



# The Messenger

It's time for fun  
in the sun!

VBS at Trinity!  
June 20-23  
9-noon  
Ages 3 years - 5th Grade  
Register @ [tlcgr.org](http://tlcgr.org)

Permissions to photocopy this resource from Crosses Monumental VBS granted for local church use. Copyright © 2022 Crosses Publishing, Inc., Loveland, CO. gms020m016

## Monumental VBS is Coming to Trinity!

Vacation Bible School is an amazing summer adventure for kids ages three years through (leaving) fifth grade. All the fun happens right at Trinity, led by the most awesome Trinity volunteers. At Monumental VBS, kids celebrate God's greatness! Monumental is filled with awesome Bible-learning experiences kids can see, hear, and touch! Sciency-fun gizmos, team-building games, unforgettable Bible songs, and tasty treats are just a few of the standout activities that help faith flow into real life. Plus, we'll help kids discover how to see evidence of God in everyday life—something we call God Sightings. VBS is free and unforgettable — be sure to invite friends, neighbors, and cousins!



## Vacation Bible School Needs YOU!

**Volunteers:** Adults and youth will have a rockin' good time leading kids and sharing God's love!

**Supplies:** Sign-up to donate materials and snacks.

**Decorating and Prep:** Contact Rachele at [kids@tlcgr.org](mailto:kids@tlcgr.org) if you're able to lend a hand making decorations or prepping materials. The BIG DAY of DECORATING is June 19 after church. Be part of building the amazing VBS main stage!

**To volunteer or provide supplies for VBS, sign up at [tlcgr.org](http://tlcgr.org) and click on VBS registration.**



## Interfaith Hospitality Network at Trinity June 5 to 12!

Trinity has been a Host Congregation for Interfaith Hospitality Network (IHN) for the past 25 years, since the network was established in Grand Rapids in 1997. This amazing ministry involves churches in the Grand Rapids area that house homeless families on a rotating basis in church buildings four times per year for a week at a time. **A small army of welcoming volunteers are needed** at each church during host weeks to prepare evening meals, stay overnight, provide activities and/or help with set-up or take-down.



**Look for a link to volunteer in Trinity's upcoming Friday eBlasts or visit <https://tinyurl.com/nxpetcuc> to sign up to donate groceries for IHN or <https://tinyurl.com/5c7jrzay> to volunteer to make Trinity a welcoming home during the week of IHN. Please contact [Tess Lundgren](mailto:Tess.Lundgren) with questions.**

# What's Happening at Trinity in June?

## 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**

Stroller Barre, 9 a.m.  
Fitness Classes, 9 a.m. – noon\*  
Band Rehearsal, 6:30 p.m.  
Fit4Baby, 7 p.m.\*\*

### **Tuesdays**

Fitness Classes, 9 a.m. – noon\*  
Lutheran World Relief Quilters, 9:30 a.m.

### **Wednesdays**

Fitness Classes, 9 a.m. – noon\*  
Heartside Gleaning Food Packing, 1 p.m.  
Fit4Baby, 7 p.m.\*\*

### **Thursdays**

Fitness Classes, 9 a.m. – noon\*

\*Contact fitness instructor **Kristina Kuhlmann** at 616.719.6961 for current class schedule.

\*\*Starts Monday, June 6 & Wednesday, June 8. Meets outside but moves indoors if inclement weather (except for June 6/8).

## Daily Calendar

### **Wednesday, June 1**

JOYful Days Coffee & Donuts, 10:15 a.m.  
Genesis Bible Study with Pr Bob, 10:30 a.m.  
JOYful Days Lunch & Speaker, 11:30 a.m.

### **Saturday, June 4**

Gardening Committee Workbee, 8 a.m.  
Albaitis Graduation Open House, 1 p.m.

### **Sunday, June 5**

*IHN Week Begins*  
LWR Quilting Bee, noon  
Pastor's Curiosity Class, noon

### **Monday, June 6**

*IHN On-Site*  
Property Comm Mtg, 6 p.m.

### **Tuesday, June 7**

*IHN On-Site*  
Executive Comm Mtg, 7 p.m.

### **Wednesday, June 8**

*IHN On-Site*  
Genesis Bible Study with Pr Bob, 10:30 a.m.  
Studio Piano Recital, 6:30 p.m.  
Youth & Family Comm Mtg, 8 p.m.

### **Thursday, June 9**

*IHN On-Site*  
Life Begins at 60 Dinner, 5:30 p.m.

### **Friday, June 10**

*IHN On-Site*

### **Saturday, June 11**

*IHN On-Site*

### **Sunday, June 12**

*IHN Week Ends*  
Outdoor Worship, 10:45 a.m.  
Start of Summer Celebration, noon

### **Monday, June 13**

*The Messenger* Deadline  
Stephen Leaders Mtg, 1:30 p.m.  
New Members VIP Supper, 6 p.m.  
Congregation Council Mtg, 7:30 p.m.

### **Tuesday, June 14**

Staff Calendar Mtg, 9 a.m.  
TLC Quilters, 10 a.m.

### **Wednesday, June 15**

Genesis Bible Study with Pr Bob, 10:30 a.m.

### **Thursday, June 16**

Entering the Narrow Gate, 9:30 a.m.  
Ladies Bridge, 1 p.m.  
HS Mission Trip Team Mtg, 6:30 p.m.

### **Friday, June 17**

Vigna Graduation Open House, 2 p.m.

### **Saturday, June 18**

De Colores, 10 a.m.

### **Sunday, June 19**

VBS Day of Decorating, 11 a.m.

### **Monday, June 20**

Vacation Bible School, 9 a.m. - noon  
Blood Drive, 1:30 a.m. - 7 p.m.  
Finance Committee Mtg, 6 p.m.

### **Tuesday, June 21**

Vacation Bible School, 9 a.m. - noon  
Worship/Music Comm Mtg, 7 p.m.

### **Wednesday, June 22**

Vacation Bible School, 9 a.m. - noon  
Genesis Bible Study with Pr Bob, 10:30 a.m.

### **Thursday, June 23**

Vacation Bible School, 9 a.m. - noon

### **Saturday, June 25**

*HS Students Leave for Mission Trip*  
Families for International Children, 11 a.m.

### **Sunday, June 26**

*New Member Sunday*  
VBS Celebration Sunday (9:15 a.m. only)

### **Monday, June 27**

Outreach Comm Mtg, 6 p.m.

### **Tuesday, June 28**

TLC Quilters, 10 a.m.  
SM Continuing Ed, 6:30 p.m.  
SM Peer Supt Grp 1, 7:30 p.m.  
SM Peer Supt Grp 2, 7:30 p.m.

# A Message from Pastor Bob Linstrom

## Dare We Confess That God is Bigger Than Religion?

Beloved Community,

It is not often that people of faith gather to commemorate Passover, Holy Week, and Ramadan simultaneously, but this spring the great observances of the three Abrahamic faiths were aligned in the middle weeks of April. Here in Grand Rapids, our “Standing Together” partnership responded by coming together with the simple goal of bringing greetings to the other congregations as they observed their holy days. Dr. Ali Metwalli of Masjid At-Tawheed and Rabbi Michael Schadick of Temple Emanuel brought greetings to Palm Sunday worshippers at Westminster Presbyterian Church. I joined Dr. Metwalli and leaders from Westminster in bringing greetings to the second night of Seder Passover celebration at Temple Emanuel. Dr. Metwalli and Rabbi Schadick joined Kaufman Interfaith Institute Executive Director Dr. Doug Kindschi in bringing greetings to the people of Trinity in the context of Easter morning festival worship. Finally, I was joined by Rabbi Schadick and Westminster Pastor Jen Porter in bringing greetings to the gathered community at the At-Tawheed mosque on April 23 as they broke their Ramadan fast late in the evening and gathered for prayer. It was an unprecedented exchange here in Grand Rapids and those of us who served as the delegates to the other faith communities were humbled by the significance of such bridge building.



During our little interfaith sojourn in April, I was reminded of my travels in 2018 to Israel with a delegation of pastors, rabbis, and Grand Rapids Imam Dr. Sharif Sahibzada. Not only did I have the opportunity to enter into the land of my faith heritage and to walk in the path of Jesus, but I also came to experience that holy land through the eyes of my Jewish and Muslim siblings. Again, the significance of such bridge building cannot be minimized or taken for granted. Such connectedness remains an elusive goal in our tribal, divisive world.

“Could it be that God’s love for diversity could also mean that God loves the diversity of religious understanding? Is God’s truth bigger than our finite human understanding?” So wrote Dr. Kindschi in his February 22, 2022, *Interfaith Inform* column. He went on to quote the famed British Rabbi Jonathan Sacks:

“Jonathan Sacks, a Conservative rabbi and author of the *Dignity of Difference*, in an interview with Krista Tippett, recounts the passage in the Torah where Moses sees the burning bush and asks God, ‘Who are you?’ He then translates the Hebrew word response as, ‘I will be who or how or where I will be.’ Or, as Sacks writes, ‘Don’t think you can predict me. I am a God who is going to surprise you.’”

“Sacks continues, ‘One of the ways God surprises us is by letting a Jew or a Christian discover the trace of God’s presence in a Buddhist monk, or a Sikh tradition of hospitality, or the graciousness of Hindu life. Don’t think we can confine God into our categories. God is bigger than religion.’”

Dare we confess that “God is bigger than religion?” Can we really believe that and then continue to divide over religious differences, or declare all beliefs different from our own as false? Dare we be surprised by God’s self-revelation in the communities of faith that are different than ours?

As I entered the rich *Haggadah* of the Jewish Seder and marveled at the depth of piety of my Muslim siblings at prayer this past April, I found myself once again enlivened and certainly humbled by the rich heritage that I share with worshippers of the other Abrahamic faiths. It is more than tolerance, more than political correctness, and perhaps even more than interfaith understanding that I would commend you, my sisters and brothers, in such encounter. Perhaps it is an encounter with God who is bigger than religion, evoking the theophany of Moses before the burning bush.

Such wisdom is most compelling to this old preacher/disciple. I remain grateful for my place in this dialogue as a Lutheran flavored Christian pastor. But I likewise remain compelled to engage the dialogue and to marvel at what one may encounter when one crosses bridges built, versus slamming into walls fortified . . .

Friends in Christ, we continue to have much for which to be thankful as the people of Trinity Lutheran Church bound in a rich and dynamic heritage, and with a vibrant future requiring our good stewardship. I am grateful for your partnership with me in this ministry. I am grateful for all of you who join me as bridge builders in our time.

It remains a privilege to serve as a pastor among the people of Trinity.

Respectfully Submitted, Pastor Bob Linstrom, Senior Pastor

# Council Corner



## A Message from Council Member Bill Bush

As council liaison for spiritual growth, I, Bill Bush, am privileged to serve the congregation of Trinity.

How has the Holy Spirit worked through and in you in the past two years? Our Church has continued some ministries through this COVID pandemic, modified others, and have very few still on hold. Are you involved in Trinity's offerings? Maybe you were, but have not yet reengaged? We realize much has occurred in the past couple years while many of us sheltered at home to protect ourselves and our loved ones. During the fall of 2021, Pastor Bob gathered many members of Trinity to assimilate programs that focus on spiritual growth and priorities for the future. Many programs never skipped a beat but modified how they met or operated. Rachele Battreall's role as a Trinity staff member expanded to encompass how we can grow in spirit as a congregation. It has been so wonderful to see so many returning to in-person services on Sunday, to host the homeless families during our Interfaith Hospitality Network's Family Promise, to see an overflowing rummage sale, and so many other happenings at Trinity.

Where is God in your daily priorities? I noted in my advent devotional writing that I had struggled to read through the entire Bible in past years. It was so refreshing for my spiritual growth to complete this goal in 2021. I have restarted my Bible reading and added a podcast on Martin Luther (*Luther: In Real Time*). This podcast recounts the events 500 years ago when Martin Luther challenged the Catholic teachings of the day that lead to the reformation movement of Christianity. Maybe praying each day is your God time. I challenge you to stretch. Is there someone who needs God's loving presence through you? Do you have five minutes to read a New Testament scripture each morning or evening? Can you sign up for a Grace Group offering or assist with our children's Christian education at Vacation Bible School or Sunday School? How do you grow in spirit through spending time with His Word? Is it in Bible study or only during our Sunday church services? Are your children in Sunday school and confirmation classes spending more time than you studying the Bible?

During the month of May, you were asked to complete a survey regarding our hospitality services towards members of Trinity and our community. For some, this connection with others is their spiritual growth. Matthew 22:37-40 reads of Jesus' greatest commandment:

"Jesus replied: 'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.' This is the first and greatest commandment. And the second is like it: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' All the Law and the Prophets hang on these two commandments."

May you find peace in knowing Jesus has given us access to life forever with God as long as we have Christ in our lives.

## 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 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.*

### Congregational Council Executive Committee

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

### Congregational 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)

## Trinity Lutheran Church Budget vs. Actuals

### Month of April 2022

	Budget	Actual	Variance Favorable/ (Unfavorable)	
Total Income	137,242	89,265	(47,977)	-35.0%
Total Expenses	102,660	93,049	9,611	9.4%
Net Income (Loss)	34,582	(3,784)	(38,365)	

### 2022 Fiscal Year-to-Date (Thru April 2022)

	Budget	Actual	Variance Favorable/ (Unfavorable)	
Total Income	411,048	336,497	(74,551)	-18.1%
Total Expenses	313,910	275,254	38,655	12.3%
Net Income (Loss)	97,139	61,243	(35,896)	



### Please Remember Your Offering When You Are Away!

As you travel this summer, 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!

We use "Tithe.ly" for our online giving - it's 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>.** Tithe.ly can also be found in Trinity's pictorial directory application on your phone or other smart device.

Please contact Finance Assistant [Joanna Waite](#) in the main office if you need assistance.

## 2022-2023 Congregation Council to be Installed June 5



The Congregation Council begins a new year in June, with Council members elected at the January 2022 Annual Meeting taking office for the 2022-2023 term. The roster of our current Congregation Council is on **page 4** of this newsletter. Joining our returning Council members are newly elected members **Chris Becker, Susan Knoll, and Jacquie Murray.**

We give thanks for the good leadership of outgoing Council members **Amelia Crist, Paul Crist, Mike King, and Nicole Rodammer.**

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

# Mark Your Calendar!

## The Day of Pentecost, June 5: Be Invited to Wear **RED** to Worship!

The apostles were filled with the Spirit to tell of God's deeds in the text from Acts Chapter 2 that provides a foundation for our worship on the Day of Pentecost, June 5. The people of Trinity are invited to wear **red**, recalling the tongues of fire that alighted on those early apostles, kindling in them the fire of God's love. We come to the end of the season of Easter and enter the "ordinary time" of the Church, sent by the very Spirit of God to bring that same fire to our acts of grace, love, and service.

*God our creator, the resurrection of your Son  
offers life to all the peoples of earth.*

*By your Holy Spirit, kindle in us the fire of your love,  
empowering our lives for service and our tongues for praise,  
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord,  
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God,  
now and forever.*

## Outdoor Worship On the West Lawn Returns on Second Sundays Beginning June 12



During our closure in summer and fall of 2020, outdoor services were well received and well attended. Many suggested that these services should become part of our summer offerings in the future, and in 2021 we gathered again on the church lawn for worship. The Worship & Music Committee and pastors have agreed to host **10:45 a.m. outdoor worship on the west lawn on the second Sunday of the month** starting June 12 and continuing into fall. For those who would prefer worship indoors on these Sundays, the 8 a.m. service in the sanctuary and the 9:15 a.m. service in Centennial Hall will be offered as usual. In the event of inclement weather, the second Sunday outdoor service will shift back to the sanctuary.

## Start of Summer Celebration!

On **June 12** we will have Trinity's first outdoor worship service of the summer. We have scheduled our **Start of Summer Celebration** to coincide with this event. We will have a parish potluck picnic following the 10:45 a.m. outdoor service. Trinity will provide hot dogs and hamburgers with parishioners bringing sides, fruit, and dessert. We are planning fun activities which include a cake walk, corn hole toss, bocce ball, and lots more!

We need families to volunteer to take turns hosting our activity "booths." **Please look for separate sign-ups for hosting games, general volunteering, or bringing a dish to share.** Please contact [Tess Lundgren](#) or [James Morin](#) if you have any questions.



## Father's Day is June 19 – Bring Your Favorite Father to Worship! *Blessing of the Mission Trip Travelers Will Also Be Offered*

We will celebrate the gift of family again at Trinity on Father's Day, June 19. A Father's Day blessing will be offered, and the congregation is also invited to join in Blessing the High School Mission Trip travelers who will journey to Wethersfield, Connecticut June 25 to July 2.



Start off your Father's Day celebration with the Trinity family gathered in worship and let us be those who intentionally give great thanks to God for the gifts of faith, family, and friends.

*Heavenly Father, you entrusted your Son Jesus,  
the child of Mary, to the care of Joseph, an earthly father.  
Bless all fathers as they care for their families.  
Give them strength and wisdom, tenderness and patience;  
support them in the work they have to do, protecting those  
who look to them, as we look to you for love and salvation.*

## Wednesday Genesis Bible Study with Pastor Bob

A nine-session DVD series, with 25-minute weekly videos, continues to walk Trinity participants through the book of Genesis in June, facilitated by Dr. Terence Fretheim, renowned Old Testament scholar at Luther Seminary in St. Paul, Minnesota. The Bible study and its accompanying study guide profiles the early stories of our faith, solving some ancient riddles and confronting us with new questions. Participants seek to grasp the wonder of creation, human relationships, sin, freedom, promise, and God's grace with a study of the origin stories of the people of Israel. The sessions in June:

**Session # 6, June 1** – Children of Abraham: Christians, Jews, Muslims. Genesis 16, 21, the story of Hagar and Ishmael and a look at how three major religious groups trace their heritage back to Abraham

**Session # 7, June 8** – Wrestling in Faith. Genesis 25-33, the story of Jacob and his family with a look at the various ways in which the theme of wrestling plays its role in their conflicted life

**Session # 8, June 15** – Women with Stories. Genesis 34-35, 38, a look at the stories of three neglected women in Genesis – Dinah, Tamar and Rachel

**Session # 9, June 22** – A Family Reconciled. Genesis 37-50, the story of the sons of Jacob and how God works behind the scenes, especially through Joseph, to bring reconciliation to his family

“Exploring Genesis” gathers on Wednesday mornings at 10:30 a.m. in Centennial Hall. Pastor Linstrom will provide supplemental material to Dr. Fretheim’s presentations and the group’s own discussion will help guide us.

## New Members Celebration Being Planned for June

Plans are tentatively coming together for a **New Members Sunday celebration on June 26**, with gatherings for a **Pastor’s Curiosity Class on Sunday, June 5** and a **New Members VIP Supper on June 13**. Prospective members are asked to contact one of the pastors or Office Coordinator Kris Baker if they want to be included in this early summer celebration.

Are you finding a home at Trinity? Are you back among the people of Trinity after a time away? Are you curious about these Lutheran-flavored folks and hoping to learn more, even if you are not sure that you are ready to become a member of Trinity Lutheran Church?

A Pastor’s Class for prospective members will be offered on **June 5** for those who are ready to dig into this tradition of ours more deeply. Others may wish to affiliate as members of Trinity by a simple letter of transfer or by Affirmation of Faith. Our New Members Sunday culminates a celebration of welcoming our newest sisters and brothers in faith. Even if you are not a “joiner,” or if you are unsure that membership with Trinity is the right thing for you, please know that you are welcome to explore what it would mean to affirm membership with the people of Trinity in mission and ministry. Again, all are welcome – contact Office Coordinator [Kris Baker](#) or one of the pastors for more information.



## Life Begins at 60: An Evening at Bostwick Lake Inn

If you’re over 60 please join us at Bostwick Lake Inn, 8521 Belding Rd. NE in Rockford, at **5:30 p.m. on Thursday, June 9**. Reservations are limited to the first 25 people. Contact Cheryl or Denny Rosen by text or phone at 231.250.1390 to make your reservation. See you there!



## Driveway Dining is Baaaack!

Life Begins at 60 Driveway Dining returns again this summer on **Friday, July 8, from 6-8 p.m.** at the home of Joe and Marybeth Iaria, 4852 Summer Ridge Court in Ada. Guests bring their own chairs, supper/snacks/drinks, and the Iarias will supply their beautiful, spacious driveway. To make your reservation, contact the Iarias at [surfin@charter.net](mailto:surfin@charter.net) or 530.209.0436.

# A Message from Associate Pastor Dan Schewe

*For I know what I have planned for you, says the Lord. I have plans to prosper you, not to harm you. I have plans to give you a future filled with hope. —Jeremiah 29:11*

We are people who like to make plans. Plans for the summer, plans for next year, plans for our retirement, plans, plans, and more plans. Plans give us a goal, and provide us with something to move and work toward – they help us structure the chaos that surrounds us daily.

The trauma of these past two years has shattered many of our plans. We have learned that no matter how hard we work and strive, sometimes plans don't come to fruition – and this is sometimes because of something in our control and sometimes because of something that is not. I have found that this trauma has made it hard for many people to make plans beyond the immediate future. Our horizons have narrowed. Something about the great upheaval we have all experienced has affected us so deeply that looking into the future has become extremely painful for many. So painful that it is simply avoided. Yet, God has plans for us. We hear this beautifully articulated in Jeremiah 29:11. God has plans for us that are full of hope and not harm.

This is a consistent refrain found all throughout the scriptures. God has plans for God's people (and all of creation). As we follow the story of the scriptures, we find that the people did not always follow God's plan. They got distracted, went off on another path, or simply went another direction. These choices did not change God's plan for them, God's promises to them, or that God was with them wherever they were. No matter where the people found themselves, they found God there next to them guiding and pointing them back to the plan God had for them.

I find this verse to be wonderful news for us in the midst of the trauma of the past two years. Very little has gone according to our plans. We know the pain and struggle we have gone through and are still struggling with. Yet, God has a plan for us. For me and for you. It is a plan full of hope and not harm.

When your trauma is triggered and you feel that anxiety rising, try to remember Jeremiah 29:11: *"For I know what I have planned for you, says the Lord. I have plans to prosper you, not to harm you. I have plans to give you a future filled with hope."* May this be our prayer as we continue to find our way forward together.

Shalom, Pastor Dan Schewe



## Living Water Ministries Facility Dedication

### Stony Lake Camp/Living Water Ministries to Dedicate New Facility in Loving Memory of Andy Larson

In the early months of the pandemic closure in 2020, Trinity Lutheran Church was challenged by the leadership of Stony Lake Camp and Living Water Ministries to raise \$50,000 as a leadership gift in the \$400,000 first phase of its capital facilities project. In a short time, a groundswell of support exceeded that \$50,000 level of commitment and embraced a larger challenge, the raising of \$100,000 to support the dedication of part of the first facilities project at Stony Lake in loving memory of Andy Larson, the son of Eric and Marcy Larson who died tragically at the age of 14. Andy loved his time at Stony Lake as a camper. The people of Trinity met and exceeded the \$100,000 goal.

The first facility in the Stony Lake capital campaign has been completed and there will be a Dedication of that unit on **Monday, June 6 at 4 p.m.** at the camp. Eric and Marcy Larson will be present, as will Bishop Satterlee, and the people of Trinity are invited to either be present or to offer a prayer of thanksgiving that day as Andy is remembered and the new facility is dedicated.



Andy Larson at Stony Lake Camp



## Summer Adventures!

Pastor Dan and Christian are dreaming up extra summer adventures for our high school and middle school youth. Watch our YouTube channel and your email for updates!



## High School

### Youth Group – June 5 & 12 from 6:30 to 8 p.m.

All high schoolers and their friends are invited to join us for youth group on Sunday, June 5 and Sunday, June 12 from 6:30 – 8 p.m. We will be connecting and delving through the teachings of Jesus.

### Mission Trip Meeting – June 19 at 6:30 p.m. in the Youth Room

Our last pre-trip meeting is set for Sunday, June 19 at 6:30 p.m. in the youth room. We are going to go over all the details we need to take care of before we leave on June 25!

## Bless Our Youth!

Thank you for your support for our youth in a myriad of ways. This summer, we invite you to help bless them as they depart on this summer's faith adventures! On these Sundays we will be blessing our youth in worship ahead of their trips:

**Sunday, June 19 – Mission Trip to Wethersfield, Connecticut**

**Sunday, July 10 – Campers to Stony Lake Bible Camp**

## The Gift of Camp Freely Given – For You!

There is a place at camp this summer for those finishing 1st through 12th grades and there is still time to sign up! **Trinity's group is going to be at camp the week of July 10 to 15 (referred to as "Week 4" when you register).** We already have 25 registered. Join us for an amazing week! We are excited for so many young people to experience camp and want to continue to support Living Water Ministries as they help share the love of God.

## The Gift of Camp – Camp Scholarship Fund Appeal!

Camp is an amazing gift in the lives of our young people. At camp they experience God in amazing ways, through community and through nature. This is possible because of your support. In normal times we ask families to cover a \$100 deposit and our camp scholarship fund covers the rest. This makes the life-changing experience of camp affordable for most families. Many of our youth are only able to attend camp because of your generosity. This summer, Living Water Ministries is graciously offering camp totally free, meaning there are no registration costs. They can do this because of the generosity of congregations like Trinity. **They have challenged us to raise \$10,000 to help cover the costs associated with camp this summer.**



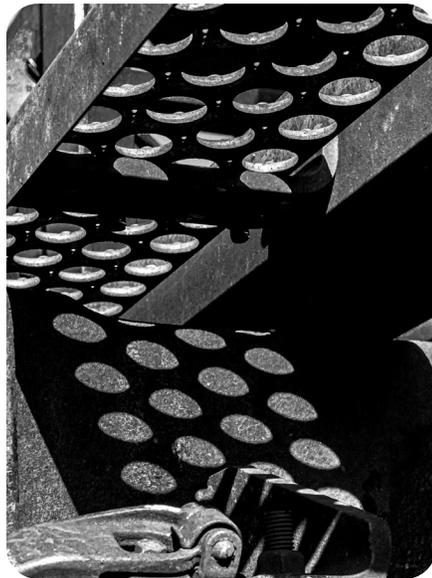
To meet this challenge, we have decided to replace our usual camp scholarship appeal with an **appeal to raise these funds**. Please prayerfully consider how you would like to help support this life changing experience in the lives of Trinity's youth and many others as well.

# Art Ministries

## Overlook Gallery Featuring the Work of Artist John Moglia Through June

An art teacher for almost 30 years, John Moglia is also a budding photographer. For years, he has taken photos of cityscapes, landscapes, flora, and fauna during family vacations and has also been the unofficial "team photographer" for his childrens' sporting events.

John was continually told by family and friends that he needed to show and sell his photography. In the summer of 2021, John's first photo was submitted and accepted into The Great Northern Art Explosion Exhibit in Grayling, MI. In November, he had his first solo show at Mainstreet BBQ in Lowell, MI, and then took part in the Wordview Art Exhibit at the Lowell Gallery. One of John's photos is featured in the book *Galesburg, Illinois: Growing Up in An All-American City* by Peter J. Gorham (available on Amazon).



Focusing on pattern, shape, light and shadow, John's recent work includes landscapes, industrial/architectural abstractions, the Lake Michigan shoreline, and animals. His inspiration is found in patterns and curves, finding compositionally strong visuals wherever he can; in sections of buildings, cars, bicycles, or any found objects. John's other photographic inspirations come from nature. He finds great joy in catching the golden glow of early morning light, the movement of waves, and the power and beauty in mountains, trees, and wildlife.

John lives in Lowell with his wife Karin and his soon to be going off to college daughter, Jackie. The other two Moglia children, Caylyn and Brendan, reside in Colorado and Texas, respectively. The Moglias have been members of Trinity for over 20 years.





## Summer Music Opportunities

In the months of June, July, and August you will notice a variety of musicians sharing their gifts in worship at the 8 and 10:45 a.m. traditional services. These singers and instrumentalists add great dimension to the musical offerings of the summer months. **If you have considered singing or playing an instrument for worship but have not yet done so, please consider this invitation to connect with [Dr. Darlene Kuperus](#), Trinity's Music Director/Organist.** She would be delighted to help you connect your musical skills in the context of summer worship!



A beautiful spring sunrise at Trinity captured by  
Trinity Member Niki Ferguson

## Health Ministries

### Summer Blood Drive

We're entering the season when many people will need life-saving transfusions. Others will need donated blood of all types as they continue to fight disease, undergo surgery, or recover from trauma. One donation can help save the lives of up to three people!

Versiti Blood will be on-site **Monday, June 20 from 1:30 to 7:00 p.m.** Appointments are highly recommended but walk-ins are welcome. Current public health protocols will be in place. Our hospitals have a critical need for blood. Give the gift of life this summer!



Plan your giving today! Contact Kristin Bradley to secure your spot or register here: <https://tinyurl.com/4spbj2m3>

Not able to donate? Check the SignUpGenius for other ways you can help: <https://tinyurl.com/5h9v6bz7>



### Fitness at Trinity

It's always a great time to get your body moving! Trinity fitness classes are here for you. Many time options are now available Monday through Thursday mornings in the Commons. All ability levels are welcome!

Please connect with our instructor, Kristina Kuhlmann at 616.719.6961 for the current class schedule. Suggested donation is \$3/class or \$20/month.

## Stephen Ministry

Got a problem?  
More than you can bear?  
Get a Stephen Minister  
Who will listen to you  
And care!



Talk to any of the pastors, Faith Community Nurse Kristin Bradley, or Stephen Leader Norm Palm to learn more.



# Opportunities to Support Church & Community

## Help Our Afghan Refugee Sponsored Couples

Trinity sponsored two young Afghan couples for resettlement in Grand Rapids last December. Amin, Yalda, Yosuf, and Sara are settling in well, learning English, making friends and finding jobs. **Right now, they have two important needs:**

**Housing:** Our couples are searching for two 1-bedroom houses or apartments to rent. These need to be close to public transportation. Their leases have been extended to June 30, but they need to make this transition as soon as possible.

**Used Car:** Yosuf needs to find a reliable car for use in his job, where he needs to drive to different construction sites.

If you have a property for rent or a car for sale, please contact Sheila Talsma at [sheilatalsma@comcast.net](mailto:sheilatalsma@comcast.net) or 616.204.4208. Thank you!

## Donate Diapers & Underwear Through June!

One child goes through thousands of disposable diapers. Now imagine you have a limited income and can't afford to buy them. As a result, you resort to changing your baby's diaper only once or twice a day. Soon you have a very unhappy baby with diaper rash.

Now through Father's Day, June 19, we will welcome your contributions of diapers and underwear. Please consider donating all sizes of NEW unopened packages of children's, women's and men's underwear, undershirts, and socks as well as diapers. You may place your donations in the labeled bins located in the narthex and west entryway by the office. Monetary gifts are also appreciated. If you are writing a check, please make it payable to Trinity Lutheran Church, and write *Diapers/Undies* in the memo line.

The underwear will be distributed through local Grand Rapids organizations that serve our community's most vulnerable families. There is a need, especially, for larger adult sized underwear and undershirts such XXXL.



## Buy a Book of Bus Tickets!

Through July, 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 job interviews, work, grocery stores, and appointments. Bus tickets can provide stability for individuals and families 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.**



## June is a Beautiful Time to Garden at Trinity!

Did you know that the **Gardening Committee** is gradually modifying Trinity's landscape areas to feature more native plants and shrubs? Using native plants requires less water and maintenance, and is much more beneficial to pollinating insects and birds. Plus, it's just super cool to learn how nature can work so harmoniously when allowed to!

The June gardening workbee will take place on **Saturday, June 4 from 8 to 11 a.m.**

During this workbee, we will be tackling some weeds and deadheading as well as planting some new things in the landscape. Please join us in TLC's beautiful gardens on June 4. It's a beautiful time to garden!

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



# News Briefs

## Trinity Confirms Twelve Eighth Graders

On Sunday, May 1, Trinity celebrated the confirmation of 12 eighth graders at the 10:45 a.m. worship service. These confirmands completed three years of catechetical instruction with Pastor Dan Schewe, and the Trinity congregation looks forward to supporting them in their journeys of faith formation!



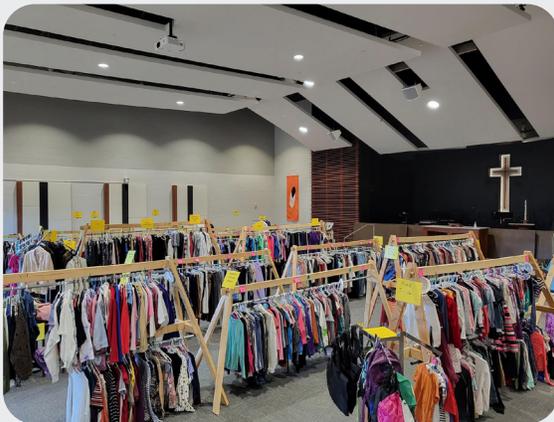
**Back Row (L-R):** Nicholas Derbin, Madelyn Ferguson, James Gingras, Pastor Dan Schewe, Allyson Becker, Breslin Waite, and Lydia Albaitis

**Front Row (L-R):** Isaac Stephen, Jack Bishop, Abigail Battreall, Lyndon Turnage, Jacob Johnson, and Hailey Pfeiffle

## Trinity's Annual Rummage Sale a Success!

We want to thank **Amy Stephan** for her amazing leadership of this year's Rummage Sale. The sale was able to raise \$10,000 for our high school youth trip to Wethersfield, Connecticut! The rummage items that did not sell were donated to these local agencies: In the Image, Blessed by Brooklyn, Habitat ReStore, and Flat River Outreach Ministry (FROM).

We want to thank everyone who helped set up, sort, price, sell, and clean up at this year's sale. It was an amazing success because of you!



# June Birthday & Anniversary Celebrations

## June 1

Kristine Candela  
Beverly Heyne  
Michael Mason  
Karen Nagle  
Eric Tooley  
*Brad & Marie Selleck*

## June 2

Chas Schaner  
*John & Kelli Basher*

## June 3

Tara Anderson  
Susan Bailey  
Gretchen Flemming  
May Mulligen  
Calvin Posthumus  
*Mark & Rebecca Mattison*

## June 4

Susan Cothorn  
Jacob Hall  
Georgianna Hoeksema  
Juliette Scurfield  
*William & Gayl Kessel*

## June 5

Megan Hudson  
*Aaron & Erin Breaugh*

## June 6

James Bennett  
Patrick Brang  
Biruta Fessenden  
Emily Keller  
Theo Marquardt  
Richard McKenzie  
Elliot Rieth  
*Terry & Linda Zabel*

## June 7

William Beute  
Jane Claus  
Lori Law  
Jacqueline Murray  
Sarah Turnage

## June 8

Todd Brandstadt  
Laurel Freshour  
Andrew Steketee  
*Erick & Carol Kind*

## June 9

Benjamin Battreall  
Darin Estep  
Nicolette Ferguson  
*Kenneth & Beverly Blok*  
*Kyle & Krista Flack*  
*David & Christina Straw*

## June 10

Matthew Blair  
Kim Bradbury  
Robert Crossman  
Sarah Kuntzman  
Alexis Mason  
Ethan Mason  
*Dave & Jennifer Thamban*

## June 11

Kimberly Danielski  
*Kevin & Katharine Gingras*  
*Bruce & Amanda Hungerford*  
*Robert & Nancy Scott*

## June 12

Andrew Bekker  
Lynn Hagenbush  
Larry Longstreth  
MayEllen Morin  
Eli Owens  
*Jeff & Jennifer Haywood*

## June 13

Jackson Brandstadt  
Thomas Malvitz  
Alexandra Shannon  
Lindsey Skalandis  
Michael Thorsen  
Janice Wabeke  
David Young

## June 14

Debra Petrick  
Kristen Shannon  
*Donald & Jane Barsema*  
*Morgan & Jaculin Cole*  
*Noah & Amanda Schneider*  
*Michael & Michelle Smokovich*

## June 15

Brayden Croly  
Russell Lamb  
Katie Moga  
Ryleigh Owens  
Erin Vigna  
Anthony Zarou  
*Robert & Linda Heine*

## June 16

Marcelyn Anderson  
Marilyn Grant  
Melissa Haneline  
Scott Hansen  
Hannah Johnson  
Rebecca Linstrom  
Carol Schumacher  
*William & Marilyn Leidel*  
*Jamie & Venta Norris*

## June 17

Caroljean Conrad  
Sarah Frecka  
Sandy Rothfuss  
*Kevin & Lynn Grzelak*  
*Fred & Kathryn Wilcox*

## June 18

Kari Lamprich  
Gavin Law  
Fiona Pardy  
EllaSophia Scurfield  
*David & Joyce Kuecherer*

## June 19

Ryleigh Fischer  
Janet Genow  
Joshua Giuliani  
Catherine Kirsch  
Eden Korb  
Hannah Parshall  
Tami Saum  
Tom Williams  
*Bill & Debora DeWitt*  
*William & Lisa Keller*

## June 20

Janelle Beaudry  
Mary Frick  
Jacob Johnson  
Nayamukora Muganza  
Joshua Price  
Sheryl Vander Baan  
*Eric & Tamara Engblade*  
*Edward & Joan Lohr*  
*Jeremy & Amanda Lynn*

## June 21

Peter Fisk  
Brylee Peters  
*SongSoo & Tara Anderson*  
*Stephen & Norma Brink*  
*Mark & Anna Bryce*  
*Timothy & Tessia Lundgren*  
*Nathan & Madeline Scurfield*

## June 22

Kelsey Becker  
Thomas Lee  
Alaina Lundgren  
Ronald McNally  
Valerie Seif  
*Maurice & Cynthia Fongers*  
*John & Emily Keller*  
*Randall & Jamie Kuntzman*

## June 23

Stephen Archer  
Norma Brink  
Brooke Fredericks  
Nicholas Johnson  
Brian Mazurek  
Mark Rohde  
Susan Wait  
Donna Wollen  
*James & Raija Boles*

## June 24

Kris Baker  
Paige Bishop  
Edith Pergler  
Robert Pergler  
*William & Patricia Bruin*  
*Lee & Ann Schomberg*  
*Dale & Kathleen Sommers*

## June 25

Carol Kind  
Elena Luders  
Gavin Van Meter  
*Jeffrey & Lisa Postlewaite*

## June 26

Cohen Barker  
Christine Bickel  
Alexis Braaten  
Jodi Hutchinson  
Jonathan Kelder  
James Kubicek  
John Mielock  
Mila Perez  
Silas Perez  
Halle Ulreich  
*John & Jane Ashby*  
*Ronald & Ginta McNally*  
*Donald & Judy Otten*  
*Neil & Susan Sandler*

## June 27

Morgan Black  
James Coates  
Jared Hudson  
Evan Reierson  
*Kenneth & Debbie Lown*  
*Roger & Jessica Marks*

## June 28

Norah Barker  
Vaiva Norris  
Parker Proux  
Anne Tooley  
*Scott & Jennifer Hall*

## June 29

Nicholas Grooters  
Joan Hansen  
Wendy Johnson  
Roy Lamprich  
Melissa Ziech  
*Scott & Corina Dulecki*

## June 30

Robert Missman  
Emmett Morin  
Patrick Murray  
*Gordon & Catherine Kirsch*  
*Matt & Lisa LaFleur*  
*Dale & Gale Volkerding*  
*Gary & Ning Watson*

# 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. The 10:45 a.m. service is streamed for **indoor** services only. **Two ways to find streaming services:**

(1) Follow the home page link to **Virtual Worship** on Trinity's website; select **Video** to connect to the stream. (2) Go to YouTube by opening the app on your phone or by visiting the webpage.

Search for and click on **Trinity Lutheran Church Grand Rapids**. If the service is live (from about 9:10 to 10:20 a.m. and 10:40 to 11:50 a.m. on Sunday mornings), there will be **Live Now** video. Simply click on the video.

•We also save past services (called **Rejoice Worship**, and **Sanctuary Worship**), so you can view a past service at any time. (On Sundays, it may be a few hours before videos are available.) \*\*\*If you **subscribe** to Trinity's YouTube channel, videos should automatically show up on your feed.

**We are on GRTV!** Our Sunday services are 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!



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)

Follow us on social media!

**instagram: tlc.gr**  
**facebook.com/tlcgr**



**Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**  
God's work. Our hands.

**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

### Direct Dial:

616.949.2510

(then dial extension #)



Contact Trinity



Instagram: tlc.gr  
facebook.com/tlcgr



YouTube.com  
Search: Trinity Lutheran  
Church, Grand Rapids

Rev. Robert Linstrom, Senior Pastor (ext.115)

robert.linstrom@tlcgr.org

Rev. Dan Schewe, Associate Pastor (ext.124)

dan.schewe@tlcgr.org

Rev. Kari Fast, Associate Pastor for Pastoral

Care (ext.112), kari.fast@tlcgr.org

Brooks Alder, Sound Board Operator,

616.949.2510

Kris Baker, Office Coordinator (ext.110)

kris.baker@tlcgr.org

Rachele Battreall, Director of Family Ministry

rachele.battreall@tlcgr.org

Christian Blauwkamp, Youth Ministry Coordinator

christian.blauwkamp@tlcgr.org, 616.949.2510

Kristin Bradley, Faith Community Nurse (ext.119)

kristin.bradley@tlcgr.org

Ingrid Brang, Sunday School Coordinator

ingrid.brang@tlcgr.org

Amelia Crist, Wedding Coordinator

weddings@tlcgr.org

Dr. Debora DeWitt, Rejoice Music Coordinator/  
Accompanist, 616.949.2510, deb.dewitt@tlcgr.org

Awilda Diaz, Nursery Coordinator

616.427.2261, awilda.diaz@tlcgr.org

Grace Gohl, Sexton (ext.117)

grace.gohl@tlcgr.org

Sidney Hoeksema, Trinity Choir Director (ext.118)

616.554.2998, sidney.hoeksema@tlcgr.org

Dr. Darlene Kuperus, Director of Music & Organist

(ext. 118), darlene.kuperus@tlcgr.org

Carrie Lamb, Communications Coordinator

(ext.121), carrie.lamb@tlcgr.org

Tess Lundgren, Fellowship & Hospitality Coordinator

(ext.121), tess.lundgren@tlcgr.org

Sheri Mason, Sunday School Coordinator

kids@tlcgr.org

Peter McKinney, IT Coordinator (ext.200)

peter.mckinney@tlcgr.org

James Morin, Family Activity Coordinator

james.morin@tlcgr.org

Andrea Severns, Sunday School Coordinator

kids@tlcgr.org

Joanna Waite, Finance Assistant (ext.111)

joanna.waite@tlcgr.org