

Pastor Brian's
Midweek Message
February 23, 2022

"WHAT'S HAPPENIN'?"

"For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power, love, and self-control." (2 Timothy 1:7)

"What's Happenin'? That's a very good question. The answer is A LOT...at least around Trinity Lutheran Church of SW Florida, The Body of Christ here at TLC is active and alive. Let me give you some examples. Just yesterday the 10 o'clock Tuesday Bible Study met, as we do weekly. There were 48 in attendance, and I don't think that it's just the donuts that are the draw. I have never been associated with a church that has a percentage of membership involved in regular Bible study as this one. On Sunday and throughout the week.



Not only did we come together to listen, hear, and learn from the Word of God but we also unanimously and excitedly took on the project of "Adopting a Seminarian". In September Paul Mroczenski and his new bride Courtney will be headed off to Concordia Theological Seminary in Fort Wayne to begin his pastoral studies. We have pledged our financial support and we encourage all other members and friends of the church to join us. You'll find a drop box for contributions in the church in the coming weeks, months, and years to pay it

forward for future generations to hear the Word and believe through the ministry of Paul and Courtney. That's not all that's happenin' this week! This Friday we're having another Movie Night, and I expect a BIG crowd. We'd love for you to join us at 5:00pm for hot dogs, chips, desserts and of course, popcorn. It's a Movie Night so you gotta have popcorn. The feature is War Room and it will begin around 5:30pm. We'll have a free will donation basket out to benefit Englewood Helping Hand. They are in desperate need of food and personal hygiene items for those who are struggling to make ends meet in our community. So, what else is new? Well, the award-winning TLC Choir is going to be offering our first ever "choir cantata" on Sunday April 3rd. We're already working on the music. This presentation of anthems and readings based in Scripture is titled "Come Touch the Robe". It contains 8 distinct songs that form a unified Gospel message of invitation for all to touch the robe of Christ for eternal healing by God's grace. We've got about 25 voices that are working hard to prepare to present this cantata to the glory of God and the building of our collective and individual faith. Speaking of music, did you know that on Ash Wednesday, and in each Wednesday evening service through Lent, we are going to be singing a hymn that has never before been sung in any church? That's correct! Our own Dr. John Behnke and Christine Behnke have co-authored a hymn titled "Throughout These Forty Days. It has a special stanza of each week, and this will form the theme of the Season of Lent as we focus on "The Passion of the Christ" in preparation for Passion Week in mid-April. Let's see, is there anything else? Of course, there is! These past two Saturdays we've seen the formation of a Mahjong group (that's a game originating in China). There have been nearly 20 participants so far, some just learning the game, and this thing seems to have legs...it's likely to grow! This is all so amazing. God is blessing us so very much. There are all these things for you to take part in, along with our regular worship. Even better than that...you have the chance to invite family, friends, and neighbors to come along and take part with us. By getting to know us they will then be more inclined to take our invitation and join us for worship, receiving the mercy and grace of God in Christ Jesus with us.