



Trinity Tidings

Trinity Lutheran Church, 108 East King Street, East Flat Rock, NC 28726

Mailing: P.O. Box 497, East Flat Rock, N 28726

From the Pastor's Study...

Down in Brazil some years ago a man named Marcio DaSilva set out one day to prove his love for his girlfriend. He went to a local junkyard, and he cut a couple of old tires up. Then he tied the pieces of tire to his knees, and he got down on his knees and began to walk... on his knees, mind you... the three miles to his girlfriend Maria's house. A few days before, Maria had broken up with Marcio. Now he wanted to win her love back by proving his affection in an act of devotion.

For three miles he crawled alongside a busy highway. People began to notice what he was up to, and soon a whole procession of cars and pedestrians were following him. Then the television crews showed up and began broadcasting live this incredible act of true love.

By the time he got to Maria's house there were hundreds of people following him, and many thousands more watching live on TV. As everyone watched, still on his knees he moved to her front door and pounded on it, yelling as loud as he could, "Maria! See what I've done?! See how much I love you?! Won't you take me back?"

Well... it turns out Maria wasn't home. In fact, she'd heard about his crazy stunt, and since it was precisely THAT kind of stuff that made her break up with him in the first place, she had intentionally left before he got there.

So, Marcio DaSilva (on his feet this time!) slowly began to walk back home; perhaps having learned a lesson. People don't really just want outer, 'gimmicky' signs of love. What they really desire is love that comes from the inside. What they really want is love that puts them first.

God is like that, too. And what demonstrates our Him-first love is our willingness to change for Him, and to be changed by Him. Following the Lord always entails transformation.

Neither in the history of Christianity nor in all of the Bible has God ever called a woman or a man and said to them, "Stay the way you are. Just keep on doing what you're doing as you've always done it." The Lord always calls us to an experience of transformation. To follow Christ is to submit to an ongoing reconstruction by the Holy Spirit of becoming more and more Christ-like in our lives.

Some years ago my family spent a day at the glass museum and factory in Corning, New York. I was entranced watching a master glass blower create a vase. First he removed the hot, soft glass from the furnace. Next he blew into the tube expanding the shimmering material until it looked something like the vase he wanted to create. Then he held the piece against a template: a form shaped like the perfect vase he was trying to create. Again and again he repeated the heating and blowing process, each time carefully comparing his work against the template. He was only satisfied and finished with the vase when it perfectly conformed to the shape of the template. Only then was it as it was intended to be.

The Holy Spirit moulds us in a similar way.

In our culture today there are many false templates trying to entice us. Ideologies and philosophies, political perspectives, self-satisfying lifestyle choices; call them what you will, they all lure us to mould ourselves after human ideas. But following human templates for our lives only results in imperfect love that puts us first... and God second.

In our lives, the Spirit of God continually calls us to hold ourselves up and be compared to the template of Christ. It is only in contrast to the Perfect One that we can see the areas which require further transformation.

And only in conforming ourselves to Him can we truly be all that we are capable of becoming.

Be perfect, therefore, as your Heavenly Father is perfect. (Matthew 5:48)

Yours in Christ,
Pastor Mike

*****COFFEE TIME
FELLOWSHIP*****

*May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the **fellowship** of the Holy Spirit be with you all.*

[2 Corinthians 13:14](#)

Thank you to everyone who participates in our fellowship time after service. Thank you to those who lovingly prepare the food, thank you to those who stay to visit, and thank you to those who help to clean-up. Fellowship time is a wonderful way to touch base with each other and bask in the love we share with Christ. Volunteers are needed. Please add your name to the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in the back of the church.

MEN UNDER GOD'S SOVEREIGNTY (MUGS)



Our Trinity men's group will meet for its monthly breakfast gathering on Friday, May 26th at 9:00AM. The location will be the Mills River Restaurant.

T.W.I.G.S. LUNCHEON

Ladies mark your calendars for Friday, May 19th at 11:30AM. We will be going out to lunch a week early due to the Memorial Holiday week-end. Our destination will be [A DAY IN THE COUNTRY, 130 Sugarloaf Road-Hendersonville](#). The café offers soups, salads, wraps, and sandwiches. Please add your name to the sign-up sheet located on the bulletin board in the back of the church.

******THANK YOU, THANK YOU, & THANK YOU AGAIN!!!!******

The Fellowship Committee would like to thank everyone for making our Easter Sunday brunch a wonderful success. Thank you to those who help set up tables, those who lovingly prepared all the delicious food, those who help to eat all that food, and those who cleaned up.....thank you to everyone!!

*****WORSHIP ASSISTANTS NEEDED*****

*From him the whole body, joined and held **together** by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its **work***

ALTAR FLOWERS

There is a sign-up sheet for altar flowers on the bulletin board located in the back of the sanctuary. If you wish to order special flowers please be advised that Trinity is currently partnering with FORGET-ME-NOT florist on a trial basis. The shop is located in Hendersonville and JEAN, the owner, will be happy to work with you on any special requests. The cost for Sunday altar flowers is \$30.00. (Special requests may differ in price.) The phone number is (828)692-3749.

THE STOREHOUSE

The Storehouse has requested the following items for the month of APRIL: CEREAL, PEANUT BUTTER, & JELLY

SPECIAL THANKS

A special thank you to the Altar Guild for all the work put into making our church so beautiful. Through Lent, Palm Sunday, and Easter Sunday the dedication of these ladies is proven as the colors change and the paraments gently placed in perfect position. Each and every Sunday they loving set our table with the Lord's meal that we all might share in His love and forgiveness.

THE HABITAT PROJECT

An introductory meeting was held at the Dodd Meadow Community Center on Tuesday April 25th. 15 area churches will be involved with this build which include Baptist, Presbyterian, Seventh Day Adventist, Methodist, Unitarian, and Lutheran. Trinity Lutheran Church is the only Lutheran Church participating. The two bedroom home we will be working on will cost \$145,570.00 to build. Thrivent, through a grant, will provide \$72,785.00 with fundraising efforts making up \$72,785.00. TLC has committed to providing \$500.00 toward the fundraising and volunteers to help work on the house throughout the project. Please mark your calendars for the ground breaking Ceremonial Groundbreaking to take place on Friday, May 12th at 10:00 am. TLC will be having several fundraisers and well as "NOISY OFFERINGS" to meet and hopefully exceed our pledge. Please watch for more information. If you have any questions or would like to make a special donation to this project, please contact Dorothy at 333-8851

MOTHERS DAY WORSHIP TO CELEBRATE ALL NURTURING WOMEN

Mothers, aunts, sisters, neighbors and more... all are women gifted by God to nurture the lives and faith of others. On Sunday, May 14th we will celebrate God's nurturing women with special songs, prayers, and sermon in a service led by the men of the congregation (giving the ladies the day off!). Following worship, a light social time with snacks (provided and served by the men) will be offered in our Fellowship Hall.

The men of Trinity will once again lead the worship service. We need volunteers so please contact Jody.



'HAWAIIAN SHIRT SUNDAY' MAY 28TH WITH PICNIC

Break out your favorite flower print shirt or dress and come hang a lei around your neck as we approach the Lord with joy and thanksgiving for the coming summer. We will observe our annual "Hawaiian Shirt Sunday" on May 28th!

Following worship that morning we will join in a special picnic in the church yard (in lieu of or regular fellowship time). Hot dogs with fixings will be provided. Members are asked to sign up on the church



FALLEN VETERANS TO BE REMEMBERED FOR MEMORIAL DAY

Memorial Day is our national holiday dedicated to remembering those men and women of our armed forces who have sacrificed their lives for our freedom. During our worship on May 28th a special prayer will be spoken for all of these fallen heroes. A sign-up sheet will be available on the bulletin board in the rear of the nave if you would like to include names of **individuals who have given their lives in military service**. A recognition of all other veterans will be a part of our Veterans Day worship in November.

ANOINTING & PRAYERS FOR HEALING MAY 7TH

Pastor Mike will offer anointing and prayers for healing following worship on Sunday, May 7th. Prayers may be for yourself or by proxy for someone not present.



FAITH DISCUSSIONS: MAY 7TH & 21ST

Our very popular 'Faith Discussions' for May will occur on May 7th and 21st. To participate, come to the Fellowship Hall. After social time and snacks the ½ hour discussion (based on one of the lectionary readings for that day) will kick off about 11:00 AM. No preparation required. Come to grow in Christ as we sit back and listen or chime in with the discussion.



'FREE LOVE' COMMUNITY MEAL
MAY 30TH

Our next "Free Love" mission luncheon for those in need in the East Flat Rock area will be on Tuesday, May 30th. We will serve the meal at noon. Volunteers are welcome for this mission outreach. To volunteer please arrive in the church kitchen at 11:30 AM



Happy Birthday
1 – Carol Martin
17 – Russ Duffner
30 – Jim Kresge
Bob Rasmussen
31- Corbin Reams

Happy Anniversary
3 – Bob & Jody



ASHEVILLE TOURISTS BASEBALL GAME JUNE 23RD

It's time to head out to the ball park again! On Friday, June 23rd our congregation will sponsor an outing to see the Asheville Tourists take on the team from Rome, Georgia. Game time is 7:05 PM. Moore Funeral Home at Forest Lawn has graciously donated 20 general admission tickets for our members and friends. To take advantage of their largesse, please use the sign-up sheet on the church bulletin board. Carpooling to the game will be available.