



The Messenger

Come Join Our Team!

Are you seeking a collaborative, supportive, and meaningful way to serve Trinity and our community? Consider joining the Trinity staff! We have two part-time openings detailed below. Please be in touch with [Pastor Linstrom](#) if you are interested.



“Helping Hands” Coordinator

A part-time staff position, 10 to 15 hours weekly, that seeks to lead our efforts to care well for our congregation’s members through programs and volunteers, including:

- coordination of “Helping Hands” ministry for meals, rides, and other needs of Trinity members
- working with our pastors/staff to coordinate care of homebound members/“Trinity in Touch” visitation ministry
- coordination of altar flower delivery and of Christmas poinsettias to the homebound, grieving, hospitalized, etc.
- assisting with communications to support Trinity’s Prayer Ministry/prayer chain and helping coordinate the Prayer Tree Ministry matching adults and children in prayer relationships
- providing administrative support for outreach with prospective members, including our “Let’s Connect” ministry, and procuring Time and Talent surveys from new members; helping facilitate our activation of members and constituents based on Time and Talent surveys
- helping coordinate “Trinity Neighbors,” an every-member effort at building community within our congregation
- supporting efforts to maintain a Trinity pictorial directory
- developing and supporting a “Helping Hands” Committee to share leadership of this ministry
- providing for communications with the congregation to grow support for “Helping Hands” initiatives



Discipleship & Outreach Coordinator

A part-time staff position, 15 to 20 hours weekly, that seeks to lead our efforts at outreach in the wider community with our benevolent community service partners, coordinating Trinity members to serve through:

- coordinating roughly 65 volunteers, four times annually, for Interfaith Hospitality Network (IHN)
- coordinating efforts to activate volunteers for other community outreach such as Habitat for Humanity builds, serving meals at agencies like Dégagé and God’s Kitchen, supporting Congress Elementary School partnerships, and other volunteer initiatives
- supporting Trinity’s ongoing refugee resettlement efforts
- supporting Trinity’s many financial appeals for local ministries and for churchwide efforts like the World Hunger Appeal and Disaster Response, special offerings during Advent and Lent, etc.
- working with Trinity’s Outreach Committee to provide oversight to our many outreach ministries and to establish and administer our outreach financial support
- supporting other congregational outreach efforts including backpack/school supply appeals, Kids Coalition Against Hunger (KCAH) meal packing, Family Promise and Access fundraisers, LWR quilting, etc.
- helping facilitate our activation of members based on Time and Talent surveys
- providing for communications with the congregation to grow support outreach and discipleship ministries

These are position descriptions that will evolve as candidates interview for and step into these roles in our life together. Please contact [Pastor Linstrom](#) for more information.

What's Happening at Trinity in July?

Weekly at a Glance

Sundays

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

Mondays

Stroller Barre, 9 a.m.
Fit4Baby, 7 p.m.
No classes July 4

Tuesdays

Fitness Classes, 10 a.m. – noon*
LWR Quilters, 9:30 a.m.

Wednesdays

Fit4Baby, 7 p.m.

Thursdays

Fitness Classes, 10 a.m. – noon*

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

Daily Calendar

Sunday, July 3

LWR Quilters, noon

Monday, July 4

Office Closed - 4th of July Holiday

Tuesday, July 5

Executive Comm Mtg, 7 p.m.

Wednesday, July 6

Fit4Baby, 7 p.m.

Friday, July 8

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

Saturday, July 9

Graduate Open House, 3 p.m.

Sunday, July 10

Camp at Stony Lake
Outdoor Worship, 10:45 a.m.
Blessing of the Stony Lake Campers
LWR Quilters, noon

Monday, July 11

The Messenger Deadline
Property Comm Mtg, 6 p.m.
Congregation Council Mtg, 6:30 p.m.
Rejoice Band Practice, 6:30 p.m.

Tuesday, July 12

TLC Quilters, 10 a.m.

Thursday, July 14

Endowment Fund Comm Mtg, 6 p.m.
Children's Min Comm Mtg, 8 p.m.

Tuesday, July 19

Piano Regulation, 9 a.m.

Sunday, July 24

Graduate Open House, 2 p.m.

Monday, July 25

Outreach Comm Mtg, 6 p.m.
Rejoice Band Practice, 6:30 p.m.

Tuesday, July 26

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

"Thoughts and Prayers"

Beloved Community,

It seems that whenever there is a mass shooting in our country, our public discourse follows an increasingly familiar pattern. Mass shootings should not happen often enough for a predictable, routine response, but that is not our reality.

The language of "thoughts and prayers" offered by any with at least a semblance of faith grounding has become increasingly contentious. Public officials and faith peoples offer public statements extending prayerful support and sympathy, but the language seems to come from an autopilot response to a world that is out of control. Four years ago, after the shooting at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida, I remember the student survivor who decried all of those "thoughts and prayers" as she demanded action to change the mass shooting culture that could allow students going to school to be gunned down. Ever since that time, I have reflected that an offering to hold individuals or communities in my thoughts and prayers might come off as hollow or disingenuous.

It must be said that I do hold sisters and brothers on life's journey in prayer and, in so doing, keep them forefront in my thoughts. But, as Marcus Borg wrote, "Compassion without justice can mean caring for victims while quietly acquiescing to a system that creates even more victims."¹ Somehow, even in the face of daunting political and social challenges, we need to be about the business of seeking change, advocating for a better day and pursuing justice.

Victims and their families do seek compassion and prayer, and people of faith should be about the business of offering those gifts. As Dr. Russell Johnson of the University of Chicago Divinity School wrote, "We don't need a moratorium on prayer to stop school shootings. Thinking and praying can train our moral perception, reorienting our vision to make us more aware of our duties, our failings, our interdependence."²

When our vision is reoriented to make us more aware of "our duties, our failings, our interdependence," we will likely need to progress beyond our postures of prayer to lives active in engagement. Theologian and ethicist Reinhold Niebuhr penned the famed Serenity Prayer 70 years ago: "God, grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change, courage to change the things I can, and wisdom to know the difference." Writing in post-World War II American culture, Niebuhr did not have a vision of our nation's problems in the 2020s, but his prayer remains directive. Let us be those who continue to hold one another in thought and prayer but let us also be those who have the courage to advocate for systemic change that can make our world a safer place. May the best of our compassionate hearts be joined with lives seeking the betterment of the world in which we live and love.

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

Grace and peace,

Pastor Bob Linstrom



¹ Marcus Borg, from *Reading the Bible Again for the First Time* (San Francisco: Harper, 2002).

² Russell Johnson, in the June 9, 2022, issue of *Sightings*, a publication of the Martin Marty Center for the Public Understanding of Religion at the University of Chicago Divinity School.

Trinity Congregation Council Members 2022-2023

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
Secretary: John Fox
Treasurer: Chris Engle

Congregational Council Members

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



A Message from Council Member Eric Gohlke

"Charlie Mike" is a military phrase that is code for "continue the mission." Those of you who served may be familiar with this phrase that inherently means that no matter the difficulties, one must push through adversity and **continue the mission**, never quitting until the mission is complete. Failure is an option, but quitting is not.

I became very familiar with this phrase, growing up with a grandfather who served in World War I, teaching recruits how to ride and handle horses, and with ten uncles who served in World War II. One of my uncles was a bomber pilot in the Pacific and was one of the first bombers to land outside of Nagasaki, Japan after the bomb had been dropped, delivering medical supplies and personnel to help with the injured. Another uncle fought in the jungles of Burma. My own father fought in Europe and was awarded a Silver Star, a Bronze Star and a Purple Heart for his bravery during combat. The next generation produced two colonels, one of whom was a West Point graduate and lead Black Ops teams out of planes in the middle of the night.

As evidenced by the list above, I am aware of the positions my enlisted relatives held or currently hold, and I know some details about the missions they undertook. However, few details have emerged about what exactly my family members did during live combat. It just wasn't something that they talked about. But one thing is clear: they were willing to sacrifice their time and safety to do something that was largely behind the scenes without expecting recognition in return.

So, what does this have to do with Trinity Lutheran Church?

Just as the enlisted men from my family were and are quiet and humble leaders who have handled various challenges without regard to accolades, praise, or thanks, Trinity Lutheran Church has many who are willing to give their time and to work quietly behind the scenes in many different ways to benefit the church and our community as a whole. They do this work so that the church can continue to do the work of Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. In Chapter 20:28, Matthew writes: "Just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many." We at Trinity are asked to do the same – to dedicate our lives to serving Jesus and the others that surround us.

There are of course many opportunities within the congregation to serve. Some take more time and commitment while others are small and may only require dedication to a couple of activities during the course of the year. Some of these opportunities aren't even formal things to sign up for and can be as simple as welcoming or acknowledging others you meet with a smile or offering peace and understanding to those around us. Serving makes us healthier and happier and glorifies God.

On this Fourth of July, we remember many who have served in the Armed Forces and who have willingly given of themselves so that others may be free and enjoy a better life. While not all of us have experience in the Armed Forces, we can be inspired by past and current service members by serving others in our church and community in any way we can. As Deuteronomy 15:11 states: "For there will never cease to be poor in the Land. Therefore I command you. You shall open wide your hand to your brother, to the needy and to the poor in your land."

Let us continue to serve others with joyful hearts and peace and understanding.

God Bless and Charlie Mike

New Council Officers Elected for 2022-2023

The Congregation Council began a new year in June, with Council members elected at the January 2022 Annual Meeting taking their places for the 2022-2023 term. Among the agenda for the new Council was the election of officers. Serving as the congregation's officers for 2022-2023 are: **President Karen Unruh, Vice President Steve Heacock, Secretary John Fox, and Treasurer Chris Engle.**

Newly elected Council members **Chris Becker, Jacquie Murray, and Susan Knoll** (right) joined returning members as the new Council year began. We gave thanks for outgoing Council members **Amelia Crist, Paul Crist, Mike King, and Nicole Rodammer**, who served faithfully for several years as Council members. 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.



Chris Becker



Jacquie Murray



Susan Knoll

Financials

Trinity Lutheran Church Budget vs. Actuals Month of May 2022

	Budget	Actual	Variance Favorable/ (Unfavorable)	
Total Income	90,877	75,742	(15,135)	-16.7%
Total Expenses	97,884	89,911	7,974	8.1%
Net Income (Loss)	(7,008)	(14,169)	(7,161)	

2022 Fiscal Year-to-Date (Thru May 2022)

	Budget	Actual	Variance Favorable/ (Unfavorable)	
Total Income	501,925	412,189	(89,736)	-17.9%
Total Expenses	411,794	365,165	46,629	11.3%
Net Income (Loss)	97,139	47,024	(43,107)	

TITHE.LY
Innovative church giving



Please Remember Your Offering When You Are Away!

As you travel this summer, remember that the ministry of your congregation continues all year 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, go to <https://get.tithe.ly>, or scan the above QR code.** Tithe.ly can also be found in Trinity's pictorial directory application on your phone or other smart device.

Mark Your Calendar!



Driveway Dining is Baaaack!

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

A Very Special Invitation

Great news! Trinity's Life Begins at 60 group has been invited to a cookout at the home of Bruce and Joyce Schlanderer, 60 Forest Hill Avenue SE, on **Friday, August 19 at 5 p.m.** Bring a dish to pass and your favorite drink; grilled hamburgers and brats will be provided. Contact Joyce at 616.949.4173 to make your reservation. See you there!



Family Promise's 4th annual family-friendly community event, Family Frolic at the Zoo, takes place on **Sunday, July 24 from noon to 4 p.m.** at John Ball Zoo!

Although this year's event is structured differently, it is sure to be a fun-filled afternoon with giveaways, a scavenger hunt for kids, music, lunch and of course ANIMALS! Family Frolic at the Zoo 2022 is a "choose your own adventure" event that provides an age appropriate platform to talk about family homelessness as well as learn what's happening around family homelessness in our community.



We hope you join us for a great cause and a fun time! To learn more, click on the RSVP link below! Funds raised during Family Frolic helps homeless families and children move home!

RSVP here: <https://tinyurl.com/k5pu2xnd>

Tickets are \$15 for adults, and children under 18 get in free thanks to a generous donation from Eastbrook Homes!

Outdoor Worship Continues on "Second Sundays" July 10 & August 14



Trinity's "Second Sunday" plan for outdoor worship continues **Sunday, July 10**, and will be offered on second Sundays of the month into the fall of 2022. 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 indoor 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 a celebration of our beautiful church campus for outdoor worship in 2022 – mark your calendar for the July outdoor worship gathering on July 10 and the August outdoor worship gathering on August 14. In case of inclement weather, we will simply move back inside to the sanctuary on those Sundays.

New Members Being Welcomed to Trinity!

After welcoming 45 new members of our congregation in the fall of 2021, Trinity is privileged to welcome another 35-40 new partners in ministry in the summer of 2022.



A "New Members VIP Night" was celebrated with supper, introductions of new members, and a rousing game of "Trinity Trivia" on June 13, and many new members were welcomed in worship on June 26. Additional new members will be received on at least one Sunday in July as we coordinate summertime schedules to intersect with our newest partners in ministry.

Watch for a special directory with photos and biographical sketches of our newest members in an upcoming issue of this newsletter.

A Message from Associate Pastor Dan Schewe

"Early Christianity was the most successful treatment plan for the ills of the human soul ever conceived..." –Carl Young



This June the Center for Action and Contemplation (cac.org) started a new season of their podcast entitled *Learning How to See with Brian McLaren*. The previous seasons were filled with wonderfully engaging conversations and teachings, and I am excited to see where this season goes.

In this season's first episode Brian, Diana Butler Bass, and Mike Petrow converse about the question 'How do you see Christianity?'. They talk about how they have experienced the Church and Jesus in a variety of ways in their lives, both positively and negatively. It reminded me of many of my own experiences and those that have been shared with me. Some beautiful and some filled with pain.

Pause for a moment and think about how you have seen and experienced the church, God, and Christianity? How do these experiences shape your view of God?

During the podcast conversation, Mike talks about how Origen, an early Christian scholar and theologian, has shaped his vision of Christianity and how this particular view drew him back in. He references the above Carl Young quote, and I think it is a quote and idea worth holding on to; that at its core Christianity is about treating the ills of the human soul. This is what draws so many to the church. We all know the hurt that lives inside of us and surrounds us daily, and at its core the church seeks to help find a way to mend these wounds and restore our connections to each other and to God.

Sadly, Young's quote does not end there. He goes on to say, "but then [Christianity] was inherited by empire and reinterpreted, and then the empire collapsed, and it was inherited by a bunch of warring tribes and reinterpreted as feudalism." In other words, at its core the church is about healing the ills of the human soul, but over the years it has been reinterpreted into a lot of other things. Sadly, many of these reinterpretations have led to a lot of pain, and that pain has shaped how many view the church and God.

This summer I hope you join me in contemplating how we have seen and experienced God, and how others have seen and experienced God through us. May we not lose sight of the plot of Christianity or confuse it with another, different agenda. May we be a people who are about healing the ills of the human soul.

Shalom,

Pastor Dan Schewe

Youth News

Bless Our Youth!

Thank you for all of your support for our youth in a myriad of ways. We invite you to help bless them as they depart on this summer's faith adventures! On **Sunday, July 10** we will bless the group headed to Stony Lake Bible Camp for a week of community and experiencing God.



Children's Ministry

VBS Success!

Monumental Vacation Bible School was a big success in June! Over 100 kids from Trinity and the community enjoyed Bible-learning, team-building games, cool Bible songs, and tasty treats! Thank you to the 60+ volunteers that made this event possible!





The Nursery is Hiring!

Join our childcare team dedicated to providing loving care for little ones. Interested adults must be available 2 to 3 Sunday mornings per month. Work hours during the week are varied according to church programming. Compensation is competitive. Applicants should have some experience with infants and toddlers. If interested, please contact [Awilda Diaz](#).



Music Ministries

ALL CREATION SINGS: A New Resource for ELCA Worship Music

You may have noticed that there are now two song books in the pews of Trinity Lutheran Church. The red hymnal, *Evangelical Lutheran Worship*, continues to be incorporated in liturgy and song choices for worship at the 8 and 10:45 a.m. traditional worship services, but now there is a new, purple book titled *All Creation Sings* alongside the red hymnal.

In 2020, Augsburg Fortress published this new resource for congregational singing. It offers 200 additional songs for worship as well as two new settings of the sung liturgy. With the blessing of the Worship and Music Committee, this new resource was purchased and arrived in the sanctuary in mid-May 2022.

We are glad to have this resource to expand the options for congregational singing on a weekly basis. As the introduction to the supplement states, "All Creation Sings evokes a recurring scriptural theme. Psalm 96 is an example in which the sky, the earth, the sea, the field, and the forest are invited into sung rejoicing at God's coming."

May the advent of this new collection of sacred music be an offering to God as we raise our voices together in worship.

Dr. Darlene Kuperus
Music Director & Organist

Stephen Ministry



The Biblical Basis of Stephen Ministry

Stephen Ministry is a Christian educational organization founded by Lutheran Pastor Kenneth Haugk in 1975. It takes its mission statement from Ephesians 4. The mission of Stephen Ministry is:

"...to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, until all of us come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to maturity, to the measure of the full stature of Christ." —Ephesians 4:12-13



The name "Stephen" comes from St. Stephen, who was the first layperson commissioned by the apostles to provide caring ministry to those in need (Acts 6). Since the time of the apostles, caring ministry has been considered a hallmark of the Christian faith community.

Trinity has embraced Stephen Ministry to help carry out our congregation's mission, "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." The training programs developed by Stephen Ministry in St. Louis have been invaluable in equipping volunteers here at Trinity for their caring ministries. Stephen Ministers are trained volunteers who seek to live the command to "Bear one another's burdens, and in this way, you will fulfill the law of Christ" (Galatians 6:2), and who trust in the promise that "For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them" (Matthew 18:20).

To learn more about Stephen Ministry, contact Faith Community Nurse [Kristin Bradley](#) or Stephen Leader [Norm Palm](#).



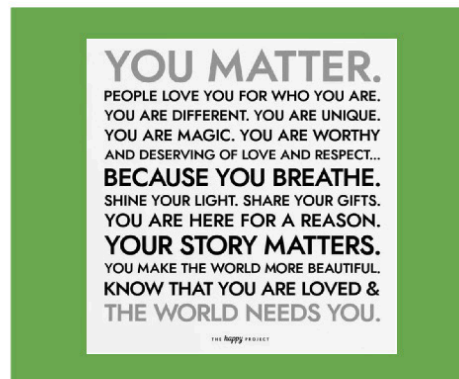
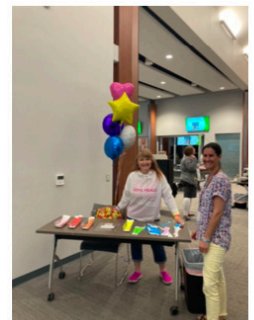
Fitness at Trinity

Trinity fitness classes are here for you. Summer classes are on Tuesday and Thursday mornings. 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.

Minding Your Mind a Success at Trinity!

Interfaith Mental Health Awareness Workshop at Trinity May 21st, 2022



More than 50 people joined together to learn more about normalizing, destigmatizing and understanding mental health in multiple interactive ways!

Videos of selected sessions can be found on Trinity's YouTube Channel at: <https://bit.ly/TLCHealthMinistries>

THANK YOU TO OUR RESOURCE PARTNERS:



Opportunities to Support Church & Community

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.**



Have Some Fun at a Know Mercy Softball Game!

Trinity's coed softball team, "Know Mercy," is playing on **Tuesday evenings** this summer!

All games are played on Field #2 at Manhattan Park, 331 Cascade Rd SE in East Grand Rapids. Let's show our support for the team by attending an upcoming game!

July 12 - 6 p.m.

July 26 - 7 p.m.

July 19 - 6 p.m.

August 2 - 6 p.m.

See you at the ballgame!



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. The shopping list below indicates the number of the specific items needed to begin the school year. Please consider picking up some of these supplies and bringing them to Trinity. Your donations can be placed in the large plastic labeled barrels located in the entryway in the main entrance on the west side of the church building.

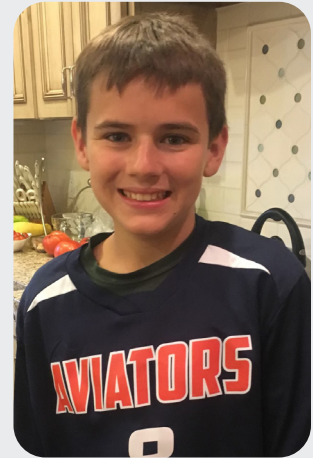
The collection of supplies will go through August. Items needed:

- Tissues (200 boxes)
- Hand sanitizer (50 large pump bottles)
- Sanitizing wipes (50 containers)
- Glue sticks (200 each)
- Crayons (200 boxes)
- Pencils (400 each)
- Healthy dry boxed snacks (crackers, pretzels, granola bars, etc.) for younger grade classes. No need for individual wrapping.
- Dry erase markers
- Two-pocket folders
- Notebooks
- Pencil top erasers



First Completed Stony Lake Camp Facility Dedicated to Andy Larson

The first new cabin at Stony Lake Bible Camp has been completed and on June 6 its great room was dedicated to Andy Larson. The room is called "Andy's Room." It is a room where kids will laugh and play and sing, just as Andy loved to do.



First "Second Sunday" Outdoor Service a Success!

Churchgoers met for the first outdoor church service of the season on Sunday, June 12. The beautiful weather was the perfect compliment to this traditional service, and many stayed to enjoy the Start of Summer Celebration that followed. Please join us for more outdoor traditional worship on the second Sunday of each month throughout summer and into the fall!



Trinity's Overlook Gallery to Feature the Works of Artist Mary Reusch

Be sure to stop by Trinity's Overlook Gallery during the months of July and August to view the works of local artist Mary Reusch.

From Mary's blog:

Painting landscapes gives me the opportunity to go out into nature and observe it very closely. Standing in a meadow, or in a forest, or on the shore of a lake gives me a chance to soak up the essence of the land and enjoy its rhythms. Capturing these many scenes is a time-honored vision. As civilization has encroached on the landscape, artists have been working hard to preserve the memory of wild areas. One such group were the Barbizon painters from 19th century France, who first felt the impact of industrialization. Painters like Rousseau and Millet strove to monumentalize everyday life and their surroundings, bringing in new honesty and soul to the world of painting. These ideas were echoed a few years later here in the United States by artists such as George Inness as he endeavored to give his landscapes a sense of the divine. My own connection to the natural world causes me to want to capture what I observe and experience. As our current wilderness continues to disappear right here in West Michigan, and we spread out and build more and more, I find that what we have left is increasingly sacred in my eyes.

Please stop by to see Mary's work in the months of July and August!

News Briefs



Quilt winner Barb Crossman and Christophe Muganza

And the Winner Is.... Christophe's Children!

On Sunday, June 5, drawings took place for members and friends of Trinity that purchased tickets to win one of three professionally quilted, handmade quilts donated by Ruth Ann Evans and Carol Hendricks. The lucky winners were: **Leah and Mike Guis, Marybeth Iaria, and Barb Crossman.**

Donations and ticket purchases totaled \$1,316, giving the LWR Quilters a financial buffer to purchase needed supplies for the school/home Christophe Muganza is building in his home village of Kalehe in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). Christophe has seen firsthand the need for safe, sanitary housing and schooling for orphaned children in the area, and has, with the help of Trinity members, acted on improving conditions there.

He and the children thank everyone at Trinity for supporting this worthwhile fundraiser. Please contact Carol Hendricks at cahendricks14@gmail.com for more information about how Trinity quilters are helping Christophe's Children.



Trinity quilters have made countless blankets for Christophe's Children.



A Special Thank You

Dear Trinity Lutheran Church,

Thank you for the meals, cards, shawl, and prayers. Thanks also for the rides. We really appreciate it.

May God Bless You,
Mark & Rebecca Mattison

New Americans: A Note from Sue Cothern

Sandy, Frank, and I celebrated **Benjamin Murekezi's citizenship** at a ceremony on Thursday, May 26 at the Forest Hills Fine Arts Center (only 2 of the 6 of the family's girls could attend as the other 4 were in school!). 65 different countries were represented with 200 new Americans receiving their official citizenship paperwork. What a moving scene! In addition, the eldest Murekezi daughter, Rosine, graduated from East Kentwood High School that evening.



July Birthday & Anniversary Celebrations

July 1

Jenn Dwyer
Andrew Murray
Joy Prusak
John & Elizabeth Derbin

July 2

Ellie Brandstadt
Tristan Derbin
Haley Fisk
Linda Grinstead
Nick Harrison
Joe Rosloniec
Calvin Steketee
Micah Steketee
Dan Zielinski
Mark Hagbom & Sally Mahoney

July 3

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

July 4

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

July 5

Bonnie Brandstadt
Caden Budzyn
William Cannon
Michael Idema
Victoria Priebe
Oliver Ruble
Dave & Susan Gutierrez

July 6

Kim Brock
Delia DeBoer
Kristi Flatt
John & Kristin Bradley
Dave & Lisa Reierson

July 7

Elena Griewahn
Adrienne Hall
Brian Sarnacki
John & Melissa Ziech

July 8

Kaitlyn Childers
Zephyr Engblade
Margot Frecka
Abigail Lamprich
Matt Mead
Hudson Proux
Rachel Vigna

July 9

Cori Beckett
Angie Brace
Jan Curry
Hayes Dudley
Annie Hudson
Lisa Mead
David Morrison
Chloe Tesch
David & Sue Wait

July 10

Grady Engstrom
Chris Kutschinski
Austin Mester
Karin Moglia
Micki Smokovich
Jonathan Sommers

July 11

Tom Helzer
Fred Ulreich

July 12

Abi Battreall
Julianna Hahn
Marybeth Iaria
Connor Krupp
Judy Otten
Mae Preston
Keith Gohlke & Lisa Wilson

July 13

Brad Burkle Jr.
Sofia Crist
Donna Erickson
Geoff Larsen
Madison Montgomery
Andrea Salasky
John & Debbie Potter

July 14

Sarah Huckstep
Clara Osbeck
Brock Smith
Alexander Soule
Larry & Diane Biser
Sid & Carrie Hoeksema

July 15

Laura Fisher
John Idema
Kathryn Langenburg
Mary Wollen
Steven & Laura Cairns

July 16

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

July 17

Benjamin Cannon
Sam McMillan
Tadas Norris
Tom Shannon Jr.
Tom Vander Woude
Peyton Wollen
Robert & Beth O'Connor

July 18

Sue Bakkila
Jon Feinauer
Byan & Kate Bredwell
Joesy & Wendy Johnson
Dan & Yvonne Lynn

July 19

Mikaela Bradley
Nancy Krupp
Laura Swain
Larry & Connie Frazier

July 20

Jennifer Ackerman-Haywood
Dave Reierson
Tom & Michelle Albaitis

July 21

Rachel Ahrens
Ken Beld
Benson Beuker
Katelyn Tooley
Kara & Christopher Posthumus
Tom & Heather Worsfold

July 22

Jordan Donahue
Brian & Rachel Vigna

July 23

Fred Wilcox
Jodi Wood
Todd & Bonnie Brandstadt
Art & Liz Schmeehling

July 24

Abby Cole
Laura Elliott
Cyndi Harrison
Charles Krug
Taylor Montgomery
Virginia Stoll-Tyrrell
Megan Unruh
Maggie Vander Woude
Paul Vander Woude

July 25

Susan Candela
John & Kyle Teichow
David & Kathy Young

July 26

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

July 27

Peter Bowman
Emilia LePow
Ivy LePow
Leo LePow
Barbara Meyers
Jay Rosloniec
Dale Volkerding
Dick & Chris Duyser
Ned & Michelle Quinn

July 28

Alain Carron
Bruce Hungerford
Ian Love
Beth Olson
Steven Salasky
Chris & Joanna Kutschinski
Jason & Jamie Stevenson
Chris & Elizabeth Van Meter

July 29

Steve Colby
Peter Larson
Ronald McNally
Elaine Rongey
Jennifer Salasky
Kay Zeaman
Jeffrey & Kori Grooters

July 30

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

July 31

Lyn Allen
Jillian Beld
Brooke Croly
Clara DeVita-Krug
Mary Rasmussen

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

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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,

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