



The Messenger

**Need space
this summer?**

VBS at Trinity!

June 19-22

9 a.m. to noon

Ages 3 years - 5th Grade

Register @ tlcgr.org



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Vacation Bible School Needs YOU!

Volunteers: Adults and youth will have an out of this world experience leading a small crew of kids and sharing God's love!

Supplies: Sign-up to donate materials and snacks.

Decorating and Prep: The BIG DAY OF DECORATING is June 18 after church. Be part of building the amazing VBS main stage, making props, and decorating classrooms.

Join the STELLAR crew and have a blast!

Sign up at tlcgr.org or by scanning the code.



Eighty-One New Members Received in the Spring of 2023

On the Sundays of May and early June of 2023, Trinity will have received 81 adults and children into new membership with this congregation. With that series of New Member Sundays, we have celebrated our growing faith community with Affirmation of Baptism orders in worship and the opportunity to "officially" welcome a large group of new ministry partners.

You are invited to keep our new members in your prayers as they find a home in our life together, and to introduce yourself to new friends in Christ in worship! Watch for a directory of our spring 2023 new members in an upcoming edition of this newsletter.



What's Happening at Trinity in June?

Weekly at a Glance

Sundays

Traditional Worship, 8 a.m.
Rejoice Worship, 9:15 a.m.
Livestreaming of Worship, 9:15 a.m.
Traditional Worship, 10:45 a.m.
Livestreaming of Worship, 10:45 a.m.
(Outdoor worship not livestreamed/recorded)

Mondays

Stroller Barre, 9 a.m.
(Not meeting on June 19)
Fit4Baby, 7 p.m.

Tuesdays

Fitness Classes, 10 a.m. – noon*
Lutheran World Relief Quilters, 9:30 a.m.

Wednesdays

Fit4Baby, 7 p.m.

Thursdays

Fitness Classes, 10 a.m. – noon*

Fridays

Fit4Mom, 9 a.m.

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

Daily Calendar

Saturday, June 3

Habitat for Humanity Build, 8 a.m.

Sunday, June 4

Spiritual Gifts Assessment Mtg, 9 a.m.
High School Bible Study, 9:15 a.m.
Spiritual Gifts Assessment Mtg, 10:30 a.m.
Spiritual Gifts Assessment Mtg, noon
CPR Training, 1 p.m.
High School Youth Group, 6:30 p.m.

Monday, June 5

Summer Blood Drive, 12:30 - 6 p.m.
In The Image Volunteering, 1 - 3 p.m.
Stephen Leaders Mtg, 1:30 p.m.
Beyond Belief Band Rehearsal, 6 p.m.
Property Comm Mtg, 6 p.m.

Tuesday, June 6

Staff Calendar Mtg, 9:30 a.m.
Executive Comm Mtg, 7 p.m.

Wednesday, June 7

Coffee & Donuts, 10:15 a.m.
Pastor Kari's Bible Study, 10:30 a.m.
JOYful Days Luncheon & Speaker, 11:30 a.m.
Outreach Comm Mtg, noon

Thursday, June 8

Spiritual Gifts Assessment Mtg, 11 a.m.

Saturday, June 10

Private Party, 10 a.m.

Sunday, June 11

Outdoor Worship, 10:45 a.m.
Start of Summer Celebration, noon
Mission Trip Meeting, 6:30 p.m.

Monday, June 12

The Messenger Deadline
Congregation Council Mtg, 6:30 p.m.
Rejoice Band Rehearsal, 6 p.m.

Wednesday, June 14

Life Begins at 60 Dinner, 5 p.m.
Youth & Family Comm Mtg, 8 p.m.

Thursday, June 15

Bridge, 1 p.m.

Friday, June 16

Wedding Rehearsal, 5 p.m.

Saturday, June 17

Wedding, 4 p.m.

Sunday, June 18

Father's Day & Mission Trip Traveler Blessing
VBS Day of Decorating/Setup, 10:30 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Monday, June 19

Vacation Bible School, 9 a.m. - noon
Race & Restitution Reading Group, 1 p.m.
Concert Series: Minnesota Boychoir, 7:30 p.m.
Finance Comm Mtg, 6 p.m.

Tuesday, June 20

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

Wednesday, June 21

Vacation Bible School, 9 a.m. - noon

Thursday, June 22

Vacation Bible School, 9 a.m. - noon
In The Image Volunteering, 1 - 3 p.m.

Saturday, June 24

HS Mission Trip Begins (through July 1)

Sunday, June 25

IHN Week Begins

Monday, June 26

Rejoice Band Rehearsal, 6 p.m.

Tuesday, June 27

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, June 28

Trinity Arts Comm Mtg, 10:30 a.m.



A Message from Pastor Bob Linstrom

Grateful, Hopeful, Even Optimistic . . .

I received this note in early May after John and Pat made a reunion visit to Trinity:

In the 1940s Thomas Wolfe authored the book You Can't Go Home Again. Last weekend we put that to the test as we returned to Grand Rapids after 28 years. We stayed at a hotel that did not exist when we left, saw our former home modified by the current owner, and our neighborhood café having a new name. On Sunday we came to Trinity to find a missing stairway, the "Last Supper" wood carving relocated, and a former open space now part of an expanded building. But we also found warm smiles from members who remembered us, firm handshakes as newer members welcomed us, and a sense of community as we worshiped. Given our age we may never return to Grand Rapids again, but if we do, we know we only have to get to the corner of Fulton and Cascade to prove you can go home again.



Our thanks and blessings to the members of Trinity.

John & Pat Timmerwilke

It was a joy to meet the Timmerwilkes, to hear a few stories of their days among the people of Trinity as leaders in this ministry, and to welcome them in worship. After receiving their note, I was again struck by the genuine hospitality of the people of this faith community. I have recently heard of that gracious gift from many of Trinity's new members and I am sincerely grateful to all of you who welcome those who are seeking a church home, and who welcome old friends as they come among us in reunion.

I shared a bit of devotion from the writings of Julian of Norwich, an anchorite in the Middle Ages who lived through the Black Plague, as part of my May report to the Congregation Council. Considering her circumstances, her writings were amazingly and radically optimistic. Julian lived through many rounds of the bubonic plague pandemic, experiencing unspeakable suffering and witnessing the death of so many of her family and friends, yet she could still coin her famous phrase, "All shall be well." Her optimistic attitude flowed from the contemplation of her visions, which revealed God as all-encompassing love.

Voices like Julian's call us, amid the challenges of our day, to contemplate the blessings of God revealed in Christ Jesus as love, and to be hopeful, even optimistic, that God's will and extravagant love is eternal. We are to be agents of that holy love.

In addition to the gratitude I expressed at the outset of this column – gratitude for the deep, genuine hospitality of this congregation – I find myself in a time of optimism and hopeful engagement for the ministry we share at Trinity and in the life of my family. As we welcome a large group of new members into our life together in May and June, a celebration of the strong growth of our church family, Rebecca and I are planning for a couple of family celebrations this summer: the first with the marriage of our son Ben to Emily on June 17, and then an August reunion of a large branch of Rebecca's family in Minneapolis. I can say with gracious confidence that we are deeply blessed, that life is good, that all shall be well . . .

Grateful, hopeful, and even optimistic, it remains a privilege to serve as a pastor among the people of Trinity.

Respectfully submitted,

Pastor Bob Linstrom, Senior Pastor

In you, Father all-mighty, we have our preservation and our bliss. In you, Christ, we have our restoring and our saving. You are our mother, brother, and savior. In you, our Lord the Holy Spirit, is marvelous and plenteous grace. You are our clothing; for love you wrap us and embrace us. You are our maker, our lover, our keeper. Teach us to believe that by your grace all shall be well, and all shall be well, and all manner of things shall be well. Amen.

a prayer of Julian of Norwich

Council Corner



A Message from Communications Coordinator Carrie Lamb

I write to you not as a member of the Trinity Council, but as a member of the Communications Committee, overseen by the Council and committee liaison, David Marquardt. My family and I joined Trinity in early 2019 and when I became the Communications Coordinator at Trinity in the summer of 2021, I joined the committee.

As the Communications Coordinator at Trinity, one of the largest projects I complete on a monthly basis is the church newsletter, *The Messenger*. This process involves collecting articles from members and friends of Trinity – people involved formally and informally in all kinds of aspects of worship, projects, initiatives, and volunteer work – editing these pieces (and discussing them with the authors when necessary), and putting everything together in an attractive, user-friendly publication. As a former high school yearbook editor and high school English teacher, I have always enjoyed graphic design and editing, and I still love doing it for the church newsletter. Another regular project I work on is church social media (Facebook and Instagram). I not only want Trinity's social media to be an accurate source of information, but also one of inspiration in peoples' daily journeys of faith. I also regularly check the church website and forward needed changes to our webmaster, David Fox. Many other projects also keep me busy: I often revamp church forms/booklets (such as the newly revised *Life at Trinity* handbook which I worked on with Helping Hands Coordinator Jeanne Becker and many other staff members), edit PDFs, create logos, make fliers/stickers, create special publications such as the graduate and new members booklets, work with Kris Baker, Trinity's Office Coordinator, to edit the weekly eBlast, and more. As I work, I am continually grateful for all I have learned, the people I have met, and the opportunity to work within such a caring and uplifting church family.

As the Communications Committee prepares for its next meeting, items on the agenda include composing a formal mission statement and discussing projects/ideas for the future that can serve to improve the way Trinity handles communications both within and outside of itself. If Trinity members have suggestions or ideas regarding communications at Trinity, they are always welcome to contact me or committee liaison David Marquardt.

Blessings to you as we enter this summer season,

Carrie Lamb, Communications Coordinator

Property Committee Overseeing Multiple Projects *Seeking to Care Well For Our Facility and Grounds*

Trinity's Property Committee is involved in multiple projects this spring and we are grateful for their ongoing stewardship of our facility and grounds. Among the projects currently under contract are:

- providing exterior stone and Cross Tower repairs and waterproofing
- adding west side parking lot lighting, electric service to the west lawn for outdoor worship services and other programs, and feature lighting on the Night Flight sculpture
- removing pneumatic heating valves and thermostats in the sanctuary and locations throughout the children's wing and replacing them with new thermostats/controllers
- initiating a study of the Sanctuary roof system, including gutters, downspouts, flashing, insulation, and ventilation; beginning to plan an integrated roof replacement to eliminate years of deterioration
- making changes to our fire detection system to move smoke detectors away from the shower in the lower-level family restroom
- beginning the development of operating manuals, user guides, and checklists for the day-to-day operations of our facility

The Trinity Property Committee meets on the first Monday of the month at 6 p.m. If you are interested in serving on our Property Committee reach out to committee chair Rick Radke or [Pastor Linstrom](#).

Trinity Lutheran Church Budget vs. Actuals

Month of April 2023

	Budget	Actual	Variance Favorable/ (Unfavorable)	
Total Income	101,020	92,343	(8,676)	-8.6%
Total Expenses	101,933	90,350	11,583	11.4%
Net Income (Loss)	(914)	1,994	2,907	

2023 Fiscal Year-to-Date (Thru April 2023)

	Budget	Actual	Variance Favorable/ (Unfavorable)	
Total Income	334,594	412,792	78,198	23.4%
Total Expenses	314,468	288,351	26,117	8.3%
Net Income (Loss)	20,126	124,441	104,315	

TITHE.LY
Innovative church giving



Don't Forget Your Offering While You're Away!

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>

Contact Trinity's Finance Assistant Joanna Waite if you need assistance.

Trinity Congregation Council Members 2023-2024

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: David Marquardt; **Endowment Fund:** Brad Kessel

Fellowship & Hospitality: Jamie Kuntzman; **Finance:** Chris Norton

Health Ministries: Michelle Morin; **Helping Hands:** Susan Knoll; **Human**

Resources: Steve Heacock; **Outreach:** Dan Butler; **Property:** Erick Kind and

Lauren Wright; **Publicly Engaged Church:** Michelle Feutz; **Spiritual Growth:**

Bill Bush; **Stewardship:** Jacquie Murray; **Worship & Music:** John Fox; **Youth &**

Family Ministry: Chris Becker and Dakota Morin (Youth Representative)

A Message from Associate Pastor Dan Schewe

I thank my God every time I remember you, constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ. –Philippians 1:3-6

Our Rummage Sale is one of those rare “everyone wins” events. Those donating items win as they divest things from their lives and homes. Those purchasing items win when they find items they need for their homes. Trinity wins as we raise funds to help our ministries and act as a redistribution center for the greater Grand Rapids community. The sale is an amazing event and ministry that helps so many people in so many ways.



In May we had the most amazing Rummage Sale I can remember in my time at Trinity. Thank you to those who donated items to the sale, parting with your things so they can find a new home. Thank you to those who came to find things for their families and communities. We had over 270 people at the sale Thursday night! Every day there was a buzz as people came to find treasures or necessities.

I also want to thank everyone who helped organize, sort, and otherwise prepare for the sale (see below for a non-exhaustive list). Every day I was amazed by how many people were helping; so many helped simply because it is an amazing event and they were elated to be a part of it.

Trinity also partners with five Grand Rapids area agencies who take on what did not sell at the Rummage Sale. These organizations are In The Image, Flat River Outreach Ministries, Habitat Restore, Blessed by Brookelyn, and Catholic Charities. We thank these organizations for their partnership, and we thank *you* for helping to support their ministries by taking part in the Rummage Sale.

This year's Rummage Sale raised over \$16,000 to help support our youth ministries. In astonishment, I recognize this as the largest amount we have raised, at least since I have been at Trinity.

Paul starts every one of his epistles giving thanks for the community he is writing to. Every day I give thanks for the community of Trinity Lutheran Church. I give thanks that I get to be one of your pastors. I give thanks for your generosity and amazing compassion. Thank you for how you made our Rummage Sale amazing and all the ways you continue to wrap around our youth. Thank you for sharing the blessings of what you have and who you are to bless our community and world.

Pastor Dan Schewe

Thank you!

We want to thank the following and **many more** who helped with this year's Rummage Sale. They volunteered well over 600 hours of their time!

Kim Engle
Kristin Bradley
Carol Hendricks
Ginta McNally
Jamie Kuntzman
Kris Shannon

Xristina Kuhlman
Tim Lundgren
Tess Lundgren
Susan Dickey
Jessica Marks
Helen Johnson
Mike Guis
Beth Hall
Cheryl Vander Baan
Laura Ketchum-Jahn
Corey Beckett
Allen Fawcett
Laura Fawcett
Chris Waite

Joanna Waite
Spencer Waite
Mike Mason
Sheri Mason
Amy Stephan
Steve Stephan
Kate Bredwell
Leah Bredwell
Grace Grohl
John Derbin
Elizabeth Derbin
Chris Becker
Jim Coates
Connie Helzer

Tom Helzer
Nancy Morrison
Martha Carter
James Morin
Michelle Morin
Amy Fox
Kara Day
Bill Day
Kim Bielski
Jane Ashby
Emily Ashby
Mason DeJonge
Emma Jackson
Meghan Barnhart

A Message from Associate Pastor Kari Fast

Dear Trinity Family and Friends,

During the month of May, in preparation for welcoming our 81 new members, we offered various **Spiritual Gifts Assessment** gatherings. Our Helping Hands Coordinator Jeanne Becker and I would like to extend this offering to any of Trinity's newest members who were unable to attend, to any members who joined during the pandemic and immediately following the pandemic, and to any member who would like to return to learn again about Spiritual Gifts. Each person is given different Spiritual Gifts and through them God invites us to bless the world.



*For as in **one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function**, so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another. We have **gifts that differ according to the grace given to us** ... Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord. Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer. Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers. Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them.*

—Romans 12:4-6a, 9-14

Spiritual Gifts Assessment Gatherings in the Trinity Library Hosted by Pastor Kari and Jeanne Becker

Sunday, June 4 — 9 a.m.

Sunday, June 4 — 10:30 a.m.

Sunday, June 4 — noon

Thursday, June 8 — 11 a.m.

To register for these hour-long gatherings, visit the following link or contact Kris Baker in the church office.

<https://tinyurl.com/2swx2fft>

Heart-to-Heart Conversations: Heart-to-Heart Conversations will resume in September. Heart-to-Heart conversations are small-group conversations of listening, wondering, and discerning what's on the heart, while listening with others for God's wisdom — **"sort of like pastoral care in a small group."** A bit of care for self and others, from God and others.

GriefShare: What an honor to walk with more than a dozen people as they courageously opened themselves to the process and work of mourning. As Brené Brown says, "Owning our sadness is courageous and a necessary step in finding our way back to ourselves and each other." It was heartwarming to see the group speaking vulnerably and listening with genuine interest and concern. May we continue to hold this group in our prayers, along with others, who are grieving the loss of loved ones or any number of losses and struggles in life.

**Be welcome to participate in
Pastor Kari's Bible Study
Wednesdays at 10:30 a.m.
through June 7!**

God's Deepest Blessings now and always!

Pastor Kari, Associate Pastor for Pastoral Care

Mark Your Calendar!



The Day of Pentecost: May 28 **Be Invited to Wear *RED* to Worship!**

The apostles were filled with the Spirit to tell of God's deeds in the text from the second chapter of Acts, which provides a foundation for our worship on the Day of Pentecost, May 28. The people of Trinity are invited to wear *red*, recalling the tongues of fire that alighted on those early apostles, kindling in them the fire of God's love. We come to the end of the season of Easter and enter the "ordinary time" of the Church, sent by the very Spirit of God to bring that same fire to our acts of grace, love and service.

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

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

A prayer for those who served our nation in the armed forces and gave their lives in that service will also be offered on May 28 as our nation observes Memorial Day weekend. Be with us in worship!

JOYful Days Continues Through June 7!

Sign up here: <https://tinyurl.com/mvdnzzr48>
See page 10 of the May Messenger for more details.

Start of Summer Celebration: June 11

Trinity's **Start of Summer Celebration** will coincide with the first outdoor worship service of the summer on June 11, with a parish potluck picnic following 10:45 a.m. outdoor worship. Trinity will provide the entrée with parishioners bringing sides, fruit, and dessert. Please look for our sign up in the weekly eBlast and contact [Tess Lundgren](#) with questions.



Outdoor Worship on the West Lawn Returns on Second Sundays Beginning June 11!

During the summer and fall of 2020, while the people of Trinity refrained from worship onsite in the sanctuary and Centennial Hall during the pandemic closure, a series of outdoor services on the west lawn was well received and well attended. There was also a growing chorus of those attending who suggested that outdoor services should become a part of our summertime offering of worship in the future, and each summer since we have gathered monthly on the church lawn for outdoor worship.

The Worship & Music Committee and pastors have agreed to host outdoor worship on the west lawn on the second Sunday of the month in 2023 beginning June 11 and continuing into the fall. For those who would prefer worship indoors on those first Sundays, the 8 a.m. traditional service in the Sanctuary and the 9:15 a.m. Rejoice service in Centennial Hall will be offered as usual. In the event of inclement weather, the second Sunday outdoor service at 10:45 a.m. will shift back to the Sanctuary. Mark your calendar and plan to join us!





Life Begins at 60 Gatherings This Summer

A Night Out at JT's Pizza: Wednesday, June 14

Trinity folks and friends over 60 are invited to



JT's Pizza, 6716 Old
28th Street, at 5 p.m. on
Wednesday, June 14.

Reservations are limited to
the first 30 people. Contact
Carol Butler (616.540.1660
or caroljb43@gmail.com)
to make your reservation.

Driveway Dining at the Iarias: Thursday, July 20

Driveway Dining returns this summer on
Thursday, July 20 from 6 to 8 p.m. at the home
of Joe and Marybeth Iaria, 4852 Summer Ridge
Court in Ada. Guests should 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
2iarias@comcast.net or 530.209.0436.

Gathering at the Schlanderer's: Friday, August 18

Once again, the Over 60s have been invited
to a cookout at the home of Bruce and Joyce
Schlanderer, 60 Forest Hill Avenue SE, on Friday,
August 18, 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!

Father's Day: June 18 — Bring Your Favorite Father to Worship! *Blessing of the Mission Trip Travelers Will Also Be Offered*

We will celebrate the gift of family again at Trinity
on Father's Day, June 18. A Father's Day blessing
will be offered, and the
congregation will also be
invited to join in blessing
the High School Mission
Trip travelers who will be
traveling to East Bank,
West Virginia to serve
June 24 to July 1.

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



*Heavenly Father, you
entrusted your Son Jesus,
the child of Mary, to the care
of Joseph, an earthly father.
Bless all fathers as they care
for their families.*

*Give them strength and
wisdom,
tenderness and patience;
support them in the work
they have to do,
protecting those who look to
them,
as we look to you for love
and salvation.*



IHN Comes to Trinity June 25 to July 2!

Many volunteers needed! See [page 14](#) for more details and to sign up.

Youth News

High School

High School Bible Study – June 4 at 9:15 a.m.

All high schoolers and their friends are invited to join Pastor Dan in the Youth Room on June 4 during the 9:15 a.m. service for Bible Study. There will be donuts and conversation; see you there!

Youth Group – June 4 from 6:30 to 8 p.m.

All high schoolers and their friends are invited to join us for youth group on Sunday, June 4 from 6:30 to 8 p.m. After June 4 we will pause for the summer.

Mission Trip Meeting – June 11 at 6:30 p.m. in the Youth Room

Our final team meeting for our trip to East Bank, WV is on June 11 at 6:30 p.m. in the Youth Room. We are going to make our trip covenant and answer any final questions at this meeting.



Bless Our Youth!

Thank you for all the ways you support and surround our young people with a caring community. It is an amazing blessing in their lives. This summer we invite you to bless them as they depart on this season's faith adventures. On the following Sundays we will be blessing our youth before they depart on their trips:

Sunday, June 18 – Blessing high school youth before their Mission Trip to East Bank, WV

Sunday, July 16 – Blessing campers before they attend Stony Lake Bible Camp

Come to Camp This July!

There is a place at camp for those finishing first grade through those finishing twelfth grade, and there is still time to sign up for this summer! Trinity's group is going to be at camp July 16 to 21 (Week 5). We already have 33 campers registered. Join us for an amazing week!

Trinity makes camp affordable for families. Each camper is asked to pay a \$100 deposit and Trinity will cover the rest. Please reach out to [Pastor Dan](#) with questions.

Camp Scholarship Fund Appeal

Camp is an amazing gift in the lives of our young people. At camp they experience God, community, and nature in amazing ways, and this is largely possible because of your support of our camp scholarship fund. We ask families to pay \$100 per camper and our scholarship fund covers the rest of the cost of camp, no questions asked; thus, many of our youth are able to attend camp because of our generosity. In June we are seeking to replenish this fund.



A gift of \$220 sponsors one first through third grader for a Sunday through Wednesday camp experience.

A gift of \$370 sponsors one third through eighth grader for a week of camp.

A gift of \$390 sponsors one ninth grader for a week of camp.

Please prayerfully consider how you would like to help support this life changing experience in the lives of Trinity's youth. When [donating](#), please specify that your donation is for the *Camp Scholarship Fund*.

Music Ministries

Thank You for Your Support!

The Celebration of Music Concert Series is offered to the community without ticket cost. All are welcome to attend and enjoy amazing music in the resonant acoustical environment of Trinity's beautiful sanctuary. Your gifts for the 2022/23 concert series have helped us create a newly energized and very well-attended series of seven concert events. Please join us for our next concert featured below.

Minnesota Boychoir Monday, June 19 • 7:30 p.m. Trinity Lutheran Church Sanctuary

Over 50 boys and young men sing in this superlative ensemble under the leadership of Artistic Director Mark S. Johnson. Their 2023 summer tour (Friday, June 16 to Friday, June 23) includes stops in Valparaiso, IN as well as Detroit, Lansing, Grand Rapids, Traverse City, Mackinaw City and Iron Mountain, MI. The Minnesota Boychoir provides choral music training, education, performance opportunities, and other experiences to instill excellent musicianship and sound values in young people. Come and enjoy the amazing sound and energy of these young singers as they stop in Grand Rapids on their summer choir tour!



Art Ministries



Self-portrait by Olga Conens

Overlook Gallery Featuring the Works of Olga Conens

Visit the Overlook Gallery during May and June to see the works of artist Olga Conens. From Olga:

I believe that being deaf plays a big role as an artist. It allows me to pay close attention to the details and the emotions of individuals. What I perceive is that everything is a gift from God, our Lord who saw that everything is good. I want to paint the canvas with love and light, colors and shapes, giving hope to communities. Being surrounded with talented artists, I learn new strategies, ideas, and techniques on how to capture subjects creatively and uniquely. Through life's pain, I feel God has shown me new meaning and blessed me with a hope that can eradicate darkness. Souls need trials to tell a good story!

Stop by the Trinity Overlook Gallery today to see Olga's work on display!

Health Ministries

Summer Blood Drive: June 5

We reached our goal in March – let's do it again!

Versiti Blood will be at Trinity Monday, June 5 from 12:30 to 6 p.m.

Plan your giving today! Contact [Kristin Bradley](mailto:Kristin.Bradley@versiti.com) to secure your spot or register here: <https://tinyurl.com/bdrbpj5r>

Appointments are highly recommended.

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

Let's keep our local blood supply strong!



Summer Fitness at Trinity

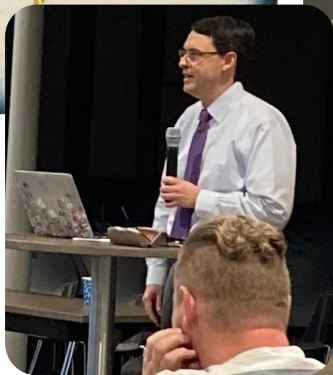
Summer fitness classes are on Tuesday and Thursday mornings. All ability levels are welcome.

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

Food For Thought Offers Sleep Education Amidst Fun & Fellowship

Thanks to everyone who came out to learn more about sleeping well at our *Food for Thought* event this spring. We had a great crowd, a fantastic presentation by Trinity member and sleep specialist Dr. Jason Coles, and a wonderful meal together! Sleep Well, Live Well!

If you missed this event and want to see Dr. Coles's presentation, you can find it on Trinity's YouTube channel or access it through this link: <https://bit.ly/FFTSleep>



Meet Our Stephen Ministry Team!

Trinity has been a Stephen Ministry congregation for over 25 years. During that time, more than 100 congregation members have been trained as Stephen Ministers or Leaders. Over the years, many have accepted support from this ministry. Through this caring ministry we help fulfill our congregation's mission to "increase our response to all people in need, sharing God's gifts of love and grace."

Every few years, we train a new class of Stephen Ministers as others move on to different callings. However, it has been said, "Once a Stephen Minister, always a Stephen Minister!"

Our active Stephen Ministers come from all walks of life, including business, music, education, law, healthcare, church work, parenting; some are still working, while some are retired. Below is a photo from a recent Stephen Ministry meeting. If you would like to learn more about Stephen Ministry, contact Faith Community Nurse Kristin Bradley or one of the Stephen Leaders.



Top (L-R): Laura Norton, *Norm Palm, Kris Baker, Dale Volkerding, Susan Knoll
Middle (L-R): Kim Brock, Karen Niemeyer, Renee Fisk, Emily Keller, Krista Knight, *Kristin Bradley;
Bottom (L-R): Nancy Anderson, *Kris Racek, Sue Coates, *Beth Vanderwall, and Terry Zabel.
Not Pictured: Patti Mutch, Bob Pfau, and *Sheila Talsma

***Current Stephen Leader**

Opportunities to Support Church & Community

Donate Diapers & Underwear

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



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

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

Habitat for Humanity Build Day: Saturday, June 3

Join Trinity's volunteer day on Saturday, June 3 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Members of Trinity will be demonstrating God's love and compassion by helping frame a home for a local family in need of affordable housing. Habitat provides all the tools required for whatever tasks we are doing that day, so no tools (or experience!) are needed PLUS lunch will be provided. **Please sign up for this most rewarding event:** <http://vhub.at/TrinityLutheranGR>



Questions? Contact Trinity member Kelly Smith at smithkelly314@yahoo.com.

Volunteer for IHN!

Trinity will be housing IHN families the week of June 25 to July 2, 2023!



Thank you to everyone that has helped in the past, and thank you in advance to everyone that faithfully signs up! Let's see if we can get more people involved in helping with this important ministry of keeping families together during this very difficult time in their lives. With children out of school for the summer and looking for fun things to do, signing up to help at IHN is an especially great idea. Your kids can make memories with you and others by making a meal together and serving our homeless families!

You can also sign up to buy groceries, to set-up, to bring food, or to be an evening host, creating and/or helping with children's activities and being a welcoming presence to the IHN families. Overnight hosts are also needed – bring a sleeping bag and a pillow and have a sleepover at church!

Volunteering only takes a few hours out of your day and just think of the difference you can make in the lives of these families...and even in your own life! Let's come together as a congregation to do what Jesus would do and welcome these families with open arms.

For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me. –Matthew 25:35

Please sign up today!

To volunteer: <https://tinyurl.com/437vm59n>

To purchase groceries:
<https://tinyurl.com/yyk282dx>

Questions? Please contact Trinity IHN Coordinator [Kathy Bush](#).

Opportunities to Support Church & Community

Volunteer at In The Image!

Join us in June at In The Image for folding, sorting, or stocking the storefront!



Monday June 5, 1-3 p.m.



Thursday June 22, 1-3 p.m.

In The Image: 4255 Kalamazoo Ave. SE, GR, MI 49508

In The Image provides clothing and household items at no cost and allows clients to shop for items by providing hope, dignity and respect. Questions? Call Discipleship & Outreach Coordinator [Laura Norton](#) at 616.949.2510 x128.

Summer Request: Help Congress Elementary School

Congress Elementary School could use travel size deodorant, shampoo, soap bars, toothpaste, and toothbrushes for student personal care bags.

Please drop off at Trinity in the black donation cans throughout the summer. Thank you!



Be a Welcoming Presence & Support Refugee Children

B.R.I.D.G.E.S. Summer Camp is seeking classroom support and lead teacher positions for their 4-week summer camp from July 17 to August 11.

The Grand Rapids Refugee Center B.R.I.D.G.E.S. Summer program provides relevant and effective lessons and activities for beginner level refugee students. BRIDGES's vision is to support refugee children in West Michigan as they began their new education in a foreign land.

Support roles are responsible for welcoming students in the mornings, assisting with beginner literacy lessons, being involved with activities, games, and snack times, and supporting any needs that arise for program efficiency. Commitment is flexible based on volunteer position and is open to 16 years old and up. Teaching positions are also available to Michigan residents with a bachelor's or master's degree in Education or EL/TESOL.

For more information contact new Trinity member Skip Franklin at skip@refugeeeducationcenter.org or Volunteer Coordinator Anna Bundy at Anna@refugeeeducationcenter.org or 616.247.9611.



Opportunities to Support Church & Community (cont.)



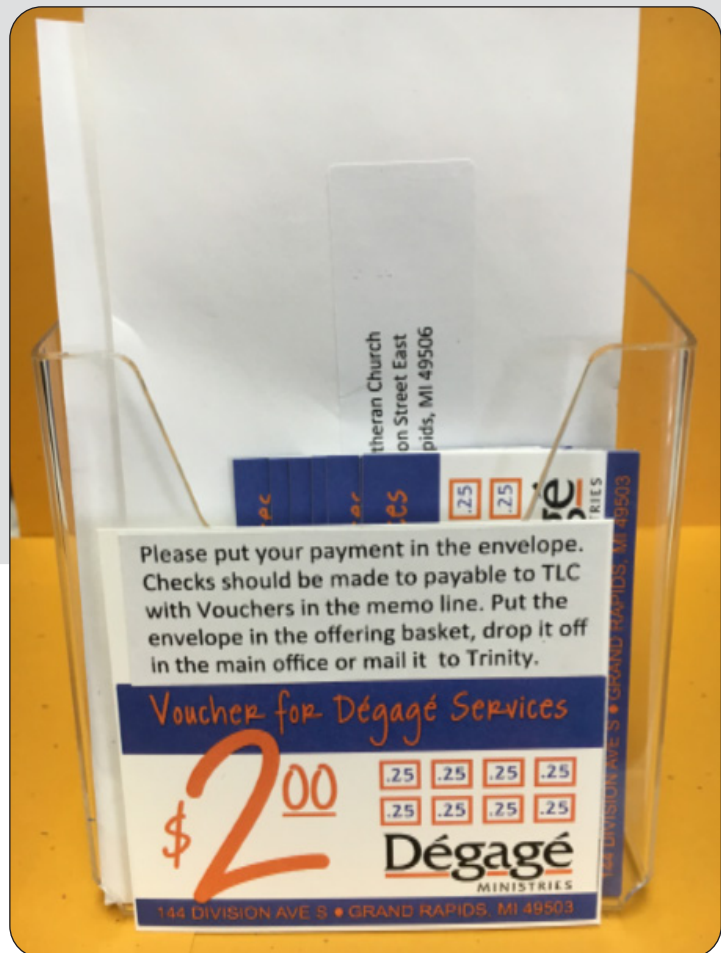
Bakers Needed to Bake Communion Bread

For most of the last decade we have had a team of dedicated bakers providing the fresh Communion bread we receive in worship on Sundays. A baker generally signs up to provide bread for one month during the year, so that this ministry does not become a significant burden to any baker. With a couple of our bakers retiring after serving in the last year, our bread baking schedule could use a couple more bakers.

A standard recipe and training are available, but you are also welcome to bring your own baking talents and recipe to this ministry. Contact [Pastor Bob Linstrom](#) for more information or to volunteer.

Purchase Dégagé Panhandler Vouchers

Trinity members and friends can purchase panhandler vouchers from Dégagé Ministries. For \$2 per voucher, these can be distributed to people who are publicly asking for money. Each panhandler voucher, when taken to Dégagé Ministries in downtown Grand Rapids, can be used for the purchase of a nutritious meal, a haircut, a locker for a week, a pair of warm socks, one load of laundry and much more. Look at the Welcome Center in the Courtyard for a display like the one pictured at right.



Thirteen Eighth Graders Confirmed on May 7

On Sunday, May 7 thirteen eighth graders were confirmed in their journeys of faith formation after completing three years of catechetical instruction with Pastor Dan Schewe.

We look forward to continuing our journey of faith together with these young people!

Back Row (L-R): Tyler Mason, Riley Day, Ethan Curtiss, and Gavin Van Meter
Middle Row (L-R): Andy Tyrrell, Carson Brang, Pastor Dan, and Tadas Norris
Front Row (L-R): Avery Fox, Audrey Zollman, Meghan Barnhart, Melat Lang, Ellie Brandstadt, and Audrey Coles



New Reading: *The Bible Prophecy Puzzle Book* by Trinity Member Mark M. Mattison

Maniacal dictators. Satanic dragons. Fire and brimstone. These shocking images in Bible prophecy can be terrifying and traumatizing. Why are these horror stories included in scriptures about salvation and God's infinite love? Don't these shocking visions fuel paranoia, fear, and hatred among anti-government conspiracy theorists?

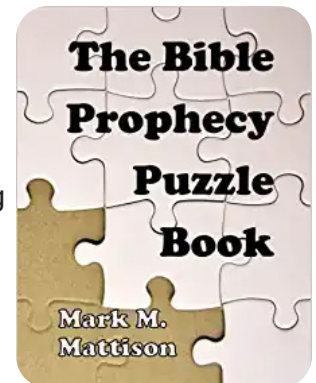
Decoding these bizarre passages can be daunting. How can they be reclaimed from Hollywood and the Christian mass consumer market?

And, what better way to solve these Biblical puzzles than through a workbook of puzzles themselves?

My new *Bible Prophecy Puzzle Book* is an effective, hands-on way to discover how the New Testament's apocalyptic visions were inspired by, and constructed from, Israel's earlier prophetic visions. Each puzzle provides interpretive keys to the performance art, ritual, poetry, and symbolism of these texts. In just three pages, see how a labyrinth can unlock the entire book of Daniel. Explore a word find to see how Paul's description of a "rapture" in 1 Thessalonians retells the story of Moses' ascent to Sinai in Exodus. Interpret "the number of the beast" with "gematria," the ancient practice of assigning numerical values to names. Learn how to cut through the sensationalism of literal readings with three basic principles of Bible prophecy interpretation.

And, if that isn't enough, the answers are all spelled out in the back of the book!

The Bible Prophecy Puzzle Book can be found on [Amazon](https://www.amazon.com) for only \$9.95. For a sneak peek, check the Trinity library. And did I mention that it was proofread and tested by members of our church?

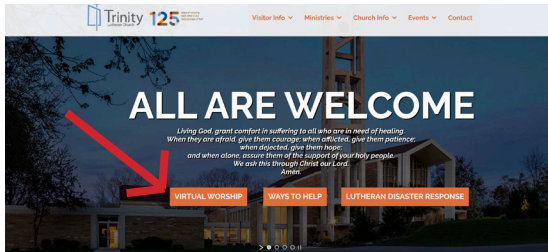


Technology @ Trinity

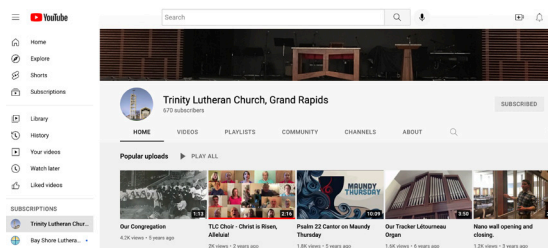
Trinity is Live Streaming Services!

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.tlcgr.org) and click on **Virtual Worship**.

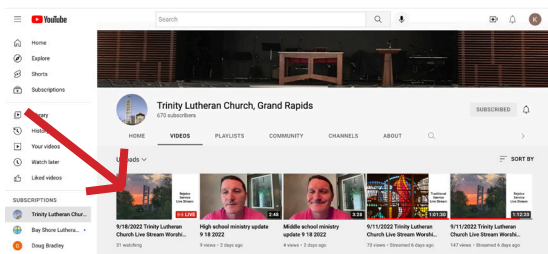


(2) Clicking the Virtual Worship button will take you to our YouTube page:



(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.



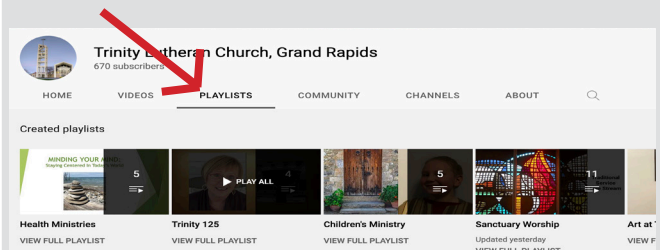
You can also go directly to www.youtube.com and search **Trinity Lutheran Church Grand Rapids** to find our YouTube page.

***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.

June Birthday & Anniversary Celebrations

June 1

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

June 2

Chas Schaner
Marc Specter
John & Kelli Basher

June 3

Tara Anderson
Sue Bailey
LuAnn Eriksen
Gretchen Flemming
Charmayne Mulligan
Calvin Posthumus
Mark & Rebecca Mattison

June 4

Susan Cothorn
Jacob Hall
CJ Harvard
Georgi Hoeksema
Juliette Scurfield
Brad & Gayl Kessel

June 5

Megan Hudson
Aaron & Erin Breaugh

June 6

Jim Bennett
Patrick Brang
Biruta Fessenden
Emily Keller
Theo Marquardt
Dick McKenzie
Jeremiah Mostrom
Elliot Rieth
Kayla Schultz
Travis & Sarah Budzyn
Terry & Linda Zabel

June 7

William Beute
Jane Claus
Lori Law
Chad Mancarelli
Jacquie Murray
Sarah Turnage
Bill & Marilyn Brune
Lara Freeburger & Michael Soczek

June 8

Todd Brandstadt
Laurie Freshour
Andy Steketee
Rachel & Sam Blanchette
Erick & Carol Kind

June 9

Ben Battreall
Darin Estep
Niki Ferguson
Ken & Bev Blok
Paul & Samantha DeBoer
Jenn & Ryan Dwyer
Kyle & Krista Flack
Dave & Chris Straw

June 10

Matthew Blair
Kim Bradbury
Bob Crossman
Sarah Kuntzman
Alexis Mason
Ethan Mason
Dave & Jen Thamban

June 11

Kim Danielski
Ryan Dwyer
Kevin & Katie Gingras
Bruce & Amanda Hungerford
Bob & Nancy Scott

June 12

Andy Bekker
Skip Franklin
Lynn Hagenbush
Larry Longstreth
MayEllen Morin
Eli Owens
Jeff Haywood & Jennifer Ackerman-Haywood
Heather & Timothy Neil

June 13

Jackson Brandstadt
Miles Donovan
Tom Malvitz
Lexy Shannon
Lindsey Skalandis
Mike Thorsen
Janice Wabeke
David Young

June 14

Debra Petrick
Maria Schultz
Kris Shannon
Donald & Jane Barsema
Morgan & Jaci Cole
Noah & Amanda Schneider
Michael & Micki Smokovich

June 15

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

June 16

Marci Anderson
Marilyn Grant
Melissa Haneline
Scott Hansen
Hannah Johnson
Rebecca Linstrom
Carol Schumacher
Bill & Meri Leidel
Jamie & Venta Norris

June 17

CJ Conrad
Sarah Frecka
Sandy Rothfuss
Kevin & Lynn Grzelak
Fred & Kathy Wilcox

June 18

Kari Lamprich
Gavin Law
Fiona Pardy
Ella Scurfield
Kaitlyn Van Haren
David & Joyce Kuecherer

June 19

Ryleigh Fischer
Janet Genow
Joshua Giuliani
Cathy Kirsch
Eden Korb
Hannah Parshall
Tami Saum
Sally Scobey-Biggs
Declan Smith
Tom Williams
Bill & Deb DeWitt
Tony & Katelyn Eimers
Bill & Lisa Keller

June 20

Janelle Beaudry
Mary Frick
Jacob Johnson
Christophe Muganza
Joshua Price
Sheryl Vander Baan
Greg Wehby
Eric & Tamara Engblade
Ed & Joan Lohr
Jeremy & Amanda Lynn
Douglas & Lynda McCready

June 21

Peter Fisk
Brylee Peters
Song & Tara Anderson
Stephen & Norma Brink
Mark & Anna Bryce
Tim & Tess Lundgren
Nate & Maddie Scurfield

June 22

Kelsey Becker
Annie Brown
Craig Curtiss
Thomas Lee
Alaina Lundgren
Ryan McNally
Alicia McPheron
Valerie Seif
Morrie & Cindy Fongers
John & Emily Keller
Randy & Jamie Kuntzman

June 23

Steve Archer
Norma Brink
Brooke Fredericks
Nick Johnson
Brian Mazurek
Mark Rohde
Sue Wait
Donna Wollen
Jim & Raija Boles

June 24

Kris Baker
Paige Bishop
Bob Pergler
Edie Pergler
Bill & Patricia Bruin
Lee & Ann Schomberg
Dale & Kathy Sommers
Scott & Kathryn Irene Stoll
Nicholas & Patricia Terpstra

June 25

Carol Kind
Elena Luders
Gavin Van Meter
Jeff & Lisa Postlewaite

June 26

Cohen Barker
Christine Bickel
Alexis Braaten
Jodi Hutchinson
Jon Kelder
Jim Kubicek
John Mielock
Mila Perez
Silas Perez
Sue Tellier
Halle Ulreich
John & Jane Ashby
Ronald & Ginta McNally
Donald & Judy Otten

June 27

Morgan Black
James Coates
Jared Hudson
Evan Reiersen
Monica Smith
Kenneth & Debbie Lown
Roger & Jessica Marks
Patti & William Patton

June 28

Norah Barker
Vaiva Norris
Jeff Olimpo Jr.
Parker Proux
Anne Tooley
Scott & Jennifer Hall

June 29

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

June 30

Debra Freeberg
Sarah Hatkowski
Rob Missman
Clifford Morin
Patrick Murray
Gordon & Cathy Kirsch
Matt & Lisa LaFleur
Thomas & Elizabeth Lee
Dale & Gale Volkerding
Gary Watson & Ning Liu

Keep in Touch With Us!

Are You Expecting or Adopting?

Trinity would like to celebrate and share in your happy news of being pregnant or welcoming a new child through adoption so we can pray for and support your family. Our ministry to your baby or child begins even before they arrive! Contact [Kris Baker](#) in the church office with details.

Baptism at Trinity

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

Trinity's Pictorial Directory for Your Smartphone or PC

If you have not taken a chance to download the Trinity Pictorial Directory App for your smartphone or your desktop PC, contact the church office for instructions. This app provides the most up-to-date information about our church family.

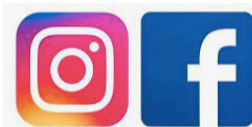


2700 Fulton Street East
Grand Rapids, MI 49506
616.949.2510 tlcgr.org



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

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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
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rachele.battreall@tlcgr.org
Jeanne Becker, Helping Hands Coordinator and
Co-Wedding Coordinator
(ext. 129), jeanne.becker@tlcgr.org
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Kristin Bradley, Faith Community Nurse (ext.119)
kristin.bradley@tlcgr.org
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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
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(ext.121), carrie.lamb@tlcgr.org
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