

# Trinity Valley Tribune

Gilman ~ St. John's ~ Spring Lake

www.trinityvalleylutheranparish.com

April 2022

## Mission Statement

By the power of the Holy Spirit, Trinity Valley Lutheran Parish is united to increase the vitality of our individual congregations by joining our talents and resources. Together we can better serve one another, share God's goodness, Sacrament, and bring Christ to our neighbors.

## Church Locations

### Gilman Lutheran Church

N8107 330th St.  
PO Box 386  
gilslake@svtel.net

### St. John's Lutheran Church

S520 Church Ave.  
PO Box 336  
svstjelca@svtel.net

### Spring Lake Lutheran Church

N7724 County Rd B  
PO Box 386  
gilslake@svtel.net

## Spring Valley, WI 54767

715-778-4334 or 715-778-5935

Office hours : Mon.-Thurs.: 9am-noon

Friday—closed

Office Staff: Linda Price, Ann Beyer



## Easter

### Worship Schedule

- ◆ Palm Sunday & 1st Communion Ceremony  
April 10th at all 3 churches
- ◆ Maundy Thursday (April 14) @ 6pm:  
Worship/Dinner included at St. John's
- ◆ Good Friday Service (April 15):  
12noon at Spring Lake  
6:30pm at Gilman
- ◆ Easter Sunday (April 17)  
"Sonrise Service" 8:30 at St. John's  
9:45 at Spring Lake  
11:00 at Gilman

## First Communion

Several young students will receive First Communion during our Worship on April 10th. This years recipients are:

**Gilman:** Maci Jaeger, Willa Meyer, Ean Mader, Boomer Bune, Emma Lindner

**St. John's:** Samuel Bauer, Henry Pommier, Brynn Moore

Part of the service will include a display of the individual banners that each student has created.



## **PASTOR AMELIA'S MESSAGE**

*Email address: [pastoramelia@gmail.com](mailto:pastoramelia@gmail.com)*

*Cell phone: 612-850-3904*

### **Spring Greetings, Family and Friends of TVLP!**

Take a moment. Step into the sunlight. Lift your chin ever so slightly and feel the warmth on your face. Take a slow deep breath in. How different does spring air smell from winter? How does it feel in your lungs? There is a "greenness" on the breeze. There is a freshness emerging. The winter has passed and with spring comes a new beginning. A fresh start.

The season of Lent is similar to winter. Lent affords the opportunity to burrow in, assess our need, feel the coldness of life that does not let the Sun radiate upon it. But just as our seasonal winter only lasts awhile, so too does Lent. And just like after a long winter we seem to appreciate the sunlight and warmer temps and celebrate these, after Lent we celebrate too.

Goodbye winter.... hello spring!

Goodbye Lent...hello Easter!

Easter brings with it a new and resurrected hope that death does not have the final word; that God's love and mercy reign supreme; and that as Christ was resurrected so too might we. Easter is a time to celebrate God's great Love!

As we finish out Lent with Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, and Good Friday we enter Easter. I invite you to experience the turn with us, your church family. Let us move from darkness to light, regret into forgiveness, sorrow for joy. Here is what to expect:

Sunday April 10: ***Palm Sunday and celebration of 1<sup>st</sup> communion participants***

Maundy Thursday: ***6pm at St. John's. Come hungry!***

Good Friday: ***Noon at Spring Lake; 6:30pm at Gilman***

Easter Sunday: ***8:30am St. John's "Sonrise Service"***

***9:45am Spring Lake***

***11:00am Gilman***

Take a moment. Step into the SON-light. Lift your face ever so slightly and feel the warmth of grace on your face. Take a slow breath in. Breathe in the very breath of God—that life giving, soul sustaining breath of Holy Spirit. There is spring emerging. Your winter has passed and with a renewed spirit comes a new beginning. A fresh start.

This is the resurrection power at work in the world, in the church, in us.

May the time in Lent transform you to live into Easter joy!

Pastor Amelia

## Easter Message from Bishop Laurie Skow-Anderson

April 2022

*2 Corinthians 5:17 So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!*



Dear Northwest Synod of Wisconsin,

Christ is Risen! He is Risen Indeed! This is the good news of Easter. By God's power death is reversed and Christ is raised from the dead. Jesus' resurrection from the dead changes everything! Everything is made new.

Change is good news after two years of a pandemic, right? We are ready for a change. But are we really? Do we want everything to become new like we read in 2 Corinthians 5 or do we want the change to be a return to the old and familiar?

If Jesus' resurrection from the dead changes everything, then what has changed in your life? What difference does Jesus make in your life? What has Jesus made new?

- What difference does Jesus make to my 35 year old nephew whose brain tumor came back, faces radiation treatments and is struggling with his ex for visitation of their three year old son?
- What difference does Jesus mean to our siblings in Malawi who are often threatened by drought, flood and famine or to Ukrainians whose homes were destroyed by a Russian bomb?
- What difference does Jesus make to a stable congregation deciding what their next most faithful step might be or to a declining congregation wondering if their next most faithful step is to close?

As Lutherans we believe that we are baptized into Christ's death and resurrection, we go under the water as a sinner and we are resurrected with Christ, lifted out of the water, a saint. We are changed for sure and we are reborn children of God! Theologically that's beautiful, but in real life, what difference does Jesus make in your life?

As human beings, Christ's resurrection from the dead challenges us to live into that change. As broken sinful humans, whose lives are "messed or mangled" we live into Easter reality that Christ is present and daily working in our lives. Jesus challenges and changes us. Those of us who doubt our faith and question its relevance are challenged by Easter's promise to see and know God in the transformed lives around us.

### *Christ Has Risen While Earth Slumbers*

Christ has risen and forever lives,  
to challenge and to change.  
All whose lives are messed or mangled,  
all who find religion strange.  
Christ is risen, Christ is present,  
making us what he has been:  
evidence of transformation  
in which God is known and seen.

Friends we know that Jesus changes our weeping into laughing, our mourning into dancing, our despair into hope, our winter into spring and our death into life. Jesus changes things and makes all things new. We are challenged to see the transformations around us and in us. We are challenged to be the change, evidence of the transformation, for the world to see and know God through us.

### 2 Corinthians 5:17-21

So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation; that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us. So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

Kaleidoscope

*Change Happens at the Speed of Trust*

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Challenge: In 24 words or less, answer this question, "What difference does Jesus make in your life?"  
Inspired by the Hymn, *Christ has Risen While Earth Slumbers*, vs 4. *All Creation Sings* #938, ELW Supplement, Augsburg Fortress, 2020.



## FOOD PANTRY HOURS

**Spring Valley:** 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Wed.  
10-11:30am & 4:30-6pm



### **Elmwood:**

1<sup>st</sup> Tues. 3-6pm

3<sup>rd</sup> Tues. 9-11am

Sat. 9-11am

## GILMAN'S MONTH FOR FOOD PANTRY

Gilman Church is responsible for collecting donations for the Spring Valley Area Food Pantry for the month of April. Donations of non-perishable items can be left at the back of the church and monetary donations can be made through the offering plates. Thank you for your support.

## GRACE PLACE

Spring Lake congregation supplied the supper to Grace Place homeless shelter for March. Donna Stringer, Missy Stringer, Kimmy Woodford and Darla Woodford prepared meals. The Gilman Volunteers for April 8th are Diane Hurtgen, Kalena Beyer, Karen Jorgenson and Sonya Lenarz. Spring Lake still has some open slots in July & September.

## ATTENTION SPRING LAKE MEMBERS

† Spring Lake Church Council still needs a Vice President. Please contact one of our current council members if you're interested!!!!

† Are there any of you at Spring Lake that would be interested in on-line giving??? Please let us know! If there is enough interest, we will pursue this!!!

† Spring Lake Members: Please write your name on your offering envelope if you don't already do that. Since the bookkeeper enters your contributions by name and not envelope number it speeds things up for her so that she doesn't have to cross reference the envelope number/name list. If you don't have envelopes, a regular envelope with your name on it will do the trick. If you want it to go to anything other than the local/general fund, please write that on the envelope, too. Undesignated offerings go to the general fund. (Local, Building, Benevolence, Other.)

† The Spring Lake Cemetery Association has chosen to disconnect all the cemetery accounts from the church Accounts. Please send your contributions to Cindy Jensen, W1861 770th Ave., Spring Valley, WI 54767. Any funds given through the church after 2/16/22 will NOT appear on your year end giving statement. Cemetery donations coming through the church will be submitted to the Cemetery Association upon receipt.

~Submitted by Spring Lake Lutheran Church Council

## WELCA NEWS

### GILMAN:

**Meeting & Bible Study:** Thursday, April 7th @1pm at Church  
Quilters will meet as needed. Contact Marlene Aamodt for next meeting date.

### SPRING LAKE:

**Meeting & Bible Study:** April Meeting TBA

### ST. JOHN'S:

Women's Bible Study every Monday  
@ 10:00 am and 5:00 pm in the fellowship hall  
**St. John's Quilting** will resume in April: Thursday,  
9am—noon

## SPRING VALLEY SENIORS STAYING PUT

~Expanding Services to Elmwood Community~

Join us for a presentation on Staying Put and how:

- ◆ We offer an array of non-medical volunteer services to help seniors and adults with disabilities to maintain their independence.
- ◆ We offer the opportunity to become a volunteer in the rural tradition of "neighbors helping neighbors."
- ◆ We offer these services at no charge. (*Donations accepted*)

**Wednesday, May 11, 2022**

**11:30 am—1 pm**

**Elmwood Auditorium**

A light luncheon will be served ~ RSVPs are appreciated to  
715-778-5800

Blood Drive



## **Community Blood Drive St. John's Lutheran Church**

**Friday, April 22, 2022**

**12pm—6pm**

*Please call 1-800733-2767 or visit [RedCrossBlood.org](http://RedCrossBlood.org)  
And enter: [springvalleywi](http://springvalleywi) to schedule an appointment*

## Trinity Valley Lutheran Parish Council Meeting Minutes: 2/15/22

### TVLP Joint Council Meeting Minutes

March 8, 2022, 6:30 p.m.

The Joint councils of Trinity Valley Lutheran Parish met in the Fellowship Hall at St. John's Lutheran church in Spring Valley. Members present were Ray Dohm, Karyl Tiffany, Trudy Rew, Shelli Wood, Melanie Wentlandt, Lisa Nelson, Tom Gunderson, Ann Beyer, Nancy Cleveland, Diane Hurtgen, Barb Esanbock, Shawn Miller, Rob Moore, Stacy Burr, Jeremy Johnson, Tricia Traynor, Pastor Amelia Houdek.

The meeting was called to order by Parish Council President Shelli Wood at 6:33pm

Pastor Amelia opened with a reading to reflect on being in God's word. Followed by a discussion of what word and imaging strikes you as what life was back in biblical times. She concluded with a word of prayer.

#### **Review and Approve Minutes from February 8, 2022 meeting.**

Secretary's Report A motion was made by Nancy Cleveland and seconded by Lisa Nelson to accept the minutes from Feb. 8, 2022, as presented. Motion carried.

**Financial Report** - No report available as we are transitioning to a new program.

#### **For Your Information** These items were reviewed by Shelli Wood

- **Worship times rotate in April (St. John's 8:30; Spring Lake 9:45; Gilman 11)**
  - **Holy Communion Distribution**- We started continuous communion at the churches on March 6th, along with having the prepackaged cups and wafers available for those who prefer this method.
  - Nancy Cleveland brought up bringing back coffee following the Lenten services again. We will proceed with fellowship the last three Wednesday nights of Lent.
  - **Election of Parish Officers Results**- Elected officials in the parish are as follows, President – Shelli Wood, Vice President – Jeremy Johnson, Secretary – Melanie Wentlandt, Treasurer – Phil Hennemann
  - **Visitation Pastor (See Pastor's printed report regarding this item)** This will be revisited at the Parish council meeting on March 15th.
  - **Pastor's Vacation (Parish Council will meet with Pastor next week)**
  - **Progress on search for new office computer.** Due to technology upgrades we are in need of replacing our computers with in the office. We are in search of finding the best computers to fit our needs.
  - **TVLP Office Progress.** We now have a Parish checking account.
  - **Walking Together & EPIC Online ministry and council training 3-26-22**
  - **Synod Assembly April 30, 2022 – registration due Apr. 17<sup>th</sup>**
- First Communion for 5<sup>th</sup> Graders is planned for April 10th, Palm Sunday.

#### Action Items

- **Payroll** We are still in search of finding someone for this position.

#### **Holy Week Schedule**

**Maundy Thursday April 14<sup>th</sup>** We will be having on Service at St. Johns with a Parish Meal prior to service starting at 5pm. Nancy Cleveland will contact all three churches to coordinate this. This service will also include Holy Communion.



**JOIN OUR WORSHIP IN APRIL**

**WORSHIP ROTATION SWITCHES IN APRIL**

St. John's will be at 8:30 (coffee following worship)  
 Spring Lake at 9:45  
 Gilman at 11:00 (no coffee)

See Front Page for Easter Worship Services

**~ CONFIRMATION NEWS ~**

**April 10th-** Worship assistants at St. John's (group 2)

Worship assistants at Spring Lake (group 3)

**April 20th-** 6-7pm Roadside Pick-up

**April 27th-** 6-7pm Pizza Party

Confirmation Camp scheduled for July 17-22.  
 Early bird registration due by May 1st.

**CHURCH ROTATION SCHEDULE 2022**

**JANUARY-MARCH**

SPRING LAKE 8:30  
 GILMAN 9:45  
 ST. JOHN'S 11:00

**APRIL-JUNE**

ST. JOHN'S 8:30  
 SPRING LAKE 9:45  
 GILMAN 11:00

**JULY-SEPTEMBER**

GILMAN 8:30  
 ST. JOHN'S 9:45  
 SPRING LAKE 11:00

**OCTOBER-DECEMBER**

SPRING LAKE 8:30  
 GILMAN 9:45  
 ST. JOHN'S 11:00

**WORSHIP RESPONSIBILITIES**

**GILMAN**

Date	Greeters	Ushers	Readers	Acolyte
4/3	Dave & Dena Bawek		Dena Bawek	Trenton Vorlicek
4/10 Palm Sun.	Bret & Shelby Haglund			Payton Jorgenson
4/15 Good Fri.	Connie Anderson	April & Shawn Miller	April Miller	Adelyn Kotten
4/17 Easter	Sue Horstman	Vern & Sheryl Vanasse	Vern Vanasse	Jaci Mader
4/24	Chris & Cheri Jacobson		Cheri Jacobson	Kalena Beyer

Altar Care: Sonya Lenarz, Joy Wilson  
 Deacon: Monica Robey

**SPRING LAKE**

Date	Greeters	Readers
4/3	Paul & Karen Blanford	Paul Blanford
4/6 Lent		
4/10	Confirmation Students	
4/15 Good Fri.	Dale & Kay Place	Dale Place
4/17 Easter	Randy & Kathy Nyeggen	Randy Nyeggen
4/24	Ron & Marge Ginsback	Ron Ginsback

Altar Care: Zona Hague, Sue Wood  
 Deacon: Karyl Tiffany

**ST. JOHN'S** (Coffee fellowship following worship April—September; No coffee Easter Sunday)

Date	Greeters	Ushers	Readers	Comm. Servers	Acolyte
4/3	Cheryl Larsen	Bill & Luann Emerson	Rick Gould	Gaige Larson/Judy Larrieu	Alec Boyer Wyatt Smith
4/10	Confirmation Students				
4/14 (Maundy Thurs.)	Ryan Danielson/Herum Family	Phil-Laura Hennemann	Bev Lueth Barb Esanbock Ella Esanbock Elena Roberts	Jeanne Niccum Barb Esanbock Elena Roberts (altar stripping)	Issac Koenning+ Ruth Hennemann
4/17	Koenning Family	Shelby Crow/Nancy Cleveland	Jeanne Niccum	Brian/Paat Sandness	Brynn Moore+ Elliott Tanberg
4/24	Butts Family	Megan & Mel Wentlandt	Jon Anderson	Evah Butts Gretchen Cipriano	Kate+Parker Cipriano