



Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church

# OUR TRINITY TIMES

# Prayer

**Trinity Ev. Lutheran Church**  
 749 West Fourteen Mile Road  
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**Office Hours:**  
 Mon.–Fri.: 8:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

**Worship Hours:**  
 9:00 & 11:00 a.m.  
 Sunday School 10:00 a.m.

**Our Trinity Staff:**

Pastor:	John Burou
Director of Music:	Twylia Voshol
Office Administrator:	Kim Wolin
Custodial Care:	Becky Justice

**2007-08 Church Council:**

President:	Dave Genette
Vice-President:	James Sands
Secretary:	Anne Schumaker
Treasurer:	Betty Gorning
Worship:	Rick Hogan
Outreach:	Lee Accorsi
Stewardship:	Donna Teichow
Parish Education:	Mary Anne Hall
Youth:	Vivian Spicer
Community Services:	Terry Sipple
Interim Trustee:	Bruce Hassen

April 2008

I must secure more time for private devotions, I have been living far too public for me. The shortening of devotions starves the soul, it grows lean and faint. I have been keeping too late hours.

*–William Wilberforce*

There is nothing that makes us love a man so much as praying for him.

*–William Law*

Rich is the person who has a praying friend.

*–Janice Hughes*

Prayer is not a discourse. It is a form of life, the life with God. That is why it is not confined to the moment of verbal statement.

*–Jacques Ellul*

In prayer it is better to have a heart without words than words without a heart.

*–John Bunyan*

Prayer is not so much an act as it is an attitude - an attitude of dependency, dependency upon God.

*–Arthur W. Pink*

Prayer does not fit us for the greater work, prayer is the greater work.

*–Oswald Chambers*

Pray, and let God worry.

*–Martin Luther*

More things are wrought by prayer than this world dreams of.

*–Alfred Tennyson*

Pray without ceasing.

*–St. Paul*

He prays best, who loves best all things both great and small;  
 For the dear God who loves us, He made and loves all.

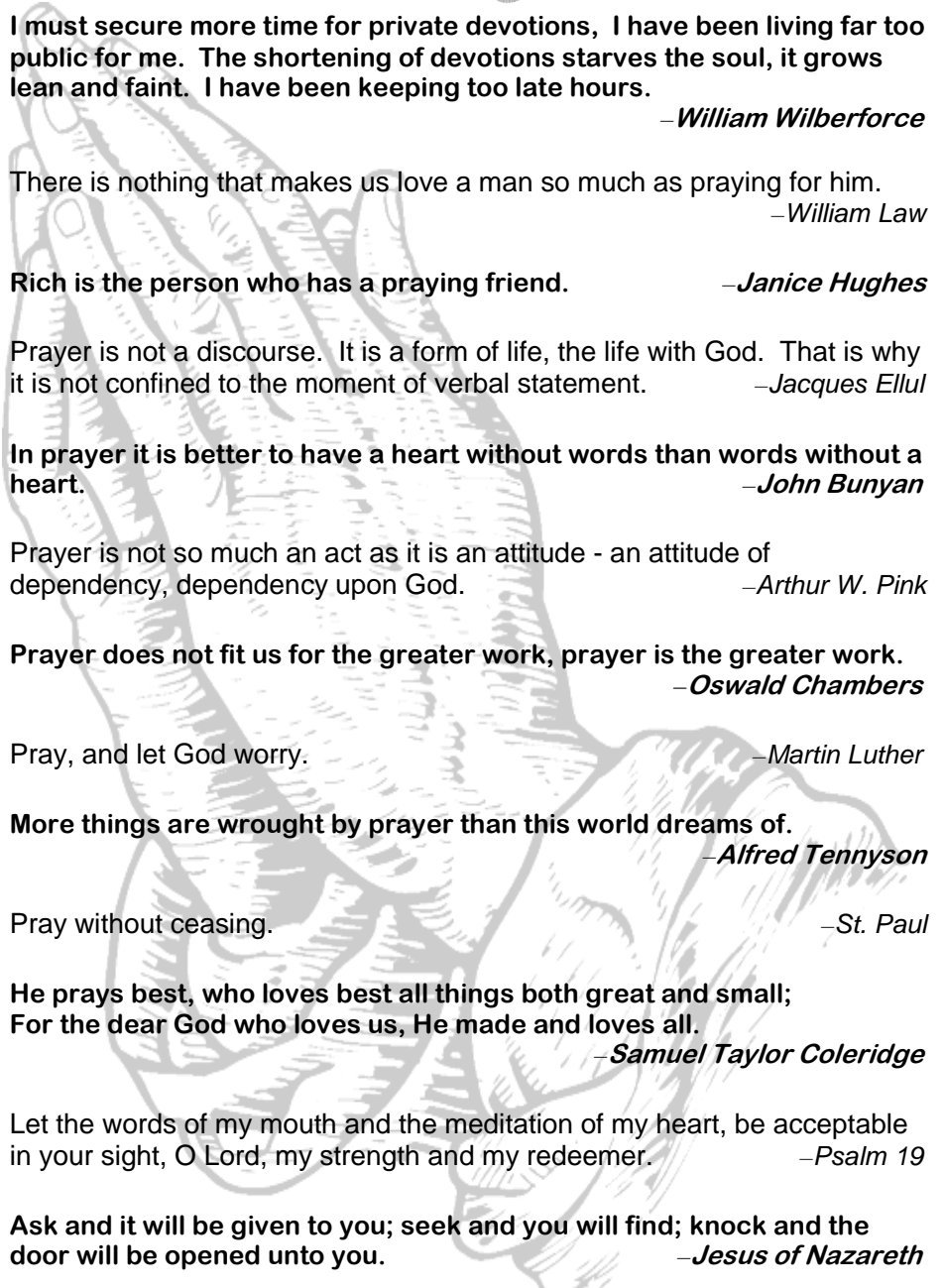
*–Samuel Taylor Coleridge*

Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart, be acceptable in your sight, O Lord, my strength and my redeemer.

*–Psalm 19*

Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened unto you.

*–Jesus of Nazareth*



## From Pastor John...

### *Reflections on Our Service for Healing..*

This article seeks to anticipate the questions some of you may have concerning the Service for Healing that will be offered following the 11:00 a.m. Communion Service on April 20<sup>th</sup>.

### **What will the Service of Healing be like?**

We will pretty much follow the order for healing that begins on page 276 in the Hymnal. When it comes time for individuals to come forward, there will be two or more "stations" at the communion rail. People may choose to describe the need or concern for which they seek prayer. One of the two people at that station will whisper a brief prayer and the team will place their hands on the individual's head, anointing the person with oil by making the sign of the cross. What is shared will be held in strictest confidence.

### **What sorts of needs and concerns are appropriate to this Service of Healing?**

Whatever is broken or diminished in our lives is appropriate to bring to God in prayer. This would include memories and relationships, as well as physical and mental illness and suffering. Those situations that make us anxious and upset may be turned over to our loving God. People have sought healing for someone who is unable to attend the service.

### **What should we expect to happen, if we come forward for healing prayer?**

We believe (or strive to believe) that God will respond to our prayers with healing love. The details or shape of that response we do not control and may not understand. The healing that God intends may or may not take the form of a cure or a quick, clear solution. We cannot limit God's freedom or reduce his loving will to our agendas. There are, however, many who give vivid and credible testimony to the impact of healing prayer.

### **What is the relationship between faith and healing?**

The connection between faith and healing is difficult to pin down. In Jesus' ministry he sometimes makes explicit the role of an individual's faith. In other healings it is Jesus who takes the initiative and the person's faith or prayer is not mentioned.



## Prayer for Healing

The same mixed pattern holds true in Acts. As a result, we are more comfortable talking about healing prayer rather than faith healing. There is no attempt to weigh the faith of the one coming forward. Nor do we rely on the spiritual gifts of those offering the prayers and anointing. The focus is upon God and upon the people gathered in prayer for one another.

### **What is the purpose of introducing this service?**

This can be answered on two levels: First, Pastor John has seen many blessings when congregations work to establish and strengthen ministries of caring and wellness. Pastor John and five others attended an inspiring workshop on healing ministries and we recommended to Council that this Service for Healing is a good way to begin what could become a multi-faceted ministry to promote spiritual and physical well being. Also, this ministry is a continuation of a ministry of healing prayer that was begun at Trinity some years ago, and the several individual anointings that have occurred in homes and hospitals already this year.

On a deeper or more spiritual level the purpose is to:

- **Glorify God**
- **Strengthen and bless the congregation**
- **Testify to the saving and healing power of Jesus**
- **Respond to the need's of individuals.**

Notice that loving prayers on behalf of individuals are set in the context of our worship of God, the well being of all God's people and our core mission to share the Gospel.

Hopefully, this article responds to the key questions people may have about this Service for Healing Prayer. There are other topics that also deserve attention like "What is the connection between prayers for healing and the role of medicine?" and "What might it mean when our prayers appear to go unanswered?" Hopefully we will discover effective ways to continue the discussion.

-Pr. John

## Worship Life for April

### **Sunday, April 6th**

Worship w/Holy Communion 9 & 11  
Holy Baptism 11:00 a.m.

### **Sunday, April 13th**

Contemporary Worship Service 9 & 11

### **Sunday, April 20th**

Worship w/Holy Communion 9 & 11  
Service for Healing Prayer 12:15 p.m.

### **Sunday, April 27th**

Worship & Thanksgiving 9 & 11

## WORSHIP HIGHLIGHTS

**Elements for Holy Communion** are given this month in memory of Danielle Vecore and Irene Young. Thank you for your donation which supports the cost of the bread and wine regularly used during the Lord's Supper.

**THANK YOU** to all who helped so much during our Lenten and Easter Seasons. God has truly blessed us with some talented people.

## HOPE

**The resurrection of Jesus** is the strongest, steadiest, sweetest source of hope we have. The eloquent expression of hope below, becomes even more inspiring if experienced in the "glow of the empty tomb."



**Hope is the thing with feathers  
That perches in the soul,  
And sings the tune without the words,  
And never stops at all,**

**And sweetest in the gale is heard;  
And sore must be the storm  
That could abash the little bird  
That kept so many warm.**

**I've heard it in the chilliest land,  
And on the strangest sea;  
Yet, never in extremity,  
It asked a crumb of me.**

-Emily Dickinson

**PRAYER MINISTRY**

*"Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, present your request to God. And the peace of God, which transcends all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus."*  
*Philippians 4:6, 7*

**It has been said that all of our ships** come in over peaceful waters. Everyone desires peace of mind, but people take different routes in their search for peace before finding that it can only be found in a relationship with the Prince of Peace, Jesus Christ.

**A song, a beautiful sunset or a walk in** a lovely garden can administer a healing balm but they lack the power to penetrate the inner recesses of the soul. Peace comes from the inside out. God's word directs our path to peace.

**In John 14:27**, Jesus says he gives us His peace. Isaiah 32:17 states that the work of righteousness and its effect is peace, quietness and assurance forever. Righteousness is a gift of God and is not something we earn. Ephesians 2:13,14 assures us that Christ paid the price for our peace, that he is our peace because we were made one with Him. Thanks be to God!

**When anxiety and fear** raise their ugly head, let us remember His word and keep our mind on Him, who we can trust. (Isaiah 26:3) Let us guard His peace in our heart and pray for peace for each other and for the world! He is the peacemaker – we can cast our burdens on Him. (Psalm 55:22)

*-Virginia Conlon*



**WOMEN'S GROUP**

**All women are encouraged** and invited to join us for any or all of our activities. We meet on the second Saturday of the month for Bible study and a business meeting to discuss future and on-going projects.

**We're very excited** about our group (sometimes referred to as "T.W.I.S.T.", Trinity Women in Service Together) and encourage others to join us. Check our bulletin board on the easel near the parking lot entrance for updates.

**Our projects have included** visiting Luther Haven, hosting the Fellowship Coffee Hour, making preemie hats, and mailing bulletins to those unable to attend Sunday worship. On March 15th several people were involved in cleaning the kitchen here at Trinity. There are plans being made for a birthday party for those 80+ and for a special observance of Father's Day.

**Our next meeting** will be held on **Saturday, April 12th at 10:00 a.m.** Please join us for Bible study, a brief meeting and a chance to meet others. Refreshments will be provided. We welcome you and your ideas!

*-Sandy Hassen*

**New Staff Member**



**Our new Church Custodian is Becky (Vesta) Justice.** Becky is married and has 2 daughters, and 2 grandchildren. She has been a Clawson resident for over 37 years. Becky brings over 26 years of cleaning experience to Trinity. Please introduce yourself to Becky when you see her and welcome her to Trinity!

**DIRECTOR OF MUSIC**

*"Hallelujah, He is Risen Indeed!"*

**A huge THANK YOU** to all the Trinity Music Ensembles for their time, effort, and talent in leading our Lenten and Easter services. Your music makes our worship all the more complete.

**The men of the Chancel Choir** would like to extend an invitation to all men of the church to join them in singing an anthem on Mother's Day. This has been a tradition here at Trinity for several years and is always greatly appreciated by the "mothers". Please watch the bulletin for exact rehearsal times as this date approaches.

**We're still accepting new members** for this year in all choirs, with the exception of the Bell Choir. (There will be openings next year in the Bell Choir also as we send two high school seniors and a seminary student off to college.) Prayerfully consider these opportunities.

*-Twylia Voshol*

**PARISH ED**



**Vacation Bible School 2008** is underway! VBS will be conducted the week of July 7-11 and will take place in the evening. Our curriculum for this year is

Rainforest Adventure: A Tree Top Bible Blast! published by Augsburg Fortress. The five themes for the week are *We Share, We Give, We Grow, We Love, and We Praise*. Each theme is taught based on Bible stories from the Old and New Testaments. This year's curriculum provides many exciting opportunities for the children to learn and grow in their faith, including a science based component. During April the congregation will be able to sponsor VBS scholarships by making donations to the VBS program. Sunday Bulletin scholarship inserts will be provided for this purpose. Of course, we will need many volunteers to make our VBS program a success. Please watch for sign up sheets to be posted on the bulletin board in the main hallway and sign up for an area in which you would like to participate. Contact Sylvia Johnson or Mary Anne Hall if you have any questions.



## Thrivent Financial for Lutherans®

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### MEMORIALS

*We are grateful to everyone who has remembered their loved ones and friends with generous gifts. May the Lord bless you for giving.*

#### A Donation to Trinity's Memorial Fund:

Florence E. Brown

#### In Memory of Brian Hubbel:

Pat Phillips

### THANK YOU!

**I cannot express the warmth** and love that I have felt doing Angel Food Ministries. It has been a blessing for me from day one. I am so happy that Debbie O'Connor will be taking it over!

**I want to thank everyone** who helped make this ministry a success. On Distribution Day, everyone was so happy and the room was filled with joy. I would like to give a special thanks to the guys that always picked up the food month after month, **Dave Wendell, Jim Leenhouts, Ron Ross**, and my husband, **Gary Lynch**. They spent many cold mornings picking up the food. I hope that everyone involved got some joy out of helping others. I will really miss doing Angel Food Ministries. Please keep it going!

*-Pam Lynch*

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*Dear Trinity,*

*Blessings to all who prayed for me, sent cards, and thoughts during my times in the hospital and stay at home.*



*Pastor John, a special thank you for your hospital and home visits and encouraging words.*

*It's an EXTRA BLESSING to have support and knowing others care for you when illness strikes.*

*In Christ,  
Carol Carian*

### For your information...

**Our Shepherd Lutheran School** has been teaching the minds and reaching the hearts of children from Kindergarten through 8th grade for 50 years! Registration is now open for the 2008/2009 school year. Stop by and take a tour at one of the two upcoming Open Houses, Tuesday, April 15, 2008 from 6-8 p.m. and Sunday April 20, 2008 from 1-3 p.m. Additional tours can be scheduled by phoning the school office at (248) 645-0551. They are located at 1658 E. Lincoln Ave., Birmingham, MI 48009 and also at [www.ourshepherd.net/school](http://www.ourshepherd.net/school).

**All are invited** to the *Annual Spring Concert* sponsored by Project Compassion Ministries on Sunday, April 20th at 4:00 p.m. at Outer Drive Faith Lutheran Church, 17500 James Couzens (at Outer Drive, just east of the Lodge Fwy. M-10) in Detroit 48235. The concert will feature the Billy D. Brooks Memorial Lutheran Choir, the John Blackwell Singers, The Detroit Urban Lutheran School Combined Choir and a Birmingham Lutheran Church Ensemble Choir. Tickets are \$9 at the door, \$7 in advance. Children under 12 are free. Please call 1-800-626-9622 for ticket information. All proceeds benefit ministry to residents of nursing homes and a portion of the proceeds will be matched by Thrivent Financial for Lutherans.

**Auburn Hills Christian Center** is hosting a **Parenting Seminar** on **April 25-26**. The seminar features Dr. Scott Turansky and Joanne Miller, RN, BSN, of the National Center for Biblical Parenting. The seminar schedule is Friday, April 25 from 6:45-8:30 p.m., and Saturday, 8:45 a.m.-Noon. A children's program will be offered for children ages 3-12. Childcare will be provided for children 0-2 years. The cost is \$35/Family, \$20/Single-Parent Home. Materials and a continental breakfast (Saturday) are included in the registration cost. To register, call (248) 373-7139. For further information on the National Center for Biblical Parenting go to [www.biblicalparenting.org](http://www.biblicalparenting.org).