

# TRINITY Echo

Volume 77, Number 1

Duluth, Minnesota

February 2021

## Pastor's Column Jerome Evavold "Running Away From God"

In a Devotional book by the late ELCA Bishop Herb Chilstrom and his wife Corinne, Corinne shared a devotional called "Running Away From God". In that devotional, she writes about a children's book called The Runaway Bunny by Margaret Wise Brown. As she says, it is good for adults as well as for children.

When a little bunny announces he wants to run away, his mother said she would run after him because he belonged to her. When he said he'd be a fish, she said she'd be a fisherman and fish for him. When he said he'd be a rock on a high mountain, she said she'd be a mountain climber and climb to him.

When he said he'd become a crocus in a hidden garden, she said she'd be a gardener and find him. When he said he'd be a bird and fly away from her, she said she'd be a tree that he would come home to. When he said he'd be a sailboat, she said she'd be the wind and blow him where she wanted him.

When he said he'd join the circus and fly on a flying trapeze, she said she'd be a tightrope walker and walk across the air to him. When he said he'd then become a boy and run into a house, his mother said, "Then I will become your mother and catch you in my arms and hug you."

The point is that we can't run away from God. Like the prodigal son, a person may try to run away, God is there waiting for us to come home. God's love will never let us go.

On the 17<sup>th</sup> of this month we begin the Lenten Season with Ash Wednesday. We plan to do an online service that night. Ash Wednesday

is the beginning of the 40 days of the Lenten Season. It is a time when we would normally place the sign of the cross with ashes on each other's foreheads to remember that we belong to God and to turn back to God repenting of our Sin, knowing that God forgives us and has claimed us as God's child.

The Lenten Season will end on Palm Sunday, March 28 with the coming of Jesus into Jerusalem and then we remember the last week of His earthly life.

At times when one might feel like running from God, remember God will be there wherever you are, because you are God's Child!

Jerome

### LENTEN WORSHIP

#### Sundays:

8am Sermon Live on Facebook

10am Worship at Home Live on Facebook

11am Zoom Worship

Lenten Wednesdays (beginning with Ash Wednesday, February 17)

5pm Lenten Worship at Home with Sermon Live on Facebook

6:30pm Lenten Worship on Zoom

Join us Wednesday evenings as we journey with Jesus this Lenten season.

---

# Shivon Miller, Minister of Congregational Life

---

## **A NOTE FROM SHIVON:**

As many of you read in your Annual Reports, I am currently taking three masters classes in addition to a 200 hour Clinical Pastoral Education training program through Wartburg Seminary. February is going to be a particularly full month. If you are unable to reach me by phone, please leave a message or send me an email and I will respond as soon as I am able. Please do not be afraid to contact me. Despite the full schedule it is still wonderful to hear your voices and receive your emails and congregational care remains the priority. Thank you for your support during this transition time. I look forward to the mutual ministry that lies ahead.

## **ANNUAL MEETING UPDATE:**

Thank you to everyone who attended our online Zoom Annual Meeting on January 31. We had a tremendous turnout with over 70 members voting. The budget and the ballot passed. Team and Council members were installed on February 7 during the 11am Zoom Worship. Thank you to outgoing president, Bret Johnson for his work setting up the platform and voting polls.

## **TEAM AND COUNCIL DATES:**

**Monday, February 8** - This year the Executive Team (made up of officers and ministry staff) will meet the week prior to each Council meeting to set the agenda. Each team gives a brief report at the Council meeting, reporting on past month's ministry and sharing upcoming plans. If you or your team have any items for old or new business, outside of your teams area or requiring Council discussion or a vote, please email these items to Shivon ([shivon.miller@gmail.com](mailto:shivon.miller@gmail.com)) and Jordan Cohen ([jmcohen00@gmail.com](mailto:jmcohen00@gmail.com)) prior to the Monday the week before Council. The agenda set by the Executive Team will be emailed out to all prior to Council.

**Tuesday, February 16, 5:30pm** - All teams are invited to gather on Zoom prior to the Council meeting to hold their own team meetings. If your team would like a Zoom room set up for you to gather, please let me know. If other times are needed we can make that happen as well. I will be gathering the Worship Team prior to the 16th; please watch your email for suggested dates and times.

**Tuesday, February 16, 6:30pm**- The first Council meeting of the 2021 program year will be held online on Zoom at 6:30pm. All team members are welcome to attend Council but it is only required of Team chairs.

---

## Welcome

---

Welcome to new Team members! Thanks to them for their willingness to join; and thanks to those who continue to serve on the team. In our ongoing effort to stay connected with our Trinity Community, we have, with the help of two additional volunteers, sent out approximately 200 Valentine greetings.

Despite our best efforts, we are aware that our contact information from you may need updating. If you have an alternate address for winter months or even phone contacts that have changed, please consider sharing that information. Contact Naydean by phone, text, or email: 218-341-4998 or [naydeanringdahl@yahoo.com](mailto:naydeanringdahl@yahoo.com) or send any changes to our church secretary: [aime001@centurytel.net](mailto:aime001@centurytel.net).

---

## Witness Within

---

### **Living Lutheran**

Join Heidi Johnson for this month's *Living Lutheran* forum on Sunday, Feb. 21 at noon. As Ash Wednesday is Feb. 17, in preparation you are invited to read the article on page 9 titled "Journey through Lent: Faith Practices for the Season" in the January/February issue.

As this article gives some faith practices to try, you are encouraged to try one listed or one you find helpful to share in our Zoom session together.

We continue to meet the third Sunday of each month at noon for adult forums using articles from *Living Lutheran*. Watch your email for more information and for the Zoom links.

You can also find all the *Living Lutheran* issues on their website: [Living Lutheran](http://LivingLutheran.org)

### **Sunday School Delivery**

To continue our mobile ministries to Sunday school children, a kit to help them and their families both celebrate Valentine's Day and remember Lent was put together by the Witness Within Team. Nineteen kits to a total of 40 children were delivered. If you would like a child in your life to receive a mobile ministry kit, please reach out to the church. We are planning our next kit to go out for Easter in early April.

---

## Witness Beyond

---

**Witness Beyond** is planning on participating in the CHUM Book Read of *Evicted* and we would like to extend an invitation for other Trinity members to join us! We will all need to purchase our own copies. Please reach out to Mallory, Darlene, Jo, or Rebecca if finances are a barrier- I am sure we can figure something out to support your involvement!

### **Information from Ben Margeson, Congregational Outreach and Advocacy Coordinator:**

CHUM will be hosting a Book Club starting in March on the book, "Evicted: Poverty and Profit in the American City" which details stories, statistics and insights about the devastating effect evictions have on families across the country. This book will build your understanding and desire to advocate for creating more opportunities for housing. There will be two separate weekly meeting times, Tuesday's at 7:00pm and Wednesday at Noon starting on March 2nd and 3rd. The club will meet on Zoom, to sign up and get link to the meeting or for more information please contact Ben Margeson, CHUM's Congregational Outreach and Advocacy Coordinator, at [bmargeson@chumduluth.org](mailto:bmargeson@chumduluth.org) or call 605-690-7619.

---

## Endowment

---

Endowment Fund application forms are available on the website. If you would like an on-line form to complete or a hard copy to be mailed to you, please e-mail Aine at [aine001@centurytel.net](mailto:aine001@centurytel.net) or call 715-364-8539. Applications are due by March 1, 2021.

---

## Property

---

About a week ago, I received a text saying that there was a lot of water on the floor in the main hallway, just outside of the office. I drove over and found Trinity's Custodian, Bob, busy bringing buckets half full of water down the stairs to dump them in the sink. I went up the third floor and saw water pouring down from the ceiling.

I immediately called the company that installed the rubber roof on the Sunday school building about 15 years ago, or so. I called at about 7:45 am and a crew arrived at the church at about 8:30. I gave them a quick tour, then called up Google Maps on the computer to show them what the roof looked like. They immediately got to work. Setting up a 40-foot ladder in order to reach the roof, they began to search the roof for any signs of leakage. Since I wasn't about to go onto the roof, and figuring it would take a long time for them to find the leak, I left for home. By the time I got half way home, they called me saying that they had found the leak. And within another half hour, they had the leak fixed! I asked them about other possible leaks, but they said they checked the whole roof and didn't find any others. They were all done by 11:30. I asked a contractor to come down to give me a rough estimate for doing the repair for the damage that we could see, and brought that number to the Council meeting on Tuesday. Given that the Property Board voted unanimously to submit a claim to insurance, the Church Council agreed. I called the insurance company on Wednesday morning to file a claim, the lady I spoke with told me to immediately get a water mediation company in to assess the situation, and to dry the walls, carpets, and ceilings if need be. I called and representatives were there within an hour to tour the damage. They decided that there was a need to bring equipment in to begin the drying out process. By 4:00, there was a crew on site unloading equipment. They are in direct communication with the insurance company and any and all charges will be covered by insurance for the work they are doing.

The areas that are affected are the north half of the main hallway, the library carpet and one wall, the Treasurer's office floor and one wall, the office floor just inside the door, the storage room across from the office, the north half of the third floor hallway, one classroom on the third floor, and the gym. It's a good thing the church is 'closed' for Covid, because there is equipment all over in those places. Once the building is dry, then the reconstruction contractor will come in to fix any damage.

*Respectfully submitted*  
*Eric Skadsberg, Property chair*

---

## Finance - Memorials Through January 31, 2021

---

### Gifts to the Ministries of Trinity Lutheran Church:

In memory of **JIM MCINTOSH** from **Ruth Anderson and Sam Talarico**

In memory of **MAE KLAWITTER** from **Vern and Chris Kimpling, Ruth Anderson and Sam Talarico.**

In memory of **GAIL HOSKING** from **her mother Bea, and her brother Bruce**

In memory of **CARL R JOHNSON** from **his daughter Kathy Johanson.** Carl would have been 115 on his birthday January 11th.



**2020 CHRISTMAS GIFTS  
As of January 14, 2021—Page 1**

**IN MEMORY OF:**

**GLENN EVAVOLD** from *Peg Evavold*

**MAE KLAWITTER** from *Jerome and Mary Evavold*

*Grandma CHAR BECKER* from *Theresa Fox*

**MY MOTHER, FATHER, BROTHER AND 3 SISTERS** from *Eileen Nelson*

**CHERYL CARLSON, JIM MCINTOSH, JACK GRASSINGER, JOYCE PETERSON, MAE KLAWITTER, RALPH ANDERSON, JOHN HUSSEY, AND STEVE TWADDLE,** from *Don and Bunny Stellmaker*

**CHARLIE OLING, WILBUR and MARGARET OLING, LEE and LENORE ANDERSON** from *Lee and Kay Oling*

**TONI GAY BARRETT** from *mother Dorlene Kenney, sister Tammy Hanzlik, brothers Thomas Erickson Jr., Todd Erickson, and her son Jared Barrett.*

**JULIA JOHNSON** (mom), and **TIMOTHY JOHNSON** (son) from *Maryann Schaub*

**JOYCE GOAR** from *Tom Goar*

**OUR PARENTS** from *Dick and Elaine Carlson*

**OUR PARENTS** from *Clyde and JoAnn Narhi*

**CARL R. and KATHERINE SIEGER JOHNSON** from *Kathy Johanson*

**JIM MCINTOSH** from *Ray Aiken and Alyce Coker*

**MY GRANDPARENTS, PARENTS, and BROTHER** from *Kathy Gilbertson*

**DICK CHRISTENSEN** from *Patty Christensen*

**ALL OUR FAMILY MEMBERS** who have gone before us and all of those affected by Covid from *Brent and Michelle Consie*

**MAE KLAWITTER** from *Patty Christensen*

**ROSE ANGELO** from *Jan Culliton*

**OUR PARENTS** from *Fritz and Faye Kerttula*

**AMY SOWL** from *Fred Sowl*

**JOHN and SONYA MORRIS** from *Joanne Morris*

**SUSAN BOWEN** from *Doug and Lynda Greenwood*

Life-long friend **BETTY STRAZISHAR** from *Bea Wenck*

**RICK STROM** from *Susan Strom*

**JULIA JOHNSON** from *Norma Johnson*

**JASON'S DAD, DAVID MILLER** from *the Miller family*

**GERALD & LILLIAN BOLTON** from *Naydean, Shivon, & Gretchen*



**IN MEMORY OF:** (continued)

***OUR PARENTS*** from Lyle and Brenda Bonnema

***TOM LING and LARRY RUSHING*** from Dave and Bonnie Ling

***Parents CARL and KATHERINE JOHNSON and CARL and EVELYN LING*** from Dave and Bonnie Ling

***Friends who have passed this year JOHN GRASSINGER, MAE KLAWITTER, BETTY LUND, JAMES MCINTOSH, JOYCE PETERSON, DONNA SHEPARD, BETTY STRAZISHAR, TONI BARRETT*** from Cathy Bergquist.

***BRUCE JOHNSON (husband), SETH (son), LEN and DOLORES JOHNSON (mother and father-in-law), and MARYLOU HEASLIP JORDAN (mother)*** from Theresa Johnson.

**IN HONOR OF:**

***MICHAEL JAMES and DORLENE KENNEY*** from Tom Erickson Jr. and family

***OUR FAMILY*** from Dick and Elaine Carlson

***PASTOR JEROME EVAVOLD and SHIVON MILLER*** from Heather Sweetland

***OUR CHILDREN*** from Dick and Gloria Walkowiak

***THEIR CHILDREN and GRANDCHILDREN*** from Dennis and Marilyn Mitchell

***OUR FAMILY and PETS*** from Laura Trombino and Jack Lafferty

***JULIET and VIVIAN*** from Kristoffer and Emily Lamén

***MY CHILDREN MARK and DAVID*** from Joanne Robson

***FAMILY*** from Kevin and Jen DeRosier

***SHIVON, JASON, SERENA, & BRAYDEN AND GRETCHEN, TOM, & LEELA*** from Naydean Ringdahl

***OUR SON AND FAMILY*** from Lyle and Brenda Bonnema

**CHRISTMAS GIFTS TO TRINITY FROM:**

***Kim and Donna Bowman***

***Gene and Sandy Keyser***

***Daniel and Sandra Bergstrom***

***Eric and Janet Skadsberg***

***Carole Bakke***

***Sean and Christie Robinson***

***Jerry Ewer***

***Ken and Marion Sunnarborg***

***Mark and Jody Johnson***

***Vern and Christine Kimpling***

***Charles and Alyce Payment***

***Michael and Dawn Kregness***

***Darlene Morris***

***Mark and Bonnie Lyes***

***Ruth Anderson and Sam Talarico***

***Gary and Jennifer Pitoscia***

***Marilyn Peterson and Jim Lockwood***

***Dayna and Travis Leslie***

***Bret and Heidi Johnson***

***Susan Maki***