

Ripples of Faith



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PARISH**
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St. Peter, Ceylon, MN
Trinity, Welcome, MN
Waverly, Trimont, MN

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Tuesdays: 6:30 am Men's Sunrise Bible Study @ First Lutheran in Trimont	
Wed: 6:30 pm Confirmation & WOW @ TLC 7 pm Choir practice @ WLC	
Thursdays: 7 am Women's Sunrise Bible Study @ First Lutheran in Trimont	

UPCOMING EVENTS:

3/1	Mary Circle
3/2	Communion @ TSL WELCA—StP Meal / Lenten Service @ StP
3/8	Parish Council meeting
3/9	Quilting—WLC Communion @ Goldfinch Meal / Lenten Service @ WLC
3/10	WLC Council meeting
3/14	StP Council meeting
3/16	Meal / Lenten Service @ TLC
3/20	Palm Sunday
3/24	Maundy Thursday Service @ StP
3/25	Good Friday Service @ WLC
3/26	Easter Vigil @ TLC
3/27	Easter Services 7 am TLC — Breakfast following 8:30 am StP 10:30 am WLC

Staff / Email

Anthony Christoffels - Lead Pastor	achristoffels@circleoffaithparish.org
Eric Midthun-Associate Pastor	emidthun@circleoffaithparish.org
Lisa Wohlhuter	lwohlhuter@circleoffaithparish.org
Eileen Morrow	emorrow@circleoffaithparish.org

March Worship Schedule

Sunday Worship Services

Date	St. Peter – 8:30 am	Trinity – 10:30 am	Waverly – 10:30 am
March 6 – Communion <i>Altar Color: White</i> <i>Transfiguration Sunday</i>	Pr. Anthony	Pr. Anthony	Pr. Eric
March 13 <i>Altar Color: Purple</i>	Pr. Eric	Pr. Eric	Pr. Anthony
March 20 - Communion <i>Altar Color: Purple</i> <i>Palm Sunday</i>	Pr. Anthony	Pr. Anthony	Pr. Eric
March 27 - Communion <i>Altar Color: White</i> <i>Resurrection of Our Lord</i>	<i>See Holy Week Schedule Below</i>		

Holy Communion is celebrated every Sunday at Waverly.

Special Worship Services

Date	St. Peter	Trinity	Waverly
Wednesday, March 2 <i>Lenten-Eve</i> <i>Altar Color: Purple</i>	Worship @ 7:00 pm <i>Pr. Eric preaching</i>	<i>Joint Worship</i> <i>at St. Peter</i>	<i>Joint Worship</i> <i>at St. Peter</i>
Wednesday, March 9 <i>Lenten-Eve</i> <i>Altar Color: Purple</i>	<i>Joint Worship</i> <i>at Waverly</i>	<i>Joint Worship</i> <i>at Waverly</i>	Worship @ 7:00 pm <i>Pr. Anthony preaching</i>
Wednesday, March 16 <i>Lenten-Eve</i> <i>Altar Color: Purple</i>	<i>Joint Worship</i> <i>at Trinity</i>	Worship @ 7:00 pm <i>Pr. Eric preaching</i>	<i>Joint Worship</i> <i>at Trinity</i>
Thursday, March 24 <i>Maundy Thursday</i> <i>w/Holy Communion</i> <i>Altar Color: Purple</i>	Worship @ 7:00 pm <i>Pr. Anthony preaching</i>	<i>Joint Worship</i> <i>at St. Peter</i>	<i>Joint Worship</i> <i>at St. Peter</i>
Friday, March 25 <i>Good Friday</i> <i>Altar Color: N/A</i>	<i>Joint Worship</i> <i>at Waverly</i>	<i>Joint Worship</i> <i>at Waverly</i>	Worship @ 7:00 pm
Saturday, March 26 <i>Easter Vigil</i> <i>Altar Color: N/A</i>	<i>Joint Worship</i> <i>at Trinity</i>	Worship @ 6:30 pm	<i>Joint Worship</i> <i>at Trinity</i>
Sunday, March 27 <i>Easter Sunday</i> <i>w/Holy Communion</i> <i>Altar Color: White</i>	Worship @ 8:30 am <i>Pr. Eric preaching</i>	Worship @ 7:00 am <i>Pr. Anthony preaching</i>	Worship @ 10:30 am <i>Pr. Eric preaching</i>

MID-WEEK LENTEN EVE WORSHIP SERIES

Have you slowed down to look at your hands and recount everything that your hands do? Or what about everything that your ears hear? Or your eyes see? During our mid-week Lenten Eve worship services this year we will recount all of the things our eyes, hands, ears and hearts see, do, hear, and feel throughout our life. And how does all of this connect with our daily faith walk with God? Come join us for our mid-week worship services where we will work to answer that question.

EVENING MEALS DURING LENT

Wednesday, March 2nd – St. Peter

Wednesday, March 16th – Trinity

Good Friday, March 25th – Waverly (no evening meal)

Easter Vigil, March 26th – Trinity (no evening meal)

Wednesday, March 9th – Waverly

Maundy Thursday, March 24th – St. Peter (no evening meal)

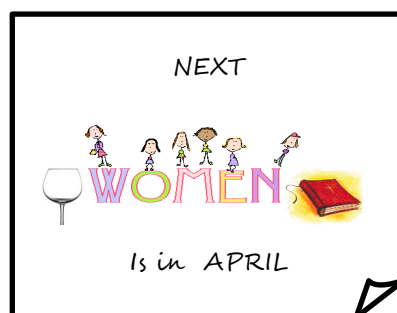


2017 marks the 500th anniversary of Martin Luther nailing the 95 Theses to the doors of the Castle Church in Wittenberg, Germany. Please join Pastor Anthony and Pastor Stephanie as we walk in the footsteps of Martin Luther and the Protestant Reformation beginning in Rome and ending in Germany in the summer of 2018. Brochures are available in all three churches. For more information talk to Pastor Anthony.



WOMEN'S THURSDAY MORNING SPECIAL

Join the journey into 1,2,3 John on Thursday mornings at 7 am at First Lutheran Church in Trimont. With Pastor Stephanie leading the way the 3 short books of John become alive in our lives too. What a great experience to walk with Partners in Ministry and Circle of Faith women in discovering the light of Christ in our lives.



Dear Members and Friends,

We need YOU to make our directory complete! To celebrate our church family and strengthen the bond within our congregations, we welcome you to be a part of our upcoming new directory.

A new directory:

- Preserves this special time in the life our churches
- Becomes a lasting record of our current membership
- Introduces our church to friends, the community and new members
- Enhances fellowship by helping us connect faces with names
-

We are partnering with Lifetouch for this important project combining all three churches in one spiral binding yet each with their own complete directory! Lifetouch is providing the directory at no cost to our church. Every family photographed receives a complimentary directory and an 8x10 portrait. You can **sign up for photography at our churches beginning Feb 7, 2016** or by calling:

Debbie Armbrust at 507-236-0432 for Waverly dates,

Velma Schaal at 507-749-3317 for Trinity dates,

Janice Franck at 507-235-9709 for St Peter dates to schedule or for assistance.

Cont. on page 4

PHOTOGRAPHY DATES

Waverly Lutheran, Trimont: Monday, February 29 2:00-9:00
Tuesday, March 1 2:00-9:00
St Peter Lutheran, Ceylon: Thursday, March 3 2:00-9:00
Trinity Lutheran, Welcome: Monday, March 7 2:00-9:00
Tuesday, March 8 2:00-9:00

For your convenience, our photography and portrait viewing will take place at each of our churches with NO sitting fee. You will have a variety of poses taken. One pose will be selected for the directory. In addition to your complimentary 8x10, you will have the opportunity to purchase additional portraits on the day of your portrait session. Lifetouch's portrait price lists are available on the sign up Sunday's for those who would like them prior to photography. This professional photography session is a great opportunity to invite your extended family and get portraits with everyone together. In addition, it's a great reason to invite friends and neighbors to our church. Each visiting family will receive their own complimentary 8x10 portrait. Be sure to take advantage of the opportunity to be professionally photographed. Lifetouch offers so many ways to capture the memories. Your portraits are sure to become valued family keepsakes.

Also Lifetouch is partnering with our parish so that every family will receive a **20% discount toward their personal family portraits!**

We are looking forward to seeing you in our directory. I am encouraging 100% participation!

In Christ,
Pastor Anthony

Seminarian's Letter Home—March 2016

To the membership of Circle of Faith Parish:

Greetings to you all from Evanston, IL! As I write this letter, it's in the 40s outside, where snow is melting and clouds are hanging over the city. At this time of year, I always look outside and think, "Spring? Is that you?" But we're still in Lent, still in March, a month that has to come in like a lion in order to go out like a lamb. Circle of Faith has seen reminders that we are still in winter's grip over the past couple weeks, when so many funerals have taken place over a short a period of time. We're still waiting for spring, and for Easter. That's where we get the idea of keeping vigil, as we will on the night before Easter for the second year in a row.

Vigil is a word we often use when we're waiting for something to happen. Think about waiting for a relative or a friend to get to your house when you have not seen them in a long time, or when you're waiting to see if you can still cook your grandmother's classic foods as well as she could. During that time, as we wait, we tell stories – that's why we read so many biblical readings during the Easter Vigil. We also use that time to hand things on, which is why we either baptize new Christians on that night, or remember our own baptism, recalling how God acted to make us part of the story that began in the darkness of creation's first morning. We go out from the Vigil of Easter reminded of who and whose we are, and we go out to share the Easter feast with others. That just might be worth a few extra hours during Holy Week, eh?

Moving toward the week when we walk with Christ through that space between death and life, let us pray for God's blessing, using these words:

Eternal giver of light and life, this holy night shines with the radiance of the risen Christ. Renew your church in the Spirit given us in baptism, that we may worship you in sincerity and truth, and may shine as a light in the world, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen. [ELW, Vigil of Easter]

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

Your fellow member and pilgrim,
The Rev. Carl P. Rabbe

Circle of Faith Parish Council Minutes

February 9, 2016

Meeting was called to order by Vice President Marilyn Cheever at 6:05 pm. Other members present: Jon Saxen, Karen Helvig, Deanne Gaalswyk, Jeff Lueth, and Scott Morrow. Staff present: Pastor Anthony Christoffels, and Pr. Eric Midthun. Congregational Presidents present: Jody Franck from St. Peter, Sue Krueger from Waverly, and Henry Borchardt from Trinity.

Motion by Jon Saxen, seconded by Karen Helvig to approve the agenda as presented. Motion passed. Pastor Eric led devotions, based on Ephesians 4:11-16. Discussion was about an "evangelizing culture". Rather than focusing on our weaknesses, we looked at our strengths within each of our churches. We will focus our energy on growing our **family culture** at church. In doing so, we should also then invite others to be a part of this great extended family.

Election of Officers

- . President – Karen Helvig
- . Vice President – Marilyn Cheever
- . Treasurer – Jon Saxen
- . Secretary – Deb Phillips

The Secretary's report was presented and approved, following a motion by Jon Saxen, and a second by Henry Borchardt.

Jon Saxen presented the Treasurer's report. Deanne Gaalswyk made a motion to accept it, Jody Franck seconded it. Motion passed. Jeff Lueth and Jody Franck will audit the books from 2015.

Pastors' Reports

Pastor Anthony will be gone for continuing education February 29-March 1.

Equipping Congregations is February 20th in Wilmar.

Pastor Eric will be gone for continuing education February 21.

New Business

Pastor Anthony reviewed the Parish Agreement with the new board members.

The next Parish Council meeting will be March 8, 2016, 6:00 pm at Trinity in Welcome. Meeting was adjourned at 7:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Marilyn Cheever,
Karen Helvig



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Part of
Our
Church
Family**

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Circle of Faith Parish www.facebook.com/circleoffaithparish
Trinity Lutheran www.facebook.com/trinitylutheranwelcome
Waverly Lutheran www.facebook.com/waverlylutheran



St. Peter Ripples



March meeting: March 2 Hostesses: Muriel and Shirley
 Bible Study: Philippians 2:19—4:3

In this section, Paul presents positive examples of those who have “the same mind” as Christ and care about other’s interests more than their own.

As of this writing we still have 2 days of quilting remaining—Feb. 24 & 25. Approximately 70 have been completed. 10 have been delivered to the Forest Ridge Academy for delinquent girls. The staff there said these quilts are very much appreciated.

Muriel reports a balance of \$636. in the WELCA treasury. \$100. was sent to help our missionary in Taiwan.

Ruth Ann Anderson’s suggestion for March for praying every Tuesday at 2 pm:

- March 1—police men & women March 8—those grieving the loss of a loved one
- March 15—For patrons, lay leaders and Sunday school teachers, March 22—for favorable weather
- March 29—for church musicians.

A box will be in the narthex for Salvation Army donations. The need is great.

We will serve the Lenten supper on March 2.

We extend our sympathy to the family of Alice Christensen who passed away recently. Also extend our sympathy to the families of LaJune Poppe-Wiltse and Laurie Nelson who both passed away in February.

Altar Care for March: Jeannine Rasmussen Next work duty: Group 1

Birthday: Bernice Lehmann—March 3

Philippians 2:2—Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility
 Regard others as better than yourselves.

Have a Blessed Easter—Jeannine

NEXT Council Meeting is Monday, March 14, @ 7 pm.

DATE	LECTOR	USHERS
March 6	Muriel Klenz	Larry W Schmidt - Bob Nelson
13	Jeannine Rasmussen	Jeff Petschke - Larry R Schmidt
20	Bernice Lehmann	Darrel and Muriel Klenz
27	Janice Franck	Keith and Jody Franck
April		
3	Muriel Klenz	LeRoy and Janice Franck



Will meet
 on Sunday,
 ?



Trinity Ripples

Trinity Lutheran Church Council Meeting

February 15, 2016

Members present were Becky Detert, Velma Schaal, Tony Truesdell, John Borchardt, Henry Borchardt, Pastor Anthony and Bob and Lonnie Moffitt.

Henry called the meeting to order.

Several items were added to the agenda and it was approved.

Pastor Anthony opened with verses from Ephesians 4. We must equip others to help in doing God's work. Officers were elected from the council. Henry Borchardt is president, Robert Moffitt is vice-president and Lonnie Moffitt is secretary. Becky made a motion to accept nominations, Tony seconded. Motion passed.

Pastor's report – Pastor Eric will be at continuing ed the week of February 21 through February 27. Waverly will have a supply pastor on Feb 21. Pastor Anthony will be at continuing ed on February 29 and March 1. Pastor Anthony also reminded us of the services during Holy Week. Maundy Thursday is at St. Peter, Good Friday at Waverly and the Easter Vigil on Saturday at Trinity.

Secretary's Report – Written

Treasurer's Report – Written

Financial Secretary's Report – Written

Bob made a motion to approve the reports, Velma seconded. Motion carried.

Faith Formation Report – None

Caring Ministries Report – everything is going well

Property Committee Report – An estimate of \$500 has been gotten for taking out the block in the men's bathroom.

Waiting for another quote.

Old Business:

John Borchardt had checked on prices to replace the kitchen and nursery room windows. He quoted double hung windows, tilt in, white vinyl, Lindsey windows. The cost is approximately \$1,700 per opening installed. There are 4 openings in the two rooms. There is a possibility of going with single hung which would be more efficient at a cost of approximately \$1,500 per opening. Total cost per room would be approximately \$3,000. There is money in the repair fund. John was going to have the installer take a look at the windows.

Insurance update. There will be another meeting with Jon Anthony on February 24 after the Lenten Service at around 7:45 or 8:00. We received a quote but had questions and Jon is looking into standard coverage for all 3 churches.

New Business:

Picture Directory – Velma Schaal is in charge of getting the appointments set up for Trinity. The dates for Trinity are March 7 and 8 from 2 until 9 p.m. each day. Please contact her to sign up for a time. She will also try calling people.

The turkey dinner date was set for April 24. Becky Detert will be in charge.

The thermostats in the church were discussed. The timer in the nursery room is not working. The timers get turned the wrong direction so they don't work. Bob will check into digital timers instead of the ones that we have.

The Eternal Light was discussed. A case of 24 candles costs \$87.34 and the light goes through one candle a week.

A motion to adjourn was made by Bob, seconded by Velma. Motion carried.

The next meeting will be April 12, 2016 at 7:30.

We closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted, Lonnie Moffitt

TRINITY WORSHIP HELPERS

DATE	USHERS	ACOLYTE	LECTOR	COMMUNION
Mar. 6	Jen and Jon Saxen	Gavin Hand MacKenzie Petersen	Tracy Winter	John Frerichs Henry Borchardt
13	Laura LaFavor Sarah Justice	Sami Meyer Derek Hughes	Liz Stahl	
16		Caelyn Harder Carter Mosloski		
20	David and Laurie Jensen	Todd Morrow MacKenzie Petersen	Liz Stahl	
27	Jennifer and Brad Hughes	Gavin Hand Sami Meyer	Tracy Winter	John Borchardt Bocky Borchardt
April 3		Sami Meyer Caelyn Harder	Liz Stahl	

WAVERLY WORSHIP HELPERS

DATE	LECTOR	ACOLYTE	CHILDREN'S TIME	COMMUNION ASSISTANCE
Mar. 6	Paul Gaalswyk	Nathan	Tom Peterson	Tom Peterson
13	Don Nordstrom	Connor	Susan Rathman	Tom Peterson
20	Mim Potter	Josie	Pastor	Tom Peterson
27	Kendra Helvig	Kelley / Kiley	Pastor	Tom Peterson
April				
3	Daniel Helvig	KayLea	Karen Koeder	Laurie Sherman / Karen Koeder

March Ushers: John Sherman, Tim Peterson, Cliff Armbrust, Brad Sherman, Jeff Armbrust

April Ushers : Steve Williamson, Troy Schmidtke, Todd Rathman, Will Hecht



Waverly Ripples

Waverly Council Meeting February 11, 2016

Council members present: Albert Armbrust , Cliff Armbrust, Tom Peterson, Deanne Gaalswyk, Brad Sherman, Tim Peterson, Karen Koeder, Belva Peterson, Sue Krueger, Pastor Anthony.

The meeting was called to order by the President Sue Krueger. Sue opened with devotions from the book Discovering Hope. She read some stories about three congregations from distinct settings. Karen agreed to lead the devotion next month about prayer using the Discovering Hope book. Pastor Anthony also opened with prayer.

A motion by Brad and seconded by Tom to approve the agenda. The motion carried.

A motion by Karen and seconded by Tom to approve the Secretary's report as printed. The motion carried.

Treasurer's Report: Cliff reported we are minus \$9,216.28 from our budgeted amount. A motion by Albert and second by Tim to approve the Treasurer's report. Motion carried.

Pastor's Report: Pastor Anthony will be out of the office from February 29 to March 1st for continuing education. Pastor Eric will be on vacation the last week of February. Pastor said we should all look at our calendars for the many upcoming events at our churches

Worship Committee: No report.

Caring Ministry: They have been visiting members in the health care Facilities and offering them communion.

Faith Formation: Sunday school teachers like the material we are using for the lessons. Sunday school teachers are still needed for March and April.

Property Committee: They will be waiting till warmer weather to replace the louvers for the bell tower. Some faithful members continue to remove the snow around the church. Thank You!

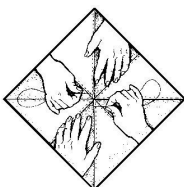
Old Business: Equipping Congregations Feb 20, 2016 in Willmar has over 800 people signed up to attend. Cliff Armbrust, Tim Peterson and Jon Helvig met to look at putting some church money into an Endowment Fund. They will be meeting again at 5:30 Feb 17 before the Lenten service in the church basement, anyone is welcome to attend that meeting. Harvest Homecoming no update. Belva and Tim will be meeting with Gary Oliver to obtain more information about the Thrivent Action Team and Choice dollars programs.

New Business: The Parish council is still talking with insurance agents to standardize insurance policies for each church. Council members rated our congregation on several topic for the Parochial Report. A calendar for the Waverly Council meeting for the year was present to members. Members are reminded to sign up for the Photo directory at Waverly Feb 29 and March 1st. Family members that are not members of Waverly will be able to have their pictures taken also.

Next meeting March 10, 2016 at 7:00 pm.

A motion by Brad and seconded by Karen, motion carried.

Closed with the Lord's Prayer Respectfully Submitted Belva Peterson Secretary



Quilting days are March 8 & 9.
Everyone is welcome to attend.



MARCH



Sun

Mon



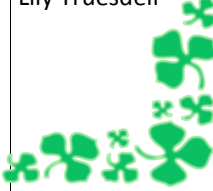



Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

		1	2	3	4	5
		<p>Gary and Janet Miller</p>	<p>John Speckman</p>	<p>Bernice Lehmann Flynn Brosnahan</p>	<p>Brianna Rezac Tosha Rathman Taryn Rathman Diana Abelson</p>	
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
	<p>Daniel Smith</p> <p>Gayle and Larry Schuett Travis and Tracy Winter</p>		<p>Keith Meyer Krista Garbers</p>	<p>Joanna Sandberg</p>	<p>Easton Kuehl Carter Mosloski</p>	
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
<p>Eivey Kuehl Stephany Feely Caelyn Harder</p>	<p>Jeff Petschke</p> <p>Barb and Russell Plumhoff</p>	<p>Lorena Mau John Planting Liz Petschke Hunter Schmidt June Schultz Pat Crissinger</p>		<p>Carolyn Strausser Lily Truesdell</p> 		<p>Katie Petschke</p> <p>Don and Marge Schley - 55</p>
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
<p>Ralph Stanton</p>  <p>Liz and Jon Petschke</p>		<p>Adam Anderson Harlie Fletcher</p>	<p>Keith Franck Suzy Benge Bonnie Rahm Dianne Bettin Karen Keck</p>	<p>Connor Simmonds</p>	<p>Kevin Schmidt</p>	
27	28	29	30	31		
<p>Scott Morrow</p> 		<p>Richard Traetow Mary Peterson Duane Anderson Josh Koehler Adilene Petschke</p>	<p>Chad Lyons Gerald Wink</p>	<p>Darrel Klenz Mavis Johnson Kelsey Jensen</p>		

MARCH MARCH

Sun

Mon










Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>Worship Services</p> <p>8:30 am StP</p> <p>10:30 am TLC</p> <p>9:15 am SS WLC</p> <p>10:30 am WLC</p> <p>[Communion every Sunday @ WLC]</p>		<p>1 6:30 am Men's SRBS</p> <p>Mary Circle @ Belva Peterson's 7 pm</p>	<p>2 10 am TSL Comm. 1:30 pm WELCA— StP</p> <p>@ StP 5:30 pm Lenten Meal 7 pm Worship</p>	<p>3 7 am Women's SRBS</p>	<p>4</p>  <p>World Day of Prayer March 7, 2003</p>	<p>5</p>
<p>6</p> <p>Worship / Communion</p>	<p>7</p>	<p>8 6:30 am Men's SRBS</p> <p>Quilting—WLC</p> <p>6 pm Parish Council mtg</p>	<p>9 Quilting—WLC</p> <p>2 pm Goldfinch Communion</p> <p>@ WLC 5:30 pm Lenten Meal 7 pm Worship</p>	<p>10 7 am Women's SRBS</p> <p>7 pm WLC Council mtg</p>	<p>11</p>	<p>12</p>
<p>13</p> <p>Worship</p> <p>21st Annual Festival of Music 2 pm @ Grace Lutheran, Fairmont</p>	<p>14</p> <p>7 pm St. Peter Council mtg</p>	<p>15 6:30 am Men's SRBS</p> 	<p>16</p> <p>@ TLC 5:30 pm Lenten Meal 7 pm Worship</p>	<p>17 7 am Women's SRBS</p>  <p>St. Patrick's Day</p>	<p>18</p>	<p>19</p>
<p>20</p> <p>Worship / Communion</p>  <p>Palm Sunday</p>	<p>21</p>	<p>22 6:30 am Men's SRBS</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24 7 am Women's SRBS</p> <p>7 pm @ St. Peter</p>  <p>Maundy Thursday SERVICE</p>	<p>25</p> <p>7 pm @ Waverly</p>  <p>GOOD FRIDAY</p>	<p>26</p> <p>6:30 pm @ Trinity</p>  <p>EASTER VIGIL</p>
<p>27</p> <p>7 am Trinity Breakfast after 8:30 St. Peter 10:30 Waverly</p>  <p>Christ the Lord is RISEN Today</p>	<p>28</p>	<p>29 6:30 am Men's SRBS</p>	<p>30</p>	<p>31</p>  <p>March</p>		



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HYMN OF THE MONTH – March

Appropriate during the season of Lent is the dirge-like hymn, “**O Sacred Head Now Wounded**”, written in 1153 by Monk Bernard of Clairvoux. He was born into a knight’s family and educated as an aristocrat, but felt the call to monastic ministry. He arrived at Citeaux Monastery with thirty other men he had convinced to join. In three years he founded his own monastery at Clairvaux and stayed there his entire life. He was a brilliant man and was asked to advise both kings and popes. Historian H. O. J. Brown wrote, “The ability of one man without political offices to change history solely by his teaching is without parallel until Martin Luther would transform Europe from his pulpit and professor’s chair in Saxony.” Bernard helped preserve the doctrine of the Trinity but also supported Christian militarism such as the Knights Templar who fought to preserve European Christianity. He advocated using both sword and spirit.

The words of “O Sacred Head” urge us to look at the cross until we are overwhelmed by the depth of God’s love for us. Imagine hearing it being sung by several monks as they walk down the halls of their monastery – – – –.