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Subject: Reflections - Pastor Chris
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To: Ken kgkeip@mac.com



Here's what's happening at Trinity Lutheran Church and School this week!
Be sure to check out all the news on our website.

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It Happened in a Blink

It happened in the blink of an eye, yet my mind replays it ceaselessly. It was mid-afternoon last Thursday, and a man opened the door to the Welcome Center. It was clear that he was high on drugs, and there was aggression in his voice. He would not follow our directions to leave the property. Then, for me, the fast forward button was pushed. The intruder leapt at me as I tried to close the door, struck me in the face, and the force of the blow turned me 180 degrees and drove me to the ground, and blood began to course from the wound over my left eye. Then, the man jumped over our reception counter while our receptionist, July, was present. He plucked her phone and raced out the door and away from the premises. That's the bad news.

Now, I want to talk about our amazing staff, teachers and students. I could never talk about them too much! July went into full-on nurse mode. She applied direct pressure and ice to my head for as long as was necessary. Jessica, our administrator, followed protocol to the letter, and she locked down the building. The teachers sprang into action and moved the students to where they belonged. to safety. The police



WORSHIP AT TRINITY
SATURDAY AT 5:00PM
SUNDAY AT 10:00AM
SPANISH LANGUAGE AT
11:30AM
also
LIVE STREAMING OF
SUNDAY WORSHIP AT TRINITY
Sundays at 10:00 am & 11:30AM

Log on to Trinity Facebook page at
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We are on YouTube

In the YouTube search bar enter:
[TLC Worship Service-Kissimmee](#)
All streamed services are available there

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...they were caught the assailant and finished their work with us.

On that day and since that day, our amazing administrators, clergy, teachers, and all the staff have drawn even closer, have become even more of a close-knit family. And, when I returned to the Welcome Center for the first time since the incident, today, some of our students were playing on the playground. I raised my hand to acknowledge their presence thinking that I would pass by the area without fanfare. However, the students rushed to the fence screaming my name, "Pastor Chris, Pastor Chris, Pastor Chris, how are you; we wrote letters for you." It was one of those moments that one never forgets. It reminds us that we have connected with people, and that we are making a difference with people. And, I was greeted just as lovingly when I entered the Welcome Center.

While there is no way to minimize the incident and the fear that follows, all I can say is that God is good all the time. Yes, we have to analyze how to make the the building safer so that we do all that we can do to insure that not one person who is part of the school is ever hurt. However, I can't say loudly and clearly enough that God has already brought good from the horrific, and that God will continue to bring good, and that God will always bring good, just as God has brought resurrection from the cross.

Sister and brothers in Christ, all siblings in Christ, we thank for all that you are doing to support the church and school with your time, talents and financial resources, and we can go further. We can give more of our time, more of our talents, and more of our money to our amazing ministries. Most importantly, as we do this, we will draw closer as Trinity family. And, as we do this, we will be blessed beyond measure!

OR USE



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click "DONATE" from the top menu
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As we head into Lent next Wednesday, Ash Wednesday, it is the perfect time to rededicate ourselves to the God whose complete dedication to us we discover most profoundly on the cross, and we recognize that Lent leads to Holy Week, which leads to Easter, to resurrection, to new life now, and to life everlasting by grace through faith as a gift from God.

I look forward to seeing you this weekend and during Lent, either in person or virtually!

Abundant Blessings,
Pastor Chris

Plan for Ash Wednesday

On Ash Wednesday, Pastor Chris & Pastor Rafael will be distributing ashes to parents while they travel through the drop off line delivering their children to school. In addition, students can receive ashes during Chapel. Students are divided into three Chapel groups at 8:30am, 9:00am, and 9:30am to keep groups small and abide by Covid recommendations.

Three Ash Wednesday services are scheduled for our members and the community - 12noon and 7:00pm (English language worship with ashes); and 1:00pm (Spanish language worship with ashes). From 5:00pm - 6:30pm the Pastors will be present at the church portico to provide "drive by" Ash Wednesday blessings and ashes. Choose your time, but be sure to include Ash Wednesday in your day as we prepare for our Lenten pilgrimage.



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