

MARCH 2024

225 COUNTY HWY 6, PO BOX 374, CLINTON, MN 56225

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH & HOLDEN LUTHERAN CHURCH

ELCA - JIM RACH, MINISTER - OFFICE: (320) 325-5178

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From the desk of Minister Jim Rach

As we continue our Lenten journey through the month of March, we continue our devotional paths:

WEEK FOUR:

We explore the image of the serpent of bronze being lifted up so that those who are being bitten might be saved. We begin to explore that in Jesus life is snatched, won, from the jaws of death and so we too are to find life in the presence of death.

WEEK FIVE:

Jesus speaks his truth that life comes out of death just as a grain of wheat must die in order that many grains grow. This inclusively universal understanding of this perennial journey is heartening to many of us.

WEEK SIX:

We companion Jesus into the holy city and his last tumultuous days and reflect on our hopes and false hopes that are aroused by these events.

WEEK SEVEN: HOLY WEEK

We then mark the days of Holy Week and companion our Beloved Lord through adulation, the Passover, abandonment and betrayal, and the trauma of the trial and the cross and with his shattered and scattered disciples we wait for the life-giving news that he is risen. Even though we know how the story unfolds and ends it is a story best lived and deeply reflected on for it is not only a story of what Jesus did for us, but it is the story of our soul's journey, and when we travel it deeply, we are restored and recreated. Year by year, season by season, we are refined and remade by the story of how life comes out of death. It is the story of long ago and it is the story of us now. It is forever contemporary and life giving.

Come, let us be companions on this perennial path to life.

Minister Jim

Trinity Lutheran Church Sunday School Presents:

FRIENDSHIP SUNDAY BINGO

GAME | FUN | PRIZE



Sunday, March 10, 2024

Bring a friend to Sunday School and Church and get registered to win a prize for you and your friend!

Following 10:30 am Church Services
a Free Will Lunch will be served prior to Bingo



At Trinity – following service

The Trinity/Holden Youth Group will again be hosting their Lenten Suppers following the 5:30 church service at Trinity during the Lenten Season. A Free Will Donation for the meal will be accepted.

At Holden – 6:00 pm

Holden will be having Lenten Suppers beginning at 6:00 pm. There is a sign-up sheet in the Narthex to register.

MARCH Birthdays

- 1st - Holly Deutsch, Kimberly Nelson
- 2nd - Summer Ebnet, Amara McLain, Annika Kleindl, Sierra Kleindl, Isla Zych
- 4th - Ruth Anderson, Roland Ebnet
- 5th - Mataiah Turner
- 6th - Nathan Nordly
- 7th - Ben Alberts, Melisa Benson, David Thomson
- 9th - Cassandra Ross-Strand
- 10th - Jodi Blankenhagen, Rudy Smart
- 12th - Floyd Kellen, Bonnie Stotesbery
- 13th - Alan Alberts, Charlie Cardwell
- 14th - Gladys Paulsen
- 16th - Adelynn McLain
- 17th - Cindy Dahl-Hollen
- 18th - Heather Feldick
- 19th - Elizabeth Davis, Scarlett Jipson, Morgan Gregory
- 20th - Alex Thorson
- 21st - Meghan Przybylski
- 22nd - Tori Teske
- 23rd - McKenna Cardwell
- 24th - Dean Christianson, Julia Hansen, Anthony Satran, Mike Trulson
- 25th - Mike Folk, Paige Genzler
- 27th - Ethan Chase, Brayden Deutsch, Lena Maus
- 28th - Bruce Cardwell
- 29th - Jordon Dresch
- 30th - Kaylee Hauschild, Owen Moberg, Casper Ringsaker
- 31st - Jessica Vangness

SHARE WHAT YOU CAN

Hosted by Trinity Lutheran Church



Trinity will be sponsoring a Food Drive to help support the Big Stone County Emergency Food Shelf. Please bring donations of food or cash each week. A noisy offering will also be collected at each Sunday Service in March.

Holy Week SCHEDULE

March 24 - Palm Sunday and First Communion for 5th Graders	8:45 AT HOLDEN 10:30 AT TRINITY
March 28 - Maundy Thursday Last Supper Re-creation	7:00 PM AT TRINITY
March 29 - Good Friday	5:00 PM AT HOLDEN 7:00 PM AT TRINITY
March 31 - EASTER SUNDAY	7:00 AM AT TRINITY 9:00 AM AT HOLDEN

Join us at
Holden Lutheran Church in Rural Beardsley
and
Trinity Lutheran Church in Clinton

CONTEMPORARY SERVICE

Trinity Lutheran Church
Sunday, March 3, 2024

9:30 AM - SUNDAY SCHOOL
9:30 AM - COFFEE HOUR
10:30 AM - CHURCH SERVICE

Shirley Botker

December 6, 1930 – February 14, 2024



Shirley Botker, age 93, of Clinton, MN, passed away on Wednesday, February 14, 2024, at Peaceful Pines Senior Living in Milbank, SD. Memorial services were held on Sunday, February 18, 2024, at 2:30 p.m. at Trinity Lutheran Church in Clinton, MN. Visitation was one hour prior to the service at the church on Sunday. Minister

Jim Rach officiated, and inurnment will be at Clinton City Cemetery at a later date.

Shirley Jane Robertson was born December 6, 1930, to Carl and Minnie (DeFreese) Robertson at Worthington Hospital in Worthington, MN. Shirley grew up on a farm in Nobles County, was baptized and confirmed at First Lutheran Church in Worthington. She attended country school through 3rd grade, then attended the Worthington schools and graduated in 1949. Shirl would have graduated in 1948, but missed an entire year of school due to rheumatic fever, which left her bed-ridden for 4-5 months. Upon graduation, she worked as an office clerk at Minnesota Natural Gas Company in Worthington. In 1952, Shirley began her studies at Lutheran Bible Institute in Minneapolis to prepare herself for parish work in the Lutheran Church. She worked part-time at the headquarters of the Augustana Luther League in Minneapolis during this time. She went on to serve full-time at parishes in Duluth, MN, Helena, MT, Portland, OR, and then for a brief time in Omaha, NE.

Shirl married Donald Botker on July 9, 1965. To this union, two sons were born, Steven in 1967 and Mark in 1968. Steven passed away at age five from a farming accident in 1972. Steven had requested a sister to join the family, so the Botkers adopted Kim from Korea in 1974. Don and Shirl farmed in the Clinton area after marriage, and then moved to Ortonville in 1997 where they lived on the peninsula and then on the golf course. Shirl actively participated in Christian Women's Club and Red Hatters. She was a dedicated volunteer at Someplace Safe, the Big Stone County Food Shelf, the Big Stone County Hospice program, and the Big Stone Wildlife Refuge. Shirl was a member of Trinity Lutheran Church and enjoyed quilting, teaching Sunday School, participating in the ladies groups and working in the kitchen serving for various church activities. Shirl could tell you exactly how many plates the church had at any given moment. She also enjoyed fishing, camping, bowling, gardening, sweet corn season, crossword puzzles, and making homemade cards. Shirl loved spending time with her family, especially attending their many sporting activities with popcorn in hand. Shirl would also look

forward to planning the next family reunion or holiday gathering, making sure that she knew what everyone was bringing to the "planned potluck". She was a meticulous homemaker and an excellent cook. You would often find her in the kitchen around numerous recipe books and recipe cards, ready to make the next meal or snack, often to share with family, friends, or neighbors. Her grandchildren always knew exactly where to find the homemade Chex mix, frosted sugar cookies, and crescent rolls. Left with her loving memory are son, Mark (Maria) Botker and their children: Emma, Lora and Greta of Clinton, MN; and daughter, Kim (Mike) Morris and their children: Jack and Julia of Fargo, ND; sister, Janice Robertson of Ashland, OR; many nieces, nephews, and extended family. Shirl was preceded in death by her parents; her husband, Don; son, Steven; sister, Dorothy (Howard) Kramer; brothers-in-law: Vernon (Marilyn) Botker and Norman (Dorothy) Botker; and sister-in-law, Leota (Iver) Moberg.

Memorials may be given to: Big Stone County Food Shelf or Trinity Lutheran Church in Shirl's memory.



Please continue to keep these people in your prayers:

*Sandy Abbott, Edward Anderson,
Marvel Anderson, Landen Arndt,
Greta Botker, Jamie Cardwell,
Mary Jo Huselid, McCoy Jipson,
Alma Jorgenson, Tyson Karsky,
Donna Moberg, Susie Nelson,
Verna Schlimme, Pam Schneck,
Lois Torgerson*

Please contact the church office to make any changes to the prayer listings.

HELLO
March

Jesus Loves Me

A church in Atlanta was honoring one of its senior pastors who had been retired many years. He was 92 at that time and I wondered why the church even bothered to ask the old gentleman to preach at that age. After a warm welcome, introduction of this speaker, and as the applause quieted down, he rose from his high back chair and walked slowly, with great effort and a sliding gait to the podium. Without a note or written paper of any kind he placed both hands on the pulpit to steady himself and then quietly and slowly he began to speak.... "When I was asked to come here today and talk to you, your pastor asked me to tell you what was the greatest lesson ever learned in my 50-odd years of preaching. I thought about it for a few days and boiled it down to just one thing that made the most difference in my life and sustained me through all my trials. The one thing that I could always rely on when tears and heartbreak and pain and fear and sorrow paralyzed me... The only thing that would comfort was this verse.... "Jesus loves me this I know. For the Bible tells me so. Little ones to Him belong, We are weak but He is strong.....Yes, Jesus loves me.... The Bible tells me so." The old pastor stated, "I always noticed that it was the adults who chose the children's hymn 'Jesus Loves Me' (for the children of course) during a hymn sing, and it was the adults who sang the loudest because I could see they knew it the best." "Here for you now is a Senior version of Jesus Loves Me":

JESUS LOVES ME

*Jesus loves me, this I know,
Though my hair is white as snow
Though my sight is growing dim,
Still He bids me trust in Him.*

(CHORUS)

*YES, JESUS LOVES ME, YES, JESUS LOVES ME..
YES, JESUS LOVES ME, FOR THE BIBLE TELLS ME SO.*

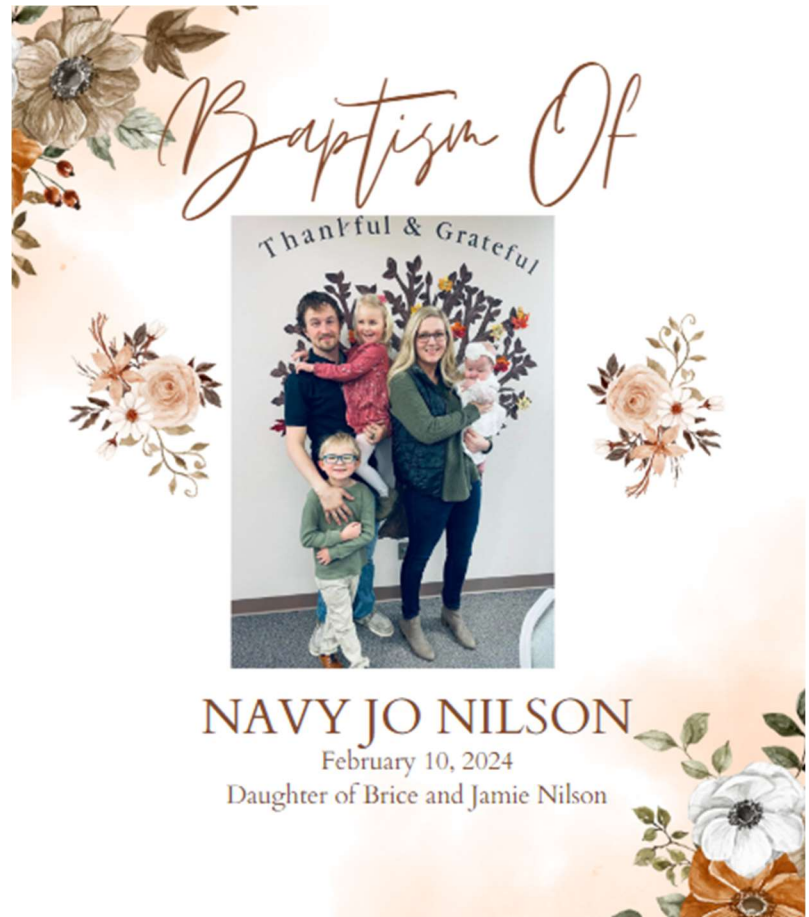
*Though my steps are oh, so slow,
With my hand in His I'll go
On through life, let come what may,
He'll be there to lead the way.*

*When the nights are dark and long,
In my heart He puts a song..
Telling me in words so clear,
"Have no fear, for I am near."*

*When my work on earth is done,
And life's victories have been won.
He will take me home above,
Then I'll understand His love.*

*I love Jesus, does He know?
Have I ever told Him so?
Jesus loves to hear me say,
That I love Him every day.*

If you think this is neat, please pass it on to your friends. If you do not pass it on, nothing bad will happen, but you will have missed an opportunity to "reach out and touch" a friend or a loved one. God Bless Us All!!! AMEN!



NAVY JO NILSON
February 10, 2024
Daughter of Brice and Jamie Nilson



Sound System Fundraiser

When you walk into church at Trinity you will notice this large thermometer that is helping us to reach our goal to purchase a new sound system at Trinity. This system will include a video production component that will allow us to show graphics and words on a screen to enhance our services as well as provide a great new system for the microphones and music at our church. We hope you can help us reach our goal. Any questions or comments can be directed to the Music Committee or to the Church Council. Watch for more details and events soon!.

Theda Skundberg

August 5, 1922 - February 21, 2024



Theda A. Skundberg, age 101, Ortonville, MN, passed away Wednesday, February 21, 2024, at Fairway View Neighborhoods in Ortonville.

Funeral Services will be Saturday, March 2, 2024, at 2 p.m. at Holden Lutheran Church in rural Beardsley, MN, with

Minister James Rach officiating, and Pam Chase as organist. Burial will be in the Holden Cemetery. In lieu of flowers family requests memorials be given to the Holden Cemetery Association.

Pallbearers will be: Ryan and Josh Boots, Dale and Brian Wentland, Harley Zacher, and Garrison Boots.

Theda Alma was born August 5, 1922, in Wybelsum, West Germany, to Jan and Anna (Saueressig) Dorenbusch. She was baptized on December 25, 1922, and confirmed April 3, 1938, in Wybelsum. Theda had two older brothers, Habbo and Evert, and three younger sisters, Etta, Anna, and Almut, who all stayed in Germany.

Theda's father taught her to value a garden and to be honest, and her mother taught her the value of working with her hands by teaching her to bake and sew. Theda's Uncle Pete, her mom's brother, had a vegetable farm, and was paid 75 cents/day to pull weeds. Pete would send vegetables home with her at the end of the day.

Theda attended school until the 8th grade. During the 6th/7th grade, she was asked to teach the 1st/2nd grade class because her teacher had a medical issue, and Theda discovered she really liked teaching. At age 15 she took a sewing class. However, she was only able to attend three months because her family could not afford the cost. She learned a lot in that time and was able to make money sewing for many people.

Theda's first job at age 16 was being a housekeeper/nanny. Her second job was at a bakery in Emden, which was a half-hour ride by bicycle. This was during WWII, and she had to be at work at 4 a.m. She tried not to use her carbide light on her bicycle so she wouldn't be seen. It was hard watching the bombs and riding a bicycle to/from work. She ended up in bomb shelters many times when sirens would go off; this meant Hitler was bombing. You didn't see Theda mad very often, but when you brought up Hitler's name, it brought out a whole different side of her.

Theda's next two jobs were working for a teacher and a shipyard millionaire. Later she attended business school at night. That ended in 1943 when both places were destroyed by bombs. During this time she took over her brother Evert's milk testing job (by going to all the farms and taking milk samples); because his wife was going to have a baby and he was called off to fight the war. He was captured in Africa in 1942. He was a prisoner of war in France two years and in Canada for three. Her older

brother Habbo died in Russia in 1940. Her Dad (Jan) and older brother (Evert) became prisoners of war and did not return home from the war until 1946.

On December 28, 1949, Theda was united in marriage to a U.S. soldier named Rickus ("Rex") Johnson Boots at her parents' home in Logumer Vorwerk, Germany.

With prayers, courage, and the help of the Lord's guidance, on June 30, 1950, Theda immigrated on a ship to the United States. Rex and Theda made their first home in Johnson, MN, and raised the first two boys, John and Donald.

In 1952, they moved to a ten-acre farm north of Odessa, which became the home for six more children, Frank, Margaret, Anita, twins Deborah and Barbara, and Gary.

Theda obtained her citizenship in 1957. Theda's husband Rex passed away August 27, 1961. When Rex passed away, she had to learn how to drive. Pastor Going, (Trinity Lutheran Church, Odessa) could count on the last pew to the right being filled just before the service began each Sunday with the Boots family.

After the children were all in school, Theda worked at the Canning Factory in Big Stone City during corn season, Theatre of Seasons Café in Ortonville as a waitress and cook, and Club 7-75 in Odessa as a cook, waitress, cleanup person, and babysitter.

In 1968, she met Russell Skundberg while working at a Farmers Union banquet that he attended at Club 7-75 while she was waiting tables. On March 16, 1968, they were married, and the family moved seven miles south of Beardsley, MN, to Russell's parents' farm.

Beginning 1974, Theda and Russ vacationed as snowbirds from November to Spring in several places in lower Texas. They enjoyed the warmer weather and enjoyed buying and selling at flea markets.

In 2015, Russ and Theda moved to a home in Ortonville. In 2017 they moved to Independent Living at Fairway View, and in 2018 they became residents at Orton's Crossing wing of Fairway View Nursing Home, both in Ortonville, MN. Russell passed away January 1, 2019.

Theda is survived by her children, John (Betty) Boots, daughter-in-law Julie Boots, Frank (Pamela) Boots, Margaret (Cliff) Steinlicht, Anita Cox, Debbie (Gary) Wentland, son-in-law Paul Khoury, and Gary (Christy) Boots; 21 grandchildren; 32 great-grandchildren; 20 great-great-grandchildren; and many nieces and nephews.




Theda is preceded in death by her first husband, Rex Boots (1961); second husband, Russell Skundberg (2019); son, Donald Boots (2013); daughter, Barbara (Boots) Khoury (2022); grandson, Lonnie Boots (1973); granddaughter, Christina (Cox) Roberts (2006); great-granddaughter, Amanda Meissner (2003); parents, Jan and Anna Dorenbusch; brothers, Habbo and Evert Dorenbusch; and sisters, Anna, Etta, and Almut.

All family members wish to thank everyone for helping us celebrate Theda's life.



MARCH 2023



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
 <p>3 8:45 Holden Worship 9:30 Trinity Sunday School 9:30 Coffee Hour 10:30 Trinity Contemporary Worship Service</p>	4	5	6 9:00 Trinity Quilters 1:00. Holden Quilters 3:45 Confirmation Class 5:30 Lenten Service 6:00 Lent Supper - T & H 6:30 Contemporary Practice 7:00 Lenten Service - H	7	8 Move clocks forward one hour tonight! 	9
<p>10 8:45 Holden Worship 9:30 Trinity Sunday School 9:30 Coffee Hour 10:30 Trinity Worship</p>	11	12	13 9:00 Trinity Quilters 3:45 Confirmation Class 5:30 Lenten Service 6:00 Lent Supper - T & H 6:30 Contemporary Practice 7:00 Lenten Service - H	14	15	16
 <p>17 8:45 Holden Worship 9:30 Trinity Sunday School 9:30 Coffee Hour 10:30 Trinity Worship</p>	18	19	20 9:00 Trinity Quilters 1:00. Holden Quilters 3:45 Confirmation Class 5:30 Lenten Service 6:00 Lent Supper - T & H 6:30 Contemporary Practice 7:00 Lenten Service - H	21	22	23
<p>24 8:45 Holden Worship 9:30 Trinity Sunday School 9:30 Coffee Hour 10:30 Trinity Worship</p>	25	26	27 9:00 Trinity Quilters 3:45 Confirmation Class 6:30 Contemporary Practice	28 7:00pm - Maundy Thursday Last Supper Re-creation	29 5:00 pm - Holden Good Friday Service 7:00 pm - Trinity Good Friday Service	30
<p>31 Easter Sunday 7:00 am - Trinity Worship 9:00 am - Holden Worship</p>	<i>Happy Easter!</i>					