

Newsletter of
**TRINITY EVANGELICAL
COVENANT CHURCH**
9230 S. Pulaski Road
Oak Lawn, IL 60453
Phone 708-422-5111
E-mail: office@trinitycovoaklawn.org
Website: www.trinitycovoaklawn.org

March

Ushers

Matt Mateer – Captain
Jon-Anders Mateer
Jay Hanson
Cody Hanson

Greeters

6 Arlene and David Sladek
13 Gary & Linda Kozak, Paul
20 Mike & Jen Davies, Jake, Moira, Aven
27 John & Lorraine Weszely

Nursery

6 Kari Devine, Pam Polcar
13 Ginny Almer, Carol Byland
20 Kellie Lee, Cathy Gardner
27 Jen Davies, Julie Carbray

Counters

Chuck Havel
Pam Polcar
Paula Cassady

Birthdays

2 Barbara Eustace
2 Arabella Khan
8 Richard Erickson
10 Arnold Almer
11 William Anderson
11 Brooklyn Raines
13 Heidi Weszely
15 Robert "Bud" Jaderholm
15 Char Dunk Sladek
21 Lois Carlson
22 David Sladek
22 Ariel Kurzweil
22 Tracy Hood
30 Charlene Sandberg

If we missed your birthday, please let the office know so that it will be listed in the future.

The Messenger March 2016

Over the Pastor's Shoulder

While teaching at Eastern University – located in St. Davids, PA – Tony Campolo attended Mt. Carmel Baptist Church, an all black church in West Philadelphia. He worshipped there for over 40 years. He loved every minute of worship there.

I've heard Campolo relate the following story more than once: "We had come together for a Good Friday Service. The church was full. For an hour and a half, the preacher stood that crowd on its ear with just one line. That line was 'It's Friday, but Sunday's comin'!' That statement may not blow you away, but you should have heard him do it. He started his sermon real softly by saying, 'It was Friday. It was Friday, and my Jesus was dead on the tree. But that was Friday, and Sunday's comin'!'

One of the deacons yelled, 'Preach, brother! Preach!' It was all the encouragement that he needed. He came on louder as he said, 'It was Friday, and Mary was cryin' her eyes out. The disciples were runnin' in every direction like sheep without a shepherd, but that was Friday and Sunday's comin'! People in the congregation were waving their hands and calling softly, 'Well, well.' Some of the men were yelling, 'Keep going! Keep going!'

The preacher kept going. He picked up the volume still more and shouted, 'It was Friday. The cynics were lookin' at the world and sayin', as things have been so they shall be. You can't change anything in this world, you can't change anything. But those cynics didn't know that it was only Friday. Sunday's comin'!

It was Friday! And on Friday, those forces that oppress the poor and make the poor to suffer were in control. But that was Friday! Sunday's comin'!

It was Friday, and on Friday Pilate thought he had washed his hands of a lot of trouble. The Pharisees were struttin' around, laughin' and pokin' each other in the ribs. They thought they were back in charge of things, but they didn't know that it was on Friday! Sunday's comin'! He kept on working that one phrase for a half hour, then an hour, then an hour and a quarter, then an hour and a half. Over and over he came at us, 'It's Friday, but Sunday's comin'!

By the time he had come to the end of the message, I was exhausted. He had me and everybody else so worked up that I don't think any of us could have stood it much longer. At the end of his message he just yelled at the top of his lungs, "IT'S FRIDAY!" and all five hundred of us in that church yelled back with one accord, 'SUNDAY'S COMIN!'"

My friends, always remember that. Remember that Sunday is coming. YES, the world might be a mess. Our personal lives might be a mess. Darkness might be closing in upon us. But we of all people should never, ever despair. Those of us in the church have been entrusted with good news. And this is the time of year we surely should remind ourselves and boldly declare the Good News to all who have ears to hear. And the Good News is this: It's Friday, but Sunday's coming!!

Can't Wait until Easter!

Pastor Jim



Come join us at 11:15 A.M. after the morning worship service.

During the month of March in the Overflow Room, Rich Hood's class will focus on the Book of Philippians.

In the Fireside Room, Denise Krueger will present "Malachi – A Message for an Age of Discouragement", on March 6, 13 and 20. (No class on Easter Sunday, March 27.)

Altar Flowers

If you would like to celebrate or honor someone on a given special date, please see the sign-up sheet on the table in the narthex. Flowers are \$40 and you are invited to take them home following morning worship.



With Sympathy

As a church family we extend our sympathy to Karen McShane on the death of her mother, Hope Bruettig, who entered the life eternal on Thursday, February 4. A funeral service was held at Trinity on February 9. Private committal service at Abraham Lincoln National Cemetery, Elwood, Illinois.

We extend our sympathy to the Young Family on the death of Leona Young, who entered the life eternal on Friday, February 5. A funeral service was held at Trinity on February 15. Private committal service was held at Oak Hill Cemetery in Chicago.

We extend our sympathy to the family of John A. Nordstrom who entered the life eternal on Tuesday, February 16. A funeral service was held at Trinity on February 22. Committal service was held at Abraham Lincoln National Cemetery, Elwood, Illinois.

Peace be to the memories of Hope, Leona and John.

Thank You

I can't ever thank you enough for the beautiful flowers, kind thoughts and prayers that you shared with us during the loss of my mother, Hope E. Bruettig. I can't tell you how meaningful that was.

Thank you, The McShane Family



Journey through the Old Testament!

February 10 through March 30, 2016

Join us for an unforgettable Lenten journey through the Old Testament. On Wednesdays during Lent (February 10 – March 30) we will explore – creation and fall, the promise of restoration, and Israel's place in God's story, as told in the book of Covenant history. We'll read 5 days a week and share the journey on Wednesday evenings, at 7:00 P.M. in the Fireside Room. We'll immerse ourselves in every word of Covenant History – understanding it in context, experiencing it in community.

If you would like to attend, please call the church office at 708-422-5111.

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Dear Trinity,

This is a note from Kristine Schroeder, your Sunday School Superintendent.

I would like to begin by offering my heartfelt thanks to all of those who have volunteered to teach our Kingdom Kids Sunday School classes, and/or who provided child care during the adult classes for the last 6 months:

MANY THANKS TO:

- | | |
|-----------------|------------------|
| Joyce Gorney | Emily Sullivan |
| Judy Gilbert | Jay Hanson |
| Kari Devine | Dawn Ferrell |
| Carol Byland | Linda Kozak |
| Denise Sullivan | Jeremy Schroeder |

You have all done a wonderful job and we truly appreciate your time and effort. I sincerely thank you.

Having 2015 behind us, we are still looking for some spirit-lead individuals to round out our children's programs through the spring. It is such an important task to lead our children into the Christian Faith, to nourish them with stories of our Lord and Savior, to teach them why we gather here at Trinity each Sunday to worship and learn of our faith.

I would ask each of you to prayerfully consider what contribution you might make to this ultra important ministry. We need volunteers to teach the Pre-K - Kindergarten class as

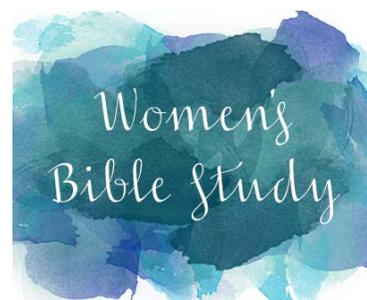
well as the 1st - 3rd graders during the worship service and also somebody to teach the 4th - 6th grade class which takes place during our Christian Formation Hour after church. We need volunteers for the months of March, April and May.

There is also an opportunity for anyone who would like to spend an hour just hanging out with the children up to 3rd grade. There are some families whose children fall into both the during and after worship classes. If their parents would like to attend Adult Sunday School, they need some supervision. You can let them have free time in the preschool room, provide a craft for them to do or, anything else you can provide.

I am looking forward to hearing from so very many of you that I have to choose.

Serving Christ,

Kristine Schroeder



Women's Tuesday Morning Bible Study

My thoughts this month follow one select meditation on Why Christ

Came – "To Bear Witness to the Truth."

Our focal point is Jesus, as Son of Man, referring to promises and claims His Father guarantees before, during and after tangible evidence giving Him, the Messenger, power to bring life and immortality to light through the Gospel. Today we have access to and witness His sovereign (power) in our lives as children of the Heavenly Father.

This Truth is most identified as His parting speech to Pilate shortly before crucifixion, "For this cause was I born, and for this cause I have come into the world, that I should bear witness to the Truth." As the Way, Jesus is our path to the Father. As the Truth, He is the reality of all God's promises and claims. The third person of the Trinity, the Holy Spirit, enables believers to seek and experience God's Truth.

John 8:31,2 "If you hold to my teaching you are really my disciples. Then you will know the Truth and the Truth will set you free."

God's Truths are foretold as prophesy in the Old Testament and evidenced in both New and Old Testaments.

As we study the scriptures we find limitless and boundless Truths giving meaning and security as we trust, listen, learn and act upon them.

Following: five familiar Truths which set the believer free from sin, evil, indecision, insecurity, doubt, demons, etc.etc.

Truth One – I know that my Redeemer lives and that in the end He will stand upon the earth. Job 19:25

Truth Two – We shall live again and in that living form we shall see God.

Truth Three – We are to live knowing our salvation is assured. Jesus will receive us and we must pass these Truths on so others may share in this resurrection faith.

Truth Four – He who believes in me will live again. John 2:25,6 Jesus is Himself life.

Truth Five – those who have served the risen Christ will hear Him declare, "Well done, good and faithful servant! Come and share your Master's happiness." Matt 25:21

We are flexible in our study and as we address one question we often are led to related questions giving way to individual thought and varied opinion and direction. Tuesday mornings are interesting and exciting as we endeavor to align our lives with answers based on Truths, Blessings, Gifts, Faith and Trust.

Trinity – bakery/fellowship 9:00 A.M. to 9:30 A.M.
Fireside Room study 9:30 A.M. to 10:45 A.M.

Barbara Johnson

Covenant Women/Miriam Circle

All ladies are invited to attend our Miriam Program and meeting on Tuesday, March 8, at 11 A.M. after Women's Bible Study.

A representative from Health Advocates Homecare will present the beneficial and affordable alternative to traditional care solutions such as nursing homes. For those who prefer to remain in their own home and just need help with assistance in completing daily tasks, In-home care could be the answer.

A light luncheon will be served followed by a short business meeting. Invite your friends. Please RSVP to Lorraine Weszely, 708-422-8529 for luncheon purposes.

Save the Date

Saturday, March 12 is the Covenant Central Conference Women's "Spring Celebration" at Northwest Covenant Church in Mt. Prospect. If interested in attending, please contact Lorraine Weszely, 708-422-8529. We will all carpool.



Save the Date

All ladies are invited to attend a bridal shower for Jon-Anders Mateer and Karissa VanBuskirk on Saturday, April 9, at 11 A.M. in Peterson Hall. Additional information to come.

Tower Chorale Concert

The Tower Chorale under the direction of Patrick Godon presents Mendelssohn's *St. Paul* Oratorio on two Sundays in March: Sunday, **March 6 at 4:00 p.m.** at the Elmhurst Christian Reformed Church, Elmhurst and Sunday, **March 13 at 7:30 p.m.** at St. Gregory The Great Church, 5535 N. Paulina Street, in Chicago.

The *St. Paul* Oratorio, based on the Acts of the Apostles and the conversion of Saul of Tarsus to Paul, is a moving musical symbol of spiritual transformation.

See Barbara Mateer for tickets. More information can be found on the poster near the "back" door of the church.

Mitch's Musings

So much happening! I feel like I start each letter with my disbelief, but it's incredible how fast these months are flying by!! It's already March (more or less)! Well it's a busy time of year for me – but that seems to be true of my life always, while in ministry or in seminary, let alone both! I couldn't be more excited for what God has next for me. As one can imagine, wedding plans are in the works of everything else, and I'm overly eager to have Jena and her girls move to the city this summer! We're getting married in Isaacson Chapel on North Park's campus and it will be wonderful to have family here to celebrate!

On the academic side, my classes are quite intriguing and I'm learning more than my brain can contain. This will be the semester of **READING!** My goodness, they must think I'm an incredibly efficient reader. I am incredibly grateful for many people in my life in this season: Faculty at the Seminary, Pastor Jim here at Trinity, my friends and family back home who have been very encouraging through this amazing and

stressful course of schooling. A big "Thank You" to you all here at Trinity for allowing me to come in and explore my gifts as I shadow Jim, minister to your young people, and hopefully contribute something new to the community that is deep and rich here! You've all been a blessing. Thank you!

Upcoming Events:

March 6 Worship @ 10am (Youth Music)
Confirmation @ 11:15am (7th & 8th)
Sunday School @ 11:15am (9th-12th)
Every Kid A Camper LUNCH @ 12
YOUTH HELP CLEAN UP!!
Youth Group – following clean-up @ Trinity

March 13 Worship @ 10am
*Mitch is gone Confirmation @ 11:15 (7th & 8th)
Sunday School @ 11:15am (9th – 12th)
NO YOUTH GROUP

March 20 Worship @ Trinity @ 10am (PALM SUNDAY-
Youth Music)
Confirmation @ 11:15am (7th & 8th)
Sunday School @ 11:15am (9th-12th)
Youth Group @ Trinity @ 1:00pm

March 27 Worship @ Trinity @ 10am (EASTER
SUNDAY)
Confirmation @ 11:15am (7th & 8th)
Sunday School @ 11:15am (9th-12th)
Youth Group @ Trinity @ 1:00pm



Pryme Tymers

Join us for our March

programs:
March 10, 11 A.M.:
Entrée: Mostaccioli &
Sausage



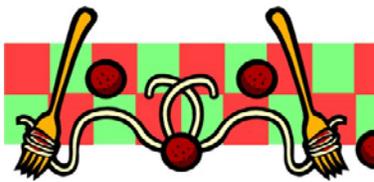
Program: "Tribute Show" with Kym Frankovelgia. A return engagement with songs from divas Liza, Bette, Barbra and the Andrew Sisters...and more! Choose to wear **green for St. Patrick's Day** or **red for St. Joseph's Day**.

March 24, 11 A.M.:

Entrée: Stuffed Chicken

Program: "Songs of the Sacrament" with Kim Tenney. Ending our Lenten season, we will feature Kim Tenney, the wedding soloist at the Wayside Chapel in Palos Park, highlighting songs of the church sacraments, i.e., baptism, marriage, etc.

Make your reservation by the Friday BEFORE the event. The cost per meeting is \$7. Be sure to bring two canned goods for the Salvation Army Food Pantry. There is always a great need.



**Let's Do Lunch
Every Kid A Camper Fundraiser
Sunday, March 6**

On Sunday, March 6, following worship service, let's join together in Peterson Hall for a Spaghetti Lunch Camp Fundraiser. The proceeds will help our campers experience Christ and enjoy fellowship! A suggested donation for adults \$5 and kids \$3. Thank you for your support – it is truly appreciated.

Please RSVP to the church office at 708-422-5111 or fill out the form below and drop in the offering plate at Sunday worship.

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RSVP Let's Do Lunch Spaghetti – Every Kid A Camper Fundraiser March 6

Name _____

Number of Adults _____ Children _____

I will bring:
Cookies ___ Brownies ___ Rice Krispie's Treats ___

I can help with: Set up ___ Clean up ___
*All kids will be expected to help with cleanup

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For future reference, what would work best for your family?

Breakfast at church at 9AM ___
Lunch at church at 12 noon ___

**Interactions
Bowling Fun at Arena Bowl
Sunday, March 20**

If bowling is right up your alley or you want to have fun in your spare time, roll on over to Arena Bowl, 103rd & Cicero, Oak Lawn, on Sunday, March 20, and join us for an afternoon of fun. Bowling is from 1-3 PM, 2 games, the cost is \$7.50 and includes shoe rental. We need 20 people to bowl to get the group rate.



Please RSVP by March 13 to the church office at 708-422-5111 or fill out the form below and place in the offering plate at Sunday worship.

Any questions please see Denise Sullivan and Kellie Lee.

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RSVP Interactions – Arena Bowl, March 20

Name _____

- Yes, I will be bowling on March 20.
- How many will be bowling? _____.

***Lunch option:** We will be eating lunch together at the church before bowling. Bring a frozen pizza and snacks to share.

North Park University Concert

On Wednesday, March 23, at 8 P.M., in Anderson Chapel, Vermeer Quartet will present Franz Joseph Haydn's *The Seven Last Words of Christ*. Distinguished speakers will be featured throughout the nine-movement work. A pre-concert lecture for this event will be offered in the chapel beginning at 7 P.M. General Admission is \$10. For additional information or registration, go to www.northpark.edu/vermeer.

**Sunday, March 13
DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME BEGINS**

Spring forward



Don't forget to set clocks ahead one hour at 2 a.m. Sunday.

March 2016

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17 	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
	28	29	30	31		

On-going Ministry

Sunday Mornings

10:00 AM Worship

10:00 AM Nursery for Infants/Sunday School Pre-K – 3 rd Grade

11:15 AM Sunday School Grades 4-6, Confirmation, Sr. High, Adult Class
(childcare will be provided for parents who want to attend Sunday School)

Noah's Ark Preschool – Mon – Fri, 9 AM – 12 PM

Women's Bible Study – Tuesday, 9:30 AM, Fireside Room

Pryme Tymers – 2nd and 4th Thursday, 11 AM

Notes:

1: Women's Bible Study, Fireside Room (9:30 AM)
Ronald McDonald House supper (4:30 PM)

2: Lenten Journey, Fireside Room (7 PM)

5: Men's Prayer Breakfast, Jedi Garden (8 AM)

6: Together We Cope retiring offering
Spaghetti Lunch Camp Fundraiser, Peterson Hall (12 PM)
Youth Group at Trinity (1 PM)

8: Women's Bible Study, Fireside Room (9:30 AM)
Miriam Circle meeting and luncheon, Peterson Hall (11 AM)
Deacons meeting (6:30 PM)
Trustees & CE Board meetings (7 PM)

9: Lenten Journey, Fireside Room (7 PM)

10: Pryme Tymers (11 AM)

11: Noah's Ark – Donuts with Dad, Peterson Hall (10:45-12 PM)

12: Covenant Central Conference, Women's Spring Celebration,
Mt. Prospect

13: **Daylight Saving Time Begins – Spring Forward**
NO Youth Group

15: Women's Bible Study, Fireside Room (9:30 AM)

16: Lenten Journey, Fireside Room (7 PM)

17: Church Board meeting (7 PM)
Happy St. Patrick's Day

20: **Palm Sunday, First Day of Spring**
Interactions – Lunch @ Trinity (12 PM), Arena Bowl (1-3 PM)
Youth Group at Trinity (1 PM)
Articles for April Messenger due

22: Women's Bible Study, Fireside Room (9:30 AM)

23: Lenten Study, Fireside Room (7 PM)

24: Pryme Tymers (11 AM)

25: Noah's Ark Spring Break through April 1; school resumes April 4

27: **Easter Sunday**
Youth Group at Trinity (1 PM)

29: Women's Bible Study, Fireside Room (9:30 AM)

30: Lenten Journey concludes, Fireside Room (7 PM)



March Newsletter 2016



For the month of March the children will focus on...



Dates to Remember

Donuts with Dad
~Friday, March 11
10:45 – 12:00 (noon)

Happy St. Patrick's Day
~Thursday, March 17

Spring Break
~Friday, March 25 – Friday, April 1
School Resumes- Monday, April 4

Upcoming Events-Please mark your calendars!

Mother's Day Tea
~Friday, May 6
10:45-12:00

Parent/Teacher Conferences
~Monday, May 9
No School

Preschool Graduation Celebration
All students participate in graduation
~Wednesday, June 1
9:45 a.m. – 12:00 noon



Colors- Green & Yellow
Shapes- Diamond & Square
Science- Making Green play dough
~Dr. Seuss
~Easter



Early Bird Registration:

Registration for the 2016-2017 school year is now open. If you register your child during the months of March and April, you will receive 10% of your child's monthly tuition for the 2016-2017 school year. Limited space available.

A note of thanks!

~Thank you to our wonderful readers who have shared their time, reading to our preschoolers.

~Thank you Dr. Richard Facko and staff for visiting preschool and teaching us about Dental Health.

~Thank you Pastor Mitch for sharing the story about Amber Lamb and visiting the Dentist.

~Thank you to our wonderful room helpers during our Valentine's Day Party. We truly appreciate all of your help!

~Thank you to all of our wonderful bakers and families for supporting our Jump Zone Fundraiser! We had a blast!

Mrs. Palazzolo & Mrs. Wojcik's class will focus on Letters Yy, Pp, Zz, Xx and numbers 0-15

Ms. Amanda & Mrs. Dryier's class will focus on letters Qq, Rr Ss and numbers 0-13

A NOTE FROM...

Mrs. Palazzolo & Mrs. Wojcik

Dear Parents & Guardians,

Let's hope that spring is almost here! It has been quite a winter!

During the next few months, preschool will be a very busy place! We have many fun family gatherings coming up! Please mark your calendars.

During the month of March, we will focus on the letters Yy, Pp, Zz, and Xx. During the first week of April, we will have covered the entire alphabet! For the rest of the school year, our Pre-K children will be working on a letter a day as a review of what we have learned this year.

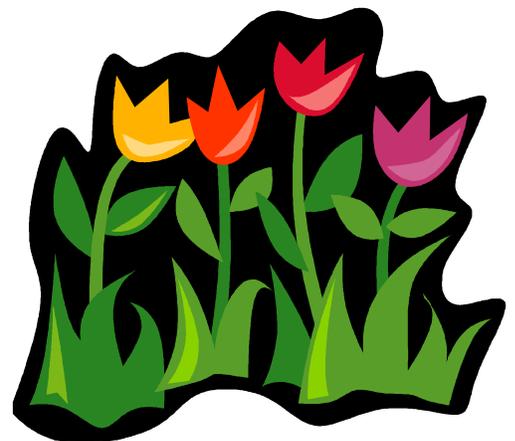
At home please continue to work on letter recognition & sounds; this will help with reading readiness and please continue to work on number recognition 0-20+. Also, please continue to work on printing the alphabet and numbers, with reminding your child to print from the top to the bottom. The children have been doing a wonderful job with number recognition and alphabet sounds.

Parent Conferences are coming up in May, but if you have any questions or concerns at any time, please feel free to contact me!

Thank you,

Mrs. Palazzolo

Mrs. Wojcik



A NOTE FROM...

Ms. Amanda & Mrs. Dryier

Dear Parents/Guardians,

It hardly seems that seven months of preschool have already passed! The time has gone by so quickly.

Spring is hopefully on its way! It is difficult to believe that spring is on its way with all of this cold weather we are still having! Before long we will begin to see the buds on the trees and the flowers blooming.

For the month of March, we will focus on the letters Qq, Rr & Ss and reviewing the letters Aa - Oo. We are working on number concepts 1-13 and will be able to count 1 to 25.

Please continue to review these letters and numbers at home with your child.

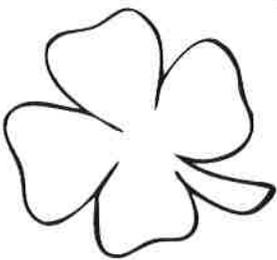
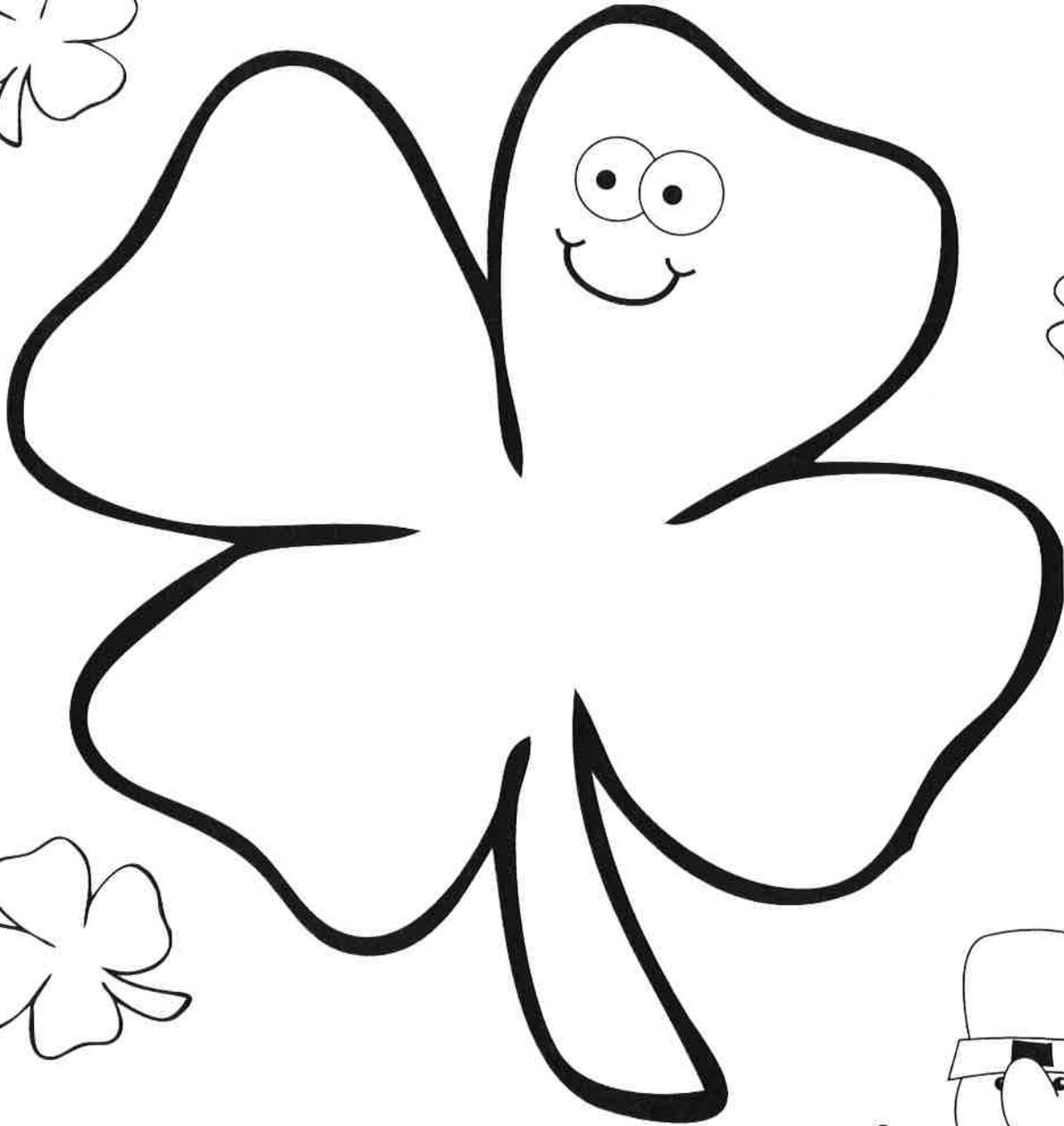
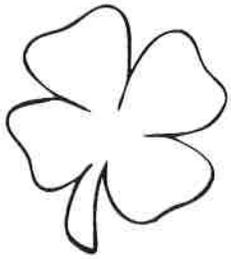
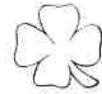
If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call.

Sincerely,

Ms. Amanda and Mrs. Dryier



March

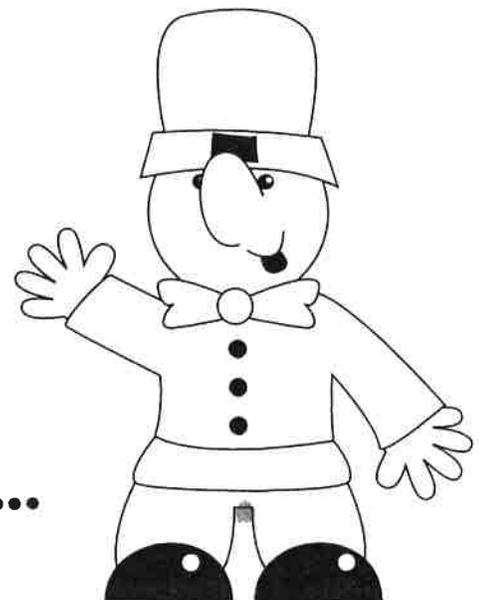


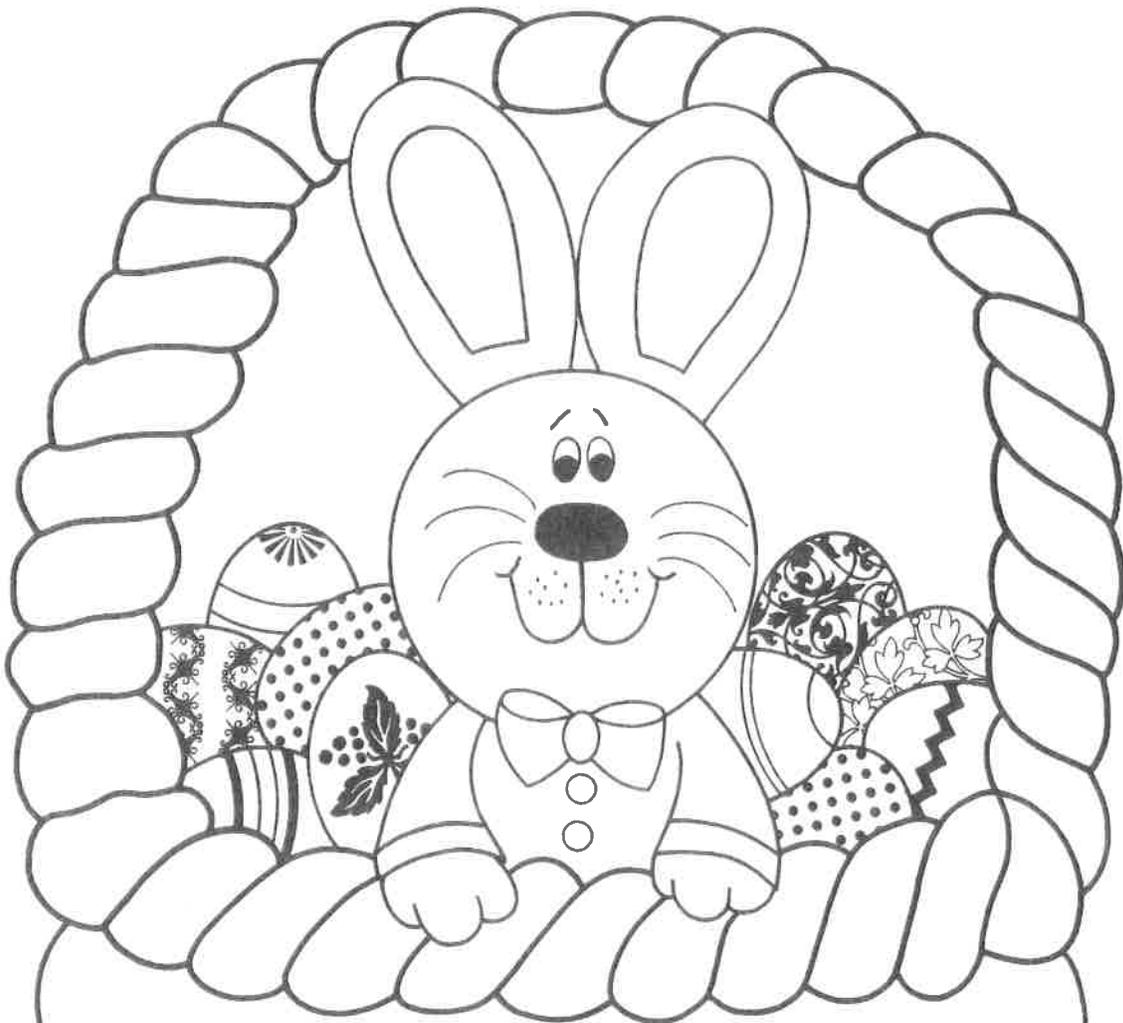
Green, green, I see green!

If I were a Leprechaun, I would...



_____.





b c a r h d s l h
c h o c o l a t e
o i j d p a h s g
u c b o f t o e g
m k f l o w e r s
d s c a s o x r h
i d b u n n y d t

Put a circle around: chocolate, chicks, hop, eggs,
flowers, bunny

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708-422-5111
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Reverend Dr. James R. Sandberg

Senior Pastor

Mitch Haaby

Pastoral Intern

Nate VanDerMale

Interim Director of Music and Worship

Betty Aardema

Organist

Stuart Seale

Pianist

Christina Palazzolo

Director – Noah's Ark Preschool

Karen Christakos

Secretary

Joe Michalowicz

Custodian

Articles for the
April Messenger
are due March 20