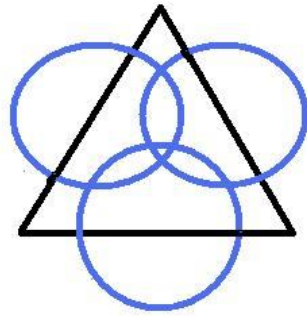


Trinity Lutheran  
Church  
Salzburg & 8 Mile  
RD  
Bay City, MI  
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# MONTHLY MONITOR

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## *Almost, But Not Yet*

*“Not that I have already obtained all this, or have already been made perfect, but I press on to take hold of that for which Christ Jesus took hold of me” (Philippians 3:12).*

I must admit that with its later than usual start, Lent has felt a little out of the ordinary this year. Here we are at the start of April and we still have three weeks or so to go until we get to celebrate Easter - the resurrection of our Lord. It feels like it should be Easter now. It is almost here, but not yet!

In a sense that is how the Christian life itself is. Almost, but not yet. For example, we have received through faith in Christ the blessings of forgiveness, life and salvation. These things are ours NOW, but the full enjoyment and realization of them is still NOT YET until we reach heaven.

We have an abundant life in this world where we are blessed with the fruit of the Spirit: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, gentleness, faithfulness and self-control. These are blessings that enrich our lives here in powerful ways, but ... we know that the full out-pouring of these gifts will be ours in perfect form when we reach our heavenly home. Again

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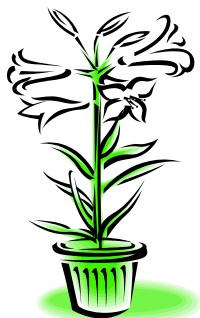
### Couple's, Men's & Women's Retreats at Camp Arcadia, MI

Travel to beautiful lakeside Camp Arcadia for fun and faith-strengthening time with other people. Enjoy breathtaking nature, great food, joy and Christian fellowship! **Men's Retreat**- Sept. 8-11, **Women's Retreats**- Sept. 16-18 ( Phyllis Wallace & Debbie Holley) and Sept. 16-18 (Phyllis Wallace & Jan Struck), **Couple's Retreat**- Sept. 30 to Oct. 2. Please consult the camp's website [www.camp-arcadia.com](http://www.camp-arcadia.com) for retreat details, registration information and other planned retreats ongoing throughout the summer.

The minutes from the March Voters' Meeting are available in the back of church.

A copy of the order sheet for flowers for the altar for Easter is available online on the church website:

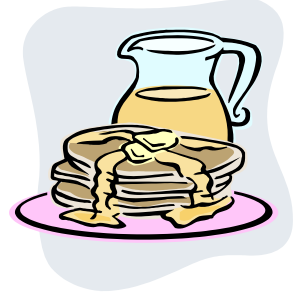
[trinitymonitor.org](http://trinitymonitor.org)



## ATHLETIC BOOSTER CLUB NEWS

**EASTER BREAKFAST:** The Trinity Monitor Athletic Booster Club is having its 26th annual Easter Breakfast April 24th, 8:00 AM until 10:30 AM. The menu will include scrambled eggs, ham, breakfast sausage patties, pork sausage, pancakes, toast, coffee cakes, orange juice, milk, and coffee. Donation for the Breakfast will be Adults: \$5.00, Children: 5 - 12 \$3.00, under 5: free.

If anyone would like to assist us in setting up, cooking, serving, or cleaning, please contact any Athletic Club member. We will be setting up on Saturday, April 23<sup>th</sup> at 9:00am.



**SPRING CLEANUP DAY:** We will have our annual Spring Cleanup day on Saturday, April 30<sup>th</sup> starting at 9:00am. A light lunch and drinks will be provided. Please come and help us cleanup the grove, pavilion, bathrooms, and the youth/storage building.

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## Stewardship Corner

### Develop the Right Perspective

We live with one of two perspectives: a worldly or an eternal perspective. Living with a worldly perspective implies that we “*store up for [ourselves] treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy, and where thieves break in and steal*” (Matthew 6:19). Our culture tells us that the more things we own the happier we will be. If we take notice of that perspective and live with a focus on the here and now, the things of this world become our treasure. With our attention on earthly treasures, our interest is in acquiring and hoarding treasures rather than giving them. In contrast, when we live with an eternal perspective, we store up our treasures in Heaven “*where moth and rust do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also*” (Matthew 6:20-21).

John the apostle cautioned, “*Do not love the world or anything in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him*” (1 John 2:15). By God’s grace, we can be freed from a worldly perspective which focuses on accumulating more and more treasures here on earth and that prohibits us from becoming God-pleasing stewards.

**Prayer:** Dear Lord, use my life in Your service as I store up treasures in heaven. Amen.

**Blessings on your journey as a steward!**

*(continued from page 1)*

a case of NOW, but NOT YET.

What allows us to not grow frustrated in this “in-between” state of being is knowing that our Lord and Savior is with us. Christ’s resurrection on Easter is the confirmation of many things. It proves that He is the Son of God and that His teaching is trustworthy beyond doubt. It proves that we are forgiven because the resurrection is God the Father’s stamp of verification for the payment Jesus rendered for us through His death. It means that someday after we die, we will rise too like Christ.

But it also means that Jesus our Savior and our Brother is alive – right now! He is with us - right now! We get to enjoy the fellowship of His presence - right now!

Certainly I look forward to someday seeing my Lord face to face in the mansion He Himself has prepared for me in heaven. But until that time I can accept the “almost, but not yet” factor in my life as His follower. As long as I know He is with me, I can celebrate Easter everyday!

- Pastor Sherry

*“...we are  
forgiven  
because the  
resurrection is  
God the  
Father’s  
stamp of  
verification  
for the  
payment  
Jesus  
rendered for  
us...”*

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## GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE

The Tri-City Good Friday Worship Service will be held on April 22, 2011 at the Horizons Conference Center at 6200 State Street in Saginaw at 1 pm. The President of the Michigan District of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, Reverend David Maier, will be the guest speaker. In order to underwrite the cost of this service, we are seeking support from congregation members as we have done in the past. If you would like to donate, contact your congregation representative, Lyle Walter, 564 Hotchkiss RD, Bay City, MI 48706. Checks should be made out to “Good Friday Service.” Thank you for any support you can give and invite your relatives, friends and unchurched acquaintances to join us.



# Benefit for TERRY WALTER

***Spaghetti Dinner***

*(meat and meatless sauce for your choosing)*


***Sunday, April 10***

***11:30 am to 2:00 pm***

***Freewill Donation (Take Outs Available)***

Terry is a faithful member of Trinity Monitor Church,  
Currently he has Leukemia and is being treated in Ohio.

*Location: Trinity Monitor Lutheran School  
Corner of Salzburg and 8 Mile Roads*



**If you cannot attend but desire to  
make a donation,  
Please send a check to :  
Trinity Monitor Athletic Club  
Attn: Benefit for Terry Walter  
20 E. Salzburg Road  
Bay City, MI 48706**

***All proceeds will help defer the costs associated with his medical treatment.***

For more information please call Sandy (989) 274-2397