quote? A: "In the middle of every difficulty lies opportunity" - Albert Einstein
- Q. When did you start working at Trinity? A: 2018
- Q. If you could meet any famous person who would it be and why? A: Lucille Ball, she was a famous actress and she brought laughter into so many homes throughout her career
- Q. What is your favorite thing about working in preschool? A: My favorite part of working with preschool is watching the friendships that form when the children play together.
- Q. What is a hobby that you engage in? A: My husband and I started dancing so that would definitely be my current hobby.
- Q. Do you have a favorite painter? A: George Stubbs, he is a famous horse painter



Martin Luther King, Jr. & Martin Luther

by Damian Gomez and Francesco Lamphere

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. was a black freedomist who desired equality for all people. An ordained minister and son of a Baptism preacher, King embraced peaceful protest and wanted a world that would be free from racism. He dreamed that his kids would live in harmony with people that are of a different race. He was named after his dad who took the name of Martin Luther following his recognition of his redemption at a church retreat. As a Christian, Martin Luther King, Jr., called upon God. He is known best for his inspirational leadership in the civil rights movement. He led people to stand bravely, making a difference, to let their voices be heard.

The Great Reformer, who name King bore, Martin Luther, was an energetic 33-year-old Augustinian friar, hammering his 95 Theses to the door of the Castle Church at Wittenberg, in Saxony, and thus, eventually, splitting the thousand-year-old Roman Catholic Church into two churches. One church body remaining loyal to the Pope in Rome, the other protesting against the Pope's rule and soon, in fact, calling itself Protestant. October 2024 marks the 507th anniversary of Luther's famous action. Accordingly, a number of books have come out, reconsidering the man and his influence. They differ on many points, but something that most of them pose is that the hammering episode, so symbolically loud, metallic, and violent, never occurred. Not only were there no witnesses, but Luther himself, ordinarily an enthusiastic self-dramatizer, was vague on what had happened. He remembered drawing up a list of 95 Theses around the date in question, but, as for what he did with it, all he was sure of was that he sent it to the local archbishop. Furthermore, the theses were not, as is often imagined, a set of non-negotiable demands about how the Church should reform itself in accordance with Brother Martin's standards. Rather, they were points to be discussed. Despite the deniers and regardless of the chain of events, Luther's queries began the movement which became the Reformation that changed the world.

World Day of Peace by Ariana Mehrazar

World Day of Peace is celebrated annually on January 1, and even though it may have passed for 2024, it's still worth learning about! To put it short and simple for you: every year on January 1, the Roman Catholic Pope marks the World Day of Peace with a special message inviting all people to reflect on the important work of building peace. World Day of Peace has been established by the United Nations General Assembly, and is dedicated to promoting peace within communities, strengthening the ideals of peace, and fostering a culture of non-violence and ceasefire across the globe. Maybe today isn't World Day of Peace, but that doesn't mean we shouldn't even **try** to be peaceful.

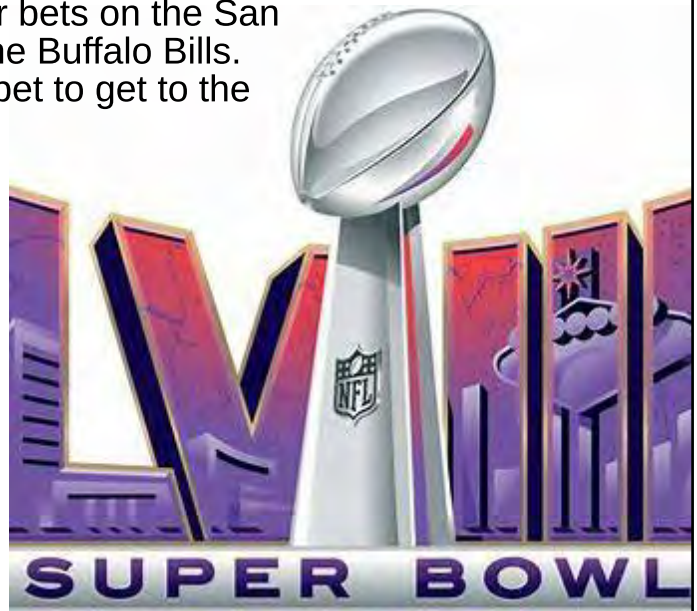


Super Bowl 2024 *by Angelina Iverson*

This year's Super Bowl will take place in Las Vegas on February 11. This year is the 57th annual Super Bowl. We don't know yet who is playing, but many people have predictions. People are putting their bets on the San Francisco 49ers, Baltimore Ravens, or the Buffalo Bills. The San Francisco 49ers have the best bet to get to the Super Bowl and win.

At the halftime show this year, the performer will be Usher. These past few years there have been some pretty good performances, let's see what 2024 will bring.

Before watching the Super Bowl you should get into the spirit. First you most likely would want to find a team to root for. Then, watch a couple games of the teams you like or of other teams too. So, when February 11 comes you can invite some of your friends over and enjoy the Super Bowl together.



NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTIONS

by Ava Harrison and Sophia Garcia

So what is a New Year's Resolution? A new year's resolution is really just a firm decision to do or not to do something. Here are our classmates' New Year's resolutions for 2024:

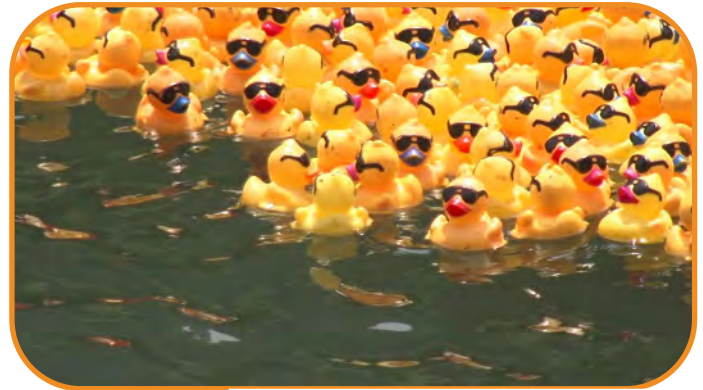
- Abby: Focus in gymnastics
- Addison: Be more organized
- Aidan: Turn into Michael Jordan
- Angelina: Focus on schoolwork
- Arian: Watch Star Wars
- Ariana: Create routines
- Ava: "Do I really have to name all 13?"
- Damian: Less sleep
- Francesco: Be less judgmental
- Roscoe: I forgot what that was
- Sophia: Be better
- Tyler: Fix grades



RUBBER DUCKY DAY

by Addison Meredith and Ava Harrison

If you love ducks and water, you will love rubber ducks! On January 13 we celebrated these wonderful pieces of plastic. Normally these ducks are yellow colored and nothing special about them but nowadays people have all sorts of different kinds. Some of these ducks could look like aliens or monsters, some could play a sport, or even sports equipment! People love to collect these cute rubber ducks so, now is your chance to start your collection today, and maybe next year you can throw your rubber ducks a party on this amazing day.



Did you know - A whopping 30,000 – 100,000 rubber duckies, depending on how many are "adopted" by race day, are poured out of a dump truck at Columbus Drive Bridge and race down the Chicago River at the annual Chicago Ducky Derby? This fundraiser benefiting Special Olympics Illinois take place in early August.



National Peking Duck Day

by Aidan Harrison

National Peking Duck Day is a national day celebrated each year on January 18. Peking

Duck is a traditional dish from China. When

making this dish the duck is seasoned and placed in a closed or "hung" oven.

This dish is also a very popular dish to consume during the Lunar New Year. The Lunar New Year, or more commonly known as the Chinese New Year, begins the Chinese Year of the Dragon on February 10. The Chinese New Year is a time to celebrate the arrival of spring and the beginning of a new year on the Lunisolar Calendar.

Peking Duck is named after the capital city of China (Peking was a poorly anglicized version of what is now more commonly referred to as Beijing). The Peking Duck dish is described as having thin crispy skin and is favored for that reason. Peking Duck can be pretty pricey and ranges in many restaurants from \$40 to \$100 depending on size and venue.

春节快乐

WHAT ARE YOUR FAVORITE HYMNS?

by Ariana Mehrazar

I asked my fellow journalism students for their responses...

Abby: O Come O Come Emmanuel, Thy Word is a Lamp, Jesus Loves Me, and The Lamb

Addison: O Come O come Emmanuel

Aidan: Amazing Grace, Hark the Herald Angels Sing, and On Eagles Wings

Angelina: A Mighty Fortress is our God and Silent Night

Arian: Away in a Manger, Battle Hymn of the Republic, and O Come All Ye Faithful

Ariana: O Come O Come Emmanuel, Thy Strong Word, What Child is this, Come Thou Long-Expected Jesus, Carol of the Bells, and Hark! the Herald Angels Sing

Ava: Thy Strong Word, The Lamb, Father Welcomes, O Come O Come Emmanuel, O Come All Ye Faithful, and Thy Word is a Lamp, Hark the Herald Angels Sing

Damian: Amigos de Cristo

Francesco: Amigos de Cristo

Roscoe: The Battle Hymn of the Republic

Sophia: This is He

Tyler: Go Tell it on the Mountain and Hark the Herald Angels Sing



DIGAN

by Ariana Mehrazar

In ancient Iran, every day was a day of celebration, and the people didn't look for an excuse for this. That may be the reason why they gathered together so and celebrated so many different days of the year. One of the festivals of ancient Iran is the festival of Digan, which is also called

Khorram Ruz. These festivals, like

the Digan festival, are rooted in the history of the Iranians, and we can celebrate them in some way. On this day, all the people of ancient Iran stopped lying, quit doing ugly things, and did not even kill an animal for food. The ancient Persians marked it as the first day of the winter and rebirth of the sun. Khorram Ruz has been a good holiday to relax and be with others, that's why all the people volunteered to join hands and celebrate it together.

Ash Wednesday and Lent at Trinity Lutheran



The imposition of ashes on Ash Wednesday, is when the pastor takes the ashes on the end of his thumb and makes the sign of the cross on the forehead of each worshiper, saying these words: "Remember: you are dust, and to dust you shall return."

This ancient act is a gesture of repentance and a powerful reminder about the meaning of the day. This voluntary outward action is a symbol of our recognition of our natural sinfulness

and is always optional.

Ash Wednesday begins the season of Lent, we we focus on our sins and how Jesus suffered, died, rose again to make us right in God's eyes.

Trinity's Lenten Services are:

February 14: Ash Wednesday Service, 11 a.m. (lunch after) & 5/6 p.m. Dinner/Service

February 21: Midweek Lent Service, 11 a.m. (lunch after), 5:30/6 p.m. Dinner/Bible Study

February 28: Midweek Lent Service, 11 a.m. (lunch after), 5:30/6 p.m. Dinner/Bible Study

March 6: Midweek Lent Service, 11 a.m. (lunch after) & 5/6 p.m. Dinner/Service

March 13: Midweek Lent Service, 11 a.m. (lunch after), 5:30/6 p.m. Dinner/Bible Study

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 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)

Trinity's weekly services are Sunday, 9 a.m. & Monday, 6 p.m.

NATIONAL HOBBY MONTH by Addison Meredith and Abigail Pilny

January is National Hobby Month. Hobbies are activities that people engage in for fun in their free time. Hobbies are important because they keep people "sane" and provide personal enjoyment in lives busy with school or work. We checked in with our 5th through 8th grade classmate to find out what their hobbies are...

Abby: crafts and gymnastics

Aidan: eating fried chicken and watermelon

Arian: playing video games

Ava: writing, shopping, gardening, and reading

Damian: collect Legos

Francesco: wrestling

Roscoe: soccer

Sophia: soccer (being better at it than Roscoe!)

Tyler: playing video games

Addison: running and riding my bike

Angelina: shopping at Target

Ariana: play the piano



STARDEW VALLEY by Roscoe Barnett and Ava Harrison

Stardew Valley is a free to play farm simulator game on PC, Mac, Linux, Xbox One, PlayStation 4, PlayStation VITA, Nintendo Switch, iOS and Android.



In the game you can attend festivals and grow crops. Players can upgrade your house and ask Robin to build you a greenhouse or a stable for your animals. The game allows you to construct a coop for your chickens, ducks, dinosaurs, or rabbits or a barn

for your cows, pigs, goats, or sheep. You can even have an ostrich! In this game you can also travel to the mine shaft and get some cool ores, which you can sell for money or give away as gifts to other people in the town of Stardew Valley. Once you acquire a fishing pole, you can go virtual "fishing" in any body of water and then sell your catch in exchange for gold. Gold is the currency in Stardew Valley and a it's goal to acquire what you can. We definitely recommend this game.

January Word Search

Z P I S K B T R N F R O S T Y P R A
 B L A N K E T K A T A D H I D L D A
 C A W I X U N E W Y E A R V G O M M
 H N I F H B L I Z Z A R D I H S V F
 I Z N F S T O Z L N E A N S J P G R
 M Y T L Z J M D Q S H O O D I E L E
 N M E E H I B E R N A T E L E N O E
 E Q R C Q P T T U O C K A C Z G V Z
 Y Z M O M I T T E N S R D O O U E E
 J C O L D A O B J G V G U A X I S D
 W S Q D M K S W E A T E R T Y N W L
 U U S S N O W F A L L P S K A T E W

- Winter
- Cold
- New year
- Gloves
- Chimney
- Blizzard
- Coat
- Snowfall
- Mittens
- Sweater
- Skate
- Hoodie
- Blanket
- Freeze
- Penguin
- Hibernate
- Sniffle
- Frosty





A few scenes from Trinity's Children's Christmas Service, "This is My Son."

TRIVIA4BIBLES

Trivia4Bibles will be an afternoon of fun at Trinity on **Sunday, January 28, from 4 to 7 p.m.** in Trinity's parish hall.

Participants will enjoy trivia with prizes, pizza, salad, snacks, and beverages, and make a free-will offering to help purchase quality child-friendly *Faith Alive Bibles* from Concordia Publishing House which currently cost \$33 each. Each year these Bibles are gifted to Trinity Lutheran School students as they enter 3rd grade, new students entering above 3rd grade, and Sunday School students, grades 3 and above who attend schools other than Trinity. This FUN-RAISING fundraiser is presented by Trinity's Board of Stewardship.

Sunday, January 28

4 to 7 p.m.

Trinity Lutheran Parish Hall

**Trivia
4
Bibles**

**Help raise funds to purchase
FAITH ALIVE BIBLES
for Trinity Lutheran School**

these child-friendly Bibles are given to students entering 3rd grade

**Trivia Fun - Prizes
Pizza - Salad - Dessert**

**COLLECTING FREE WILL DONATIONS
for BIBLES!**



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.