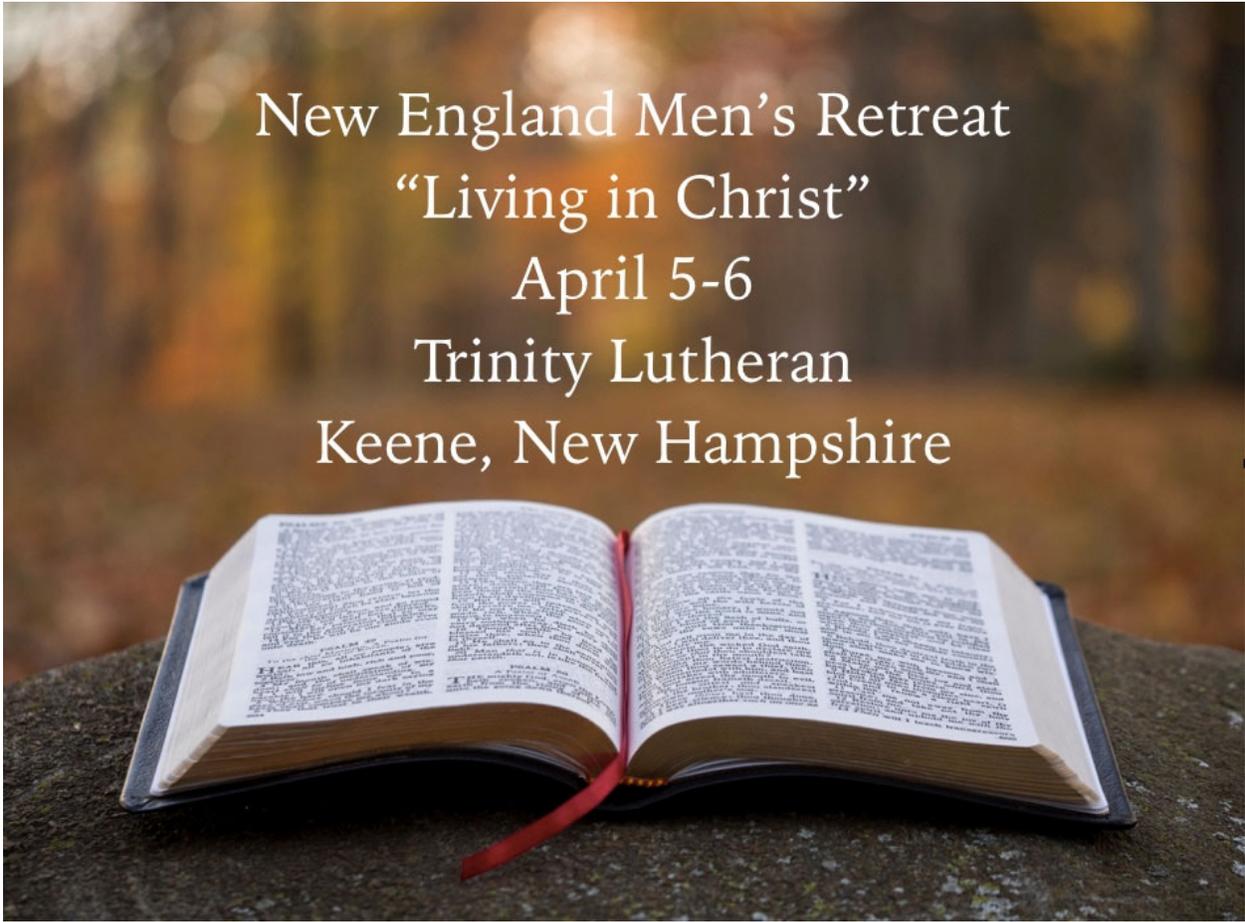


New England Men's Retreat
"Living in Christ"
April 5-6
Trinity Lutheran
Keene, New Hampshire



Christ is our life. He is the vine. We are the branches (John 15:1). Apart from him, we can do nothing. Join us as we explore what it means to live in Christ—in his light, truth, and love. Sessions will focus on themes from the book of 1 John, as well as a variety of breakout sessions. This event is open to all men high school age and above. We strongly encourage fathers or grandfathers to come with their sons/grandsons.

See next page for registration

Registration Form

Please fill out this form and send to the **address below**.

High school students and older are encouraged to come, however, anyone under 18 who attends **without** a parent or legal guardian must fill out a waiver form. Please email pastorras@gmail.com for a waiver form if needed.

Name _____
(first) (last)

Email _____

Phone Number _____

Church _____

Do you have any food allergies? Yes No

If yes, please list: _____

Emergency Contact:

Name _____
(first) (last)

Relationship _____ Phone Number _____

Checklist:

- I will bring my own sleeping bag, inflatable bed, etc. and sleep at Trinity Lutheran Church
- I will find other sleeping arrangements (there are multiple hotels in close proximity)
- I have enclosed a check payable to *Our Savior Lutheran Church* in the amount of \$10.

**Please send check and completed registration form to:*

Our Savior Lutheran Church
Pastor John Rasmussen
239 Graham Rd.
South Windsor, CT 06074

**If you are late on your registration or would like to register upon arrival, please send an email to Pastor John Rasmussen at pastorras@gmail.com before April 5th to confirm your presence, as well as your choice of sleeping arrangements, and if you have any food allergies.*

Lodging

If you choose to stay at a hotel rather than at the church, the following hotels are in close proximity. *Registration does not include lodging at a hotel. If you choose to stay off site you will need to cover the expense of a hotel. You may want to split the cost of a room with other members of your church.*

Fairfield Inns and Suites—30 Main St, Keene, NH 03431
Holiday Inn Express—175 Key Rd, Keene, NH 03431
Days Inn—3 Ash Brook Rd, Keene, NH 03431
Best Western—401 Winchester St, Keene, NH 03431

Contact: (603) 357-7070
Contact: (603) 352-7616
Contact: (603) 727-4785
Contact: (603) 357-3038

Directions to Trinity Lutheran Church:

Trinity is located in the southwestern corner of New Hampshire right off of Hwy 12.

100 Maple Ave, Keene, NH 03431



What to Bring:

- Bible
- Notebook
- Sleeping bag, pillow, and pads or air mattresses
- Change of clothes
- Toiletries
- Money for lunch (we will break to eat lunch on Saturday at local dining establishments)

If you have any questions about the retreat, please email Pastor John Rasmussen at pastorras@gmail.com or call at (860) 331-6052 instead of contacting the Trinity office. This retreat is being planned and led by various pastors in the New England District. We are thankful to Trinity for allowing us to use their beautiful facility and sanctuary!

Schedule—Living in Christ

“...our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ...” 1 John 1:3

Friday, April 5th

- 6:00-7:00 PM Arrive and check-in at Trinity in Keene, NH.
- 7:00-7:30 Opening Welcome and Worship
- 7:30-8:15 Session #1: **Living in the Light of Christ** (1 John 1:5-10; 2:7-11) **Pastor Randall Pekari**
- 8:15-8:30 Break
- 8:30-9:00 Evening Prayer
- 9:00-10:00 Fellowship

Saturday, April 6th

- 7:30-8:30 AM Breakfast
- 8:30-9:00 Morning Prayer
- 9:00-9:45 Session #2 **Living in the Truth of Christ** (1 John 2:18-27) **Pastor Jeremy Pekari**
- 9:45-10:00 Break
- 10:00-10:45 Break Out Session A
 - Option #1: **Men With(out) Chests (Pastor Bryan Stecker)**
 - Option #2: **He First Loved Us—A Devotional Experience of the Word (Pastor Tim Knapp)**
- 10:45-11:00 Break
- 11:00-11:45 Break Out Session B
 - Option #1: **Living in the Purity of Christ (Pastor Chris Chandler)**
 - Option #2: **But What Do I Do with the Shame? (Pastor Ed Harkey)**
- 12:00-1:30 FREE TIME/LUNCH (offsite)
- 1:30-2:15 Session #3: **Living in the Love of Christ** (1 John 3:1, 11-20; 4:7-21) **Pastor John Rasmussen**
- 2:15-2:30 Break
- 2:30-3:15 Prayer and Optional Individual Confession and Absolution
- 3:15 Closing Worship and Prayer
- 3:30 Dismissal

Break Out Session Descriptions

Session A1—“Men With(out) Chests”:

In *The Abolition of Man*, acclaimed Christian author C.S. Lewis speaks to the societal issue of raising men without teaching them sentiment rooted in True virtue. He writes, "We make men without chests and expect of them virtue and enterprise. We laugh at honor and are shocked to find traitors in our midst. We castrate and bid the geldings be fruitful. Does a man stand for something or nothing? As Christian men, we are called to live a fulfilled life standing as firm defenders of Christian virtue, truth, and love. However, how do we carry this out as we live in an age which muddles what those words mean? Furthermore, how do we stand firm in our masculine calling as broken sinners plagued by the weakness of sin? This session will look at how living a life defined by the Gospel gives us the wisdom to live lives defined by Truth, the courage to stand strong in our convictions, and the resiliency that can only be accomplished through living in the saving grace of Jesus Christ.

Speaker: Pastor Bryan Stecker, Associate Pastor, Grace Lutheran Church, Nashua, NH.

Session A2: —"He First Loved Us; A Devotional Experience of the Word"

Western Christians tend to read the Scripture for content and truth. The devotional reading of God's Word is reading for encounter with the Living Word, Jesus Christ. Pastor Tim Knapp will teach the value and use of the devotional reading of God's Word and walk us through the experience.

Speaker: Pastor Tim Knapp, Senior Pastor of Mt. Calvary Lutheran Church in Acton, MA.

Session B1—"Living in the Purity of Christ"

We usually associate 1 John 1:8 with our confession of sins during worship—"If we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness." This true. But with his forgiveness God also invites us to experience transformation in our daily lives. He gives us the gift of his purity in our daily thoughts, words, and actions.

Speaker: Pastor Chris Chandler, Associate Pastor, Immanuel Lutheran Church, Danbury, CT.

Session B2—"But What Do I Do with the Shame?"

So, we've heard God's declaration of forgiveness. In the aftermath of our sin, we've turned back to God and His gifts. Our burden has been lifted. But what do we do with the shame? What do we do when the recurring voice of the evil one seeks to dissuade us from believing God's promise to cast our sin "as far as the east is from the west?" (Psalm 103:12 ESV)

Let's walk this road as brothers, exploring the concept of shame, where it comes from, its effects on our relationships, as well as its blessed end. All so that we may, as John writes, "*abide in him, so that when he appears we may have confidence and not shrink from him in shame at his coming.*" (1 John 2:28 ESV)

Speaker: Rev. Ed Harkey, Pastor of Trinity Lutheran Church, Keene, NH.