

April 2026

The New Trinity Times

Celebrating Mom! Happy Mother's Day

Holiday helps plus 5th grade essays, "What My Mother Means to Me" on pages 5-7

They Didn't JUST Teach Here

Some Trinity teachers were students too, page 8

Spring Has Sprung

Find great ideas for spring cleaning, cooking, and a craft! See pages 10-11

Don't Miss This!
page 12
National Day of Prayer
page 3



Trinity Chargers Track Team is on the RUN!
See more on page 4

To the Moon...

by Addison Mann and Joshua Camiola

A space capsule carrying the four astronauts who took part in the record-breaking Artemis II lunar mission splashed down in the Pacific Ocean at 8:07 p.m. (Eastern) on Friday, April 10. According to a radio transmission from Commander Reid Wiseman, all were doing well. The splashdown was the finish to America's first lunar mission in more than 50 years, one that took the crew around the Moon to see its far side, something never done before.

On Monday, April 6, the day after Easter, American astronaut Victor Glover spoke of Jesus' love in a message broadcast to Earth just before the Orion spacecraft passed behind the Moon. Glover said that while the astronauts were working to unlock the mysteries of the cosmos, one of the greatest mysteries on Earth was love. He told how Jesus said that the greatest command was to love God, and the second was to love your neighbor as yourself.

continued on page 2, with more stories about Artemis II and its crew

FEAR NOT..."GOD IS GOOD"

U.S. MILITARY RESCUE MISSION by Gunnarr Tully

As you surely know, the United States has been at war in Iran, and war always delivers many interesting stories. This one was dramatic and ended well for America.

A pilot and a Weapon Systems Operator were flying in an F-15E plane over Iran on Friday, April 3, when they were shot down by enemy fire. In a crazy coincidence, April 3 was Good Friday, the day that Jesus was crucified! Luckily for us - and them, the airmen were neither captured nor crucified.

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The New Trinity Times is written by Trinity Lutheran School's 2025-2026 Journalism class. Staff reporters Abby Pilny, Addison Mann, Addison Meredith, Alice Hensley, Arian Gomez, Ariana Mehrazar, Aubrey Miranda, Ava Harrison, Bobby Hawn, Damian Gomez, Floyd Turner, Gunnarr Tully, Heidi Johnson, Jacob Garcia, Joshua Camiola, Juliana Rivera, and Keira Hager, are supervised by Trinity's Journalism instructor, Mrs. Lori Solyom.



Fun and Learning at the Social Studies Fair.
See more on page 4



Walther Christian Minstrels came to lead chapel! See page 13.



#GODINTHENEWS

The first week of April 2026 featured some big news and historic happenings. In the course of history, God often chooses to remain in the background - guiding, directing, and protecting His people.

In the two major news events that began this month, God's people chose to proclaim Him "front and center," praising His Holy Name in the headlines. Pretty cool!



by Ariana Mehrazar

Artemis II was an historic crewed lunar flyby mission. It was the first crewed flight beyond low Earth orbit since Apollo 17 in 1972. Victor Glover, an African American, became the first person of color, Christina Koch the first woman, Canadian Space Agency astronaut Jeremy Hansen the first non-U.S. citizen, and commander Reid Wiseman the oldest person, to travel beyond low Earth orbit and around the Moon.

The crew of Artemis II reached a maximum distance of 252,256 miles, or 406,771 kilometers. Even though the crew did not land, they flew approximately 4,070 miles above the lunar surface, capturing high-resolution imagery of both the near and far sides of the Moon to help select future landing sites.

Splashdown occurred April 11, 2026, in the Pacific Ocean southwest of San Diego, California, where the U.S. Navy recovered the crew. It became the first crewed NASA mission to be recovered by the Navy—since the Apollo-Soyuz Test Project in 1975.

Crew members exited the capsule individually onto the raft, where they were fitted with hoisting gear and lifted into helicopters. The helicopters transported the astronauts to the USS John P. Murtha, where they were taken to the medical bay for post-flight evaluation.

Artemis II pilot Victor Glover, who is an outspoken Christian, included his faith into the mission by sharing Bible verses, reflecting on God's creation from space, and broadcasting a message about Jesus' commandment to love God and neighbors on Easter Sunday.

Artemis II is the mission that finally turns the Moon from a place we visit into a place we could possibly live. By proving we can safely send humans into deep space again, it opens the door for everyone to follow. It is not just a flight—it is the start of our permanent future in the stars.

U.S. MILITARY RESCUE MISSION *continued from page 1*

Here is the story:

Friday, April 3, 2026 - Two airmen were shot down due to Iranian fire, and planned operations halted to search for the pilot and Weapons Service Operator. After the plane was shot down, the WSO, a devout Christian, made contact with command, transmitting the message, "God is good." When the search began the aircraft scouted the mountain terrain while the enemy fired. To start, only twelve American fighter jets were called up to search during the daytime. Four others joined the formation to jam enemy communication and search. Five more aircraft joined, bringing the number of planes to twenty-one. They located the pilot, who was brought back to base. They searched and searched, some wondering if the WSO had died in Iranian hands but on...

Saturday, April 4, 2026 - It was a regular day, the birds were singing, the sun was shining and United States Special Operations Command was 15 minutes from finding a seriously wounded WSO, who it turns out was hiding in a cave *[like Jesus' tomb?]*. Just as surprising, an Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps force of 1,500 attacked. All of the enemy aggressors were killed. Soon thereafter, Admiral Brad Cooper told Secretary of War Pete Hegseth, "We have Forty-Four Bravo, he's safe." During the rescue some U.S. aircraft got stuck in the sand and had to be destroyed so that it didn't fall into enemy hands.

Sunday, April 5, 2026 - All having landed in Kuwait a little past midnight, the rescue mission was completed...successfully! The rescuers were rewarded for their courage and skill. Secretary of War Hegseth, President Donald Trump, and the rescuers all praised God! Hegseth compared the rescue to Jesus's resurrection...shot down on Good Friday, hidden in tomb-like cave, rescued and flown out of Iran on Easter Sunday, while Trump said, "God doesn't like what is happening."



To the Moon...

continued from page 1

As the Artemis II crew prepared to go out of radio communication for 40 minutes, they could still feel love from Earth. Glover said, "And to all of you down there on Earth... we love you from the Moon." Glover, fellow American crew member Wiseman, and Canadian Jeremy Hansen, had all previously shared Easter greetings on Sunday. The Orion spacecraft reached its closest point to the Moon around 7 p.m. (Eastern) on Monday, during the radio blackout. The craft was about 4,067 miles above the lunar surface, according to NASA. The crew snapped the first photos of the far side of the Moon taken by people in space. They restored communications with NASA's Deep Space Network at roughly 7:30 p.m. before witnessing a solar eclipse and beginning their return journey. The astronauts on the Artemis II mission traveled farther into space on Monday than any other humans have gone. With their photos, they scouted out possible places for NASA to land a spacecraft in the future.

Read more about the Moon mission on page 3 2

National Day of Prayer

by Ariana Mehrazar

National Day of Prayer is on Thursday, May 7, 2026, and at Trinity, we will host a 6 p.m. prayer service, followed by a light reception.

It is an annual observance held on the first Thursday of May, which invites Americans to pray for the nation. It was officially established by Congress in 1952 and signed by President Harry S. Truman.

Some common National Day of Prayer traditions include:

- Ringing church bells
- Hosting city hall flagpole prayer gatherings
- Organizing or participating in community prayer walks
- Utilizing local media for prayer broadcasts
- Holding special worship services
- Attending organized prayer rallies.
- Praying for government and community leaders.

The National Day of Prayer is a great time for public, community, and even personal reflection, which reinforces our nation's spiritual heritage. It is also a great time to thank God for His blessings and express gratitude as a nation. We hope you will join us at Trinity at 6 p.m. on Thursday, May 7.

Play Trivia - Eat Pizza - Donate \$ for Bibles

Children Sing in Church on May 10

by Floyd Turner

Don't miss the final opportunity for Trinity Lutheran School students to sing in church this academic year. On Sunday, May 10, at the 9 a.m. service, students will sing *Savior, Stay with Me*. This song, #206 in *All God's People Sing*, was written by a 20th century Lutheran educator, the late Martin J. Maehr, and set to an 18th century German tune *Gott sei Dank* (which means *Thank God*). This hymn is based on Luke 24:29, in which the disciples urged Jesus strongly, saying, "stay with us, for it is toward evening and the day is now far spent."

It's a great way to start your Mother's Day celebration.

MOON MISSION'S MAJOR MILESTONE

by Heidi Johnson and Joshua Camiola

NASA has achieved a major milestone, during the lunar flyby on April 6. The space crew traveled further from Earth than any human in history, breaking the record set by Apollo 13. These astronauts were the first humans to directly observe parts of the Moon's far side. *Fun fact:* The Orion/Artemis II crew witnessed a 54-minute total solar eclipse from space. The team, comprising three Americans and one Canadian, completed a historic flyby of the lunar far side. Despite experiencing minor technical glitches with the spacecraft's sanitation systems, the crew safely circled the moon and began their return journey, paving the way for future lunar surface landings scheduled for 2027.

@PrayWithoutCeasing

Trinity Lutheran
Church & School

NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER
MAY 7, 2026

6 p.m. Prayer Service



SEEKING HIM
IN ALL GENERATIONS

Trinity Lutheran Church

1165 S Westmore-Meyers Rd
(NE corner at Roosevelt)
Lombard, IL 60148
630.629.8765
trinitylombard.org



Sunday, April 26, 2026
following 9 a.m. church service
in Trinity's Parish Hall

Trivia Fun - Prizes
Pizza - Salad - Dessert

Trivia 4
Bibles

Help raise funds to purchase
FAITH ALIVE STUDENT BIBLES
for Trinity Lutheran School & Church
these child-friendly Bibles are given to
students entering 3rd grade
(or above)

COLLECTING FREE WILL DONATIONS

Sunday, April 26, 2026, following the 9 a.m. church service, join us for Trivia4Bibles. It will be a fun lunch and game time in Trinity's parish hall. Enjoy trivia with prizes, pizza, salad, snacks, and beverages, and make a free-will donation to help purchase quality child-friendly Faith Alive Student Bibles from Concordia Publishing House. These currently cost \$35 each. Each year these Bibles are gifted to Trinity Lutheran School students as they enter 3rd grade, and to new students entering above 3rd grade, and Sunday School students, grades 3 and above, who attend schools other than Trinity.

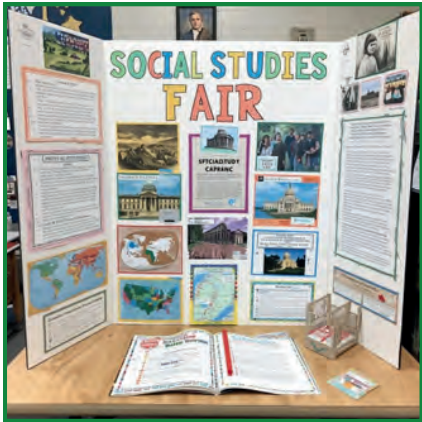
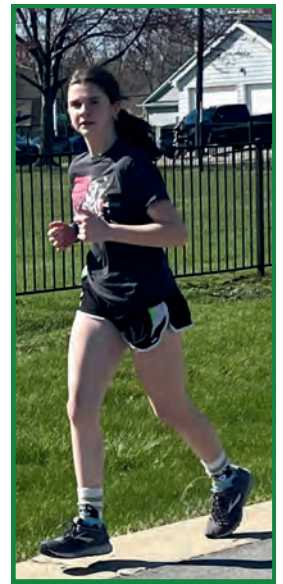


TRINITY CHARGERS TAKE TO THE TRACK *by Addison Meredith*

The 2026 track season has finally arrived. The Trinity Chargers Track Team has begun their hard work with the help of Mrs. Curelo and Coach Meredith. Trinity track is open to students in grades 4 through 8 and practices are several days a week from 3 to 4:15 p.m. During the track meets, the participants can compete in jumping, running and throwing events. If you are interested in track but did not sign up this year, definitely give it a try next season. This year, come see your Chargers compete in action during an upcoming meet.

Here's the 2026 Trinity Chargers Track schedule:

Monday, April 27: Willowbrook High School, Villa Park
 Saturday, May 2: St. John's Lutheran School, Lombard
 Thursday, May 7: Concordia University Chicago, River Forest
 Saturday, May 16: Jerusalem Lutheran School, Morton Grove



Social Studies Fair? *by Keira Hager* *Social Studies FUN!*

After working extremely hard on projects and presentations, all our efforts finally paid off. On April 9, Trinity hosted the Social Studies Fair. That was a day we could share what we learned and discovered with others. We got to enjoy the awe of our visitors as they experienced our discoveries and the creativity we used to display our acquired knowledge of our communities, our nation, and the world.



The day kicked off with setting up in the gym. Before school ended, we mounted large maps and posters on the walls, placed tables in the gym with their decorated display boards and other project items. We headed home and returned with our families a few hours later. Friends and families had time to catch up and enjoy checking out our Social Studies projects. Students stood by their displays and taught people what they had learned about geography, history, and important community jobs. Parents took photos of their children's works of art. The gym erupting with excited proud voices. It was very lively!



After viewing the exhibits, parents and siblings all gathered in the 5th and 6th grade classroom. They sat in chairs, excitedly waiting in the middle of the room for their children's presentations. As they waited, the students got ready to deliver their speeches. Each sixth grader shared information about three interesting places in the Middle East and each fifth grader focused on two unique locales. The presenters gave their talks a bit of pizzazz and made their families proud.



The students all had different feelings as they prepared for the Social Studies Fair. Some were nervous, others excited. Despite those feelings, we did the work and it was a great success! It felt so good to see our visitors inspired and amazed by our results. Teachers were proud of their students, and the effort they put in, and could agree that it felt great to see their pupils' work accomplished and put together so nicely. The relief that we students felt, as we could actually step back and look at everyone's finished projects, was a wonderful feeling. After all our preparation, we could go home, knowing we did well - with that satisfaction of, "I did it."

The History of Mother's Day by Aubrey Miranda

Mother's Day was officially established in the United States by Anna Jarvis in 1908 to honor her mother, because she believed that her mother and other mothers deserved a holiday especially for them. To show how much she and the whole world appreciated mothers for everything they had done for not only her, but for all other children. Jarvis' mother was Ann Reeves Jarvis, a social activist during the Civil War, who founded mother's groups to promote friendships and health.

Following a campaign by the younger Jarvis, President Woodrow Wilson made it a national holiday in 1914. She had wanted a day to reflect on private bonds within families rather than a public or political celebration, and ultimately tried to remove the official holiday from the calendar.



MOTHERS OF THE BIBLE

by Keira Hager



Every mom looks forward to Mother's Day. They enjoy the time they get to spend with their family, and the loving gifts they receive from their children. Mother's Day is technically considered a secular holiday that has nothing to do with the Bible or any religion, so why should it matter to Christians? Does it really have anything to do with Christianity? The answer is...yes!

Mother's Day was started by a Christian woman, Anna Jarvis, and first celebrated by churches, but other reasons indicate that it is rooted in Christian beliefs. First, the Fourth Commandment is, "Honor your father and your mother." This can be hard, especially because we are sinners. Everyone can be selfish at times and not want to listen to their parents. Having a special day for our mothers makes us more conscious about how we treat our parents. (Don't worry, fathers will get their day soon).

On the second Sunday of May, every mom will be celebrated, even ancient ones. The most ancient Mother of all time was Eve, with her name literally meaning, "mother of all living." She was the first woman to ever have a child. Another Old Testament mother was Sarah. She had her first child, Isaac, at the age of 90, making her the only woman in all history to have her firstborn at that age. Elizabeth, the second oldest mother to bear her firstborn son, gave birth to John the Baptist, the cousin and prophet of Jesus. One of the most famous Biblical mothers is Mary, the mother of our Lord.

Every one of these mothers was born into sin, except Eve, as she and Adam brought sin into the world. Yet they all followed God with all their hearts. Eve repented of her great sin. Sarah joined her husband to leave her home and idols to follow the one true God. Elizabeth believed the message the Lord gave her, even when it seemed impossible. And Mary loved the Lord by raising His Son in a godly way, striving to be like Him. These mothers of the Bible are great inspirations for women and mothers alike. They show us many different ways we can love God, such as showing respect and love to our parents, because they love us greatly. This Mother's Day, show your mom the love that Jesus has for you. There's no gift greater for her than your love. That is what makes Mother's Day special! For Christians, it is not the gifts or fancy restaurants, but the LOVE that really matters.

NICE THINGS TO DO FOR YOUR MOTHER FOR MOTHER'S DAY

by Ariana Mehrazar and Ava Harrison

This Mother's Day occurs on Sunday, May 10. It is a celebration to honor the mother of a family or individual, as well as motherhood, maternal bonds, and the influence of mothers in society. It was established by Anna Jarvis in 1914 to honor maternal contributions and is always celebrated on the second Sunday in May.

Here are some ways to give to your mother an extra special Mother's Day:

- Write a letter of appreciation to your mother.
- Volunteer at church together.
- Arrange a family photoshoot.
- Prepare breakfast in bed for your mother.
- Host a party honoring your mother.
- Put together a Mom's Movie Night.
- Give her a gift basket of favorite things.
- Play board games or work on puzzles with her.
- Give mom flowers, especially carnations (pink ones represent gratitude and motherly love).
- Give her a spa day or indulge in one together.
- Make a drawing for your mother.
- Grow a garden (outside her window!)
- Go to brunch together.

Mother's Day is a great day to recognize how important our mothers are, to all of us. In Scripture, motherhood is exalted as a holy calling, which reflects God's nurturing love.



"Treat older women as you would your mother and treat younger women with all purity as you would your own sisters."
- 1 Timothy 5:2

What My Mother Means to Me

This fall, Trinity Lutheran School 5th grade students participated in an essay contest by American Mothers, Inc. They did a great job. Congrats!



Addison



she helps me when i am stuck on a word. we cook together and every summer we go on vacation she goes on walks with me we watch movies. My mother is special because shes my mom and not like anyone elses she gave birth to my older brother and i she put up with me for eleven years and my brother longer i love her and she loves me.

My mother means a lot to me. she does many things to help me. Here are a few that mean the most to me.

My mom is always so funny. we have a good time together. one time we went to Santa's Village and made silly noises on the Pinit Shipride. It was so fun. I love spending time with my mom.

My mom takes good care of me. when I was sick at Dollywood my mother took care of me by feeding me fruit. Then we went back to grandma's house. I laid down and rested with mom. I felt better. My mom takes such good care of me.

My mom gives me a nice place to live, gives me a room to sleep, and keeps me from being scared. We snuggle on the couch sometimes. We play Mario Kart together. Then we hang out in the den. She gives me candy.

In conclusion, my mom is the kindest, she is kind by helping me with my homework. And she is very sweet.

Alice

"Her children rise up and call her blessed..."

Proverbs 31:28

continued on page 7



One thing is clear...
Trinity Moms rock!



Heidi



What my mother means to me.

Almost my whole life my mom has worked at UPS, recently she got fired, but she has always tried her hardest to keep me happy, even when she didn't have the money. I still go to the same school, almost like nothing changed, except no more going on vacation for my birthday, nothing big anymore but it never doesn't feel like my birthday on my birthday. My mom has never been hard on me, she always gotten perfect-ish grades, but she has never scolded me for doing bad in a race or hasn't yelled at me that much when I've done things wrong. She supports me with pretty much everything, always proud of me when I'm not. My mom cheers me on in soccer, she's never not been proud of me, never told me I'm bad at something even when it's obvious, always supportive of me.





Floyd



"God could not be everywhere, and therefore he made mothers." —
Rudyard Kipling



Jacob



What my mom means to me

my mother provides me with food and water she gave me life and a home and a bed and something to store my clothes and food. She also pays bills. She has a car to take me to school and makes my lunch and helps me do things that need to be done. She pays for school so I have an education on Jesus. She makes me meals. She comforts me. I'm glad she's my mom because God picked her.

What My Mother Means To Me

My Mother Means a lot to me, it might not be special, messy, or clean, but it's what I have to say about my mom and what she does for me. When I'm at the store, like Mariano's, I like to get these plastic cups and mason jars and get them for me, and that's why she's super special. But wait, there's more! When I do my choir practice, my mom doesn't make me do 15 minutes, just 1 time. And there's a story I should share. During the summer I had fun, but in 2nd place, a Fox Valley concert. I went to see where we were, but the concert was special, I ate a hot meal, and lunch to the concert, it was special because I got to sit all by myself, then for the next day, the day mom and I had fun!



Gunnar



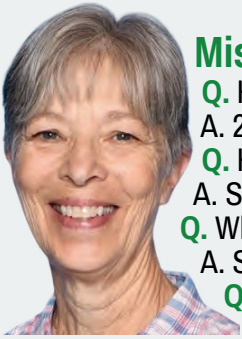
In the summer me and my mom went to Jefferson pool and we had a lot of fun at Jefferson pool and after that we got some food and then the day after that we went to Paradise bay then we got some food there after we got back in the big old pool after that we got ice cream and played mouse trap at my house and had a lot of fun after that we played three more rounds.

Happy Mother's Day to all our Trinity Moms!



These Trinity Teachers Were Once Students Here!

by Jacob Garcia



Miss Beth Kraegel

- Q.** How long have you taught at Trinity?
A. 28 years
Q. Have you ever taught anywhere else?
A. St. Paul Lutheran preschool in Villa Park
Q. What classes have you taught at Trinity?
A. Some of everything
Q. What has been the best part of your time at Trinity?

- A.** Telling others about Jesus and working with great people
Q. When were you a student at Trinity? When did you graduate?
A. 1963 was my first year and I graduated in 1971
Q. Why did you decide to become a teacher?
A. It was a calling
Q. How did you end up teaching at Trinity?
A. I saw that they needed help and it was the right thing for me
Q. What is the best part about teaching where you went to school?
A. Happy memories and it feels like home
Q. What is the toughest part of teaching at your grade school?
A. Nothing is really tough.
Q. Did you have any other family members attend Trinity?
A. My brother Tim, my sisters Terry and Becky, my nieces Nikki and Beth, my nephew Sam, my great nephews Vinny and Anthony, and great nieces Angelina and Keyana
Q. Do you have a favorite memory or two from your days as a student at Trinity?
A. Recess and the playground. Also, the church/school picnic each summer. People were not so busy and this was a time we all looked forward to—spending the day outdoors eating, visiting and playing games
Q. What is the biggest difference between what you and your fellow Trinity students experienced and what today's Trinity students experience?
A. Our lives were not consumed with technology - we spent time outside playing, exploring and having fun - the school and church were a big part of our lives and were very important
Q. Having been a Trinity student, what is your advice for current students here?
A. Treasure your faith, what you learn here and the friendships you make



Miss Arianna Robertson

- Q.** When were you a student at Trinity? When did you graduate?
A. 2004, graduated in 2013
Q. Why did you decide to become a teacher?
A. My mom worked with children and teachers here inspired me
Q. How did you end up teaching at Trinity?
A. There was an opening for a teacher and I'm a teacher
Q. What is the best part about teaching where you went to school?
A. Working along with other teachers

continued on page 10

Mrs. Rachel LaMontagna

- Q.** When were you a student at Trinity? When did you graduate?
A. 1994, graduated 2005
Q. Why did you decide to become a teacher?
A. My grandma was my preschool teacher - I wanted to be like her
Q. How did you end up teaching at Trinity?
A. My grandma decided to retire, I graduated college, and I interviewed for the position
Q. What is the best part about teaching where you went to school?
A. It feels like home to me
Q. What is the toughest part of teaching at your grade school?
A. Nothing!
Q. Did you have any other family members attend Trinity?
A. Both of my sisters, Ashley and Hannah
Q. Do you have a favorite memory or two from your days as a student at Trinity?
A. The 7th/8th grade trips to Washington DC, St. Louis, and Kentucky
Q. What is the biggest difference between what you and your fellow Trinity students experienced and what today's Trinity students experience?
A. Today's students have more technology
Q. Having been a Trinity student, what is your advice for current students here?
A. Teachers care about you



Miss Sara Myers

- Q.** When were you a student at Trinity? When did you graduate?
A. 2008, graduated 2017
Q. Why did you decide to become a teacher?
A. Because I wanted to work with children
Q. How did you end up teaching at Trinity?
A. I was offered the job
Q. What is the best part about teaching where you went to school?
A. Working with Miss Robertson
Q. What is the toughest part of teaching at your grade school?
A. Helping the children listen
Q. Did you have any other family members attend Trinity?



continued on page 11

STAR WARS DAY MAY THE 4TH BE WITH YOU **ALWAYS!**

by Bobby Hawn

May the Fourth is Star Wars Day! I will give you a second to figure out what the play on words is.

That's right! It's the line all Jedi say in the movies! May the Force Be with You!! This line basically is the Star Wars of, "may good luck stay with you." On this day of May Fourth, we celebrate the Star Wars movies and series. This hugely popular franchise is about people (or aliens) who live in space. This group of people, named Jedi, need to stop the Galactic Empire from taking over the world.

A favorite part of Star Wars for many is the futuristic weapons. Lightsabers come in seven different colors: green, blue, red, purple, yellow, white, and orange. There is also one black saber reserved for the Mandalorian. Most of the lightsaber colors are natural, but white and red are a different story. Red lightsabers occur when the villain users of the force bleed a green or blue kyber crystal. White appears only when someone purifies a bled kyber crystal. These lightsabers are activated by using the force. The force, in case you didn't know, is like turning anti-gravity on for any given object. The characters also use it to turn on their lightsabers. The rebellion against the Empire teaches use of the force to defeat the Empire and to stop the Sith (the ancient enemies of the Jedi).

The pun, "May the Fourth be with you," doesn't have a true origin date, but the earliest sighting of the phrase was when it appeared to mark Independence Day celebrations and was used for marketing by the Star Wars franchise. Along with "May the Fourth be with you," some people also mark May 5 or 6 as "Revenge of the Fifth" or "Revenge of the Sixth," based on the movie, "Star Wars: Revenge of the Sith."

Fun Facts about "May the Fourth be with you":

- Proper responses to this phrase include, "and also with you" (which I have always used), and "Beware the Fifth" (which I think is amazing).
- This phrase is always used for Star Wars marketing in late April and May.
- Lego releases new Star Wars sets, offers exclusive gifts with purchase, and rewards VIP points for Star Wars products on and around May 4.

I asked Trinity's principal, Mr. Baerenklau (a huge Star Wars fan), about May the Fourth.

Q. How do you feel about May the Fourth?

A. I watch Star Wars during that day.

Q. Why do you like Star Wars?

A. It came out when I was in grade school.

[NOTE: There is a life-sized Jar Jar Binks - Star Wars character - in permanent residence in Mr. B's classroom.]



OPEN HOUSE

Saturday May 2, 2026

9-11 a.m.

for all families of prospective students

3-year-old preschool through 8th grade

Delivering Christ-Centered Academically Grounded Education Since 1860

- Extended Care (7 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.)
- Small classes
- Experienced accredited teachers
- Traditional values
- Family environment
- Chromebooks—1:1 Grades 3-8
- Tuition reduction opportunities

Trinity Lutheran School

1165 S Westmore-Meyers Rd - Lombard, IL 60148

(northeast corner at Roosevelt Rd)

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[trinitylutheranlombard](https://www.instagram.com/trinitylutheranlombard)



* via gift card program

FREE COMMUNITY SHREDDING & RECYCLING EVENT

please bring food pantry donations

MAY 16
9 a.m. - noon



recyclables accepted: **ELECTRONICS***
glass - metal - plastic - paper
medical sharps in appropriate containers

Trinity Lutheran Church & School
Roosevelt & Meyers Rd - Lombard, IL

*state mandated charge for TVs, A/C units & mini-fridges - \$35

Questions? Email secretary@trinitylombard.org



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**Have a good May the Fourth and
May the Force Be with You!!!**



SIZZLING, CRACKLING, Camping Food by Keira Hager

Spring camping is a great way to enjoy nature as the colors start to boom. It is also a great way to test your cooking skills. You can come up with many cool and creative ways to make a simple, yet delicious, meal. Here are some dishes you must try, whether you're camping or not.

BREAKFAST OR BRUNCH

Breakfast determines how you start your mood. An absolutely scrumptious breakfast can make you feel ready and prepared for what the day might bring.

- **Breakfast burritos** would be a great nutritional and tasty snack and are really simple to make. Stuff some scrambled eggs, cheese, lettuce, and salsa, and whatever else you want, it in a tortilla. Then wrap it in tin foil.
- **Breakfast sandwiches** are very simple and yummy. To make it a little more exotic than your usual sandwich, put together a meat, sauce, veggies, and eggs, on a bread bun. Then cook it over a fire.
- **French Toast** is a delicious bread that you can easily buy from the store. If you want to add more to it, you can drizzle with syrup or chocolate sauce or top with powdered sugar and dried fruit.
- **Hash** makes a great breakfast. Cook bacon, potatoes, onions, and veggies in a skillet over a fire or on a camp stove.

SNACKS OR LUNCH

Snacks can take the place of lunch when you're camping. You may not want to carry a big lunch with you while you're engaging in outdoor activities.

- **Granola and dried fruit** make an easy light weight snack that you can carry a lot of in baggies or portable tins.
- **Berry-filled yogurt parfait** is a delicious frozen treat. You can easily fill bags of yogurt with berries and freeze ahead of time.
- **Campfire Bacon** is definitely a nice treat to have. All you need is some bacon and long skewers to thread it on. Then watch it sizzle as you cook it over the fire.
- **Air fryer baked potatoes** are delicious. If you have an air fryer, this is a wonderful pre-made snack. Just season the cooked potatoes, wrap in tinfoil, and you'll be good to go.

DINNER

Dinner is the best way to end the day. One of the most common camping dinners is the classic hot dog, but let's take that up a notch.

- **Sauerkraut hot dogs** are a simple treat to fix. Place each hot dog in a pan full of sauerkraut and cook over a fire or on a camp stove.
- **Sausage and veggie foil packets** are simple and delicious. You can grill it at home or over the fire in oil or butter, season with sea salt and black pepper, and wrap it in foil. You can even bury in the coals around the fire to bake! (Make sure the meat is well cooked) and there you have it. *[EDITOR'S NOTE: Bacon, zucchini, and onions work well, too.]*

DESSERT

Finally, dessert. Why try to improve on a legend?

- Make **S'mores** (with graham crackers, chocolate bars, and marshmallows) and relax.

Miss Robertson *continued from page 8*

- Q. What is the toughest part of teaching at your grade school? A. Nothing
- Q. Did you have any other family members attend Trinity? A. Miss Sara, her brother Luke (my cousins), my brother Connor
- Q. Do you have a favorite memory or two from your days as a student at Trinity? A. The Christmas program
- Q. What is the biggest difference between what you and your fellow Trinity students experienced and what today's Trinity students experience? A. Chromebooks
- Q. Having been a Trinity student, what is your advice for current students here? A. Enjoy your time here and the relationships you make

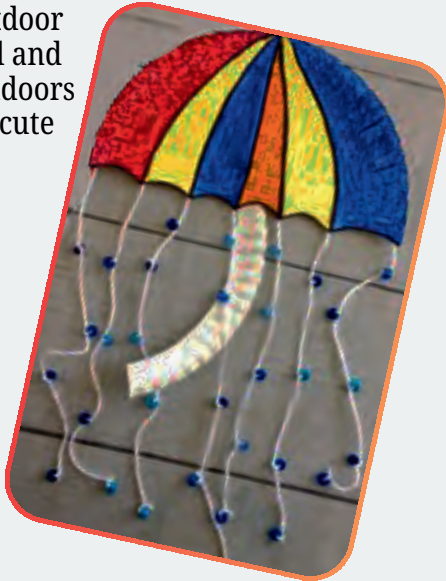
Cute Spring Craft!

by Juliana Rivera

You know that spring is here when the weather can't decide between sun and rain. The next time you have an outdoor activity planned and you are stuck indoors try making this cute Spring Showers Umbrella craft.

You will need:

- paper plate
- string
- blue beads
- clear tape
- bright markers (go for sparkly, if you want)



Cut the paper plate in half for the top of your umbrella. Trim the perimeter of the plate, the part with ridges, to become your handle to your umbrella. Set the handle piece aside. With the umbrella top half right side up, have fun coloring!

After your artistic coloring, trim string into seven 8" pieces. Thread five or six blue beads on each length of string and tie at intervals - these are your rain drops.

Tape the strings to the back side of the colored umbrella top so they hang down from the underside.

Grab the set aside plate rim and secure one end to the back of the plate with tape (so it looks like a backward letter C).

Enjoy your Spring Showers Umbrella craft!

Miss Myers

continued from page 8

A. Miss Robertson and her brother Connor, who are my cousins, and my brother Luke

Q. Do you have a favorite memory or two from your days as a student at Trinity?

A. My class trip to St. Louis and Springfield.

Q. What is the biggest difference between what you and your fellow Trinity students experienced and what today's Trinity students experience?

A. Today's students have Chromebooks

Q. Having been a Trinity student, what is your advice for current students here?

A. Enjoy your time here!

An Easy Way to Accomplish Spring Cleaning

by Abby Pilny

Spring is here, and it is time for a full refresh! So grab your favorite cleaning supplies and let's get started!



First, your bedroom. Let's start off with your closet. That place is going to be dirty. Create a big pile of all of your clothes. Then sort that pile into two. One pile will be to keep, and the other one can be donated. Into the donate pile go clothes that are too small or that you won't ever wear. Ripped clothes? Go ahead and throw them in the garbage can. For the clothing you keep, you'll want to put these back neatly. But first, wipe down the shelves with some soap and a towel - eliminate the dust and dirt. When you put your clothes back in your closet, organize them by color and type. Make sure to put jackets together, t-shirts together, and so on.

After the closet let's move on to your bedroom. Collect all trash and dispose of it. Next, go ahead and grab a broom. Sweep up any types of small items that don't belong on the floor. Move on to mopping. Finally, make your bed and spritz with your favorite room spray. It'll smell amazing!

Next up is your bathroom. That's a lovely place to clean. Start off by wiping off the countertop. Sort makeup and skincare items into different bins and store in a cabinet. Scrub down the sink and shower. It's important so don't skip it! Wipe down your mirror with glass cleaning spray. Add a diffuser with fragrance and you are done! You can let your mom clean the toilet.

Finally, let's clean the kitchen. This is a common gathering place for the family. Start with the refrigerator. Toss out of date food in the garbage and organize fresh food by type. Put fruit and veggies in a drawer, yogurts and other dairy on the top shelf. Next, remove cabinet items, grab a rag, and wipe down doors and shelves. Don't forget to wipe down your countertops. Wash and dry dishes in the sink or a dishwasher and put them away NEATLY!

Spring cleaning might be difficult, but I believe in you. Get in there and spruce up that bedroom, bathroom, and kitchen. You will be so much happier when you have a clean house.

Wednesday, April 22 - Chapel, 8:30 a.m.

Wednesday - Friday, April 22 - 24 - 7th & 8th Grade
Class Trip

Thursday, April 23 - Nothing Bundt Cakes pick up

Friday, April 24 - Hot Lunch: Pizza

Sunday, April 26 - Trivia4Bibles, following 9 a.m.
church service

Monday, April 27 - Track Meet @ Willowbrook HS/Villa Park

Tuesday, April 28 - Hot Lunch: Mostaccioli

Wednesday, April 29 - Chapel, 8:30 a.m.

Friday, May 1 - Nachos for \$1

Saturday, May 2 - Track Meet @ St. John/Lombard

Tuesday, May 5 - Hot Lunch: Pizza

Wednesday, May 6 - Chapel, 8:30 a.m.

Thursday, May 7 - Track Meet @ Concordia University/River Forest

Friday, May 8 - Hot Lunch: Hot Dog

Sunday, May 10 - Students Sing in Church Service, 9 a.m.

& Confirmands' Profession of Faith

Tuesday, May 12 - Hot Lunch: Mac 'n' Cheese

Wednesday, May 13 - Chapel, 8:30 a.m.

Wednesday, May 13 - Kane County Cougars Outing

Friday, May 15 - Fine Arts Festival, 6:30 p.m.

Saturday, May 16 - Free Shredding/Electronic Recycling,
9 a.m. to noon

Saturday, May 16 - Track Meet @ Jerusalem/Morton Grove

Saturday, May 16 - Dine to Donate: Chipotle - Oakbrook
Terrace, 4 to 8 p.m.

Sunday, May 17 - Confirmation, 9 a.m.

Tuesday, May 19 - Hot Lunch: Tacos

Thursday, May 21 - 8th Grade Graduation, 6 p.m.

Friday, May 22 - Last Day of School, Chapel, 8:30 a.m.,
Early Dismissal, 11:30 a.m.

Monday, June 1 to Friday, June 5 - Vacation Bible School

Monday, June 1 - Summer Camp begins

Friday, July 3 - NO SUMMER CAMP

Friday, July 24 - Summer Camp ends

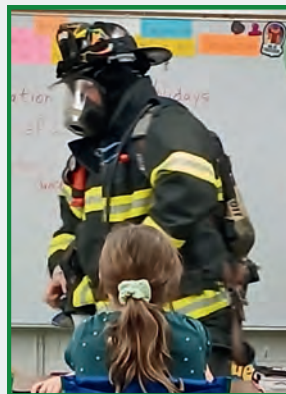
Wednesday, August 5 - Registration, 5 p.m.

Sunday, August 16 - Christian
Education Sunday, 9 a.m.

Wednesday, August 19 - First Day of
School, Chapel, 8:30 a.m., Early
Dismissal, 11:30 a.m.

Sunday, August 23 - Outdoor Church
Service, 10 a.m., followed by Picnic

Thanks to the Lombard Fire Department for
visiting Mrs. Perez's and Miss Robertson's
classrooms to talk about fire safety.



**Mrs. Pat
Perez**

by Jacob Garcia



**Mrs. Perez Has Been Teaching at Trinity
Longer than Any Other Current Teacher**

Q. How long have you taught at Trinity?

A. 49 years

Q. Have you ever taught anywhere else?

A. No

Q. What classes have you taught at
Trinity?

A. Every class except 1st, 2nd, and
preschool

Q. What has been the best part of your
time at Trinity?

A. Sharing the love of Jesus

Q. Do you have a favorite memory or two
from teaching at Trinity?

A. Working with Pastor Heimsoth

Q. You had your own two children as
students here – what are their names?

A. Dion and Erica

Q. When did they graduate?

A. A long time ago

Q. What was the hardest part about having
them in your class?

A. They didn't want to listen

**THANKS, MRS. PEREZ, FOR
STICKING WITH US!**



by Alice Hensley

Hannah Montana was a very popular show in 2006. The show was about a teenage girl that secretly has a popstar life. What I really like about the character, Hannah Montana, is that she's a normal girl even though she really is a rock star. In the show, Miley Stewart (played by actress and singer Miley Cyrus) has a best friend named Lilly Truscott (played by Emily Osment).

Destiny Hope Cyrus, nicknamed "Smiley" as a child, which was eventually shortened to "Miley," was 13-years-old while the show was in production. The daughter of country pop singer Billy Ray Cyrus, Miley was raised as a Christian in a Bible-believing home.

Twenty years later, Miley, has traveled a rough road. As an adult she detached herself from the Christian community and stopped going to church. She's had musical success but has also been criticized for her excessive lifestyle and intentionally flamboyant (extreme) persona.

Recent interviews have indicated that Miley may be seeking a return to some sort of spirituality, though she does not yet seem to have come back to a traditional understanding of God.

She's obviously a talented artist. Perhaps one day she will return to the faith of her childhood and once again trust in Jesus.



The Walther Christian Minstrels from Walther Christian Academy visited Trinity on April 15 to lead chapel. Watch their lively Christ-centered message at: <https://youtu.be/takM8rrqscU>





VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL, JUNE 1-5

Trinity's FREE VBS is open to the community and led by Trinity's teaching staff. Kick off the summer by inviting families to enroll their children (3-years-old to those entering 5th grade) in TROPICAL TREK. VBS runs Monday, June 1, through Friday, June 5, from 9:15 to 11:30 a.m. **HERE'S THE REGISTRATION LINK:** <https://tinyurl.com/TrinityVBS-TT26>.

SUMMER CAMP, JUNE 1-JULY 24

Trinity's summer camp runs Mondays through Fridays 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., with extended care option until 5 p.m. Weekly scheduling available. NO CAMP ON JULY 3. For a registration form, call 630.627.5601, email secretary@trinitylombard.org, or drop by the office.

Trinity Lutheran School Fine Arts Festival

Friday, May 15

Trinity gymnasium

student-performed music

student-created art

"It Takes a Wizard" featuring 5th-8th grade

Celebrating our God-given creative talents

Q: How do you know flowers are friendly?

A: They always have new buds!

Q: What falls but never gets hurt?

A: The rain!

