



The Messenger

KCAH Comes to Trinity – July 18, Following the 9:15 & 10:45 a.m. Services

Kids Coalition Against Hunger is a Michigan-based humanitarian food relief organization working to reduce the number of starving children in the world. We are extremely excited to have a meal-packing event on Sunday, July 18. Following the 9:15 a.m. Rejoice service, volunteers will finish the set-up and we will start packing meals. With your help, we will package and pay for 25,000 meals. Each of those meals can feed a family of 6 at a cost of 35 cents per meal. To do this, we need to raise a total of \$8,750. We are well on our way, as we have already raised over \$4,921 towards this great cause. In addition to your financial support, we also need volunteers to help us pack these meals. The whole family is welcome and lunch and snacks will be provided. Thank you for your support and we look forward to seeing you on July 18! Please look for a Sign-Up Genius link in the weekly eBlast and contact James Morin with any questions.



Day Camp at Trinity – July 25-30

Due to the pandemic, Living Water Ministries has canceled camp at Stony Lake Bible Camp for the season. While we will miss our time together there, we are excited to offer a camp alternative at Trinity for our elementary and middle school students.

Elementary Camp at Trinity

Elementary school students entering kindergarten through fifth grade are invited to join us the evening of **Sunday, July 25 from 6 – 7:30 p.m.** for a bonfire and fun night of faith conversations and experiences.

Monday and Tuesday, July 26 and 27, we will have day camp at Trinity from **9 a.m. - 3 p.m.** with staffers from Living Water Ministries.

Middle School Camp at Trinity

Middle school students entering grades six through eight are invited to join us the evening of **Wednesday, July 28 from 6 – 7:30 p.m.** for a bonfire and fun night of faith conversations and experiences. **Thursday and Friday, we will have day camp at Trinity from 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.** with staffers from Living Water Ministries.

Lunch and snacks will be provided. If you need after-camp care, have questions, or would like to reserve a spot for your child(ren) please contact Pastor Dan at dan.schewe@tlcgr.org.

Outdoor Worship on First Sundays July 4 and August 1

Trinity's "First Sunday" plan for Outdoor Worship continues on Sunday, July 4, and will be offered on first Sundays of the month into the fall of 2021. The outdoor service will be located on the west lawn under the Cross Tower at 10:45 a.m., allowing those who wish to worship indoors that day to gather at 8 a.m. for Traditional worship or at 9:15 a.m. for Rejoice worship with live streaming.

The July 4 Outdoor Worship Service will include an Order of Thanksgiving for Sylvia Stouten and Steven Basher as they conclude their service on the Trinity staff. A reception will follow worship to honor Sylvia and Steven. Bring your own chair or lawn blanket for worship on the west lawn.

All are welcome to join us in celebration and for outdoor worship in 2021 – mark your calendar for the August outdoor worship gathering on the morning of Sunday, August 1, and know that in case of inclement weather we will reschedule on the second Sunday of the month.

Please look for Pastor Bob's **Trinity Re-Entry Update** on **page 7** of this newsletter!

What's Happening at Trinity in July?

Weekly at a Glance

Sundays

Traditional Worship, 8 a.m.
Rejoice Worship, 9:15 a.m.
Live Streaming of Worship, 9:15 a.m.
Traditional Worship, 10:45 a.m.

Mondays

Tai Chi

Tuesdays

Lutheran World Relief Quilting, 10 a.m.

Wednesdays

Tai Chi

Fridays

Tai Chi

Daily Calendar

Thursday, July 1

Entering the Narrow Gate, 9:30 a.m.

Sunday, July 4

Outdoor Worship, 10:45 a.m.
Reception for Sylvia Stouten & Steven Basher, 11:45 a.m.

Tuesday, July 6

Executive Committee Meeting, 7 p.m.

Friday, July 9

Visitation for Mike Franz, 10 a.m.
Memorial/Celebration of Life for Mike Franz, 11 a.m.
Memorial Service Luncheon, noon
Life Begins at 60 Driveway Dining, 6 p.m.

Sunday, July 11

Lutheran World Relief Quilting, noon

Monday, July 12

Messenger Submissions Due
High School Youth Local Service, 9 a.m.
Stephen Leaders Meeting, 1:30 p.m.
Gardening Bee, 6 p.m.
Congregation Council, 6:30 p.m.

Tuesday, July 13

High School Youth Local Service, 9 a.m.
TLC Quilters, 10 a.m.
Know Mercy Softball at Manhattan Park, 8 p.m.

Wednesday, July 14

High School Youth Local Service, 9 a.m.
Family Promise Partners in Housing Workday, 1 p.m.
Youth & Family Committee, 7 p.m.

Thursday, July 15

High School Youth Local Service, 9 a.m.
Endowment Fund Committee Meeting, 6 p.m.

Friday, July 16

High School Youth Local Service, 9 a.m.

Sunday, July 18

Kids Coalition Against Hunger Meal Packing, 10:15 a.m.
& 11:45 a.m.

Monday, July 19

Finance Committee Meeting, 6 p.m.

Tuesday, July 20

Prayer Group Zoom, 11 a.m.
Health Ministry Action Committee, 6:30 p.m.
Know Mercy Softball at Manhattan Park, 7 p.m.

Friday, July 23

Life Begins at 60 Driveway Dining, 6 p.m.

Saturday, July 24

Stony Lake Camp Workday, 10 a.m.

Sunday, July 25

Elementary Day Camp at Trinity Kick-Off Bonfire, 6 p.m.

Monday, July 26

Elementary Day Camp at Trinity, 9 a.m.
Outreach Committee Meeting, 6 p.m.

Tuesday, July 27

Elementary Day Camp at Trinity, 9 a.m.
TLC Quilters, 10 a.m.
Stephen Ministry Peer Support, 6:30 p.m.
Know Mercy Softball at Manhattan Park, 8 p.m.

Wednesday, July 28

Middle School Day Camp at Trinity Kick-Off Bonfire,
6 p.m.

Thursday, July 29

Middle School Day Camp at Trinity, 9 a.m.

Friday, July 30

Middle School Day Camp at Trinity, 9 a.m.
Keller/Harris Wedding Rehearsal, 4 p.m.

Saturday, July 31

The Marriage of Tori Keller and Diante Harris, 4:30 p.m.

A Message from Pastor Bob Linstrom



“Pascal’s Wager” and Other Thoughts

I noted in my Theologian’s Almanac the birthday of Blaise Pascal (1623-1662) in mid-June. Religious philosopher, mathematician, and physicist, Pascal invented the first mechanical calculator for sale to the public, the syringe, the hydraulic press, and he pioneered early forms of the probability theory and integral calculus. A convert to Christianity, he experienced a powerful divine vision he would later call “the night of fire,” and a year later wrote his most famous book, *Pensées* (“Thoughts”).

Among Pascal’s “thoughts,” I delight in the little exercise that has become known as “Pascal’s Wager.” He proposed that you are either going to bet on the idea that God is real or the idea that God is a fantasy. He worked out a logical equation that argues that if God is real there is a great deal to be gained by believing that God is real and in living one’s life as if that were true, and that if God is a fantasy, there’s comparatively little lost no matter what we do. Despite the rather frivolous idea of positing a ‘proof’ of God, Pascal’s idea amounts to a recognition that genuine faith doesn’t involve proof or certainty, but rather a humble and courageous choice to “bet our lives” on God.

“Pascal’s Wager” had immediate critics in his own day, from atheists to the religiously orthodox, as it would in our day. However, for one whose family was not very religious, Pascal’s thoughts speak to a quest for meaning from the edges of the faith community. Here’s another of Pascal’s thoughts: “If you don’t have faith, try acting as though you do. Do the things that a faithful person would do, and over time, you may well find your actions leading your heart and mind in faithful directions. In other words, don’t worry too much about what you believe; focus instead on your actions, on how you are living, and your convictions will follow.

St. Francis famously offered the directive, “Preach the Gospel, and when necessary use words.” Some of the earliest followers of Jesus called their movement “The Way,” indicating that their discipleship was a way of living more than a confessional tradition. “Focus . . . on how you are living, and your convictions will follow.”

Good people of Trinity, thank you for allowing me to indulge in a bit of theological pondering. Be welcome to join me in such reflection! It remains a privilege to serve as a pastor among you.

Grace and peace,

Pastor Bob Linstrom

Appeal for “Christophe’s Children” Lifted Up Again on Father’s Day

Christophe Muganza returned from a trip to his home village of Kalehe in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) in the late winter of 2021 with a new mission: to support the homeless, orphaned children of Kalehe. Forced to flee the DRC in 2008 as civil strife escalated, Christophe came to Grand Rapids and Trinity as a refugee and in the summer of 2020 became a United States citizen.



Now, Christophe and a grassroots initiative in Grand Rapids have launched “Christophe’s Children,” with opportunities for others to join him in sponsoring the most vulnerable in his home village with food, shelter, clothing, healthcare, and education. We had an update from Christophe on Father’s Day at Trinity and this partnership has already made a big difference. You can give through designated offerings payable to Trinity Lutheran Church or you can give directly through the appeal website christopheschildren.org.

Trinity Congregation Council Members 2021-2022

Standing committees of the Congregation Council coordinate the mission and ministry of Trinity and provide their leadership in developing new programming. Committees have a Council Committee person who acts as the liaison between the Council and committee. If you are interested in contacting a Congregation Council member, please refer to information in the Trinity Directory or call the main office.

Executive Committee Members and Committee liaisons are:

Congregational Council Executive Committee

President: Karen Unruh
Vice President: Steve Heacock
Treasurer: Chris Engle
Secretary: Amy Fox

Congregation Council Members

Children's Ministry: Sarah Huckstep
Communications: Nicole Rodammer
Congregational Life: Eric Gohlke
Endowment Fund: Brad Kessel
Fellowship: Amy Fox
Finance: Chris Engle & Mike King
Health Ministries: Carol Butler
Hospitality: Jamie Kuntzman
Human Resources: Steve Heacock
Outreach: John Fox
Property: Paul Crist
Publicly Engaged Church: Christophe Muganza
Spiritual Growth: Bill Bush
Stewardship: Amelia Crist
Worship and Music: Kate Bredwell
Youth and Family Ministry: Amy Fox
Youth and Family Ministry: Alaina Lundgren
(Youth Representative)



A Message from the Youth & Family Ministry Committee

The Youth and Family Committee is here to support both Pastor

Dan and Christian Blauwkamp, our Youth Ministry Coordinator, as they lead our middle and high school youth. Navigating the pandemic has been tricky as we try to keep the teens of our congregation safely engaged in a meaningful way. We were able to keep some of the key components alive via technology. It was Zoom for the win as confirmation class, middle and high school youth groups, and high school Bible studies were able to continue in their newly adapted online versions. We are all very excited as things have begun to open up and many opportunities to gather together for fellowship, Bible study and community service are slowly being rolled out.

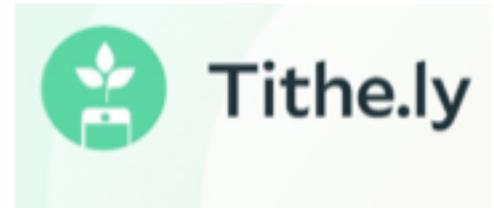
Our traditional high school summer mission trip has morphed into a "Week of Local Service." High schoolers will spend the week of July 12 starting their day with devotions at church then going out into the community to serve others through the following organizations: Blessed by Brookelyn, Urban Family Ministries, and Family Promise. Each day we will return to Trinity after our service work for a meal and fellowship.

Though Stony Lake Lutheran Camp is closed this summer, Trinity is partnering with the Stony Lake staff to bring a "mini camp" to our church the week of July 25. The week will begin with a mini version of camp for elementary kids July 25-27. Then, our middle schoolers will be gathering at Trinity for a mini version of confirmation camp with an on-site service and camp fellowship with the Stony Lake staff July 28-30. In addition, we will continue to support the needs of the camp by sending groups of volunteers to help with projects on July 24 and August 21. All church members are welcome to help with the projects.

Our hope and plan is that fall will bring us back together in person for all of our favorite activities so we can laugh together, pray together and just BE together. We are starting to plan for next summer's big events: The ELCA Youth Gathering in Minneapolis, MN, High School Mission Trip (location TBD), and Stony Lake Confirmation Camp. Anyone interested in summer youth opportunities or with a passion for youth interested in joining our Youth & Family Committee should contact Pastor Dan or Amy Stephan at astephan01@hotmail.com.

Please Remember Your Offering When You are Away

As you travel this summer to vacation destinations, remember that the ministry of your congregation continues all summer long. Mail your offering or make your gifts electronically, but don't forget your church!



Online Giving Through "Tithe.ly"

We use "Tithe.ly" at Trinity for our online giving. Online giving is so easy and convenient, never miss a week even when you are out of town! To get started simply click on the 'Donate' button at the top of the Trinity Website or go to <https://get.tithe.ly>

Please contact Trinity's Finance Assistant Joanna Waite in the main office if you need assistance.

Trinity Lutheran Church Budget vs. Actuals

Month of May 2021

	Budget	Actual	Variance Favorable/ (Unfavorable)	
Total Income	92,405	81,096	(11,309)	-12.2%
Total Expenses	92,050	82,598	9,452	10.3%
Net Income (Loss)	355	(1,502)	(1,857)	



2021 Fiscal Year-to-Date February 2021 thru May 2021

	Budget	Actual	Variance Favorable/ (Unfavorable)	
Total Income	382,170	521,790	139,620	36.5%
Total Expenses	387,671	345,531	42,140	10.9%
Net Income (Loss)	(5,501)	176,259	181,790	

A Message from Associate Pastor Dan Schewe

Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid. – John 14:27

Peace be with you.

As we emerge from what I've been calling our pandemic hibernation there are a lot of things that can cause us anxiety and trouble our spirits. Our schedules are filling up and the stress of them is threatening to overtake us. Into this complicated experience that we are all going through, I would like to speak a word of peace.

Every Sunday we share those words with one another as a way of begging that we may all know the peace that passes all understanding that comes from God.

Those words – “Peace be with you” – are powerful words.

Every time a heavenly creature appears to people in the scriptures the first words they speak are “peace be with you.” Again, and again, Christ calls us to be at peace and to not be overwhelmed by the cares, worries, fears, and horrors of our lives that threaten to drown us. He calls us not to ignore them, but to stand in the midst of them and be at peace. He promises to fill us with a calm that comes from God even in the most stressful times.

Christ comes to give us this revolutionary way to live, as people of peace.

When we share the peace of Christ with one another we are not simply catching up with friends we haven't seen in a while. We are begging that the peace that passes all understanding, that transcends all fear, and steels us to face the horrors and difficulties of our lives may dwell within us, all of us. We are crying out to God that we need peace, and we need to share it with one another. We are leaning into the revolutionary way that Christ came to call us toward. To be people of peace and love, not of fear.

We are also called to be people who share this peace, because it is not just for us. It is for all of creation. We have the wonderful opportunity to share it wherever we go into a world which so desperately needs to hear it.

As we engage this summer, may the peace of Christ be with you.

A Prayer for Peace: Dearest Lord Jesus, Father God, Spirit, help me to know your peace, no matter what is going on in my life. Help me to cling to the peace that you give me. Help me to share this peace each and every day with all those I encounter. Amen.

Shalom,
Pastor Dan Schewe



Prayer Group via Zoom on July 20



let us pray

Please join fellow Trinity members for focused prayer time on **Tuesday, July 20 at 11 a.m.** via Zoom.

In addition to praying for our congregation, this month's theme will be **children and youth ministry** activities.

Contact Faith Community Nurse Kristin Bradley with any questions and/or specific prayer requests.

<https://zoom.us/j/93322681488>

Meeting ID: 933 2268 1488

Passcode: PRAY

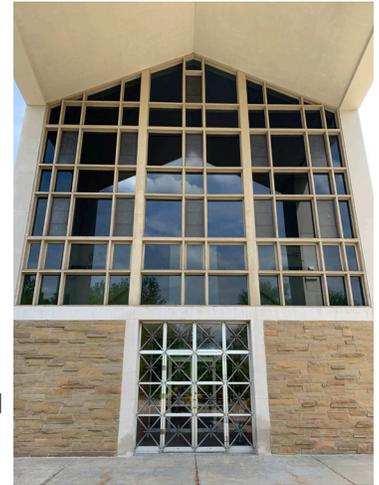
Trinity Re-Entry Update

Reclaiming Our Lives in Worship as our Gathering In Person Continues Preparing to Sing and Celebrate Holy Communion Together

The people of Trinity in Grand Rapids continue to gather in person and via live streaming for worship services on Sunday mornings. Since March 7, the “return to worship” has proceeded with an abundance of caution, with masks and distancing offered by worshippers and with protocols that are carefully administered to help keep everyone safe.

As we worship together in July of 2021, our protocols are easing. Worshippers will be welcomed masked and unmasked, the distancing of worshippers will ease, we will begin to again receive fresh bread and wine as we come forward for the sacrament of Holy Communion, a light coffee hour fellowship will be offered, and nursery care will again be available on Sundays. The sung liturgy will anchor our traditional worship life and bands will return to the Centennial Hall stage to lead Rejoice worship. Even as we seek to remain careful and respectful of our fellow worshippers, it is good to be gathering again in a way that feels more complete.

As the CDC and MDHHS have eased COVID-19 guidelines in recent weeks, the Reentry Study Group and the Congregation Council continue to evaluate metrics on a week-to-week basis to assist in our decisions to gather. We are grateful for the signs of hope and new beginnings as we gather for Traditional worship at 8:00 and 10:45 a.m. on Sundays, and for Rejoice worship and live streaming at 9:15 a.m. You are welcome to join us!



New Council Officers Elected for 2021-2022



Bill Bush



Sarah Huckstep



Christopher
Muganza



Alaina Lundgren

The Congregation Council began a new year in June, with Council members elected at the January 2021 Annual Meeting taking their places for the 2021-2022 term.

Among the agenda for the new Council was the election of officers. Serving as the congregation’s officers for 2021-2022 are:

- President – Karen Unruh
- Vice President – Steve Heacock
- Secretary – Amy Fox
- Treasurer – Chris Engle

Newly elected Council members **Bill Bush, Sarah Huckstep, Christophe Muganza**, and youth representative **Alaina Lundgren** joined returning members as the new Council year began. We gave thanks for outgoing **President Paul Crist** and **Secretary Carol Butler**, both of whom had served in their offices faithfully for several years and will continue to serve in the year ahead as Council members.

The people of Trinity are invited to hold their Council leaders in prayer as they seek to lead our ministry in this time of renewal in shared worship, fellowship, and service.

Life Begins at 60 Driveway Dining!

Join Us This Summer!

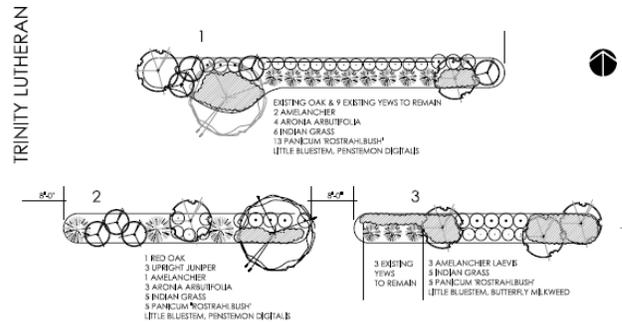
Life Begins at 60 Driveway Dining continues in July and August in safe environments, following necessary social distancing protocol and guest limits. Bring your own chairs, supper/snacks, and drinks. Reservations are on a first-come basis, and repeat guests are welcome if there is room after first-time guests have signed up. Please contact the host to make your reservation. See you there!



FRIDAY, JULY 9: 6-8 pm at Norm and Toni Petersen's, riverhouse.toni@gmail.com; 616-202-4622
 FRIDAY, JULY 23: 6-8 pm at Jim and Sue Coates', suecoates1036@gmail.com; 616-254-7321
 FRIDAY, AUGUST 6: 6-8 pm at Joe and Marybeth Iaria's, surfm@charter.net; 530-209-0436
 FRIDAY, AUGUST 20: 6-8 pm at Dan and Carol Butler's, caroljb43@gmail.com; 616-540-1660

July "Gardening Bee"

Have you noticed how lackluster the landscape looks along Robinson Road? Well, that's about to change in July when we gather to plant a lovely new collection of shrubs, grasses, and wildflowers to transform that area. TLC member Rebecca Marquardt (who owns a landscape design business) has put together a lovely landscape plan, including native plants that provide food/shelter to birds and butterflies. It's really going to look fantastic while restoring some of God's natural creation!



Will you join us on Monday evening, **July 12, from 6-8 p.m.** to help plant? Bring your energy, favorite shovel, water bottle, and gardening gloves. Rebecca will guide the landscape crew for some fun and fast work, so please join us!

Contact Lisa Mead (lmead340@gmail.com) or Rebecca Marquardt (rebecca@reverystudio.com) with questions.



Summer of Service

Local Service Week – High Schoolers: July 12 – 16, 9 a.m. – 6 p.m.

All high schoolers and their friends are invited to join us for a week of service around Grand Rapids from July 12 – 16 from 9 a.m. – 6 p.m.! We are partnering with three of our mission partners: Blessed by Brookelyn, Urban Family Ministries, and Family Promise for a week of amazing experiences around Grand Rapids. Each day we will gather at Trinity at 9am for a prayerful start to the day and then head to our project. We will return to Trinity after 4pm to debrief, unwind, and share a meal together. We should be headed home from Trinity just after 6pm each day. If you have to work a portion of those days and would like to attend around your work schedule, talk to Pastor Dan. If your daughters or sons are interested in this experience or if you have any questions, please contact Pastor Dan.



Work at Stony Lake Bible Camp – For the Whole Family: July 24 & August 21, 10 a.m. – 3 p.m.

While there will not be camp at Stony Lake this summer, there is plenty of work to be done on the grounds. All high schoolers, middle schoolers, and their family and friends are invited to join us at camp on July 24 and August 21 to help with this work. Plan on arriving at camp at 10 a.m. and working till about 3 p.m. Lunch will be provided. Bring gloves and wear clothes you can work and get dirty in. If you have any questions, please contact Pastor Dan. Continue to watch your email and our YouTube channel for more information.

Family Promise Partners in Housing – High Schoolers: July 14 and August 18, 1 – 4 p.m.

This summer will be joining with the Family Promise Partners in Housing program one Wednesday afternoon a month from 1 – 4 p.m. We will help them on July 14 and August 18. The July 14 date is part of our week of local service and will have a morning shift as well. Help us house our neighbors! If you have questions or want to assist, contact Pastor Dan.

Kids Against Hunger Food Packing – July 18, Following the 9:15 and 10:45 a.m. Services

On July 18 we are going to turn Trinity into a food packing station to pack thousands of meals for people in our community and beyond. Join us after the 9:15 and 10:45 a.m. services to lend a hand.



High Schoolers of Trinity participating in the June Family Promise Partners in Housing service project

Health Ministries



Walk & Talk

July Focus: Walking Through the Valley

The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want. He makes me lie down in green pastures; he leads me beside still waters; he restores my soul. He leads me in right paths for his name's sake. Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff - they comfort me. —Psalm 23:1-4

Psalm 23 is often used at funerals and at times of death. However, we can also look to this Psalm for encouragement. God gives encouragement even during times of difficulty. In our faith and in our lives, we have to endure valleys of darkness. Psalm 23 assures us that as we walk those valleys, God walks beside us. This month we will be focusing on persevering even when we find ourselves walking through dark valleys.

By combining scripture, devotion and physical activity - in whatever ways work best for you - you are caring well for your mind, body, and spirit. Each week you'll receive an email with a brief message & devotion, along with the date and time of our monthly group gathering.

Sign up here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70a0a44a4a92aa5fb6-walk> or connect with Rebecca Ulrich or Kristin Bradley.

Summer Tai Chi

Looking for a way to reduce stress? Consider tai chi! Originally developed for self-defense, tai chi has evolved into a graceful form of exercise that's now used for stress reduction and overall wellness. Tai chi is low impact and puts minimal stress on muscles and joints, making it generally safe for all ages and fitness levels.

When learned correctly and performed regularly, tai chi can be a positive part of an overall approach to improving your health. The benefits of tai chi may include:

- Decreased stress, anxiety and depression
- Improved mood
- Improved aerobic capacity
- Increased energy and stamina
- Improved flexibility, balance, and agility
- Improved muscle strength and definition

Join our outdoor Trinity Tai Chi classes this summer on **Mondays, Wednesdays, & Fridays** in the east parking lot. Generally scheduled for 10 a.m., but times can vary depending on the weather.

Text @tlctaichi to the number 81010 to get notified of weekly schedules or, if you'd prefer a call or email, contact our fitness instructor, Xristina Kuhlmann, 616.719.6961. Suggested donation of \$3/class or \$20/month.



Trinity Continues to Partner in Prayer with Exalta Health

Trinity members have been invited to lift up the work that takes place at Exalta Health through quarterly prayer requests. Exalta Health provides quality medical, vision, dental, behavioral and spiritual care services. Unemployment, lack of insurance, or other financial factors are not barriers for service. Their chaplain, Rev. Kristen Meyer, will be sending quarterly summaries of specific praises and needs so that we can be more intentional in our prayers. Please consider including some or all of the requests below in your personal prayer life.

Exalta Health Prayer Update – June 2021

- **Give thanks for the volunteers who serve with us day in and day out, filling a variety of important roles around the clinic.** They make our work possible. We are grateful for the return of many long-time volunteers. Jami, our volunteer coordinator is working hard to on-board several new volunteers as well. We still need interpreters. Please **pray** that God will call qualified people to help our many volunteer providers communicate well with their patients.
- **Praise God for the encouragement and support that our dental department has received through one specific volunteer.** Dr. P is a retired oral surgeon who has been volunteering faithfully on a weekly basis with us. Recently he donated generously to defray the cost of a new oral surgery unit, which will allow us to complete more difficult extractions right here at the clinic.
- From time to time, we experience cycles of difficult diagnoses among our patients. The last three months have brought many such diagnoses, including several patients who found out they have cancer. **Please pray for God to meet these patients in extraordinary ways as they face uncertainty and loss.** And **pray** for us as we seek to accompany them well through these frightening, life-altering experiences.
- **Please pray for Elias, a patient who suffered a severe traumatic brain injury earlier this spring.** Ask God to be powerfully at work to heal and restore Elias. **Pray** also for his family as they face a dramatically changed life together and an unknown future following Elias's injury.
- Trauma experienced in childhood can affect a person's health later in life. We are updating our process of screening all new patients for Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs). This screening is not new to us, but we are integrating it at a new level and have developed better ways to talk about childhood trauma with our patients and help them get the care they need. **Give thanks for this opportunity to support patients' health and well-being, and pray that we can contribute to the healing of those patients who have been significantly impacted by ACEs.**
- In our last prayer update we asked you to pray with us for equitable vaccine distribution in our community. Thank God for opening doors to allow us to provide the COVID-19 vaccine for all of our patients who wanted to receive it! To date we have administered over 900 doses to patients and other members of our community. **Join us in praying that God will continue to break down barriers to distribution of vaccines here and around the world.**
- **Give thanks with us once again for the way God faithfully provides.** Looking back over the past few months, we can say with gratitude that we have had enough. God has been good. There have been some surprise gifts and gifts that have come through the hard work of grant writing and fundraising. In all of it, we bless God for keeping compassionate, accessible healthcare a reality in our community.



“Know Mercy” Trinity Softball

Trinity's coed softball team, “Know Mercy,” is back for another season of fun and competition. Let's show our support for the team by attending their games. All games are played on Tuesday evenings at Manhattan Park located in East Grand Rapids just west of the East Beltline at 331 Cascade Rd SE. You can also enter the park from the side street at 430 Manhattan SE.

Game Schedule: 7/13 @ 8 p.m., 7/20 @ 7 p.m., 7/27 @ 8 p.m., & 8/3 @ 8 p.m.



Stephen Ministry

Caring for One Another Through Active Listening: A Cornerstone of What Stephen Ministers Do

Mark exclaimed, "Did you hear a word I said?" Sara looked up from her cell phone and said, "Of course! Just because I'm not looking at you doesn't mean I'm not listening!" "OK, what do you think, then?", said Mark. Sara was at a loss. Maybe she had not absorbed as much as she thought.

It feels so good when someone listens to us, our ideas, our feelings. Yet, studies have shown that we accurately retain less than half of what is said to us. In fact, one of the most common complaints in failed personal relationships is that the other party doesn't listen. So, what can we do about this? How do we improve our listening skills and improve our relationships?

"Active Listening," a term coined as early as 1957, is an intentional approach that can improve our communication, helping us understand and retain more of what we are hearing. When listening actively, you make a conscious effort to hear not only the words that another person is saying but, more importantly, the complete message being communicated.



Tips for Listening Actively

- Give the speaker your full attention. Your body language communicates your interest and their value. Face the speaker. Make eye contact. Maintain an open posture (no crossed arms or legs). Don't distract yourself by planning your response.
- Set distractions aside and ignore them. Silence your phone and put it away. Close the laptop. Turn off the TV. Don't multi-task!
- Engage on an emotional level. Try to discern how the other person is feeling about what they are saying. Assess the emotion, not just their words. Think about how you would feel if you were in their situation.
- Validate the speaker's feelings, for example say, "That sounds stressful" or "I can see how that would make you feel angry." Avoid 'me' stories, as they detract from focus on the speaker.
- Clarify your understanding, but don't interrupt. When the time is right, reflect in your own words what you heard the speaker say. For example, "Am I right in thinking ..." or "So are you saying ..." You may disagree or feel differently but you can still validate or reflect.
- Ask open-ended questions when you don't understand or need more context. "What happened then?" or "Tell me more."
- Be comfortable with silence, even 3-5 seconds. This helps the speaker gather their thoughts. They may be developing thoughts that have been difficult for them to clarify before this moment.
- Keep an open mind. Listen with a non-judgmental attitude. You may hear things that surprise or distress you. Stay calm and strive to understand the speaker's perspective.
- Give advice only if directly asked. *"A listening ear can help people to work out their own wisdom."* –Desmond Tutu



Active listening demonstrates you care and leads to better relationships! Do you need someone to listen to you? Think Stephen!

\$465,000 Bequest Received from the Estate of Eileen Dechow

A wonderful gift in loving memory of Eileen Mary Dechow was received this spring at Trinity. Eileen died at the age of 92 on November 3, 2020. She had been a member of Trinity for 53 years, since March of 1967. In recent years Eileen had been a resident in the Memory Care unit at Beacon Hill at Eastgate.

The Finance Committee and the Congregation Council met to authorize that the bequest be allocated to Trinity's two Endowment Funds (50%), for a major payment to the church mortgage principal (25%) and to support some of Eileen's passions of classical music, gardening, and healthcare.

Have you considered your church in your estate planning? Contact the church office and we will connect you with one of our leaders in financial planning.

We give thanks for Eileen's generous vision for the care for our ministry.



Behind the Scenes at Trinity

Where Two or More are Gathered in My Name: Steve and Laura Cairns



"Prayer is the key that unlocks all the storehouses of God's infinite grace and power." - R.A. Torrey

Steve and Laura Cairns look like many Trinity families – "incredibly busy, waving hello and goodbye as we putter from one activity to the next." Steve reflects that through the donation of their family's time in community service, "it forces us to get out of our own shells and stop to appreciate and support others. While it's certainly of foremost importance to serve the families as Christ would, participating helps turn our selfishness into selflessness for at least a moment."

And Steve and Laura offer more than "moments" of selfless service. Steve actively leads our Trinity Electronic Prayer Chain, collectively lifting up the needs of others in petition and prayer. He attends men's breakfasts finding fellowship and shared inspiration. Laura and Grace are part of the Trinity Hospitality team, welcoming others to worship here at Trinity. As a family, they participate in IHN overnights at Trinity, serving families from varied backgrounds and needs "hoping

in a small way to help alleviate the stresses these families are enduring" and providing safe and pleasant shelter through the walls and loving hands of Trinity.

Steve has roots at Bethlehem Evangelical Lutheran Church in Lansing and Laura within the Catholic faith in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania. They have been members at Trinity since 1999 after finding home within Trinity's liturgy and ethos. When they aren't serving others at Trinity, working, or coaching swimming/diving (Laura) and Quiz Bowl (Steve), they can be found enjoying their "quiet country road," "taking long walks to enjoy the beauty of God's creation," or working around the yard with plantings and gardening.

Are you considering expanding your prayer life to include lifting up the many supplications within our Trinity family? If so, please contact Steve at sljcaims@gmail.com to learn more about the Trinity Electronic Prayer Chain ministry.

And the King will say, "I tell you the truth, when you did it to one of the least of these my brothers and sisters, you were doing it to me!" - Matthew 25:40

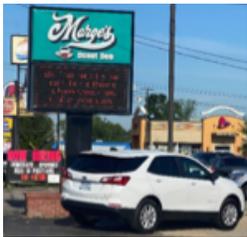
Note: The purpose of *Behind the Scenes at Trinity* is to praise God and to encourage others to utilize their special abilities to serve Him. Although people featured here have been reluctant to be highlighted, they've agreed to be published to encourage others to experience the joys of serving. If you'd like to suggest people to feature in future articles, please contact Cathy Olson (cawolson@gmail.com) or Pastor Karen.

Trinity Neighbors



Some of our Trinity Neighbors groups have gathered in-person. Here are some of the things they have done:

- Vince and Carol Schumacher's group participated in community service through Trinity's first Saturday of the month Gardening Bee.
- Trinity Neighbors contact Brenda Fritts organized a gathering at Marge's Donut Den in Wyoming, MI. Pictured left are Karen Betz-Griewahn, Bill and Pat Bruin, and Brenda Fritts.
- Nicole and Nick Rodammer's group met for a cookout at Carrie and Phil Lamb's house and have been working together to contribute to Trinity donation drives.
- Liz and Bob Dever's group are now calling their gatherings "Wellness Checks."
- Later this summer, a couple of other groups are combining and gathering for the Music on the Lawn Summer Concert Series in Ada Village.
- Some groups are taking a hiatus for the summer and will pick back up in the fall.



If you want to highlight what your Trinity Neighbors group is doing please reach out to Angela Davis, Director of Congregational Life.

A Special Note: Last month, **Bill and Pat Bruin's 60th Wedding Anniversary** was inadvertently omitted from the birthdays and anniversaries page of the June *Messenger*. Bill and Pat have the great distinction and honor of being the last couple married at the old church located at Bostwick and Crescent. They were married in June of 1961 by Reverend Richard W. Albert.



Newlyweds Bill and Pat Bruin



At the front of the church you can see the Last Supper carving which is displayed upstairs in the current church.



Rev. Richard W. Albert congratulating the newlyweds.

The Founding of Our Congregation

In celebration of Trinity's 125th anniversary in 2021, the following is excerpted from Christian Carron's 100th anniversary history of Trinity Lutheran Church, citing the emergence of German and Swedish speaking Lutheran congregations in Grand Rapids of the 1800's, but opening the door for another Lutheran community.

A Pastoral Giant

Trinity has been blessed over the years with strong and faith pastoral leadership, each senior pastor seemingly serving in the right place at the right time. The Rev. C.J. Kiefer, D.D., Pastor, 1896 – 1900, was our founding pastor. The The Rev. Henry C. Roehner, D.D., Pastor, 1907 – 1920, propelled the congregation forward with his populist ways. The builder, The Rev. Richard W. Albert, D.D., Senior Pastor, 1954 – 1963, united and lead the congregation in its move from downtown to our present site. The liturgist, the Rev. James G. Cobb, D.D., Senior Pastor, 1980 – 1988, was the youngest person ever to receive a Doctorate in Ministry from Gettysburg seminary. The Rev. Marvin Schumacher, D.D., Senior Pastor, 1989 – 1994, urged the congregation to further its outreach with the "Vision for Mission" program. Along with others who also served, each in their own unique way, it is difficult to offer a glimpse of just one who you might most enjoy learning about.

Among these many, the Reverend Ralph J. White, D.D., Senior Pastor, 1926 -1954, stands out as one of the giants in Trinity's history. During his 28-year pastorate, he served three terms as President of the Michigan Synod of the United Lutheran Church (ULC), and also served as the President of the Grand Rapids Ministerial Association. He developed Trinity into one of the moving forces in downtown Grand Rapids.



Rev. White viewed his role as preacher of the Gospel as one of his primary functions. His sermons frequently lashed out against the encroachment of secularism, materialism, and modernism, as corruptions of God's will and our ministry. He often spoke candidly about his disappointment with the percentage of the congregation that attended on a regular basis and encouraged more faithful attendance. He stated in The Messenger that regular attendance was one of our first callings as church members. In a radio sermon entitled A New Evangelism, he spared none of his feelings on the Christian charge to Evangelize:

"The smug, self-righteous people in our churches must be blasted out of their complacency and must be put to work on the program outlined by our Lord when he commissioned His disciples saying: "Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost."

Rev. White delivered occasional messages over WOOD radio in the 1940s. They were often accompanied by organ music from Jerry Boer, and other special soloists. He broadcast a program entitled The People's Pulpit on every other Monday morning over WGRD, and alternated Monday noon broadcasts on WOOD radio with a program called Noon-Time Prayer. In May of 1948, he began a weekly broadcast on WGRD from 9:00 to 9:30, just prior to Sunday School, entitled The Chapel in Sky. The Chapel in the Sky continued to air until his retirement in 1953. It was seen as an important outreach to Trinity's shut-ins as well as the unchurched and was financially supported by individual members of the congregation.

He began his preaching career serving several Ohio churches during the summer break after his junior year at seminary. After graduation from seminary, he became pastor of First Lutheran Church of Lancaster, Ohio. From Eastern Ohio he found himself conducting missionary work in British Guiana. He worked there for eight years, preaching in a church dedicated in 1742, as well as in thatched roof chapels scattered through the tropical rain

Continued on following page

The Founding of Our Congregation (continued)

forests. His responsibilities also included administration of four elementary schools run by the church. He later authored a book about his experiences in British Guiana, entitled *Six Years in Hammock Land*. For many years, a copy of the book was presented to each confirmand at Trinity.

Under Rev. White, Trinity experienced tremendous growth in membership during the boom after World War II. Under his leadership Trinity also sponsored hundreds of immigrants from Latvia, who resettled in this country after their country was overrun by the Soviet Union. Most had been Lutherans before coming to America, and quickly became active in the development of their own services and instruction at Trinity. Those very groups which had caused the sharp increase in membership were now ready to begin their own congregations. In 1952 the Latvian members of Trinity started Unity Latvian Lutheran Church.

In that same year, many of Trinity's members who lived in Northeast Grand Rapids left to begin the mission church which became Faith Lutheran. These events caused a combined decrease in membership at Trinity of 464 people. However, Trinity rejoiced at now having three United Synod congregations in Grand Rapids instead of only one. At the same time, Rev. White assured the congregation that, despite these losses, Trinity remained strong. Indeed, giving and attendance remained at about same the level it had reached before these large number of persons were released from membership.

Confident that the congregation remained unwavering in its mission and financial stability, Rev. White announced in 1952 that he would retire by 1953, at the age of 71. During his twenty-eight years at Trinity, he instructed and confirmed 367 persons. Rev. White continued to serve Trinity through that year, right up to the Sunday when Rev. Albert, his successor began, so no interim pastor was required. More than 500 members attended his final service at Trinity on December 27.

Trinity Overlook Gallery Featuring Daniel Plasman

The walls in the Overlook Gallery have come to life after the long pandemic closure!

Daniel Plasman is by profession a minister. By avocation, he is a photographer. Ministry and photography, though seemingly unrelated, have fed and nourished each other throughout his adult life. During that time, he has pursued creating photographic images of people and places for the "heart and soul." One of Daniel's favorite quotes is from St. Augustine: *"The whole purpose of life is to restore to health the eye of the heart whereby God can be seen."* He experiences that statement as a connecting bridge between serving people as a pastor and seeing the world as a photographer. In both activities, a "presence" nudges him to pay attention and, if necessary, linger longer, lest he miss what's really going on in front of and around him.



To be in touch with the artist, you may contact him at: danielplasman@gmail.com. To view a video of Daniel talking about some of his photographs in detail, go to: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KeXgB48rr7g>. To purchase his artwork, please contact Daniel directly.

Be welcome to linger in the Overlook Gallery and take in God's creation through Daniel Plasman's photography.

Biographical information was taken from the plaque displayed on the wall at Trinity's exhibit.

VBS Success!

Rocky Mountain Railway Vacation Bible School was a big success in June! Kids enjoyed Bible-learning experiences, team-building games, cool Bible songs, and tasty treats – all in Trinity's beautiful outdoor setting! Thank you to the entire VBS Team and the many volunteers that made this event possible!



The Children's Nursery is Hiring!

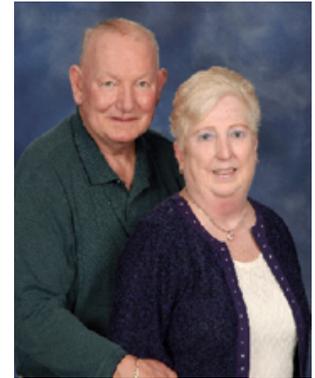
We are hiring in the children's nursery at Trinity! If you or someone you know enjoys working with children from newborn to five years old, please consider this great opportunity to serve. You could work 5 to 15 hours weekly as we return to a more regular schedule of church programming. We are willing to train if the candidate has no childcare experience but is willing to learn and engage with the children. Compensation is \$12 hourly for 16 and 17 year-olds, and \$14 hourly for those 18 and older. CPR training for nursery workers is provided. If interested, please contact Awilda Diaz at: awilda.diaz@tlcgr.org.



Memorial Services for Mike Franz & Phyllis Gehl

On Tuesday, September 29, 2020, **Michael Gary Franz**, 77, died at Meijer Heart Center after a difficult hospitalization. Born on February 6, 1943 to Gerold and Dorothy Franz in Horicon, Wisconsin, Mike was married to his beloved Mari for 40 years. Mike and Mari Franz had been members of Trinity since November of 1995, nearly 25 years, when he died. Mike is survived by his beloved Mari, their daughter Renae, son Sean, and Mike's brother Robert. We gathered for a family graveside service last fall.

Mike was a professor for 37 years with the faculty of Grand Rapids Community College. He was also among the founding members of Trinity's Rejoice worship service as a keyboard musician and a well-respected social justice activist in our community. **A Memorial Service celebrating Mike's life will be offered on Friday, July 9 at 11 a.m. in Centennial Hall** and will be led by some of the musicians with whom he played in the Beyond Belief praise band. A luncheon will follow the Memorial Service.



Mike & Mari Franz



Richard and Phyllis Gehl

After a period of declining health and then hospice care, **Phyllis Jean Gehl** died suddenly on Thursday evening, October 29, 2020 at the age of 75. We have held her beloved husband Richard in our prayers, along with Phyllis' daughter and Trinity Finance Assistant Joanna Waite and her family. Members of Trinity Lutheran Church since May of 1959, the last year the congregation still gathered at the old church building downtown, their 61 years together as members of this congregation included the raising of their children in the church and active lives among the people of Trinity. Richard and Phyllis had just marked their 53rd wedding anniversary before she passed.

A Memorial Service celebrating Phyllis' life will be offered on Sunday, August 1 at Trinity. Check the August issue of this newsletter for service details.

We give thanks for the privilege of gathering with some of the Trinity families who lost loved ones during our long pandemic closure. May the Lord bless them and keep them as they grieve.



Entering the Narrow Gate 2021-2022

School of Spiritual Formation-Year-long Program

Hosted by Trinity Lutheran Church

Staff Contact: Kris Baker kris.baker@tlcgr.org, 616.949.2510, x 110

Program Facilitator: Sister Nancy Brousseau, OP: (616) 560-4580 or nbrousseau@aol.com

Open to anyone who would like to explore the classic elements of monastic, spiritual & contemplative life to discover how this ancient wisdom, learning, and spiritual practice might be understood and lived in new settings and life today. The program offers a reflective personal and transformative process for all who desire a deeper life in Spirit and more intentional living of the Christian life. The rich and inspiring teaching is centered on the saints, mystics and spiritual teachers of the Christian centuries, personal contemplative prayer practice, lively conversations, and living of a personal Rule of Life.

September 2021 to June 2022, Ten Thursdays, 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. (please bring your lunch; coffee/hot water provided)

- **Ten sessions: 9:30 am-4:30 pm**, one Thursday per month (separate registration form available)
- **Tuition: \$600** (Payment in full or 50% due with registration and 50% due in February)
- **Required Books** (may be purchased on Amazon.com at reduced cost): *The Wisdom Jesus* by Cynthia Bourgeault; *The Rule of Benedict*, Ed., Timothy Fry Liturgical Press, 1982; *The Holy Longing: The Search for a Christian Spirituality* by Ronald Rolheiser, *The Cloud of Unknowing* translated by Carmen Acevedo Butcher, 2009; *The Spiritual Life* by Evelyn Underhill;
- **Recommended:** *The Deeper Journey* by M. Robert Mulholland, Jr., *The Universal Christ* by Richard Rohr

Course Requirements

- **Attendance** at all sessions
- **Preparation** for each session, required readings (short background and/or readings from the original writings of each spiritual teacher), and journal questions emailed to participants prior to each session. Participation in class discussion is expected.
- **Participation** in a four-day silent directed retreat during the year is encouraged – Dates TBD
- Participants are encouraged to have a **spiritual director** during the year
- Those completing this first year may apply for an **18-session Intensive Formation Program & Practicum** for becoming a Spiritual Director. Program begins August 2022 at Christ United Church in DeWitt, MI.

2021-2022 Program Schedule

- **9/16/2021** Gospel according to John
Paschal Mystery & Spiritual Journey
- **10/14** Mothers & Fathers of the Desert
Contemplative Prayer & Approaches to God
- **11/18** St. Benedict and St. Scholastica,
Hildegard of Bingen
- **12/16** St. Francis & St. Clare Meister
Eckhart
- **1/13/2022** Beguine Women's
Movement, St. Catherine of Siena
- **2/17** Julian of Norwich Cloud of
Unknowing
- **3/17** St. Teresa of Avila St. John of the
Cross
- **4/21** St. Ignatius of Loyola, Howard
Thurman
- **5/12** Evelyn Underhill Teilhard de
Chardin, SJ
- **6/16** Dorothy Day Thomas Merton

Please see page 23 of *The Messenger* for the Narrow Gate Registration Form

Opportunities to Support Church & Community

Supplies Being Accepted for Congress Elementary School

As a church family, we hope to once again supply much needed items for use by the students and teachers of Congress Elementary School. While it is uncertain at this time just exactly what school will look like in the fall, the students will still need to have school supplies. The shopping list below indicates the number of the specific items needed to begin the school year. Please consider picking up some of these supplies and bringing them to Trinity. Your donations can be placed in the large plastic labeled barrels located in the entryway in the main entrance on the west side of the church building.



The collection of supplies will go through August. Items needed:

- Tissues (200 boxes)
- Hand sanitizer (50 + large pump bottles)
- Sanitizing wipes (50 + containers)
- Glue sticks (200 each)
- Crayons (200 boxes)
- Pencils (400 each)
- Healthy dry boxed snacks – crackers, pretzels, granola bars, etc. – for lower grade classes (they do not need to be individually wrapped)

Sacristans, Bread Bakers and Communion Assistants Needed as We Resume Our Holy Communion Practice

The Trinity congregation is planning to resume offering Holy Communion with fresh bread and wine beginning in July of 2021. After a number of months during the pandemic when we offered “wafer only” in distribution of the sacrament, many are encouraged by this return to our Holy Communion practice.

To properly offer Holy Communion at Trinity, we need those who are willing to be back in worship to step up and assist us. We need:

- **Bread bakers** – those who prepare fresh bread for Communion, generally for one month at a time
- **Sacristans** – those who serve on a rotation to prepare the bread and wine for worship, and then to clean up after worship, generally serving for just the worship service they normally attend
- **Communion assistants** – those who serve on a rotation to offer the wine during distribution of Holy Communion, generally serving at the worship service they normally attend

Particularly in this time when some of our members are not yet planning to return to worship and resume their way of serving, new volunteers are needed. The offering of wine in Holy Communion will be dependent on enough volunteers offering to serve! Contact the church office or one of the pastors for more information.

Buy Bus Tickets for Local Non-Profits!

You are invited to support our community’s most vulnerable members by purchasing bus tickets to be distributed to community organizations including Dégagé Ministries, Family Promise (IHN), and Samaritas. Many area residents do not have cars and rely upon public transportation to get to work, job interviews, grocery stores and appointments. Bus tickets can provide stability for people who are struggling. Please place your donation in the offering plate on Sunday or drop it off in the church office. **Make checks payable to Trinity Lutheran Church with “bus tickets” on the memo line.** We will collect for this special program through the end of July.



Trinity's Pictorial Directory for your Smartphone or Your Desktop PC

If you have not taken a chance to download the Trinity Pictorial Directory App for your smartphone or your desktop PC, email Director of Congregational Life Angela Davis at angela.davis@tlcgr.org for your unique identifier and instructions. Angela will send you the details within 24 hours of receiving your email. This app provides the most up-to-date information.

Trinity is Live Streaming our Rejoice Service - How do I find it?

We are streaming our 9:15 a.m. Sunday "Virtual Worship" service on YouTube. **To find it**, do the following:

- Follow the home page link to "Virtual Worship" on Trinity's website, select "video" to be connected to the stream.

OR

- Go to YouTube, either by opening the app on your phone or by visiting the webpage on your computer.

- Search for '**Trinity Lutheran Church Grand Rapids**.' The first option should be one with a picture of our cross tower.

- When you click on it you will be brought to our channel. If the service is live (from about 9:10 to 10:20 a.m. on Sunday morning), there will be a video with '**Live Now**' on it. Simply click on the video and you will be connected to the stream.

- We also save past services in a play list called '**Rejoice Worship**,' so you can view a past worship service at any time. (On Sundays it may take a couple of hours from the time worship ends until the time that YouTube makes the video available).

If you have a YouTube account, **please subscribe to the Trinity channel**. This will allow our videos to show up in your video feed and when we reach enough subscriptions allow us to change our YouTube url.

Please Note: We are on GRTV!

Our Sunday services are being broadcast on GRTV channel 25! Our services air on Sundays from 11 a.m. to noon. The broadcast is a week behind, so this Sunday's service will air next week. Find us wherever you find GRTV!



Please Keep in Touch With Us!

Are you expecting or adopting?

The Trinity staff would like to celebrate and share in your happy news of being pregnant or welcoming a new child through adoption. We like to know about it so we can pray for and support your family. Our ministry to your baby/child begins even before they arrive! Contact Director of Congregational Life Angela Davis with details.

Baptism at Trinity

Are you interested in having your child(ren) or yourself baptized? Contact Pastor Bob with the potential date(s) and service that will work for you and your family.

July Birthday & Anniversary Celebrations

July 1

Andrew Murray
Jennifer Dwyer
Joy Prusak
Elizabeth and John Derbin

July 2

Ellie Brandstadt
Tristan Derbin
Haley Fisk
Linda Grinstead
Nick Harrison
Joe Rosloniec
Calvin Steketee
Micah Steketee
Daniel Zielinski

July 3

Nanci Guigue
Isaac Johnson
Janet Konen
Yvonne Lynn
John Moglia
Ned Quinn

July 4

Greg Battreall
Oscar Heaford
Donna Linsey
Jeff Ulrich
Linda and John Holm

July 5

Bonnie Brandstadt
Caden Budzyn
William Cannon
Victoria Elliott
Oliver Ruble
Susan and Dave Gutierrez

July 6

Deborah Bambini
Kim Brock
Delia DeBoer
Kristi Flatt
Rachel Gosch
Kristin and John Bradley
Lisa and Dave Reierson

July 7

Elena Griewahn
Adrienne Hall
Melissa and John Ziech

July 8

Kaitlyn Childers
Margot Frecka
Abigail Lamprich
Matthew Mead
Hudson Proux
Rachel Vigna

July 9

Coreen Beckett
Angie Brace
Hayes Dudley
Annie Hudson
Lisa Mead
David Morrison
Chloe Tesch
Sue and Dave Wait

July 10

Gordon Engstrom
Chris Kutschinski
Karin Moglia
Micki Smokovich
Jonathan Sommers

July 11

Tom Helzer
Fred Ulreich

July 12

Abigail Battreall
Julianna Hahn
Marybeth Iaria
Connor Krupp
Judy Otten
Mae Preston
Andrea and Timothy Dudley
Lisa Wilson and Keith Gohlke

July 13

Brad Burkle, Jr.
Sofia Crist
Donna Erickson
Geoff Larsen
Madison Montgomery
Andrea Salasky
Deb and John Potter

July 14

Sarah Huckstep
Diane and Larry Biser
Carrie and Sid Hoeksema
Ashley and Erik Perkins

July 15

Laura Fisher
John Idema
Kathryn Langenburg
Mary Wollen
Laura and Steve Cairns

July 16

Brooklyn Breon
Bill Fisk
Katie Grzelak
Mae Olson
Kaitlyn Poort
Karen Smith
Ingrid and Patrick Brang
Jane and Nicholas Claus
Kerry and Jim McKee

July 17

Benjamin Cannon
Samantha McMillan
Tadas Norris
Tom Shannon Jr.
Tom VanderWoude
Peyton Wollen
Beth and Bob O'Connor

July 18

Sue Bakkila
Kendal Thorsen
Kate and Bryan Bredwell
Wendy and Joesy Johnson
Yvonne and Dan Lynn

July 19

Mikaela Bradley
Nancy Krupp
Laura Swain
Connie and Larry Frazier
Kelly and Jason Montgomery

July 20

Jennifer Ackerman-Haywood
Dave Reierson
Michelle and Tom Albaitis

July 21

Rachel Ahrens
Ken Beld
Benson Beuker
Katelyn Tooley
Kara and Chris Posthumus
Heather and Tom Worsfold

July 22

Jordan Donahue
Paul Kuhlman
Betsy and John McIntyre
Rachel and Brian Vigna

July 23

Fred Wilcox
Jodi Wood
Bonnie and Todd Brandstadt
Liz and Art Schmehling

July 24

Abby Cole
Laura Elliott
Cyndi Harrison
Taylor Montgomery
Ginny Stoll-Tyrrell
Megan Unruh
Maggie VanderWoude
Paul VanderWoude

July 25

Susan Candela
Kyle and John Teichow
Kathy and Dave Young

July 26

Tom Fredrickson
Pam Gunderson
Carrie Hoeksema
Christopher Humphreys
John Kendall
Molly King
Susan Youngren
Ann and Michael Morin

July 27

Peter Bowman
Leo LePow
Emilia LePow
Ivy LePow
Barbara Meyers
Jay Rosloniec
Dale Volkerding
Christine and Richard Duyser
Michelle and Ned Quinn

July 28

Alain Carron
Bruce Hungerford
Beth Olson
Steve Salasky
Joanna and Chris Kutchinski
Jamie and Jason Stevenson

July 29

Steve Colby
Peter Larson
Ronald McNally
Elaine Rongey
Jennifer Salasky
Kay Zeaman
Kori and Jeff Grooters

July 30

Zach Budzyn
Grant Greiner
Gene Gunderson
Nancy Lindquist
Kathleen Longstreth
Emily and Roy Black
Sharon and Bill Brandner

July 31

Lyn Allen
Jillian Beld
Brooke Croly
Mary Rasmussen
Kirsten and Omar Zarou



**If you have a special milestone birthday or anniversary, please contact the main office at Trinity to let us know!*

Entering the Narrow Gate 2021-2022 - School of Spiritual Formation Year-Long Program

Hosted by: Trinity Lutheran Church, Grand Rapids, MI

Registration

Tuition: \$600 (50% due with registration and 50% due in February)

Make checks payable to **Dominican Sisters** (please print **Narrow Gate** on memo line of check)

Mail completed registration form with payment to:

Nancy Brousseau, OP
151 W. Brunswick Dr #71
DeWitt MI 48820

Church Contact: Kris Baker kris.baker@tlcgr.org 616.949.2510, x 110

Facilitator: Sister Nancy Brousseau, OP

Email: nbrousseau@aol.com Cell: 616-560-4580

Program Facilitator: Sister Nancy Brousseau, OP, DMin is a Dominican Sister of Grand Rapids, MI. Nancy served as the Director of the Dominican Center at Marywood in Grand Rapids for five years and was Director of Spirituality Programs there for six years. Prior to those years, she was Director of St. Joseph Educational Center in Des Moines, Iowa. Sr. Nancy has an MA in Religious Education, a M.Div. from St. John's (now Sacred Heart) Seminary in Detroit and a D.Min. in Spiritual Direction from the Graduate Theological Foundation and the University of St. Thomas in St. Paul, MN. She offers retreats, spiritual direction, workshops and programs in prayer, spirituality, international pilgrimages, and spiritual formation.

- Ten Thursdays, 9:30am-4:30pm; one Thursday per month, September-June
- Dates: **2021** - 9/16, 10/14, 11/18, 12/16; **2022** - 1/13, 2/17, 3/17, 4/21, 5/12, 6/16
- Coffee available; please bring your lunch/beverage; snack to share if you wish

_____ Please mail this bottom portion with your check _____

Registration: Entering the Narrow Gate at Trinity Lutheran

2021-2022

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Amount enclosed: _____

Are you Finding a Home at Trinity?

New Members to be Received in the Summer of 2021

Our last reception of New Members at Trinity was in the fall of 2019. Planning that was underway for the Spring of 2020 reception of new members was set aside, along with most of our parish program, in the early months of our pandemic separation.

We are beginning to project a New Members Weekend in the summer of 2021 with those indicating that they are finding a church home among the people of Trinity invited to become members of this congregation. Are you among those who are considering membership with Trinity Lutheran Church? Be in touch with the church office or one of the pastors – Pastor Linstrom is hoping to schedule “Curiosity Classes” with those who are prospective members this summer in preparation for a celebration of our growing church family.

All are welcome to find a place in our life together – welcome to Trinity!



2700 Fulton Street East
Grand Rapids, MI 49506
616.949.2510 tlcgr.org

Office Hours: 7:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. (M-F)



Mission: *Trinity Lutheran Church is a dynamic family called by God to nurture each other in our daily journeys of faith and to joyfully increase our response to all people in need, sharing God's gifts of love and grace.*

Staff

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