



The Messenger

Annual Meeting of the Congregation: Sunday, January 15, 2023

Each year on the third Sunday of January the people of Trinity Lutheran Church gather to share an All-Congregation Potluck Luncheon and the Annual Meeting of the Congregation. The work of the Annual Meeting includes the reception of reports from all the congregation's ministries, the election of Council members, Synod Assembly representatives and Nominating Committee members, and the adoption of an operating budget for the new fiscal year which begins on February 1. Participation in this important meeting is the responsibility of all the voting members of Trinity.



We will also act at the January 15 Annual Meeting to ratify the changes to Trinity's Constitution and Bylaws that were approved at the 2022 Annual Meeting and to approve revised Articles of Incorporation.

Hard copies of the 2022 Annual Report of the Congregation will be available at the church beginning Sunday, January 8. PDF copies will also be linked to eBlasts in early January 2023.

Mark your calendar and plan now to be with us for the Annual Meeting of the Congregation on January 15, beginning with our potluck luncheon at noon. Look for a link in the weekly eBlast to sign up to bring a dish to share or to assist during the luncheon/meeting.



Coalition Against Hunger

KCAH Comes to Trinity January 29, 2023

We are so excited that our annual meal-packing event with the Kids Coalition Against Hunger (KCAH) will return to its traditional last Sunday in January. With your help, we hope to package and pay for **35,000 meals**. Each of those meals can feed a family of 6, at a cost of 35 cents per meal.

To reach our goal, we need to raise a total of \$12,250!

In addition to your financial support, we also need volunteers to help us set up for the event and to pack the actual meals. Set-up begins at 8 a.m. and meal packing starts at 10:15 a.m. The whole family is welcome and refreshments will be provided. Thank you for your support and we look forward to seeing you on the 29th!

**WonderFull Women's Retreat:
Coming February 10 to 11, 2023!**

See [page 15](#) for more details and registration information.



What's Happening at Trinity in January?

Weekly at a Glance

Sundays

Traditional Worship, 8 a.m.
Rejoice Worship, 9:15 a.m.
Live-Streaming of Worship, 9:15 a.m.
Sunday School, 9:20 a.m. **(Starts Jan. 8)**
Traditional Worship, 10:45 a.m.
Live-Streaming of Worship, 10:45 a.m.

Mondays

Stroller Barre, 9 a.m.
Schubert Male Chorus Rehearsal, 7 p.m.
(Starts Jan. 9)

Tuesdays

Women's Bible Study, 9 a.m.
LWR Quilters, 9:30 a.m.
Fitness Classes, 10 a.m. – noon*

Wednesdays

Pastor Bob's Adult Forum, 10:30 a.m.
(Starts Jan. 11)
Fit4Baby, 7 p.m.

Thursdays

Fitness Classes, 10 a.m. – noon*
Resound Bell Choir Rehearsal, 6 p.m.
Trinity Choir Rehearsal, 7:15 p.m.

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



Daily Calendar

Monday, January 2

Holiday - Office Closed
Property Comm Mtg, 6 p.m.
Beyond Belief Rehearsal, 6 p.m.

Tuesday, January 3

Executive Comm Mtg, 7 p.m.

Wednesday, January 4

Outreach Comm Mtg, noon

Thursday, January 5

Endowment Fund Comm Mtg, 6 p.m.

Friday, January 6

Women's Bible Study, 9:30 a.m.

Sunday, January 8

SM Continuing Ed, 12:30 p.m.
SM Peer Supt Grp 1, 1:30 p.m.
SM Peer Supt Grp 2, 1:30 p.m.
Middle School Youth Grp, 2 p.m.
Confirmation Class, 3 p.m.
High School Youth Grp, 6:30 p.m.

Monday, January 9

The Messenger Deadline
Race & Restitution Reading Grp, 1 p.m.
Stephen Leaders Mtg, 1:30 p.m.
Schubert Male Chorus Bd Mtg, 5:30 p.m.
Congregation Council Mtg, 6:30 p.m.
Rejoice Band Rehearsal, 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday, January 11

Youth & Family Comm Mtg, 8 p.m.

Friday, January 13

Women's Book Club, 9:30 a.m.

Saturday, January 14

Men's Breakfast, 8 a.m.
GR Women's Choir Retreat, 9 a.m.

Sunday, January 15

All Congregation Potluck & Annual Mtg, noon
Middle School Youth Group, 2 p.m.
Confirmation Class, 3 p.m.
High School Youth Grp, 6:30 p.m.

Monday, January 16

Beyond Belief Rehearsal, 6 p.m.
Finance Comm Mtg, 6 p.m.
Health Min Comm Mtg, 6:30 p.m.

Tuesday, January 17

Care & Share, 10:30 a.m.
Heart-to-Heart with Pastor Kari, 11:30 a.m.
Trinity Arts Comm Mtg, 4 p.m.
Book Club, 7 p.m.

Thursday, January 19

Bridge, 1 p.m.
Life Begins at 60 Dinner at Timbers, 5:30 p.m.
Children's Min Comm Mtg, 8 p.m.

Friday, January 20

Women's Bible Study, 9:30 a.m.

Saturday, January 21

White Elephant Gift Exchange & Potluck, 5:30 p.m.

Sunday, January 22

Heart-to-Heart with Pastor Kari, 10:15 & 11:45 a.m.
Celebration of Music Concert, 3 p.m.
Youth Tubing at Cannonsburg, 3 to 5 p.m.

Monday, January 23

Rejoice Band Rehearsal, 6:30 p.m.

Tuesday, January 24

Council on Aging, 7:30 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.

Wednesday, January 25

Pack 3015 Comm Mtg, 6:30 p.m.

Friday, January 27

Women's Bible Study, 9:30 a.m.
Private Party, 4 p.m.

Saturday, January 28

Safe Haven Church Certification, 8 a.m.

Sunday, January 29

KCAH Food Packing Set-Up, 8 a.m.
KCAH Food Packing & Refreshments, 10:15 a.m.

Monday, January 30

Beyond Belief Rehearsal, 6 p.m.

A Message from Pastor Bob Linstrom

Let Us Welcome the New Year by Encountering the Word of God



Recently, a Trinity family began to sponsor a supply of NRSV Bibles that will be available in the narthex

and at the Courtyard Welcome Center for anyone to pick up and take home. I am delighted by the intent of this anonymous gifting, a generous sharing of the Word of God for anyone, members and/or guests, who could use a copy of our sacred scriptures.

“In the beginning was the Word,” John the Gospel writer intoned. In Hebrew the term *dabar* means both “word” and “deed.” To say something, in that sense, is to do something. In our scripture, one can maintain that God never wearies of trying to do anything to get the Word across to us. When creation itself doesn’t seem to say it right – sun, moon, and constellations – God tries flesh and blood. “The Word became flesh and lived among us,” John continues. Emmanuel – God with us. And God finally manages to say what God is and who we are as children of God.

Friends in Christ, I would commend you to welcome the new year by reading the Word of God, the Bible, which speaks out of the depths of our faith story into the depths of who we are. I would also commend to you the synod sponsored Adult Theological Education series described to the right. Dr. Wally Taylor is a gifted teacher, and this Zoom series is promising.

A blessed New Year, my sisters and brothers. Blessings as we begin anew grounded in the Word of God. It remains a privilege to serve as a pastor among the people of Trinity.

Grace and peace,

Pastor Bob Linstrom

Adult Theological Education With Dr. Wally Taylor



As noted in recent eBlasts and on church social media, the North/West Lower Michigan Synod is sponsoring a new series of theological education courses. For five semesters beginning in early 2023, the synod will offer six-week Zoom courses led by seminary professors. These courses are open to all adults, both laypeople and rostered ministers, and are free of charge.

The first course offering will be *Corinthian Correspondence: Conflict, Case Studies, Contemporary Congregations, and Christ* led by Rev. Dr. Walter F. Taylor, Jr., Professor Emeritus of New Testament Studies, Trinity Lutheran Seminary at Capital University.

The goal of this six-week Zoom study is to learn from Paul and his house churches in the ancient Greek city of Corinth—both how they fell into conflict and how Paul sought to move them to reconciliation and ministry. Resources for the sessions will be available on the synod’s website.

The class will meet on six consecutive Tuesday evenings: January 10, 17, 24, 31, February 7, and 14, from 7 to 8:15 p.m. To learn more or register, follow the Trinity eBlast link, check the synod website (www.mittensynod.org), or visit <https://tinyurl.com/muetzfsb>.

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.

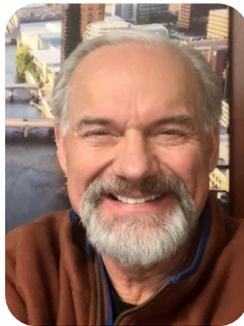
Congregational Council Executive Committee

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

Congregational Council Members

Children's Ministry: Sarah Huckstep
Communications: Chris Becker
Helping Hands: Susan Knoll
Endowment Fund: Brad Kessel
Fellowship & Hospitality: Jamie Kuntzman
Finance: Chris Engle & Chris Norton
Health Ministries: Carol Butler
Human Resources: Steve Heacock
Outreach: John Fox
Property: Chris Becker
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)

Dusting Off Trinity's Organizational Documents



The revision of our Constitution and Bylaws and restatement of our Ecclesiastical Articles of Incorporation was an arduous journey – hours of reading a technical document word for word, revising tortuous prose, changing “the” to “this,” and other nitpicks, some dictated by the Synod, some self-imposed – all to put common understanding and practice into written rules. Each change important, in its own way.

While Spirit-driven at its core, our church is an organization of people and needs rules and regulations for cohesion and the consistent and purposeful administration of its work. The Constitution and Bylaws contain Trinity's statement of adherence to Evangelical Lutheran Church of American (ELCA) doctrine and policy as well as Trinity's rules of order that direct our administrative practices. The Restated Ecclesiastical Articles of Incorporation register and give the organization standing with the State and protections under state law.

Constitution and Bylaws

The ELCA-required chapters include the basic tenets of our faith and our commitment to the wider church and its purposes. While I will provide a few highlights, the required Confession of Faith, Nature of the Church, and Statement of Purpose are impossible to summarize well and require reading in their entirety. The required provisions also define the powers of the congregation and our affiliation with ELCA and the North/West Lower Michigan Synod of the ELCA, and include, among other provisions, statements regarding property ownership, membership, and pastors.

- In the Confession of Faith, we confess and accept the Triune God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior and the Gospel, recorded in the Holy Scripture and confessed in the ecumenical creeds and Lutheran confessional writings, as the inspired Word of God.
- The Nature of the Church speaks to our acceptance of the one, holy, catholic, and apostolic church.
- The Statement of Purpose states that Trinity is to, among other things, preach and teach the Word of God and administer sacraments, provide pastoral care, participate in society, respond to human need, and foster relationships both within and outside of the ELCA.

The rest of the Constitution (Chapters 10-14) is not ELCA-wide. It is specific to Trinity, put forward by Trinity, and determines how Trinity is to be self-governed – including the congregational meeting, officers, council, and committees. These provisions provide the nuts and bolts for the entity and are likely the part of the Constitution and Bylaws that people will consult most.

Continued on following page

Under these provisions:

- An annual meeting of the congregation is required.
- Officers are elected by the council and hold their offices for both the congregation and the council.
- Council consists of the pastors and members (including a youth and a young adult). Term is no more than 2 terms of 3 years each.
- Council is the board of trustees/directors for the congregation. It has general oversight of the life, activities, and finances of the congregation.
- The Executive Committee (officers and pastors) appoint staff and the senior pastor is responsible for staff supervision.

Restated Ecclesiastical Articles of Incorporation

Trinity was originally incorporated in Michigan on June 15, 1898, under the tenets of the general synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in the United States, to “...diffuse moral and religious knowledge.” The Restated Articles carry forward our legal name, Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church of Grand Rapids, Michigan and declare our allegiance to the ELCA: “The members of the church or society shall worship and labor together according to the discipline, rules and usages of the ELCA...” The Restated Articles limit the personal liability of volunteer Congregation Council members, as allowed under Michigan law, and protect other volunteers as well. They also include the provisions required by federal tax law to establish Trinity as a religious organization exempt from federal tax.

When people gather to organize a new entity, hours of effort are devoted to getting the language of the organization documents just right. Once completed, however, the documents are often left gathering dust on a shelf. Consequently, the exercise of revising a constitution and restating articles is one of discovery and re-examination. Hopefully, the re-examination of Trinity’s organizational documents will renew, in some small way, your personal connection to Trinity Lutheran Church.

—Steve Heacock, Executive Committee Vice President

Financials

Trinity Lutheran Church Budget vs. Actuals Month of November 2022

	Budget	Actual	Variance Favorable/ (Unfavorable)	
Total Income	99,765	100,418	653	0.7%
Total Expenses	91,053	86,901	4,153	4.6%
Net Income (Loss)	8,712	13,517	4,805	

2022 Fiscal Year-to-Date Thru November 2022

	Budget	Actual	Variance Favorable/ (Unfavorable)	
Total Income	1,047,936	946,114	(101,822)	-9.7%
Total Expenses	991,020	905,911	85,109	8.6%
Net Income (Loss)	56,915	40,203	(16,712)	

Financials (cont.)

January Giving: Our Shared Stewardship to Support Trinity's Mission and Ministry as the Fiscal Year Draws to a Close

"For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also." –Matthew 6:21

January is the last month of Trinity's fiscal year – the new budget year begins in February. As we prepare to adopt the new 2023 budget at the January 15 Annual Meeting of the Congregation, be reminded of the importance of your faithfulness in offering giving in the quiet of early winter at Trinity. Give generously and take your part in the vital mission that has been entrusted to us as the people of Trinity Lutheran Church.

Offer Your "Estimate of Giving" for 2023

November 20 was "Consecration Sunday" at Trinity. At all three worship services there was an invitation for members and friends of Trinity to make their Estimates of Giving for 2023, their pledges of offering giving for the year ahead, as an act of worship that morning. An additional "Estimate of Giving" form can be found on the back cover of this newsletter so that you may offer your pledge for our shared ministry in the year ahead – please plan to return your Estimate of Giving to the church office soon as our Finance Committee and Congregation Council use those estimates to care for the 2023 budget for our shared mission and ministry.



Online Giving Through Tithe.ly

At Trinity, we use "Tithe.ly" 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, scan the QR code



to the left, or go to:

<https://get.tithe.ly>

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

Are You a Thrivent Member?

Don't Forget to Direct Your Choice Dollars By March 31!

Grant funding from Thrivent Financial through its Thrivent Choice program can help support organizations you care about. Don't let Choice Dollars expire!

Eligible Thrivent Financial members who have Choice Dollars available have until March 31 to direct any remaining Choice Dollars to help support Trinity Lutheran Church. Go to [Thrivent.com/thriventchoice](https://thrivent.com/thriventchoice) to learn more, or call 800.847.4836 and say "Thrivent Choice" after the prompt.

Last year, Trinity received over \$4,000 from Choice Dollar donations from Thrivent!



A Message from Associate Pastor Dan Schewe

Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances, for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. –1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

I do not like New Year's resolutions. I find they tend to get us thinking negatively about ourselves and our environment, about what we want to change as we step into the new year. Instead, I want to start off the new year by giving thanks.

On behalf of our youth, thank you for the amazing support you give them. Thank you for your generosity, for investing your time and hearts in their lives, and for praying for them. Thank you for helping shepherd them toward what God is calling them (and us) to do and for modeling what a faithful life looks like.

On a personal note, thank you for the honor of being one of your pastors. It is an honor and joy that I get to serve with you as we try to follow God's lead and every day I am thankful for you and the partnership that we have.

As we look toward the new year, we have a lot of amazing things planned for the young people of our congregation. This summer our high schoolers are going to East Bank, West Virginia, on our annual Mission Trip. There we will work on basic home improvements for the residents we meet, and God will be working on our hearts. It promises to be an amazing week. This summer kids as young as those entering first grade next year and as old as graduating seniors will get to experience camp at Stony Lake for an amazing week of God, community, and nature. Along with these amazing trips we have our weekly gatherings during which our young people grow in community and faith.

To help support these transformational experiences, we have scheduled initiatives throughout the year to help fund them:

- In the fall we sold Christmas wreaths. Thank you for ordering one!
- In February we begin our 'Sponsor a Mile' campaign which asks you to help sponsor some of the 1,000 miles we will be traveling this summer. Look for the boards before and after worship.
- In April we are elated to serve you breakfast on Easter.
- In May we hold our camp scholarship fund appeal, during which we raise funds to make camp affordable for all families.
- In May Trinity will be transformed for our annual rummage sale. Thank you in advance for your stuff and your help sorting and selling it.

Thank you for your generosity and consistent modeling of a life of faith. It makes these life-changing experiences a reality in the lives of our youth. Thank you for your partnership, support, and commitment to our community. Thank you for being a blessing.

Shalom,

Pastor Dan Schewe



Trinity Trivia

Q1: (Organization & Structure) What are three ways Trinity shares information with its members?

Q2: (Organization & Structure) Name three of the standing committees at Trinity that members can join.

Trinity Trivia answers located on [page 8](#).



A Message from Associate Pastor Kari Fast

Heart-to-Heart Conversations

Dear Trinity Family and Friends,

January can, for some, be a beautiful time of year with its sense of fresh new beginnings, white snow filling the landscapes, and the slow luxury of a month less busy than the last few. January can, for some, be a boring, let-down time of year following all the fun and fellowship of the last few months or the disappointment of holiday expectations not met.

Regardless of your relationship with January, it may be a good time to add another point of connection to your month; a good time to add a genuine conversation with others of faith. A good time to have a heart-to-heart conversation.

A definition of heart-to-heart: *A heart-to-heart is a conversation...in which people talk freely about their feelings or personal problems.*

1 Thessalonians 5:11 says: *Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.*

A short article expressed, "It is through your heart that you experience love and connect emotionally and energetically with the people and world around you. You can open your heart and connect in all aspects of your life. The experience of love takes away fear and brings healing and happiness."

Please be invited to three heart-to-heart conversations I'll be hosting in January – you are welcome to join one or more of them. They will be approximately an hour in length. Locations and RSVPs will follow in the weekly eBlasts.



Three Heart-to-Heart Conversations Hosted by Pastor Kari

Tuesday, January 17 beginning around 11:30 a.m. • Includes a light lunch

Sunday, January 22 beginning around 10:15 a.m. • Includes a light snack

Sunday, January 22 beginning around 11:45 a.m. • Includes a light lunch

⁵May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, ⁶so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ... ¹³May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. —Romans 15:5,6,13

God's deepest blessings now and always!

Pastor Kari, Associate Pastor for Pastoral Care

Trinity Trivia Answers

A1: Weekly Connection bulletin insert, announcements in worship, The Messenger monthly newsletter, Trinity's website, screens and posters around the church, Friday eBlasts, Facebook and Instagram pages.

A2: Children's Ministry, Communications, Congregational Life, Endowment Fund, Fellowship & Hospitality, Finance, Health Ministries, Human Resources, Outreach, Property, Publicly Engaged Church, Spiritual Growth, Stewardship, Worship & Music, Youth & Family Ministry. **See sidebar on page 4 for a listing of these standing committees and their current council liaisons.**

Biblical Learning Opportunities

Pastor Bob's Adult Forum

New Adult Forum on Wednesdays at 10:30 a.m. begins January 11

Join Pastor Bob for "Embracing a Life of Meaning" with Kathleen Norris

On Wednesday mornings in early 2023, Pastor Bob will be facilitating a five-week course on "what matters most." Award-winning poet, writer, and author of four *New York Times* bestsellers Kathleen Norris provides the weekly video presentations for this series, followed by filmed interaction with a diverse small group of adults.



The editors at Morehouse Education Resources note that, Kathleen Norris's work is, "... intimate and historical, rich in poetry and meditation, brimming with exasperation and reverence, deeply grounded in both nature and spirit, sometimes funny and often provocative." Our weekly viewing and discussion of this forum series will take place in Centennial Hall on Wednesdays at 10:30 a.m. in January and February.

Each participant will be provided a copy of the "Embracing a Life of Meaning Participant's Workbook." Copies are available in the church office for those who would like the workbook in advance.

Schedule:

January 11 – Belief Matters

January 18 – The Bible Matters

January 25 – Community Matters

February 1 – Place Matters

February 8 – We Matter

February 15 – *Make-up date in case of inclement weather*

Join us in the winter of 2023 to reflect upon "what matters most." All are welcome!

Women's Bible Studies

Tuesday Morning

Meets at Trinity Weekly on Tuesdays from 9 to 10:30 a.m.

Starting January 10, the group will study *Heaven on Earth: Studies in Matthew* by Janelle Hooper, which follows the post-Epiphany lectionary. This women's group meets on Tuesdays from 9 to 10:30 a.m. To order a study guide or for more information, please contact Karen Unruh at karen@unruhfamily.net.

Friday Morning

Meets at Trinity the 1st, 3rd, and 4th Friday of the Month from 9:30 to 11 a.m.

This group continues their study started in fall 2022. Love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control. To be spiritually mature is to show the fruit of the Spirit of Christ in our lives. These nine-session LifeGuide® studies from Old and New Testament passages highlight each quality and inspire us to nurture the Spirit's fruit in our lives. Contact Kristine Fox at jklsafox@comcast.net or 616.460.0052 for more information.

Celebrate Dr. Martin Luther King's Birthday Weekend: "The Afro-Semitic Experience" at Temple Emanuel

Temple Emanuel is excited to host a great night of music entitled "The Afro-Semitic Experience" on **Saturday, January 14 at 7 p.m.**, as a way of celebrating Dr. King's birthday weekend.

This program was founded by African-American jazz pianist Warren Byrd and Jewish-American jazz bassist David Chevan. The evening is a night of music that combines an eclectic array of styles, sophisticated musicianship, good songwriting, deep grooves, and years of friendship with a simple message: Unity in the Community. The artists' music has been heard around the United States and it is welcomed by audiences who come together to share their love and respect for the community. Their performances are celebrations of culture that invariably get audiences up and dancing.

This event is free of charge and will take place in the Temple Emanuel sanctuary at 1715 East Fulton Street. The Kaufman Interfaith Institute of Grand Valley will be taking reservations. Please look for a registration link in the weekly eBlasts and on church social media.

Wedding Coordinator Position Posted



After four years of faithful service as Trinity's Wedding Coordinator, Amelia Crist has stepped down after serving the last two 2022 wedding weekends in November. She has walked with many couples and their families as they entered the covenant of marriage at Trinity during her tenure in that position.

Is this a position that would interest you, dedicating yourself to Friday evening wedding rehearsals and Saturday marriage celebrations at Trinity Lutheran Church? Are you interested in learning more about the position? Be welcome to contact Pastor Bob Linstrom. We hope to have this position filled before the 2023 wedding season begins in April. Contact Pastor Bob at 616.949.2510, ext. 115 or robert.linstrom@tlcgr.org.

New Members Celebration Being Planned for Spring 2023

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?

Individual meetings and Pastor's Classes for prospective members will be offered this winter and next spring 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. A

New Members Sunday will be celebrated on **Sunday, May 21, 2023**. 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.

All are welcome – contact Office Coordinator Kris Baker or one of the pastors for more information.



News Briefs (cont.)

Flowers for Traditional & Rejoice Worship



Flowers are a wonderful way to honor family members or friends who are celebrating birthdays, anniversaries, or other special occasions; give recognition in memory of a loved one who has passed away; or to beautify our worship space.

Our procedure for ordering flowers will simply invite those who are purchasing arrangements to make that purchase directly with a florist of their choosing. Members of the Worship and Music Committee and church staff have additionally suggested the following four florists for those without a favorite option:

- Ball Park Floral & Gifts, 8 Valley Ave NW, GR, MI 49504, 616.459.3409 ballparkfloral.com
- Alpine Floral & Gifts, Inc., 5290 Alpine Ave NW, CP, MI 49321, 616.784.0626 - alpinefloralandgifts.com
- Kennedy's Flower Shop, 4665 Cascade Rd SE, GR, MI 49546, 616.956.6747 - kennedyfloral.com
- Ludema's Floral, 3408 Eastern Ave SE, GR, MI 49508, 616.452.2961- ludemas.com

We request delivery by the florist during office hours on **Friday between 7:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m.** We will seek to put arrangements in the refrigerator when there is room. Otherwise, the arrangement will be placed directly in the worship space. Our Office Coordinator Kris Baker will continue to gather information from your sign-up to properly note your memorial or honorary designation of the floral gift in the Weekly Connection.

Eternal Light

You are invited to remember a loved one who has passed away by sponsoring the Eternal Light for a week. The Eternal Light, which burns 24 hours a day throughout the year, hangs in the sanctuary near the sacristy and close to the altar. A bulletin announcement in Trinity's Weekly Connection will read: *The Eternal Light for today has been given by _____ in memory of _____.* A suggested donation of \$10 to the Eternal Light Sustaining Fund will cover our costs for the wax candle. Others may also choose the same week to remember their loved ones. Their names will also be listed for that week. If you have any questions, please contact Kris Baker at kris.baker@tlcgr.org or 616.949.2510.



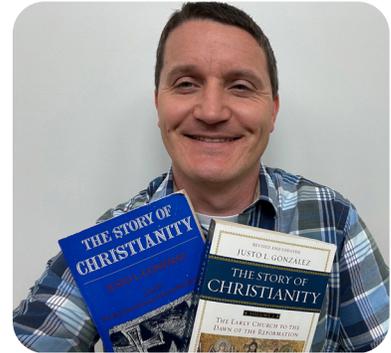
Trinity's Inclement Weather Policy

When the Forest Hills Public Schools close during the day, all Trinity daytime activities are cancelled and the church offices are closed. When Forest Hills Schools announce a two-hour morning delay, morning programming at Trinity will be cancelled. After 3 p.m. and on weekends, check WOOD TV8 or FOX 17 about the status of our evening or weekend activities. Please be as certain as possible that it will be safe for you to be out on the road. We will miss you if you are unable to join us for worship or a church event, but we count on you to use your best judgment when it comes to your personal safety this winter!



Update on the “Pastor Karen Niemeyer Scholarship Fund”

Recognizing the need for pastors across the church and the potential of many lay members who are currently working in a different career, Trinity has initiated the Pastor Karen Niemeyer Scholarship Fund for second-career seminarians. The fund’s purpose is to encourage gifted candidates to attend seminary and prepare to serve in Christ’s name as ordained Word and Sacrament clergy. A series of *Messenger* articles highlighting four Trinity members who are second career pastors will be shared in the coming months. This month’s article features Trinity Associate Pastor Dan Schewe.



The Rev. Dan Schewe, D.Min.

I like to tell people that I came to seminary through the side door. I never thought I would pursue a master’s degree in anything. There were some classes in college I only passed due to the grace of my professors, and master’s programs are also quite expensive. Yet, as I was working as a youth minister, I continually found myself seeking books, courses, and seminars about ministry. It was like something inside me was longing to delve deeper into all of these, and as I did, that something grew more and more alive. The energy it gave my life was unlike anything I had experienced. This led me to start thinking about attending seminary, yet the cost of it concerned me.

At this time in my life, I had just gotten engaged to Alexis and we were trying to figure out our lives together. Neither of us liked the idea of taking on loads of educational debt, so after I was accepted as a student at Luther Seminary, we decided I’d take classes slowly so we could pay for them as I took them. This put me on a slower track through my studies, but I found this allowed me to engage in the material more deeply than many of my classmates who were taking more classes than I was. I came into seminary with a wealth of experience actually working in churches. I had lots of practical framework about how ministry is done, and seminary helped me to flesh out the theological framework of why we do ministry and to delve deeper into the calling of God in my life.

One of my first classes at seminary was early church history. It was taught by a Coptic Nun. I absolutely loved it. It was amazing to learn more about our history from an Eastern Orthodox view. She would glide into our class in her habit and help us understand the history that has laid the foundation for our faith. As I began my assigned reading for this course, I found the text she had assigned strangely familiar; I soon realized that I had already read the assigned text in my personal studies in trying to understand our history as a church. I still have two copies of this book on the shelves in my office!

In my years at Luther, I was blessed to receive a scholarship from my sponsoring synod that just about paid for a class every year. This greatly eased the financial burden of seminary and took a lot of anxiety out of my life. This scholarship also allowed me to pick up credits during the summers and stay closer to a four-year master’s program. I am forever grateful to those who put together that program and how it assisted my family in following the call of God in my life. I am honored that Trinity is building a similar program to help others pursue a second career in ministry. There are many for whom the financial burden is too great to consider following the call of God into ministry. This program will go a long way in helping alleviate that burden.

If you or someone you know are desiring to go into Word and Sacrament ministry as a second career, please contact the Trinity Office (office@tlcgr.org or 616.949.2510) or speak with one of the Scholarship Team members (Pastor Karen Niemeyer, Pastor Donna Erickson, Pastor Galen Knutson, or Pastor Frank Rothfuss). Continued contributions to the “Pastor Karen Niemeyer Scholarship Fund” are always welcomed.

Save the Date!



Men's Breakfast on Saturday, January 14, 2023 With Guest Speaker G.R. Police Chief Eric Winstrom

The Men's Breakfast group is planning its first gathering of the new year on January 14, 2023. Meeting once every quarter for food, study and fellowship, the Men's Breakfast will run from 8 to 9:30 a.m. We will gather for a fresh, full breakfast, a brief Bible study led by Pastor Bob and our guest speaker.

Our January 14 guest speaker Eric Winstrom began his tenure on March 7, 2022. Prior to being named as the 15th Chief of Police for the Grand Rapids Police Department, he served in the Chicago Police Department for over twenty years in various patrol, tactical, investigative, and administrative positions. He holds a BS in Administration of

Justice from Rutgers University and a Juris Doctor from Brooklyn Law School. Chief Winstrom is a court-recognized expert on police policy, use of force, criminal investigations, and the Fourth Amendment. He was pleased to receive the invitation to address our Men's Breakfast gathering at Trinity.

Men of Trinity, watch for your invitation to sign up and plan to be in attendance on January 14 for our quarterly breakfast!

Annual Meeting of the Congregation on January 15, 2023

Save the date for the All-Congregation Potluck & Annual Meeting of the Congregation beginning at noon on **January 15, 2023** when we will receive reports, elect leaders, and adopt a budget for 2023.



Dinner at Timbers Inn: Thursday, January 19, 2023

Let's try again! Since our November plans were snowed out, we'll try again on **THURSDAY, JANUARY 19, at 5:30 p.m. to dine in front of the warm and welcoming fireplace at the Timbers Inn, 6555 Belding Road NE in Rockford.**

If you're 60 years or older, come and enjoy the evening with us. *Reservations are limited to the first 30 guests.* Contact hosts Joe and Marybeth Iaria (text/call 530.209.0436) to make your reservation.

White Elephant Gift Exchange: January 21, 2023

Join us on January 21 for our 2nd Annual Potluck and White Elephant Gift Exchange! This event is for parishioners 14 years old and up. We will begin our evening with a family potluck at 6 p.m. followed by a white elephant gift exchange. Hopefully you saved those gifts you received this year that you have no idea what to do with or you can grab those items you've been hiding in the back of your closet to foist off on your fellow parishioners. Please keep all gifts PG.

Look for a signup in the weekly eBlast or contact Fellowship & Hospitality Coordinator [Tess Lundgren](#) with questions or to request after-potluck nursery for younger kids. Hope to see you for a night of food, fellowship, and merriment!



WonderFull World Women's Retreat: February 10 to 11, 2023

Hello, Girlfriends! Wishing you could get away for a mini-vacation? We've got your ticket!

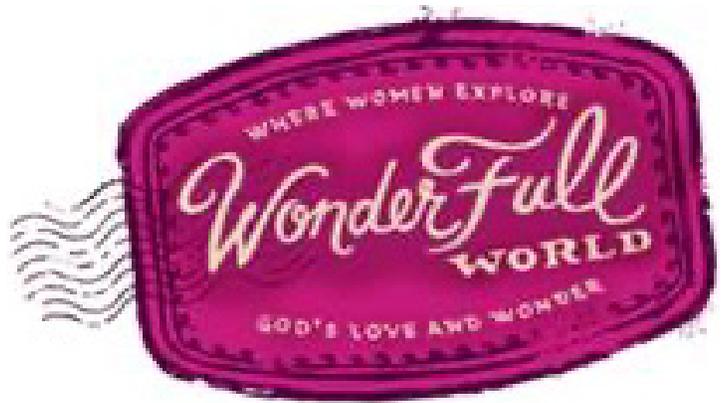
WonderFull World is an unforgettable travel-themed retreat the women of Trinity and St. Luke's Lutheran Churches are doing together. It includes worship, Bible study, quiet reflection, and laugh-out-loud fun!

At WonderFull World we'll "travel" to each of the seven continents. While there, we'll explore wonders of a woman's heart, such as "I wonder if I matter to God" or "I wonder where God is when life is hard." We'll find the answer to each of these questions in the Bible and discover more of God's amazing love for us.

We'll begin with dinner on the evening of Friday, February 10 at 5:30 p.m. and will finish by 4 p.m. on Saturday, February 11. Our retreat will be held at the beautiful Maranatha Conference Center in Norton Shores, and the cost is \$120 for triple occupancy (double is \$140; single is \$160). This covers three meals, fun and refreshing activities, and comfortable lodging. **A deposit of \$50 is due Sunday, January 15.**

Call Cindy Zientarski at 616.292.8535 or Carrie Wygmans at 616.648.5254 for more information. Registration forms are in the Courtyard. All women are welcome; space is limited so sign up early!

Relax, make new friends, worship, and explore God's love. Invite friends and join us at WonderFull World!



Lent Begins in Worship on Ash Wednesday, February 22, 2023

Ash Wednesday Worship at 4 and 7 p.m.

The traditional journey "from ashes to Easter" begins with worship on Ash Wednesday, February 22.

Lent begins with a solemn call to fasting and repentance as we begin our journey to the baptismal waters of Easter. As we hear in the Ash Wednesday readings, now is the acceptable time to return to the Lord. During Lent the people of God will reflect on the meaning of their baptism into Christ's death and resurrection. The sign of ashes suggests our human mortality and frailty. What seems like an ending is really an invitation to make each day a new beginning in which we are washed in God's mercy and forgiveness. With the cross on our brow, we long for the spiritual renewal that flows from the springtime Easter feast to come.

At Trinity, Ash Wednesday will include worship at 4 and 7 p.m. Take note in the February edition of this newsletter details of a live streaming/YouTube recording option for those who wish to participate in one of those virtual formats.

Plan now to join the people of Trinity as we mark our journey from ashes to Easter in worship in 2023.



CELEBRATION OF MUSIC CONCERT SERIES: UPCOMING EVENTS

CHAMBER ORCHESTRA OF GRAND RAPIDS

January 22, 2023 • 3 p.m.

Trinity's Sanctuary



The new year begins with highly energetic music from the Baroque era. This concert features some of the very best music composed for a chamber orchestra from this era. The tapestry of movements from these suites are filled with some highly familiar melodies as well as ones that may become your new favorites. This local ensemble is led by Mr. Zachary Graft, local conductor and violinist. Below is the repertoire that is featured in this program:

Bach Orchestral Suite No. 3 in D Major BWV 1068
Bach Brandenburg Concerto No. 3 in G Major BWV 1048
Corelli Concerto in F Major Op. 6 No. 4
Vivaldi Concerto Op. 3 in D Minor No. 11 RV 565

AFRICAN DRUM CIRCLE

Saturday, February 4, 2023 • 11 a.m.

Trinity's Centennial Hall



This family music event will be led by Leah Ivory, the conductor of the Grand Rapids Symphony Youth Chorus. Approximately 40 drums are incorporated in this participatory and fun event specifically created for children and families. A light lunch will be served. Participants will also have an opportunity to see a short video about *Christophe's Children*. Connecting music and mission is a way we can continue to support the children in Kalehe in the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

Sunday School Resumes January 8, 2023

Children are welcomed back to Sunday School on January 8 during 9:15 a.m. Rejoice worship. We will celebrate being together with a hot chocolate bar!

Preschoolers through third-graders head to large group after Children's Time for music, announcements, offering, and prayer. Then they breakout into small groups by age for Bible lessons and activities, using a lectionary-based curriculum called Spark.

Fourth- and fifth-graders have class in the Lounge starting at 9:15 a.m. Their Connect curriculum is video and discussion based. All children return to worship during Passing of the Peace, in time for communion with their families.

During the month of January, we will learn about **Kids Coalition Against Hunger (KCAH)**. Children's weekly offering will be going to this campaign to fight world hunger. **Families are encouraged to volunteer at the meal-packing event on January 29.** For more details, see the [cover](#) of this newsletter.



Children's Christmas Program Recap

Our preschool and elementary kids put on a delightful Christmas program on December 11 at the Traditional service. In total, 51 children from 33 families participated. The celebration continued at a cookie and punch reception following worship. A special thanks to all the adult volunteers who helped with music, rehearsals, costumes, and scenery!



Youth News

Middle School

January and February Confirmation Schedule

January 8 & 15 – Youth Group, 2 to 3 p.m.; Confirmation Class, 3 to 4:30 p.m.

January 22 – Tubing at Cannonsburg, 3 to 5 p.m.

January 29 – No class due to Kids Coalition Against Hunger food packing

February 5 & 12 – Youth Group, 2 to 3 p.m.; Confirmation Class, 3 to 4:30 p.m.

February 19 – No Class due to Midwinter Break

February 26 – Service (instead of class), 3 to 5 p.m.



Stay connected with our middle school ministries via Remind: Text @7kkdg2 to the number 81010.

High School

Youth Group – Sunday Nights from 6:30 to 8 p.m.

All high schoolers and their friends are invited to join us for youth group Sunday nights from 6:30 to 8 p.m. In January we are meeting on the 8th and 15th. On the 22nd we are going tubing at Cannonsburg and on the 29th we are packing food with the congregation. Join the Remind Class and watch our YouTube channel for weekly updates. See you on Sunday nights!

High School Bible Study with Pastor Dan – Returning in February!

Our First Sunday of the Month Bible Study will resume on Sunday, February 5. We are taking January off.

Summer Mission Trip: June 24 to July 1, 2023 – Meeting on Sunday, January 8 at 6:30 p.m.

Next summer our high schoolers and their friends are going to East Bank, West Virginia, on our annual Mission Trip! It is going to be an amazing week of community, faith formation, and white-water rafting. If your high schooler (or rising 9th grader) is interested, please connect with [Pastor Dan](#) as soon as possible. Our next team meeting is Sunday, January 8 at 6:30 p.m.

Stay connected with our high school ministries via Remind: For Mission Trip information text @dcaeebg to 81010; For general High School Ministry information text @fag2c7 to 81010

Camp is Coming: July 16 to 21, 2023

Camp registration opens on **January 15!** This amazing week fills up fast, so register as soon as you can.

Rising first graders through current seniors in high school and their friends are invited to join us for an amazing week of community and faith formation. Trinity makes camp extremely affordable for families. Each camper is asked to pay a \$100 deposit and Trinity will cover the rest of the cost of camp. If you have any questions, please reach out to [Pastor Dan](#). Mark your calendars now and watch your email for the registration link and more information.



Living Water Ministries
Faith Formation, Service, Leadership, and Community

Tubing at Cannonsburg: January 22 from 3 to 5 p.m.

Attention middle and high schoolers! We are going tubing at Cannonsburg on January 22 from 3 to 5 p.m. **Please arrive there at 2:45 p.m. to check in with [Pastor Dan](#).**

Watch your email for an RSVP form. The cost is \$20 per person tubing. We will bring snacks and hot chocolate for everyone to enjoy around the campfire!



December Blood Drive Recap

Thank you to everyone who donated and volunteered at our December Blood drive. We exceeded our goal and provided our local hospitals with much needed supply.

The next drive is **Saturday, March 4, 2023**. It's not too early to secure your spot here: <https://tinyurl.com/7nasjj6v>

Contact [Kristin Bradley](#) with any questions and for additional ways you can support this ministry.



Care & Share: Tuesday, January 17

Are you, or have you been, a full-time caregiver for an adult child, parent, spouse or loved one? If so, you could likely benefit from getting together with other folks in similar situations.

Let's meet together to **Care** for each other and **Share** in our journeys. We'll gather at Trinity on Tuesday, January 17 at 10:30 a.m.

Faith Community Nurse Kristin Bradley is facilitating this group. We will meet each other and then discuss the challenges - and benefits - surrounding caregiving, learn ways to refocus when things get chaotic for us and/or for those we are caring for, and ground ourselves in God's promises.

Connect with [Kristin Bradley](#) with any questions or concerns.



Get Moving in the New Year!

Have you made a New Year's Resolution? According to a survey by NPR in 2019, 44% of Americans did. What was the most common resolution, you ask? To exercise more! Our own Xristina Kuhlmann volunteers her time and talents to get us moving.

You'll be delighted to work with Xristina, who can tailor the exercises to meet your needs. However, if you have significant physical limitations and/or are under medical care, please check with your healthcare provider before beginning any exercise program.

Decide to care for your physical, spiritual, and emotional health this year and to be a good steward of the body God has given you.

Classes meet Tuesday and Thursday mornings between 10 a.m. to noon. Connect with Xristina for the current schedule: 616.719.6961. Suggested donation is \$3/class or \$20/month but please don't let money stand in the way of better health. All are welcome!

Health Ministries (cont.)

Creating a Safe Haven • January 28, 2023 from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Creating a Safe Haven is a program designed to help communities receive comprehensive domestic violence training. The certification process ensures that leadership has the education and resources they need to work with an individual or family faced with this crisis as well as having policies and procedures in place to respond if someone is a victim or perpetrator of domestic violence.



Trinity is hosting and participating in a full day certification training on **Saturday, January 28, 2023** and anyone from the congregation is invited to attend.

Sign up here: <https://tinyurl.com/bdec44e7> or contact [Kristin Bradley](#) or [Laura Norton](#) for more info.

Please note that this training day is not the best environment for an individual who is currently experiencing domestic abuse. Call Safe Haven at 616.452.6664 to learn about support groups and advocate connections.

Stephen Ministry

Sent by God, Just for Me: A Stephen Ministry Story

I was 26, newly divorced, living far away from family and friends, and dealing with a lot of guilt, shame, and low self-esteem. *Was I a total failure? Would anybody ever want me? Was God condemning me because of my divorce?* I found a new church and made some friends, but still struggled. It seemed like all my church friends were perfect, happy, and full of faith – while I was flawed, gloomy, and full of doubts. When I shared some of this with my pastor, he suggested a Stephen Minister.

Before I met my Stephen Minister, I was worried she would judge and reject me once she learned about my past and got to know the real me. But she didn't. She was patient, loving, and accepting. I truly believe she was sent by God just for me.

We got together weekly. She'd ask me questions, get me talking, and then listen as I shared my struggles and doubts. She showed me God's love even when I didn't feel it. Over time, her faithful care helped me to see that perhaps I wasn't such a terrible person after all. Through her loving care, I began to think that if God loved me, then maybe I could love myself too.

After a while, I got to a better place emotionally, and our Stephen Ministry relationship ended. We now live over a thousand miles apart – but she will always hold a special place in my heart.

If you're dealing with any kind of difficulty, if you're struggling with faith questions or doubts, if you're wondering whether you are a worthy person, then I encourage you to consider getting a Stephen Minister.

It just might be that God already has a special one picked out just for you.

To learn more about Stephen Ministry at Trinity, contact Faith Community Nurse [Kristin Bradley](#).



Opportunities to Support Church & Community

Donate Cleaning Supplies

Help others to have a clean start in the new year! As you plan ahead, please be aware that we will once again be collecting cleaning supplies for distribution to area food pantries and social service agencies. The Food Stamp/Bridge Card program does not cover such things as laundry detergent and assorted household cleaning necessities, so why not buy a laundry basket or cleaning bucket and fill it with cleaning supplies? Following are some suggested items:

- Dish detergent, all-purpose spray cleaner, powdered cleanser
- Glass cleaner, disinfectant (bleach or other), disinfectant wipes
- Toilet bowl cleaner, toilet bowl brush
- Sponges, scrub brush, rubber gloves, paper towels
- Laundry detergent, stain remover, fabric softener sheets



Please drop off your donations **during the months of January and February** in the labeled black barrels located outside the narthex and in the Courtyard.

Fill the Grocery Carts at Trinity



We collect non-perishable food items at Trinity year-round. As you are grocery shopping, please consider picking up a few extra items to donate. You may place groceries in the grocery carts located outside the narthex and downstairs near the elevator, and please don't forget to check those expiration dates. Help us fill the grocery carts each week!

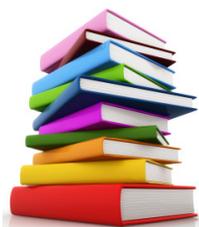
Buy Cookies & Cakes to Support Dégagé Ministries

Open Door Bakery employs and empowers a team of passionate bakers whose lives have been transformed by the Open Door Women's Center at Dégagé Ministries. To support this very important ministry, shop online for delicious cookies and cakes made all-from-scratch and that can be delivered or picked up.

Visit <https://opendoorbakery.org> today!



Tutor an Adult in Reading



One in eight adults in West Michigan struggles with low literacy. This deficit often limits the ability of these adults to access West Michigan's rich social and economic resources and can prevent them from feeling a part of the larger community.

You can make a big difference by becoming a tutor. No special skills are needed; just the ability to read and write in English and the desire to help someone else to do the same. Tutors work one-on-one alongside an adult learner. Training, materials, and instructional supports are provided. Would you like to learn more about becoming a volunteer tutor?

The first step is to attend an in-person or virtual training session. For more information or to sign up please visit <https://literacycenterwm.org/>.

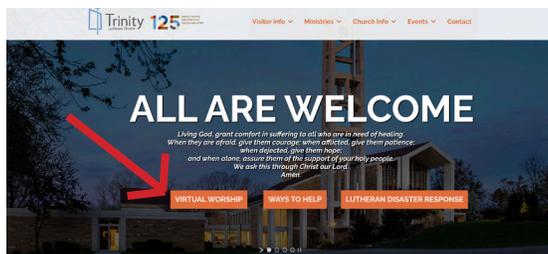
Participate in Trinity's Next KCAH Meal Packing Event – See [cover](#) for details.

Technology @ Trinity

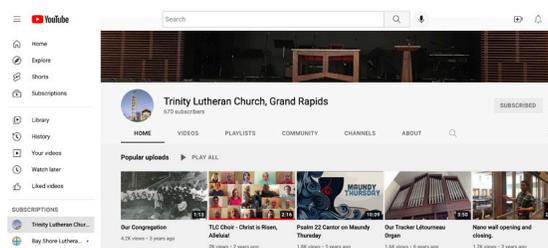
Trinity is Live Streaming Services!

We are streaming our **9:15 and 10:45 a.m.** Sunday services on YouTube. The 10:45 a.m. service is streamed for **indoor** services only. To find virtual services:

(1) Go to the Trinity website (www.tlcr.org) and click on **Virtual Worship**.

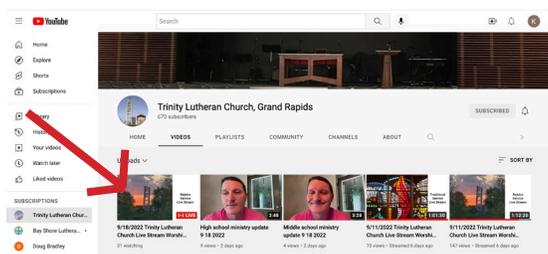


(2) Clicking the Virtual Worship button will take you to our YouTube page:



(3) If the service is currently streaming live (from about 9:10 to 10:20 a.m. and 10:40 to 11:50 a.m. on Sunday mornings), you will see a video with a red box with the word "LIVE" in it. Click on that video.

Note: If you go to YouTube early, you may have to wait a few minutes or refresh the page to get this "LIVE" option.



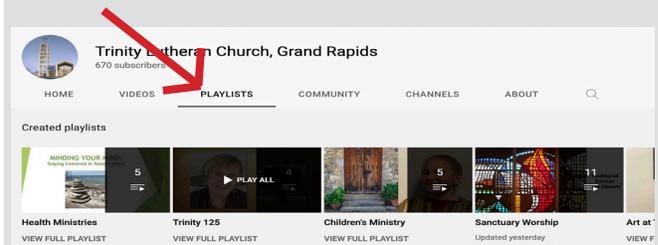
You can also go directly to www.youtube.com and search **Trinity Lutheran Church Grand Rapids** to find our YouTube page.

***If you click the **subscribe button** on Trinity's YouTube page, videos should automatically show up on your feed.



Miss a Live-Streamed Service?

We record our services, so you can always watch a past service. These are referred to as "**Rejoice Worship**", and "**Sanctuary Worship**." (On Sundays, it may be a few hours before videos are available.) These are available under the **PLAYLISTS** tab on our YouTube page.



We are on GRTV!

Our Sunday services are being broadcast on GRTV channel 25!

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

Please Note:

If live services are unavailable due to internet issues at Trinity, please check YouTube later in the day to watch a recorded version of that day's service. Most Sundays, services will be available by 2 p.m.

January Birthday & Anniversary Celebrations

January 1

Cameron Brandstadt
Spencer Kuipers
Matt Mencarelli
Prodige Mukadi

January 2

Annalise Campbell
Serafiina Ege
Rob Mirque
Bob Ortiz
Liz Schmebling

January 3

Lyman Harrison
Margaret Hartline
Russell Langenburg
Lauren Williams

January 4

Steven Cairns
Rachel Zollman

January 5

Tammy Engblade
Bill Leidel
Travis McMillan

January 6

Maxwell Cothorn
Shekinah Kawulu
Brad Kessel
Phil Wittry

January 7

Katherine Lown
Allison Radke
Amy Stephan
Taylor Sytsma
Stacey & Brian Phillips

January 8

Mary Jo Peterson
Michael Spalding
Lisa Warren

January 9

Rachele Battreall
Anneliese Meeuwsen
Adam Petrick
Niki & Rob Ferguson

January 10

Donald Barsema
Caylyn Moglia

January 11

Emily Ashby
Brian Bakkila
Jim Billings
David Candela
Cameron Czerew
Julie Murray
Paula Tibbe

January 12

Dick Duyser
Mari Franz
Brian Phillips
Arabella Soule

January 13

Annie & Jim Hudson

January 14

Brenda Donahue
Andrea Dudley
Lisa Keller

January 15

Jordan Fox
Andrew Glenn
Anna Hale
Caitlyn Harrison
Laura Reges
Lisa Reierson
Owen Tesch

January 16

Chris Becker
Heather Heaford
Andy McLeod
Amy Parshall-Peters
Cheryl Reeve

January 17

Bob Carlson
Jan Jacobson
Sheri Mason
Deborah Rohde

January 18

Mike King
Jan Palm
Colton & Lauren Wright

January 19

Bob Dever
Lisa LaFleur
Jackson Mester

January 20

Krysta Billock
Burke Hungerford
Kris Racek

January 21

John Derbin
Michelle Feutz
David Kovac
Michelle Lee
Eliana Meeuwsen
Evelyn Scalabrino

January 22

Chad Bradbury
Bill Day
Dan Schewe

January 23

Keith Gohlke
Bill Keller
Andrew Pupel

January 24

Doug Bacon
Kate Bishop
Sam Cole
Noah Kuhlmann
Kathy Wilcox

January 25

Michael Baribeau
Kelli Basher
Jennifer Brown
Judy DeStefano
Tess Lundgren
Melissa Owens
Brad Selleck
Jeanette Sorensen
Will Thorsen

January 26

Avery Fox
Brandon Kimble
Christy & John Kendall

January 27

Larry Lindquist
Matt Ludeman
Todd Osbeck
Don Otten
Jeff Postlewaite
Veda Stevenson

January 28

Gretchen Bieneman
Sam Bishop
Karl Crist
Andrew Fox
Jim Krug
Melissa Mazurek
Madeline Schmebling

January 29

Jaclyn Abbate
Katie Bowman
Bill Brock
Beth O'Connor
Maya Rubenstahl
Jeanie Wilkinson

January 30

Garrett Havard
Rick Kulas
Molly & C.J. Havard

January 31

Rachel Engle
K.C. Fawcett
Francesca Fuger
Drew Hutchinson
Giulia Mencarelli
Jacob VanZalen

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



Estimate of Giving Form

Be welcome to clip out the form below to use it to pledge your Estimate of Giving for 2023! Additional copies will be available in worship on Sundays.

My/Our Estimate of Giving for 2023

So that others may know God's grace and engage in God's work, I/we plan to offer \$_____ per week/month/year to support Christ's mission through Trinity Lutheran Church.

I/we additionally plan to offer \$_____ per week/month/year to service our building project mortgage.

_____ This amount reflects a commitment to percentage giving.

_____ This amount reflects a one percent increase in giving.

_____ I/we are unable to make a commitment at this time.

First and Last Name(s)

Street Address

City/State/Zip

Telephone

Email



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



Follow us on social media!

instagram: [tlc.gr](https://www.instagram.com/tlcgr)
facebook.com/[tlcgr](https://www.facebook.com/tlcgr)



Evangelical
Lutheran Church
in America

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

Direct Dial:

616.949.2510

(then dial extension #)



Contact Trinity



Instagram: [tlc.gr](https://www.instagram.com/tlcgr)
facebook.com/[tlcgr](https://www.facebook.com/tlcgr)



[YouTube.com](https://www.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

Jeanne Becker, Helping Hands Coordinator
(ext. 129), jeanne.becker@tlcgr.org

Christian Blauwkamp, Youth Ministry Coordinator
616.949.2510, christian.blauwkamp@tlcgr.org

Kristin Bradley, Faith Community Nurse (ext.119)
kristin.bradley@tlcgr.org

Kathy Bush, IHN Coordinator
616.485.0031, kathy.bush@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)

616.540.7190, 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

Laura Norton, Discipleship & Outreach Coordinator

724.344.1737, laura.norton@tlcgr.org

Andrea Severns, Sunday School Coordinator

kids@tlcgr.org

Amy Stephan, Interim Sunday School Coordinator

kids@tlcgr.org

Joanna Waite, Finance Assist. (ext. 111)

joanna.waite@tlcgr.org