



# The Messenger

## Worship Assistants Needed as We Resume Our Life Together in Worship

The Trinity congregation has resumed offering Holy Communion with fresh bread and wine since early July. Many have expressed their appreciation for the 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 – we could use three new bakers to join our team for the year ahead.

•**Sacristans:** Those who serve on a rotation to prepare the communion vessels with bread and wine for worship, and then clean up after worship, generally serving for just the worship service they normally attend – we hope to have enough sacristans that you would only serve once every six to eight weeks.

•**Communion Assistants:** Those who serve on a rotation to offer the wine as the pastors offer the bread during distribution of Holy Communion, generally serving at the worship service they normally attend.

•**Lectors:** Those who read the lessons from scripture and the Prayers of Intercession during worship.

•**Ushers and Greeters:** Those who welcome worshippers and assist them with worship materials and the movement forward to receive Holy Communion.

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.



## Outdoor Worship on First Sundays August 1 and September 5

Trinity's "First Sunday" gathering for Outdoor Worship will be offered on Sunday, August 1, and Sunday, September 5, continuing 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.

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

### Highlights in This Month's Newsletter:

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# What's Happening at Trinity in August?

## 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.  
Live Streaming of Worship, 10:45 a.m.

### **Mondays**

Tai Chi  
Stroller Strides, 9 a.m.  
Band Rehearsal, 6:30 p.m.

### **Tuesdays**

Lutheran World Relief Quilting, 10 a.m.

### **Wednesdays**

Tai Chi

### **Fridays**

Tai Chi  
Stroller Strides, 9 a.m.

## Daily Calendar

### **Sunday, August 1**

Outdoor Worship, 10:45 a.m.  
Visitation for Phyllis Gehl, 1 p.m.  
Memorial/Celebration of Life for Phyllis Gehl, 2 p.m.  
Memorial Service Luncheon, 3 p.m.

### **Monday, August 2**

Stephen Leaders Meeting, 1:30 p.m.  
Property Committee Meeting, 6 p.m.

### **Tuesday, August 3**

Solo Together, noon  
Executive Committee, 7 p.m.  
Know Mercy Softball Team (Final Game), 8 p.m.

### **Friday, August 6**

Life Begins at 60 Driveway Dining at The Iaria's, 6 p.m.

### **Sunday, August 8**

Lutheran World Relief Quilting, noon

### **Monday, August 9**

*Messenger* Submissions Due  
Choir Rehearsal, 7:15 p.m.

### **Tuesday, August 10**

TLC Quilters, 10 a.m.

### **Wednesday, August 11**

Youth & Family Committee Meeting, 7 p.m.

### **Tuesday, August 17**

All Staff Annual Calendar Meeting, 10 a.m.  
Worship & Music Committee Meeting, 7 p.m.

### **Wednesday, August 18**

Family Promise Partners in Housing Workday, 1 p.m.

### **Friday, August 20**

Life Begins at 60 Driveway Dining at The Butler's, 6 p.m.

### **Saturday, August 21**

DeColores National Board Meeting, 9:30 a.m.  
Stony Lake Camp Workday, 10 a.m.  
Confirmation Rehearsal, 1 p.m.

### **Sunday, August 22**

Confirmation Sunday

### **Monday, August 23**

Outreach Committee Meeting, 6 p.m.  
Walk and Talk, 7 p.m.

### **Tuesday, August 24**

Council on Aging, 8 a.m.  
TLC Quilters, 10 a.m.  
Stephen Ministry Peer Support, 6:30 p.m.

### **Thursday, August 26**

Welcome Back Choir Picnic, 6 p.m.

### **Friday, August 27**

McMurray/Carey Wedding Rehearsal, 6 p.m.

### **Saturday, August 28**

The Marriage of Esther McMurray & Kevin Carey, 3 p.m.

### **Sunday, August 29**

Blessing of Backpacks for Kinders, 9:15 & 10:45 a.m.  
Blessing of Teachers, 9:15 & 10:45 a.m.

# A Message from Pastor Bob Linstrom



## An Anglican/Maori Setting of the Lord's Prayer

One of the beloved prayers shared in our life together at Trinity is the "Lord, it is night" prayer we pray together during Lenten Compline worship. That meaningful prayer, from *A New Zealand Prayer Book* in the Anglican communion, has become a beloved part of our Lenten journey as the day's closing prayer.

Perhaps some of the most comforting words Jesus shared in Matthew and Luke's Gospels are found in the prayer that we Christians name the Lord's Prayer. While the prayer is most often said in community as part of a liturgy, the Lord's Prayer can also be a contemplative practice when prayed slowly and mindfully – Martin Luther commended this prayer to people of faith as a devotional center for one's rising in the morning and before sleeping in the evening. Consider this modern version of the prayer that Jesus taught, again from the New Zealand Anglicans, which both honors and reflects indigenous Māori culture. Perhaps in this new language you will find a new depth of meaning.

*Eternal Spirit,  
Earth-maker, Pain-bearer, Life-giver,  
Source of all that is and that shall be,  
Father and Mother of us all,  
Loving God, in whom is heaven:  
The hallowing of your name echo through the universe!*

*With the bread we need for today, feed us.  
In the hurts we absorb from one another, forgive us.  
In times of temptation and test, strengthen us.  
From trials too great to endure, spare us.  
From the grip of all that is evil, free us.*

*The way of your justice be followed by the peoples  
of the world!  
Your heavenly will be done by all created beings!  
Your commonwealth of peace and freedom  
sustain our hope and come on earth.*

*For you reign in the glory of the power that is love,  
now and forever. Amen. <sup>1</sup>*

Although it does not replace the traditional version we pray together in worship, perhaps this reframing of Jesus's prayer can be a gift in your devotional life.

It remains a privilege to serve as a pastor among you.

Grace and peace,  
Pastor Bob Linstrom

1 Church of the Province of New Zealand, *A New Zealand Prayer Book, He Karakia Mihinare o Aotearoa* (Collins Liturgical Publications: 1989), 181.

## New Members Sunday Set for September 19

*Are you finding a home among the Trinity faith community?*

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 now planning a New Members Weekend in September 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" in August with those who are prospective members in preparation for a celebration of our growing church family in September. **See details on the back cover of this newsletter.** All are welcome to find a place in our life together – welcome to Trinity!



## 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 Council President Karen Unruh

At this year's Rocky Railway VBS, we were encouraged to look for God Sightings:

*Everyday clues that God is present, passionate, and powerful. A God Sighting is an acknowledgment that God has done something. It's giving God credit where credit is due. It's developing a God-focused view and a grateful heart. ...[We] can see God in things like Scripture, people, circumstances, and nature. (Group Publishing, 2020)*

It would be a challenge to call the circumstances of the COVID-19 pandemic a God Sighting. Many of us would love to forget the last 18 months and return to our lives as they were before. And yet, while the pandemic itself was not and is not a blessing, there are many God Sightings that arose from it. We maintained virtual connections with distant family and friends. We cared for our neighbors, volunteering to do grocery runs for those most vulnerable. We took up new hobbies, learned new skills, adopted new pets, and developed a greater appreciation for the outdoors as more of us took to local trails and bike paths.

At Trinity, too, God Sightings have arisen. We took advantage of a nearly empty building to make many improvements. We installed and upgraded new audio-visual equipment, allowing for improved streaming of our Sunday services. This streaming attracted new, potential members to Trinity who had never before graced our doorstep! We are also upgrading our Commons space, installing new flooring that will benefit our Sunday School, indoor exercise classes, and IHN guests.

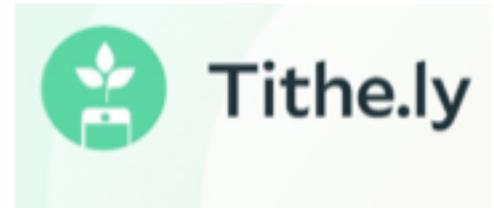
There are God Sightings in the ways we have been creative and adapted. While many of us have Zoom fatigue, members of the Children's Ministry Committee with young children have found that post-bedtime Zooms may be the best way to meet. When VBS moved outdoors this summer, the wind and rain may have highlighted the advantages of being inside, but God Sightings abounded in the beautiful outdoor worship space and the fun of getting messy outside with skits, crafts, and games. God has shown us that some of our creative adaptations can and should become part of our new normal.

During this time of transition, as our previous activities slowly but surely resume, I encourage you to reflect on the God Sightings of the past 18 months, and to continue to look for them at home, at Trinity, and in the wider world.

Blessings,  
Karen Unruh  
Trinity Congregation Council President

# 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 June 2021

	Budget	Actual	Variance Favorable/ (Unfavorable)	
Total Income	83,850	83,166	(684)	-0.8%
Total Expenses	89,560	87,040	2,520	2.8%
Net Income (Loss)	(5,710)	(3,875)	1,835	



## 2021 Fiscal Year-to-Date February 2021 thru June 2021

	Budget	Actual	Variance Favorable/ (Unfavorable)	
Total Income	466,020	604,956	138,936	29.8%
Total Expenses	477,231	432,571	44,660	9.4%
Net Income (Loss)	(11,211)	172,385	183,596	

# A Message from Associate Pastor Dan Schewe

Every yes is a no, and every no is a yes.

When I was in high school, I was asked by the director of our musicals to take part in a summer production. I was honored. I thought the world of her and thought it would be a great experience. As we got to talking about the production, she informed me that everyone in it would have to be at every rehearsal and every performance. When I looked at the schedule, I saw that one of the performances and some of the practices fell on the same week as my youth group's mission trip.

I had to choose what to say yes to and what to say no to.

For me, it was an easy decision. Without hesitation or remorse, I informed my director that I was honored to be considered, but I could not be part of the production because I was already committed to this mission trip.

That yes drove this no.

As we continue to emerge from our pandemic hibernation, this memory comes to me often. So many things in our lives are starting back up again. Yet, as they do, they seem to be trying to make up for lost time by asking for more of our time and energy. Scheduling things sooner and longer, simply adding more and more. They are asking us to say yes to them, and no to everything else.

So many things in our lives do this. We feel torn and stretched thin. Thinner than we were before the pandemic with our already hyper-scheduled and over-booked lives. We are pulled between all the things we want to do, because we believe the lie that we can do everything.

We cannot.

Every yes is a no, and every no is a yes.

In your life, what are you saying yes to that means you are saying no to other things?

How have you prioritized what you say yes to?

What yes drives your life?

Repeatedly in the scriptures, God asks us to say yes to God first and see where it leads us. God seeks us to let that yes be what drives our lives.

**A prayer:** God guide us as we say yes and no in our lives. Help us to say yes to what you have for us and see how it leads us. Be with us in these hard decisions. Remind us that you say yes to us through your love for us. Amen.



## Trinity's Prayer Tree Ministry



Trinity's Prayer Tree Ministry continues making a difference in the lives of Trinity's adults and children. **Our seventh annual Prayer Tree Ministry kicks off in September.** Angela Davis is working on planning a Saturday morning breakfast gathering for those who want to participate in this year's Prayer Tree Ministry. Watch for more details in the September issue of *The Messenger*.

A letter and/or email will be sent in mid-August to parents and guardians of Trinity children ages in-utero through age 18, requesting permission to include them in this ministry. Emails and eBlast blurbs will be sent to adult members who have participated in the past and will also see newcomers to become prayers. The children's names received will provide an intergenerational opportunity for Trinity's adult members to pray for our younger church family members. If you have questions, please connect with Angela Davis, Director of Congregational Life.

## A Message from Fellowship & Hospitality Coordinator Tess Lundgren

In June, I was hired as Trinity's Fellowship & Hospitality Coordinator. I am excited about helping to facilitate connections for Trinity members through Fellowship and Hospitality events at Trinity. We'll be doing that through some of the old tried and true favorites like JOYful Days, Lenten Soup Suppers, Advent by Candlelight, Parish Picnic, Dinner Groups, Scandinavian Smorgasbord, and Trivia Night and we'll bring back some of the oldies like Euchre tournaments. I am also hoping to try some new events we haven't even dreamt up yet. My role also includes being the coordinator of the funeral luncheons on site, where I assist families by taking some of the stress off their shoulders, allowing them to visit with friends and family without being bothered by the behind-the-scenes details. I also get to coordinate special events like the reception after the Interfaith Thanksgiving Service, the 125th Anniversary reception celebration, the community reception after the Global Holden Prayer Service, KCAH brunch, the Annual Meeting brunch, and much more. Sounds fun, right? Especially after our long isolation during the COVID pandemic, though cautious in the "how," I am sure we are all eager to get back to being together for fellowship and connection, and to strengthen our bonds within our church. As Pastor Bob likes to say, "We the people are the Church."



To get all this fun started, we will need to do some planning and – here it comes – we will need volunteers. I want to make this year and the ones to follow filled with events that are absolutely wonderful and memorable. However, I can't do it alone. I will need support and assistance from all of you on many levels. For instance, I will need people to help dream up events, help plan them, set up for them, run them, and clean up after them. And maybe most important, I'll need you to come to the events. Without participants, well, it's not much of an event.

Here's my vision: I would like to get a list together of people who are interested in Fellowship at Trinity. I am not necessarily looking for people who want to do EVERY event or always want to do the same thing. But rather, I would like to get a list of people who wouldn't mind receiving an email saying, "We have an event coming up, are you interested? Does it fit into your schedule to help? Can you bake some cookies or a casserole? Can you set up or serve at an event or a funeral luncheon?" **To help set up this list of people interested in actively supporting Fellowship activities**

**at Trinity, please watch for a link in the Friday eBlast.** That link will take you to a short form which can be used to let me know that you are interested in getting involved in Fellowship at Trinity.

I am always open to new ideas. If you have an idea you would like to suggest for a Fellowship gathering at Trinity, please email, call, text, catch me in the office, or catch me on a Sunday (I'm usually found around the Hospitality Counter near the kitchen).

When I think about my role, I'm pretty excited because my job is to bring people together to have fun, hang out with old friends, and make new friends. So, let's fellowship together, Church! Let's get to know our fellow members and widen our circle of friends.

Tess Lundgren  
Fellowship & Hospitality Coordinator  
c: 616.889.9503

# Life Begins at 60!

## Finally! We're Gathering at Reds at Thousand Oaks

With Covid restrictions lifted, Life Begins at 60 will begin monthly gatherings at restaurants once again this fall, beginning with a dinner at **Reds at Thousand Oaks at 6 p.m. on Friday, September 24**. Make your reservation by contacting our hosts, Jim and Sue Coates, at [suecoates1036@gmail.com](mailto:suecoates1036@gmail.com) or 616-254-7321, or Pastor Karen at [karen.niemeyer@tlcgr.org](mailto:karen.niemeyer@tlcgr.org).



## And...There's Still Time to Join Us This Summer

Driveway Dining continues in safe environments....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, AUGUST 6: 6-8 pm at Joe and Marybeth Iaria's - [surfin@charter.net](mailto:surfin@charter.net); 530-209-0436

FRIDAY, AUGUST 20: 6-8 pm at Dan and Carol Butler's - [caroljb43@gmail.com](mailto:caroljb43@gmail.com); 616-540-1660



## Youth Summer & Fall Opportunities

While the pandemic has changed our plans, we have a lot of amazing experiences for our young people to plug into.

### Work at Stony Lake Bible Camp – For the Whole Family: 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 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: 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. Our last date of the summer is August 18. Help us house our neighbors! If you have questions or want to assist, contact Pastor Dan. Continue to watch your email and our YouTube channel for more information and a sign-up form.

### Confirmation Classes Resume on September 12 at 3 p.m.

Youth entering grades six through eight are invited to join us for confirmation classes starting on September 12. Our first session will be for youth and their parents. Classes will meet weekly in the following weeks. Look for a letter from Pastor Dan in the coming days with more information and our year's schedule.

### High School Youth Group Resumes on September 12 at 6:30 p.m.

Youth in grades nine through twelve and their family and friends are invited to join us for a kick-off celebration for our year in ministry together on September 12 at 6:30 p.m.! We will reconnect, have fun, and share information on all our plans for this coming year. High School Youth Group will resume meeting weekly in the following weeks. Look for a letter from Pastor Dan in the coming days with more information and this year's schedule.



### Some Important Dates for Next Summer:

Mission Trip 2022: June 25 – July 2  
ELCA Youth Gathering 2022: July 23 – July 28

## Make a Difference with “Christophe’s Children”



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, Christophe came to Grand Rapids and Trinity as a refugee and in the summer of 2020 became a U.S. 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. 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](http://christopheschildren.org).

# Health Ministries

## Walk & Talk

### August Focus: Community



*Two are better than one, because they have a good reward for their toil. For if they fall, one will lift up the other; but woe to one who is alone and falls and does not have another to help. Again, if two lie together, they keep warm; but how can one keep warm alone? And though one might rebel against another, two will withstand one. A threefold cord is not quickly broken. –Ecclesiastes 4:9-12*

Ecclesiastes reminds us of the great strength of our relationships. When we join together, we are much more capable of achieving our goals and inspiring our communities. This month, we will focus on the importance of relying on others for encouragement and reaching out to our communities.

**THIS IS OUR LAST MONTH!** Thank you to everyone who has joined in this year of Walking and Talking. Whether you reviewed the devotions at home, walked with your family or friends, joined in the monthly church gatherings, or simply checked the weekly emails, we are glad to have journeyed through this year together!

Our group gathering this month is **Monday, August 23 at 7 p.m.** We'll meet in the parking lot, do our laps around the property, head to the outdoor worship space and enjoy conversation and connection in COMMUNITY! All are welcome to join!

Connect with Rebecca Ulrich (616.340.2392) or Kristin Bradley if you have any questions or suggestions.

## 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, and Fridays** in the east parking lot. It is 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, for a call or email, contact our fitness instructor, Xristina Kuhlmann at 616-719-6961. Suggested donation \$3/class or \$20/month.



## Last "Know Mercy" Trinity Softball Game!



Come support Trinity's coed softball team, "Know Mercy," at their **LAST GAME** of the season, on **Tuesday, August 3 at 8 p.m.** at Manhattan Park (331 Cascade Road, S.E.).



## Care Receivers Appreciate the Qualities of Their Stephen Ministers

Over the years, many Trinity members have found peace dealing with challenging situations by walking with a Stephen Minister. The relationship between Care Receiver and Stephen Minister brought real change in their feelings and ability to cope. In testimonies from our own members (shared with permission), we see that the five foundational characteristics of Stephen Ministers had the most meaningful impact in Care Receiver's lives.

The 'Care Giver's Compass' illustrates the foundational characteristics of a Stephen Minister. The most important characteristic, *Christ-centered*, is represented in the center of the compass by the Chi-Rho symbol. The other key characteristics *Compassionate*, *Full of Faith*, *Skilled*, and *Trustworthy* make up the four points of the compass. Stephen Ministers possess and intentionally cultivate these characteristics through training and peer support. They apply them in their caregiving relationships, as God provides the cure. We thank and praise God for the healing relationships in our congregation.



When asked about their expectations of their care giver and the most meaningful aspect of the relationship, here is what our Trinity Care Receivers said:

**Stephen Ministers are compassionate.** *"I wanted someone I didn't need to be strong in front of."*

*"I needed someone to listen to me and restore confidence that I could be useful to others."*

*"It was most meaningful to have someone to talk to that I could trust and know that they really care."*

*"It was most important to be able to talk without being judged."*

**Stephen Ministers are full of faith.** *"I wanted someone to talk with and provide support, faith, and guidance during some of the most difficult, trying times during my life."*

*"I wanted to meet and talk with a Christian friend who might help me to understand and accept that which I cannot change."*

*"It was most meaningful that my Stephen Minister helped me learn to rely on God during the grief process."*

**Stephen Ministers are skilled.** *"I needed someone who could listen and support me, pray for me and help me process family challenges."*

*"He helped me solve some guilt issues."*

*"My Stephen Minister was an excellent listener, did not judge or advise."*

**Stephen Ministers are trustworthy.** *"I expected to be able to talk with someone, confide in someone."*

*"He was always there for me and the family."*

*"I was so under water. Knowing she was always there; it gave me strength."*

**Stephen Ministers are Christ-centered.** *"The most meaningful aspect of the relationship was the love of God and His presence in front of me every week!"*

*"The most meaningful aspect of the relationship was the wisdom shared, the examples of similar issues to my own, straight from the Bible! To know that I am not alone."*

# Music Highlights

## Trinity Choir Returns!



Following an unprecedented hiatus, the Trinity Choir will once again convene! **Please come and join us for a picnic at Trinity on Thursday, August 26 at 6:00 p.m.** Pulled pork, buns, and table service will be provided and you are invited to bring a dish to share.

Have you entertained the idea of singing in choir? This is an excellent time to ask questions and get started; all of our music is new, and our new choir room is beautiful. If you cannot make the picnic, our **rehearsals**



**begin on Thursday, September 9 at the new time of 7:15 p.m.**

For more information, please contact choir director Sid Hoeksema at [sidney.hoeksema@tlcgr.org](mailto:sidney.hoeksema@tlcgr.org) or 616.540.7190.

## Celebration of Music Series Rescheduled from 2020



**September 19, 2021**

Wilkie and Hurd Piano Duo

3 p.m.

Trinity Lutheran Sanctuary



**October 17, 2021**

Gregory Crowell,  
Harpsichord

3 p.m.

Trinity Lutheran Sanctuary



**November 14, 2021**

Renée Anne Louprette,  
Organ

3 p.m.

Trinity Lutheran Sanctuary

***Free and open to the public!***

## Larry Biser Announces Retirement from Ministry as Trinity Organist Effective December 31, 2021



After twelve years with Trinity's music ministry, Larry Biser is retiring from his work as a church organist at the end of 2021.

Larry began to study organ in high school and continued at Westminster Choir College, studying with Eugene Roan and Joan Lippincott, and graduating from Westminster Choir College in 1965. Since college, he studied with William Watkins and Steven Wentz at Concordia in Chicago where he received his Master of Sacred Music degree. Larry has served as organist for churches on the east coast as well as here in Grand Rapids. He served Woolrich Community Church in Pennsylvania; Calvary Baptist in Trenton, New Jersey; Bristol United Methodist in Bristol, Pennsylvania; Arlington Forest United Methodist in Arlington, Virginia; Epworth United Methodist in Norfolk, Virginia; and then served at East Congregational Church in Grand Rapids for 40 years. Upon retiring from that position, he came to Trinity Lutheran as Director of Handbells in September of 2009 and became organist following Dr. Elizabeth West's resignation when commuting became too difficult after the birth of her son.

For 24 years, Larry was the Conductor of the Chamber Choir of Grand Rapids and he toured with that choir in Russia, Estonia, Finland, Austria and Hungary. He was honored to direct the Grand Rapids Chamber Choir when they joined the Mormon Tabernacle Choir in the Temple in Salt Lake City for their Sunday Morning broadcast; Larry and the Grand Rapids Chamber Choir were the first non-Mormons to be given that honor since John Findley Williamson, the founder of Westminster Choir College, in 1945.

He toured England with his East Congregational Church Choir singing in Bristol, Bath, Westminster, and Ely Cathedrals as well as several parish churches.

Larry continues as an Adjunct Professor of Music at Aquinas College, having taught classroom Music History, Chamber Choir and Conducting, as well as Organ. He has been active with the Grand Rapids American Guild of Organists, having chaired the Program Committee for three Regional Conventions in Grand Rapids. He has also served five terms as Dean of the Grand Rapids Chapter and currently sits on the Board of that organization. Larry and Diane Biser both received the Alumni Merit Award from Westminster Choir College.

We give thanks for a half century of music ministry with Larry Biser on the bench. Watch for details announcing a celebration of Larry's music ministry later in 2021. At Trinity, an Organist Search Team has formed and had a first meeting in July, hoping to conduct interviews and auditions this fall.



# 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 Home of Their Own

At some time or another, we have all said, "I'll see you later, I'm going to church." Yet we know, a building does not a church make. The Church is God's people, gathered together in His name, to do His work. The building is not who we are and what we do, it is merely the shell where we come together to worship. We are the church; Christ is the cornerstone, without whom we would crumble and fall.

And yet, a great deal of planning, money, and loving care have gone into constructing and maintaining Trinity's edifices over the years. To the community, the building is often one of the most visible symbols of the Church. People driving by gain their first impressions of the faith we live from the building they see. Even the subtitle for this centennial history, "From Church on the Hill to Cross in the Sky," reflects the association between the people of the congregation, and the buildings they have erected. It was chosen by former congregation member and historian Mary Emily Schroeder as the title for a congregational history she never had the chance to complete.



An article entitled "Architecture and its Place in the Church" appeared in the Feb. 10, 1955 issue of *The Messenger*, when the discussion which eventually led to the construction of our current sanctuary had just begun. Its author was Rev. Earl Frey, then head of the Office of Church Architecture for the United Lutheran Church. It suggested that the two primary purposes of the church building were to "speak of God's presence within and without," and to "provide adequate facilities for Christian worship, education, and fellowship. . ."

Trinity had several temporary homes before its very own building was completed. Even before the congregation was officially organized, it met for services in the parlor of the old Young Men's Christian Association (YMCA) in 1896. This building is now known as the Federal Square Office Building and stands at the corner of Pearl and Ionia Streets downtown. For the next two years, until construction was completed on Trinity's first structure, the congregation paid rent for use of the lecture hall at Temple Emanuel. In fact, Trinity's Articles of Association were signed and approved in the Temple's parlor.

Trinity's congregational minutes for Nov. 10, 1897, describe the formation of a "Lot Committee," whose purpose was "to select a site for a church edifice and purchase same." It was an uncharacteristically efficient committee as Lutherans go, because they voted just five days later to purchase the lot at the corner of Bostwick and Crescent Streets for not more than \$4,000. Things continued to move quickly, with a church building fund opening in December, and the appointment of a Building Committee in January of 1898! The Building Committee held thirty-six meetings during 1898. On February 7th they called for building plans from local architect George Lohman and hired him on the 21st of that same month. His initial drawings showed a wood frame structure with a stone foundation, but the plans were soon enlarged slightly and changed to brick veneer. Bids from general contractor William C. Osburn and several subcontractors were approved in March. Plans and building contracts were completed by May 2, 1898.

The cornerstone laying ceremony took place on May 22, 1898. Rev. C.J. Kiefer presided, with the building committee and many other ministers assisting, including Rev. Tedrow of Trinity Lutheran in Ann Arbor, Rev. Williamson of First Reformed Church, Rev. Fulton of Westminster Presbyterian Church, and Rev. Dan Bradley of Park Congregational, all in Grand Rapids. The Program for the service made it clear that all would be welcome in the new facility, and that

*Continued on following page*

# The Founding of Our Congregation

“pews are free,” referring to the practice in some churches of charging families a rental fee for their designated place to sit!

The cornerstone contained a copy of *The King James Bible*, *Augsburg Confession*, *Luther's Small Catechism*, a hymnal entitled *Selections from the Book of Worship*, *The Lutheran Year Book*, Minutes of the Synod, *The Augsburg Teacher*, *Lutheran Observer*, *Lutheran World*, *Missionary Journal*, *Sunshine and Shadows*, the Cornerstone laying program, May 21st issues of the *Grand Rapids Herald*, *Grand Rapids Press*, and *Grand Rapids Democrat*, and lists of the Sunday School teachers, Ladies Aid and other group members, and assisting ministers. The cornerstone was later removed and built into the narthex of the current church, and the contents are today a part of Trinity's archives.



## Planning Underway for a Fall Celebration of Trinity's 125th Anniversary

On behalf of the 125th Anniversary Committee, Doug Haneline recently updated the Congregation Council on plans and proposed activities to mark Trinity's 125 years of mission and ministry in the Grand Rapids community. The committee has met three times this spring and summer and has identified the following ideas for celebrating Trinity's 125th:



1. Placing monthly pieces drawn from Chris Carron's 100th anniversary historical booklet into *The Messenger*
2. Interviewing older/lifelong church members to record their memories of our heritage
3. Reaching out to recent former pastors (Krupinski, Cobb, Stobie) for interviews and/or participation in anniversary activities
4. Reaching out to local media to lift up our celebration
5. With the help of retired Director of Discipleship Sylvia Stouten, compiling a record of Trinity's benevolence giving historically
6. Working with volunteer archivists Karen Legault and Mary Minich-Carwell, gathering a record of who we are and have been as a congregation
7. Supplementing Chris Carron's excellent 100th anniversary history with an update for the past quarter century
8. Making use of the Overlook Gallery for displays and exhibits between now and December
9. Planning a musical event/choir concert/festival, in consultation with Trinity Choir Director Sid Hoeksema, nearer to the December 9 date of the congregation's formal organizing in 1896
10. Planning for a "post pandemic" congregational celebration on December 5, the Second Sunday in Advent

In addition to celebration in worship at the services on that day, a celebration of food and fellowship will be available in the Courtyard area throughout the morning.

Doug wrote, "As the committee continues to meet, we generate new ideas and give our plans more substance. Our goal is to mark this important event with reminders of Trinity's past and inspiration for the future. We welcome suggestions from the congregation to maximize the quality of our anniversary celebration."

Let us give thanks for 125 years of ministry and the heritage we share in our time with those who have gone before us!

# Behind the Scenes at Trinity

## Blessed to Give: Jo Murphy

*In all things I have shown you that by working hard in this way we must help the weak and remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how He himself said, "It is more blessed to give than to receive." –Acts 20:35 ESV*



As Executive Director of the Michigan Medicare/Medicaid Assistance Program (MMAAP), Jo Murphy serves clients in Grand Rapids and Lansing. She brings her knowledge and tools to Trinity from October 15-December 7, assisting members as they navigate Medicare drug plans and make informed decisions based upon their individual needs. Jo says, "It feels good when you can help someone save anywhere from \$100 up to \$20,000." She remains available for Trinity members who have Medicare issues throughout the year or are signing up for the first time, which can be a confusing process.

Jo travels to Lansing for her full-time job and says, "I feel blessed to have a job that I love." She envisions that she will likely volunteer for MMAAP after retirement. Jo encourages us to volunteer through her words and actions: "Trinity is a large church and it takes many volunteers to make it happen each week. I was baptized at Trinity, the only church I ever joined; I want to do my part." Jo certainly lives out that commitment as the current chair of the Worship and Music Committee. She was led to that committee through her service as a Sacristan. Jo is passionate about the Sacristan Ministry and assuring that "our church family has the Lord's Supper every week." She is eager to train others in this meaningful volunteer service, stating, "Please join us, we will train you. It is easy and very rewarding." Jo also collects money from all three services each Sunday to assure that it is secured.

Somehow between working a full-time job, helping older adults who don't have families to assist them, caring for 10 feral cats that come to her porch each morning and evening, and caring for her own rescue cat, a dachshund and a parrot (whew!), Jo finds time to read mysteries, walk, and garden. As she reflects on serving older adults and animals, she believes that God brings each one into her life and offers a deep sense of enrichment through the blessing of offering her time and talents to others.

Jo holds on to the simple and comforting promise in Psalm 23:1: The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want, or another version, the Lord is my shepherd, I lack nothing. What a perfect vantage point for giving.

Please contact Angela Davis if you'd like to meet with Jo this fall. The Sacristan Ministry is always ready to train new volunteers for this meaningful service.

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.

## "God's work. Our hands."

### Sunday, September 12, 2021

Mark your calendar and plan to participate. "God's work. Our hands." Sunday is an opportunity to celebrate who we are as the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America – one church, freed in Christ to serve and love our neighbor.

Service activities offer an opportunity for us to explore one of our most basic convictions as Lutherans: that all of life in Jesus Christ – every act of service, in every daily calling, in every corner of life – flows freely from a living, daring confidence in God's grace.





## Trinity Re-Entry Update

### **Reclaiming Our lives in Worship as Our Gathering “In Person” Continues** *Nursery, Coffee Hour Fellowship, and Rejoice Worship Bands Return on Sunday Mornings*

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, initially with masks and distancing offered by worshippers and with protocols that were carefully administered to help keep everyone safe.



As we worship together in August of 2021, many of our protocols continue to be relaxed. Worshippers are welcomed masked and unmasked, the distancing of worshippers is optional, and we have begun to again receive fresh bread and wine as we come forward for the sacrament of Holy Communion. A staffed nursery is open again on Sunday mornings, a light coffee hour fellowship is being offered after worship services and the Rejoice and Beyond Belief worship bands have returned to the 9:15 a.m. worship service. The sung liturgy again anchors our traditional worship life with cantors and guest musicians back to lead us in worship. It is good to

be gathering again in a way that feels more complete.

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, but we are grateful for the signs of hope and new beginnings as we gather for traditional worship at 8 a.m. and 10:45 a.m. on Sundays, and for Rejoice worship at 9:15 a.m. and live streaming at both 9:15 and 10:45 a.m. You are welcome to join us!

## Deferred Celebrations with the Children & Youth of Our Congregation

### **Communion Class Kids on August 1 and Confirmands on August 22**

Back in the spring of 2020, a Fifth Grade Communion Class was meeting on Sunday afternoons with Pastor Linstrom in preparation for a Blessing in worship and, for some of the kids, their First Communion. The interrupted Lenten communion class resumed about six months later via Zoom. Since that time, the 2021 fifth graders met for their class entirely via Zoom during the season of Lent with Pastor Bob.

Both groups have been invited to gather on Sunday, August 1, during the Outdoor Worship service for a Blessing, presentation of study Bibles to those who have not received one, and First Communion. Some have waited nearly a year and a half for this series of blessings. Our communion class fifth graders will be sixth and seventh graders in the fall of 2021.



Likewise, our 2021 Confirmation Class, after completing three years of catechetical ministry with Pastor Dan last spring, held off on their Confirmation Sunday in May for a time when they could safely gather again in the sanctuary. The class of 2021 will be confirmed in faith during the 10:45 a.m. worship service on Sunday, August 22, 2021.

We continue to give thanks as celebrations once deferred are now being celebrated within the Trinity church family. Keep all these young people in your prayers as we come together in August to offer God’s blessings on them and their families.



# 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 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.**, 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 Our 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 15**. 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)



## Fill the Grocery Carts & “Shop” the Virtual Store!

Trinity supports several non-profits in the greater Grand Rapids area that strive to supply healthy, fresh food to those in our community for whom this is a financial challenge. Our benevolence dollars help The Green Apple Pantry and SECOM Resource Center. Two additional ways YOU can help supply food at these two pantries:

### Fill the Grocery Carts at Trinity!

We collect non-perishable food items at Trinity on a year-round basis. As you are grocery shopping for yourself or your family, pick up a few extra items and bring them to Trinity. You may place groceries in the grocery carts located outside the narthex and near the elevator. Help us fill the grocery carts each week!

### “Shop” the Virtual Store!

The Virtual Store at The Green Apple Pantry offers a way to donate and see the impact of your dollars. Because they are able to purchase products at discounted bulk rates, your dollars spent in the Virtual Store can feed more families than if you purchased items on your own. \$25 can feed an entire family for one week. \$10 provides 100 pounds of fresh apples. 100 boxes of cereal are provided for \$17!

If you would like to shop the Virtual Store, please go to <https://thegreenapplepantry.org/shop/>. Simply click “buy” to add food items to your shopping cart. Fill up your cart and then click “checkout” to complete.



## Dégagé Panhandler Vouchers



For some time now, it has been possible for Trinity members and friends to purchase Panhandler Vouchers from Dégagé Ministries. For \$2 per voucher, these can be distributed to people who are publicly asking for money. Each panhandler voucher, when taken to Dégagé Ministries in downtown Grand Rapids, can be used for the purchase of a simple, nutritious meal, a haircut, a locker for a week, a pair of warm socks, one load of laundry and much more.

**Look at the Welcome Center in the Courtyard for a display like the one pictured to the left.** Vouchers can be purchased using the instructions on the displays.

Panhandler vouchers are a wonderful way to genuinely help those who are struggling in a time of crisis.

# Thank you, KCAH Volunteers & Contributors!



On Sunday, July 18, many volunteers came together after the 9:15 and 10:45 a.m. services to pack food for Kids Coalition Against Hunger. **25,000 meals were packed, for a total of about 3,657 pounds of food!** Generous donations from these volunteers and many others helped Trinity reach its fundraising goal of \$8,750! Thank you to the organizers, contributors, and volunteers for making the Kids Coalition Against Hunger event a big success!



## Technology @ Trinity

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

We are streaming our **9:15 and 10:45 a.m.** Sunday "Virtual Worship" services on YouTube. **To find them:**

- 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. or 10:40-11:50 a.m. on Sunday mornings), 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 playlists called '**Rejoice Worship,**' and '**Sanctuary 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!



# August Birthday & Anniversary Celebrations

## August 1

Spencer Olson  
Rob Peters  
Paul Smith  
*Angie & Terry Brace*  
*Mary & Bob Hamilton*  
*Marcia & Chas Schaner*

## August 2

Kieran Blair  
Drew Bradbury  
Ally DeStefano  
Alissa Pupel  
Colton Wright  
*Kim & Chris Engle*

## August 3

Carrie Boer  
Bill Bush  
Ben Keller  
*Marilyn & Tom Fredrickson*

## August 4

Mandi Ezell  
Dale Sommers  
*Amy & David Fox*  
*Phyllis & Chuck Schadler*  
*Courtney & Andy Steketee*

## August 5

Bret Kendall  
Joey Preston  
*Brenda & Kevin Conway*  
*Bethany & Michael Dunning*  
*Sheree & Paul Smith*

## August 6

Jacob Beld  
Kathy Fuger  
Larry Petrick  
Carrie Wygmans  
*Kim & Mike Danielski*  
*Charmayne & Michael Mulligan*

## August 7

Lynn Begin  
Dan Pollert  
*Joanna & Chris Waite*

## August 8

Aidan Cole  
Kathie Fetting  
Anne Meeuwssen  
Nick Salasky  
*Gail & David Mester*  
*Erica & Michael Spalding*

## August 9

Owen Budzyn  
Joshua Kendall  
Alex Mochel  
*Kristen & Roy Lamprich*

## August 10

Drew Flemming  
Ann Gooch  
Carol Hendricks  
Julieanne Lee  
*Kim & Lance Owens (25)*

## August 11

Carson Brang  
Melody Ditchcreek  
Brittany Fischer  
Roger Heldt  
Andrew Luders  
Patricia Stevens  
Sylvia Stouten  
*Amy & Andrew Beuker*  
*Mary & Paul Kuhlman*  
*Marilyn & John Leese*

## August 12

Lynn Grzelak  
John Murray  
Joshua Peterman  
*Jane & Don Smith*  
*Joan & John Walls*  
*Sandra & Bill Westveld*

## August 13

Karen Betz-Griewahn  
Mike Fessenden

## August 14

Bill Dewitt  
Ander Perkins  
Isabell Swain  
*Liz & Bob Dever*  
*Susan & Kenneth Vanden Bout*

## August 15

Lance Childers  
Lisa Gavranovic  
James Heaford  
Brendan Moglia  
Nancy Morrison  
Suz Schalon  
Matt Seyffert  
Darrell Yeager  
*Lynn & John Hagenbush*

## August 16

Luke Ezell  
Michelle Hall  
*Sheri & Mike Mason*  
*Maya & Jay Rosloniec*

## August 17

Jane Ashby  
Holly Grzelak  
Natalie Swain  
Natalie Yeager  
*Gayle & Mark Rohde*  
*Jennifer & Steven Salasky*  
*Lynda & John Schuen*

## August 18

*Shirley & Steven Kleiman*  
*Lois & Mike McCardell*  
*Jacqueline & Jason Riegling*

## August 19

Debbie Lown  
Debbie Potter  
Heather Worsfold

## August 20

Claire Selleck  
Michael Sytsma  
Spencer Waite  
*Marci & Josh Anderson*  
*Cindy & Bob Burchfield*  
*Beth & Gordon Engstrom*  
*Kris & John Fox*

## August 21

Larry Biser  
Ruth Ann Evans  
Callan Hughes  
Kathryn Stoll  
*Carrie & Phil Lamb*  
*Tami & Chad Saum*

## August 22

Mark Baker  
Cade Lewkowski  
McKenna Malvitz  
Ausma Pupel  
Thea Taylor  
Robin Walker

## August 23

Bob Burchfield  
Elwyn Griewahn  
Joe Iaria  
Ryan Kulas  
*Carol Welz-Gustafson & Eric Gustafson*  
*Katie & Doug Moga*  
*Karen & Mike Unruh*

## August 24

Donna Alkema  
Doug Moga

## August 25

Izzie Anderson  
Kay Hahn  
Gayle Rohde  
Mike Vander Baan  
*Nancy & David Morrison*

## August 26

Andrew Beuker  
Carter King  
Andy Pupel  
Robert Swain  
*Lynn & Paul Getzin*

## August 27

Lulu Gavranovic  
Gail Mazurek  
Nancy Scott  
*Sandy & Don Kishman*

## August 28

Peter Crist  
Scott Hall  
Anne Larson  
Cathy Olson  
*Mandi & Dave Ezell*  
*Annette & Frank Remsburg*  
*Bridget & Brian Rieth*

## August 29

Joel Cairns  
*Barb & Bob Crossman*  
*Jordan & Katie Knoll*  
*Laura & Jim Krug*

## August 30

Connie Frazier  
Ailee Van Hagen  
*Sarah & Andrew Pfeiffle*  
*Sammye & Tom Zollman*

## August 31

Betty Hall  
Kate Krug  
Mark Lothschutz  
Benjamin Mielock  
Joseph Robach  
*Cheryl & Don Bushman*  
*Elisabeth Degener & Paul Crist*  
*Donna & John Linsey*



*\*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

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: \_\_\_\_\_

Amt. enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_

# Are you Finding a Home at Trinity?

## Are You Finding a Home at Trinity? *New Members to be received on Sunday, September 19*

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. Plans are underway for welcoming new members of our congregation in the late summer of 2021. Current plans include:

- A couple of **"New Members Curiosity Classes" led by the pastors in August** – prospective members will be polled to set the dates and times for these gatherings with others who are finding a home at Trinity
- The **New Members VIP Supper on Monday, September 13** at 6 p.m. with leaders from the Congregation Council and church staff joining in
- A **New Members Sunday on September 19**, celebrated at all three services of worship

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 in August 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  
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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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616.949.2510

(then dial extension #)



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