



The Messenger

Interfaith Hospitality Network Comes to Trinity September 17-24, 2023

Can you imagine losing your home because you lost your job and can't pay your mortgage? Can you imagine working full-time job at minimum wage and not being able to afford rent because a 3-bedroom apartment is \$1,200 to \$1,300 per month? Can you imagine leaving your home during the middle of the night with your three children because you mentally and physically can't take the abuse you are experiencing and then having nowhere to go? It's our turn to help families during a difficult time in their lives and we need YOU! With only a few hours commitment, you can help give these families a warm meal, a place to sleep, love, and safety.

Sign up to help onsite: <https://tinyurl.com/437vm59n>

Sign up to purchase groceries: <https://tinyurl.com/yyk282dx>

The families will be so thankful you signed up. Thank you!
Kathy Bush, IHN Coordinator at Trinity



Senior Pastor Transition Updates

Save the Date! Congregation Listening Sessions

The Council met with Bishop Satterlee in August to discuss the next steps in our Senior Pastor transition process. Now we will begin to gather information to complete our Ministry Site Profile, the extensive document presenting our congregation that will be shared with the Bishop's office and potential pastoral candidates.

We need your input as we complete our Ministry Site Profile! We will be holding small-group listening sessions on two Sunday mornings following each service. Please plan to come on **September 24** or **October 15**. More details to come on how to sign up for these sessions. If you have any questions, please contact Council President [Karen Unruh](#), Vice President [Steve Heacock](#), or the [church office](#).



Youth & children's programming kicking off! • [Pgs 16 & 17](#)



God's work.
Our hands.

Get involved the whole weekend! • [Pg 23](#)

Save the date for Trinity's October 1 Ministry Fair! See [page 11](#).

What's Happening at Trinity in September?

Weekly at a Glance

Sundays

Traditional Worship, 8 a.m.
Rejoice Worship, 9:15 a.m.
Livestreaming of Worship, 9:15 a.m.
Sunday School, 9:30 a.m. (*Begins Sept. 17*)
Traditional Worship, 10:45 a.m.
Livestreaming of Worship, 10:45 a.m.
(*Outdoor worship not livestreamed/recorded*)

Tuesdays

TLC Quilters*
LWR Quilters, 9:30 a.m.
(*Meets at 10:30 a.m. on Sept. 26*)

Thursdays

Resound Bell Choir Rehearsal, 6 p.m.
Trinity Choir Rehearsal, 7:15 p.m.

*Contact Carol Hendricks at
cahendricks14@gmail.com for exact
dates and times.

Daily Calendar

Monday, September 4

Labor Day - Office Closed

Tuesday, September 5

Communications Comm Mtg, noon
Executive Comm Mtg, 7 p.m.
Fit4Baby, 7 p.m.

Wednesday, September 6

Outreach Comm Mtg, noon

Friday, September 8

Women's Book Club, 9:30 a.m.
Wedding Rehearsal, 4:30 p.m.

Saturday, September 9

Annual Mayors' Grand River Cleanup, 9 a.m.-noon
Wedding, 4 p.m.

Sunday, September 10

"Gods Work. Our Hands." Sunday
Special Children's Time, 9:15 a.m.
Sunday School Open House, 10:15 a.m.
Young Children's Communion Class, 10:30 a.m.
Outdoor Worship, 10:45 a.m.
SM Continuing Ed, 12:30
SM Peer Supt Grp 1, 1:30 p.m.
SM Peer Supt Grp 2, 1:30 p.m.
Confirmation Class, 3 p.m.
High School Youth Group, 6:30 p.m.

Monday, September 11

The Messenger Deadline
Stroller Barre, 9 a.m.
Stephen Leaders Meeting, 1:30 p.m.
Schubert Male Chorus Board Mtg, 5:30 p.m.
Property Comm Mtg, 6 p.m.
Congregation Council Mtg, 6:30 p.m.
Oasis Board Mtg, 6:30 p.m.
Schubert Male Chorus Rehearsal, 7 p.m.

Tuesday, September 12

Fit4Baby, 7 p.m.

Wednesday, September 13

Power Bend & Stretch Fitness Class, 9 a.m.

Thursday, September 14

Heart-to-Heart with Pastor Kari, 10:15 a.m.
Children's Min Comm Mtg, 8 p.m.

Friday, September 15

Women's Bible Study, 9:30 a.m.
Wedding Rehearsal, 4 p.m.

Saturday, September 16

Wedding, 4 p.m.

Sunday, September 17

IHN Week
Preschooler Blessing
Fall Potluck Setup, 8 a.m.
Sunday School, 9:30 a.m.
Fall Potluck, noon
Sr. Nancy Brousseau Orientation, 2:30 p.m.
Confirmation Class, 3 p.m.
High School Youth Group, 6:30 p.m.

Monday, September 18

IHN Week
Stroller Barre, 9 a.m.
Fall Blood Drive, 10:30 a.m.
Library Comm Mtg, 4 p.m.
Finance Comm Mtg, 6 p.m.
Schubert Male Chorus Rehearsal, 6 p.m.
Health Ministry Comm Mtg, 6:30 p.m.

Tuesday, September 19

IHN Week
Care & Share, 10:30 a.m.
Book Club, 7 p.m.

Wednesday, September 20

IHN Week
Power Bend & Stretch Fitness Class, 9 a.m.
Life Begins at 60 Dinner, 5 p.m.

Thursday, September 21

IHN Week
Volunteer at In The Image, 1 p.m.
Bridge, 1 p.m.

Friday, September 22

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

Saturday, September 23

IHN Week
Celebration of Music Rehearsal, 10 a.m.

Sunday, September 24

IHN Week Concludes
Flu/COVID Immunization Clinic, 8:30 a.m.-1 p.m.
Pastor Transition Listening Session, 9:15 a.m.
Sunday School, 9:30 a.m.
Pastor Transition Listening Session, 10:30 a.m.
Pastor Transition Listening Session, noon
Celebration of Music Concert, 3 p.m.
Confirmation Class, 3 p.m.
High School Youth Group, 6:30 p.m.

Monday, September 25

Council on Aging, 8 a.m.
Stroller Barre, 9 a.m.

Tuesday, September 26

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

Wednesday, September 27

Power Bend & Stretch Fitness Class, 9 a.m.
Pastor Bob's Adult Forum, 10:30 a.m.
(*Coffee & Donuts at 10:15 a.m.*)
Fall JOYful Days Lunch & Speaker, 11:30 a.m.

Friday, September 29

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

A Message from Pastor Bob Linstrom

The Gift of a Cup of Cold Water

*God is a cup of cold water when we thirst.
God offers boundless grace when we fail.
Claim the gift of God's mercy:
you are freed and forgiven
in the name of ✝ Jesus Christ. Amen.*

The words above have served as the absolution concluding the brief order of Confession and Forgiveness as we have offered it during Sunday liturgies at Trinity this summer. It evokes the promise in Matthew 10:40-42, the Gospel text earlier this summer when Jesus promised reward to any who would aid his followers, quench their thirst and support their ministry. We are reminded that the true cup of cold water that brings relief to the thirsty is offered in the richness of God's amazing grace.

Pondering the Gospel of Matthew's proclamation of welcome and the gift of a cold cup of water offered to little ones, I am reminded of the story of Wall Drug in western South Dakota. In 1931, Nebraska native and pharmacist Ted Hustead and his wife purchased the drug store in Wall, South Dakota because they wanted to live in a small town that had a Roman Catholic church. However, in that small town business was not good, and few people stopped by the drugstore. The Hustead's dreamed up an advertising campaign that announced "free ice water" on large billboards throughout the countryside. The announcement to weary travelers did the trick. Sojourners visiting the Badlands, Mount Rushmore, and the Black Hills didn't have air-conditioning in their cars in those days and they were looking for just such a welcome stop. Today, you can still see those billboards for hundreds of miles approaching Wall Drug, you can still receive free ice water, and Wall Drug serves as a cultural and historic site, as well as a bit of a tourist trap, attracting millions of visitors annually.

The simple image of a "cup of cold water" reminds us that serving others in our Lord's name is not out of reach. Perhaps our reflection on that gift of service is in order. How might the people of Trinity view themselves as caretakers of respite for people striving to bear God's word in the world? Amid all that people experience, in what ways are the prophetic, the righteous, the thirsty shown that there is a place for them both to bear God's presence and to receive a cup of ice-cold water for the journey ahead?

Finally, let us be thankful for the cup of cold water that is our God, the source of boundless grace and mercy, freeing and forgiving us for the mission to which we are entrusted.

It remains a privilege to serve as a pastor among the people of Trinity. Let us be life-giving drink for one another as we continue together in the work of this faith community to serve in our world.

Grace and peace,

Pastor Bob Linstrom



Trinity's Annual Coat & Blanket Drive

Share the warmth! We are collecting clean, gently used or new coats/outerwear and blankets this fall to help people served by local agencies stay warm this winter.

Samaritas, Dégagé Ministries, Family Promise, and In the Image receive our Trinity donations. **You can place your items in the labeled bins in the narthex or by the main entrance on the west side of the building.** If you have questions, please contact Discipleship and Outreach Coordinator [Laura Norton](mailto:Laura.Norton@tlcgr.org).



Council Corner



A Message from Council Member Susan Knoll

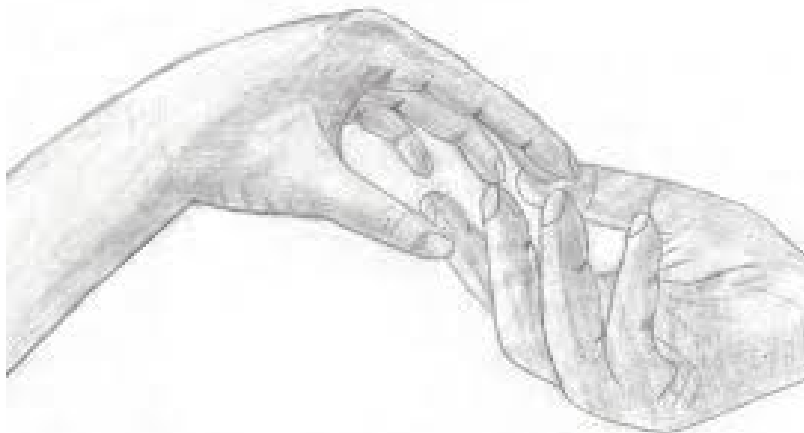
There will always be someone in need. As people of faith, we have an obligation to God to help the people who need a hand. In August 2022, Trinity welcomed our new Helping Hands Coordinator, Jeanne Becker. As our Helping Hands Coordinator, Jeanne leads our efforts to care well for our congregation by connecting those in need of help with member volunteers. In fact, one of Jeanne's

first projects was to make a handbook that lists all the possibilities to make a difference within our church and our community while providing you a sense of belonging. You can find copies in the Narthex or downstairs at the Courtyard Welcome Center.

Download the booklet here:

<https://tinyurl.com/pfvrnyye>

Photo
2019



Jeanne has just completed her first year as Trinity's Helping Hands Coordinator and continues to define her role. Her focus so far has been on joining members together to provide the following services to each other:

- Rides to church services for those who are unable to drive
- Meals to those who are recovering from an illness, a surgery, or the birth of a child
- Altar flower delivery to those who are homebound or to members who have experienced a loss
- Facilitating the Trinity in Touch home communion and visitation program
- Welcoming and connecting new members to others in our Trinity community

In February 2023, the Helping Hands Committee was formed to support Jeanne in her role. The Committee's vision for this ministry encompasses a broader focus on congregational care. This focus will be carried out, in part, by continuing to provide Trinity's congregation with helpful programming and volunteer opportunities as well as by updating and editing the Trinity Directory App.

In furtherance of this purpose, on **October 1, 2023 a Ministry Fair** will be held in the Courtyard after each service and will feature "booths" highlighting the many ministry opportunities offered at Trinity. See [page 11](#) for more information. Various staff and committee members will be present to provide information on how you can give your time and talent to Trinity, as well as to discuss how you can receive help from Trinity when you are in need.

Please make your calendars and plan to visit the Ministry Fair between services On October 1, 2023!

Susan Knoll, Helping Hands Committee Council Liaison

Trinity Lutheran Church Budget vs. Actuals

Month of July 2023

	Budget	Actual	Variance Favorable/ (Unfavorable)	
Total Income	88,404	86,474	(1,930)	-2.2%
Total Expenses	94,132	97,026	(2,894)	-3.1%
Net Income (Loss)	(5,728)	10,552	4,825	

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

	Budget	Actual	Variance Favorable/ (Unfavorable)	
Total Income	606,112	722,132	116,020	19.1%
Total Expenses	599,848	570,523	29,324	4.9%
Net Income (Loss)	6,265	151,609	145,344	

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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.

Please Give Now for Wildfire Relief

The significant loss of life and damage caused by the wildfires in Hawaii have turned our prayers and attention to mourning those lost, supporting the survivors, and how Lutheran Disaster Response can assist with recovery. **Please donate today at www.elca.org.** By standing with Maui's wildfire survivors, we follow Christ's call to share hope and healing with our neighbors in need.



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

He has told you, O mortal, what is good; and what does the LORD require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God. –Micah 6:8

Our lives are filled with so many responsibilities, so many things we have to do, so many things that are required of us. Think for a moment about all of the things you have to do daily. What needs to be done for your family? To take care of your home? If you have a pet, what needs to be done for them? What do you need to do daily for work? What things do you have to do for yourself? Take a moment and make a list.

The demands we feel on our lives can be exhausting and it can feel like we are being stretched thin almost to a point where we will tear apart. On top of all of these things, what do we think God wants of us? What does God require us to do?

This very question is at the heart of the book of the prophet Micah. He speaks to the people of Judah in a time of turmoil. They have nations bearing down on them and are experiencing horrific exploitation at the hands of the wealthy. They are struggling to survive with the demands that have been put on them, so they call out to God asking what He wants of them. What does God require of them? More sacrifices?

To this question the prophet responds with this well-known phrase: "He has told you O mortal what is good; and what does the LORD require of you but to do justice, and love kindness, and walk humbly with your God." (Micah 6:8)

God does not demand more sacrifices of them or of us. He does not heap more responsibilities on them or on us. God seeks to set them, and us, free of the burden of the demands we so often feel. We are called to live lives filled with justice, kindness, and humility knowing the freedom we have received and that we get to share. It was given to us as a gift and as a gift we get to give to others.

The book of Micah ends with the reassurance that God will have compassion on us, and remove all of our sins. It reminds us to trust in the promise of God, not in what we do or think we have to do. We must trust that God is walking with us and share the gifts we have been given.



Trinity to Receive Samaritas's Great Ambassador Award

Congratulations to Trinity Lutheran Church for receiving the Samaritas Great Ambassador Award! This well-deserved recognition is a testament to their exceptional partnership with Samaritas for more than 30 years. Their financial support and hands on work of impassioned volunteers have impacted the lives of thousands of seniors and refugees through the years. Over the past two years, they have redoubled their efforts and dedication, helping refugees find housing, welcoming them into lovingly decorated spaces, and helping to integrate them into their new community. They also provided thoughtful Christmas gifts for families in our Affordable Living communities. Through cultivating lasting relationships with individuals, community members, and Samaritas team members, they have set a remarkable example of servant leadership and inspired excellence in others. Trinity Lutheran Church's compassionate initiatives have made a significant impact in the lives of refugees and seniors, providing them with a warm and welcoming home, and spreading joy during the holiday season. (Samaritas.org/BeTheRock)



Pastor Kari Fast: Returning to the Structure & Fresh Start of Fall

Dear Trinity Family and Friends,

As we look to the fall and the happenings in our lives and at Trinity, somehow summer has mysteriously and magically slipped through our fingers once again!

Fall is a time of transition; it can feel like a fresh start. Children and adults return to school, and we begin to think about grabbing a coat as we head out the door. The structure seems to be returning as the sense of freedom and openness of summer ends. Many vacations are over and time-consuming activities return. Fall is a natural time to think anew on our lives, our responsibilities, and the ways we bless others.

So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation... –2 Corinthians 5:17-18

Fall is a time to think about how to begin connecting or remain connected to ourselves, to others, and to God. One opportunity is to attend a monthly Heart-to-Heart Conversation, which soon returns to its monthly school-year offering. The first **Heart-to-Heart Conversation of the fall will be Thursday, September 14**. Come early at 10:15 a.m. for doughnuts and coffee or tea; the Heart-to-Heart Conversation will start at 10:30 a.m. (see more information and the sign-up link below).

This fall we'll be holding a **Ministry Fair on Sunday, October 1**. There will be booths showcasing the many ministry opportunities offered at Trinity and staff/committee members will be available to answer questions. There will also be pamphlets and sign-up sheets available.

We have also set a day aside for Trinity's women and their friends. The **Women's Retreat will take place on Saturday, October 7**, and will be held at Trinity from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Put this special day on your calendar!

On Sunday, October 29 at 9 a.m., 10:30 a.m., and noon there will also be Spiritual Gifts Assessment Gatherings for upcoming or current Trinity members who wish to work with a staff member on filling out this important assessment tool. These gatherings will take place in the Trinity library.

Another offering in late fall/early winter will feature another video and conversational gathering for those experiencing grief. **Surviving the Holidays will take place on Saturday, November 4**, from 9:45 a.m. to noon.

There are many other events we can become involved in to further the richness of our lives at Trinity, including Pastor Bob's last month with us in November. Blessings and beautiful send-offs are very important for us and those receiving our well-wishes. We have the opportunity as a congregation to celebrate well with Pastor Bob, Rebecca, and their family, even while we grieve the loss of their presence. We have the opportunity to walk through this transition together. May we do this well, trusting in the One who makes all things new and brings new life out of endings.

God's Deepest Blessings now and always!
Pastor Kari, Associate Pastor for Pastoral Care



Heart-to-Heart Conversation Facilitated by Pastor Kari – Thursday, September 14
10:15 a.m. for Doughnuts & Coffee/Tea • 10:30 a.m. Heart-to-Heart Conversation

Sign up here: <https://tinyurl.com/rbjxvea2>

Heart-to-Heart is a small group conversation; prayerfully quieting the soul and sharing with others whatever one wishes, about what is on the heart. It can include laughter, silence, feelings of closeness, sharing of joys, curiosity, an awareness of God's presence, and a growing compassion and awareness of the joys and burdens in one another's lives. It is about an hour in length. Consider inviting someone to attend with you! If you've attended a Heart-to-Heart Conversation in the past, please be very welcome to come again!

Backstage at Trinity

Children's Ministry Team to Hire New Part-Time Leaders for Sunday School and Other Children's Programming

Trinity's ministry with young children is led by a dedicated team of part-time staff who bring their love of faith formation to our youngest families. The Children's Ministry team is seeking to add new staff members in the year ahead. Positions range from five to 15 hours weekly in a variety of areas, such as:

- Sunday School
- Vacation Bible School
- Children's Christmas Program
- Fellowship Activities
- Milestone Celebrations & Blessings

The good news is that our existing Children's Ministry staff team is going to remain in place through the spring of 2024. We are seeking to interview prospective staff members this fall, allowing new staff partners to shadow our existing staff leaders in the school year ahead.

Are you interested in a part-time position at Trinity working with our Children's Ministry? Contact [Pastor Bob Linstrom](#) for more information.



Youth Ministry Team Seeking Youth Ministry Coordinator

Trinity Lutheran Church is looking for an individual to work alongside our Associate Pastor as our **Youth Ministry Coordinator**. This position works with our middle and high school youth to help them delve into their faith and find ways to put it into action in their lives. Resumes with cover letters can be sent to dan.schewe@tlcgr.org. The full job description can be found at <https://tinyurl.com/3ru9k6se>.

Reinvigorating the Publicly Engaged Church Committee



Luke 4:18-19 reads: *The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free.*

The scriptures contain a multitude of verses which call us as Christians to advocate for those who are oppressed, to love our neighbors, to seek justice and correct injustices, and to care for the world around us. The ELCA also has several social statements that can be used to guide our decisions of how we as individuals and as a congregation show love to our neighbors.

In the coming months, we will be delving into some of these resources via *Messenger* articles as we seek to understand how each of us is anointed to bring good news to others and advocate for those in need. Trinity is organizing a **Publicly Engaged Church Committee** to lead this faith community's efforts at advocacy and education around issues of social justice as a congregation within the ELCA. **If you are interested in being a part of this effort in our life together, contact council member liaison Michelle Feutz, at michellefeutz@gmail.com.**

JOYful Days Starts September 27!

Fall 2022 JOYful Days An Adult Ministry of Trinity Lutheran Church Wednesdays — September 27 to October 25

Schedule

- 10:15 a.m. — Coffee & Donuts in the Courtyard
- 10:30 a.m. — Pastor Bob's Forum in Centennial Hall
- 11:30 a.m. — Catered Lunch in the Courtyard
- 12:30 p.m. — Speaker/Presentation in Centennial Hall



JOYful Days is an adult ministry inviting you to start your Wednesday with Coffee & Donuts and conversations with friends new and old. Top off your coffee or tea, slip on a lid and bring it with you to engage in Pastor Bob's Forum. Enjoy a catered lunch in the Courtyard at 11:30 a.m. followed by a speaker/presentation in Centennial Hall.

Pre-registration is required for the luncheon and speaker and the fee is \$10 per person. The link to our SignUp Genius registration will be published in our weekly eBlasts. Please send or drop off payment by noon on the Monday prior to the week you are attending. If at all possible, prior to the start of our series, it is very helpful to register and pay for all of the dates you plan to attend.

While many who attend JOYful Days are senior adults, we welcome all ages of Trinity members and friends. If you have time in your day, join us for JOYful Days! If you have any questions or concerns please contact Fellowship & Hospitality Coordinator [Tess Lundgren](#).

Speaker/Presentation Schedule

September 27 — Mary K. Hoodhood, Founder of Kids Food Basket — Her memoir *What I Can Do* will be on sale before and after her presentation.

Meal: Steve Stephan — Chicken Parmesan, green salad, glazed carrots, dinner roll, and dessert

October 4 — Paws With A Cause — Learn more about what it takes to go from puppy to work dog.

Meal: Steve Stephan — Beef pot roast, mashed potatoes and gravy, broccoli, dinner roll, and dessert

October 11 — Laura Huizenga, Owner of Hestovin Stables Therapeutic Riding Center — This stable opened in November 2022, transforming from the previous Grand Arabian Horse farm. It partners exclusively with Icelandic horses.

Meal: Steve Stephan — Grilled chicken fettuccine green salad, garlic bread, and dessert

October 18 — Dave Smoes, Trinity Member — Sharing about his travels to Finland and Norway

Meal: Steve Stephan — Baked cod, mashed potatoes and gravy, coleslaw, dinner roll, and dessert

October 25 — Pam Withrow, Warden — Finding Joy in Prison Work — Ms. Withrow will be selling her memoir, *Madam Warden*.

Meal: Steve Stephan — Chicken Cordon Bleu, green salad, oven-roasted potatoes, and dessert

Mark Your Calendar!

Trinity's Fall Potluck Coming Up on September 17!

Join us for our annual Fall Potluck on **September 17 following our 10:45 a.m. service.**

Trinity will provide our traditional entrée of pulled pork and your choice of barbeque sauces. Look for a link in the Friday eBlasts to sign up to bring your favorite desserts, sides, etc. We will also need people to help set up and clean up. Those needs will also be listed on the SignUp Genius.

Contact Fellowship & Hospitality Coordinator [Tess Lundgren](#) with questions or for more information.



A Night Out at Rio Grand Steakhouse

Back by popular demand, the Over 60s will return to the Rio Grand Steakhouse at 5501 Northland Dr on **WEDNESDAY, September 20, at 5 p.m.** Reservations are limited to 40 people. Contact Marilyn Mellema at 616.780.3742 or tengranprix@aol.com to make your reservation. See you there!

Outdoor Worship Continues on "Second Sundays" in September & October, with a Blessing of the Animals on October 8

After a beautiful outdoor worship Sunday in August, Trinity's "Second Sunday" plan for outdoor worship continues Sunday, September 10. The outdoor service will be located on the west lawn under the Cross Tower at 10:45 a.m., allowing those who wish to worship indoors that day to gather at 8 a.m. for traditional worship or at 9:15 a.m. for Rejoice worship with livestreaming.

Please also mark your calendars for the following outdoor service on October 8, which will include the annual Blessing of the Animals. In case of inclement weather, we will simply move back inside to the sanctuary on those Sundays.



Mark Your Calendar!

Trinity's Ministry Fair: October 1



Trinity Women's Retreat on October 7

Gals, please set aside **Saturday, October 7 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.** as a day to learn together, laugh, build relationships, enjoy treats, slow down, have fun, and hear biblical teachings.

Our Trinity Women's Retreat will definitely be better if YOU are present – and please invite your family and friends to join us, too! Adult women of all ages are welcome.

This year's theme is **JUST LOVE**. We'll be exploring God's love, how we love ourselves, and how we extend God's love to our family and community. It's amazing to see LOVE beneath the cross of Jesus!

Our lunch will be a spectacular salad bar. Trinity will provide rolls, greens, proteins, and dressings. We ask that each participant bring a salad bar topping of their choice to share.

Please sign up here for this engaging, empowering and encouraging day: <https://tinyurl.com/2xh9kft6>. The \$10 registration fee covers the cost of materials and snacks. Checks can be made out to Trinity Lutheran with *Women's Retreat* in the memo and can be dropped in offering plates or brought to the church office. Contact [Kristin Bradley](#) or [Pastor Kari Fast](#) with any questions, suggestions, or concerns.



Mark Your Calendar!

October 14 Men's Breakfast — Join Us!

The Men's Breakfast group is planning to gather again in the Courtyard on Saturday, October 14 with breakfast beginning at 8 a.m.

Embracing the pattern of gathering once every quarter for food, study, and fellowship, the upcoming Men's Breakfast will include a full hot breakfast, a brief Bible study led by Pastor Linstrom, and will welcome guest speaker Edward Postma of Exalta Health. Steve Stephan will be back in the church kitchen as our executive chef for the meal and he will need several volunteers to join him in setup, cooking, and cleanup.

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



NEW EVENT: BUNCO NIGHT! *To Benefit Christophe's Children* October 15 from 6 to 8:30 p.m.

Christophe's Children are in need of some essential clothing so we're doing a fundraiser where you get to have a whole lot of fun while raising the necessary funds for the kids. Come play Bunco with us! No special skills or previous experience necessary.



Bunco is a fun dice game played in rounds with new partners each round. So not only do you get to help Christophe's Children, but you get to have a great time with your Trinity Family and meet new people. The buy-in is \$15 at the door. We'll have snacks and nibbles to enjoy. Prizes will be given out at the end of the night. Childcare will be provided.

Look for the signup in the weekly eBlast starting in mid-September, or contact [Tess Lundgren](mailto:Tess.Lundgren@tlcgr.org) or Ruth Ann Evans (937.689.8941). If you cannot join us but would like to help Christophe's Children, you can send donations to the church – be sure to indicate that your donation is for the Bunco fundraiser. Thank you so much for all the care you have shown these children. Your generosity is humbling.

Save the Date for Trinity's Fall Outing to Schwallier's Orchard: Saturday, October 21

Our 3rd annual Schwallier's Orchard outing is scheduled for **Saturday, October 21**. We'll meet at Schwallier's at **6 p.m.** for a wagon ride to their back forty for a maze adventure and a bonfire where we'll roast hot dogs and s'mores. Come early to give yourself time for U-Pick apples and pumpkins or to buy some cider and donuts in their shop. This event is \$5 per person with a \$20 cap per family. This is a multigenerational event and all are invited. Look for a signup in the weekly eBlast. For more information, contact [Tess Lundgren](mailto:Tess.Lundgren@tlcgr.org).

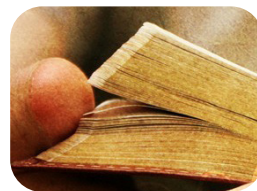


Biblical Learning Opportunities for Fall 2023

Pastor Bob's Adult Forum

SIN, sins and the Deadly Sins

The Wednesday adult forum for the fall of 2023 will feature a seven-week series on the seven deadly sins inspired by a course taught by Dr. Brad Binau of Trinity Lutheran Seminary.



Beginning on Wednesday, September 27, Pastor Linstrom will lead a final forum and Bible study on Wednesday mornings at 10:30 a.m. in Centennial Hall on "SIN, sins and the Deadly Sins." Developed by Gregory the Great in the 6th century to encourage people of faith to mark the seven days of the week with disciplines of right living, the seven deadly sins are matched with seven virtues and, in this study inspired by Professor Binau, are further matched with key parables from the teaching of Jesus and other biblical sources. Topics for the seven-part series are:

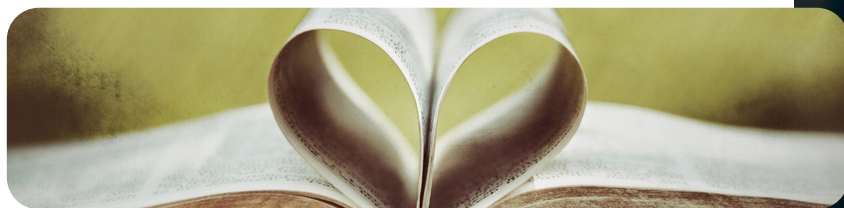
- September 27 **Pride: Thinking of Ourselves, More or Less** (Luke 15:25-30)
- October 4 **Envy: The Consuming Desire to Have Everyone as Unsuccessful as You Are** (Luke 10:25-37)
- October 11 **Anger: Wrong Wrath** (Matthew 18:23-35, Ephesians 4:26, Proverbs 16:32)
- October 18 **Sloth: Who Cares?** (Luke 16:19-31)
- October 25 **Greed: Possession by Possession** (Luke 12:13-21)
- November 1 **Gluttony: Raiding the Icebox for a Cure for Spiritual Malnutrition** (Matthew 5:6, 6:25-33)
- November 8 **Lust: The Craving for Salt of a Person Who Is Dying of Thirst** (2 Samuel 11:1-26) and a final reflection on **Ebenezer Scrooge: The Classic Converted Deadly Sinner** (Romans 12:1-5)

Join us on Wednesday mornings at 10:30 a.m. this fall for a stimulating discussion of an old (and new) daily reflection for the seven days of the week. All are welcome!

Friday Morning Women's Bible Study

This group meets at Trinity the 1st, 3rd, and 4th Friday of every month starting Friday, September 15 from 9:30 to 11 a.m. New participants are always welcome!

Sometimes hope becomes so real that it's almost tangible. But at other times – especially when tragedy or hardship intrudes – you wonder whether your hope will fail, leaving you exposed, vulnerable and overwhelmed. In this eight-session LifeGuide® Bible Study, Jack Kuhatschek leads you to explore both sides of hope. You'll confront doubts and fears, and you'll anticipate the great joy that awaits you in Jesus Christ. Contact Kris Fox at jklsafox@comcast.net.



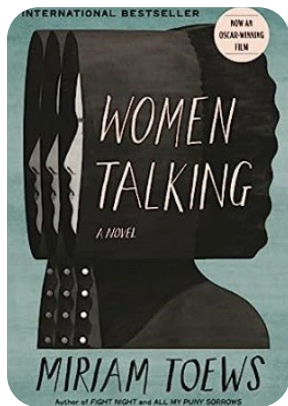
Fall 2023 Book Clubs

Join a Trinity Book Club This Fall!

Tuesday Evening Book Club

Meets the 3rd Tuesday of the month at 7 p.m. at Trinity

The Tuesday night book club invites you to join us for a new year of reading great books and enjoying great conversation. We are open to all ages and genders and always welcome new members! Our first meeting this fall will be on **September 19** and we will be discussing *Women Talking* by Miriam Toews.



One evening, eight Mennonite women climb into a hay loft to conduct a secret meeting. For the past two years, each of these women, and more than a hundred other girls in their colony, has been repeatedly violated in the night by demons coming to punish them for their sins. Now that the women have learned they were in fact drugged and attacked by a group of men from their own community, they are determined to protect themselves and their daughters from future harm.

While the men of the colony are off in the city, attempting to raise enough money to bail out the rapists and bring them home, these women—all illiterate, without any knowledge of the world outside their community and unable even to speak the language of the country they live in—have very little time to make a choice: Should they stay in the only world they've ever known or should they dare to escape?

Based on real events and told through the “minutes” of the women’s all-female symposium, Toews’s masterful novel uses wry, politically engaged humor to relate this tale of women claiming their own power to decide.

Check out our other picks for the rest of the year:

October: *The Covenant of Water* by Abraham Verghese

November: *Divide Me By Zero* by Lara Vapnyar

December: *The Vanishing Half* by Brit Bennett

January: *I'll Be Gone in the Dark: One Woman's Obsessive Search for the Golden State Killer* by Michelle McNamara

February: *Hello Beautiful* by Ann Napolitano

March: *Rodham* by Curtis Sittenfeld

April: *The Wide Circumference of Love* by Marita Golden

May: *Yellowface* by R. F. Kuang

Contact Corina Dulecki at cdulecki@gmail.com with questions or for more information.

Friday Morning Women's Book Club

Meets the 2nd Friday of the month at 9:30 a.m.

This book club typically meets September through May in a member's home. Our first meeting of the fall will be **September 8**. Contact Carol Hendricks at cahendricks14@gmail.com with questions or for more information.

September 8: *Horse* by Geraldine Brooks

October 13: *The Secret Keeper of Jaipur* by Alka Joshi

November 10: *Killers of the Flower Moon* by David Grann

December 8: *West with Giraffes* by Lynda Rutledge

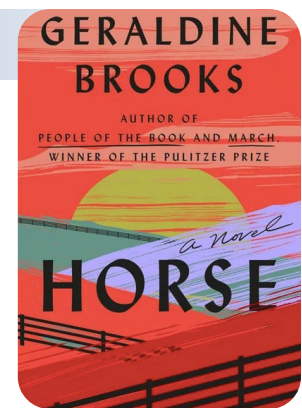
Host: Kim Brock

Host: Meri Liedel

Host: Pam Sellers

Host: Carol Hendricks

Look for the rest of our picks in an upcoming issue of *The Messenger*!



What Does the Arts Committee Do?

One of the elements that makes Trinity Lutheran Church such a welcoming and inspiring place is the art on display – both the changing exhibits in the Overlook Gallery and the pieces permanently hanging throughout the building. Before our community re-imagined its spaces with massive remodeling, most of the art on our walls was acquired in two ways: bequests and gifts in line with the personal tastes of the givers. These pieces didn't always harmonize with the dominant style of our mid-century building.

Looking for a more intentional approach to our visual environment, a group of designers, artists, art educators, and art patrons were invited to create a committee which would make more informed decisions about the art in our spaces. One of the tasks of this committee was to assess the art already hanging at Trinity and determine what should remain and where it should hang as part of the church's permanent collection.

This committee also became responsible for setting criteria and procedures for growing that collection. Presently, there are two major ways new art can be acquired for our church: a member of our church community may suggest a specific piece of art for possible acquisition, or they may donate an amount of funding to be used for making art purchases. The committee invites anyone interested in the process of building the permanent collection to join us in the steps it takes to acquire and display permanent pieces of art.

To keep the art flowing through our Overlook Gallery, the Fine Arts committee is in need of volunteers who can assist with the six shows we host each year. We would very much appreciate more hands to put up and take down these exhibits at the end of each two-month interval. We welcome suggestions of local/regional artists who may be interested in showing with us.

The visual qualities of a space often define it. We want Trinity to reflect God's gifts of beauty, inspiration and joy. Please join us in achieving and sustaining that goal. **Contact committee co-chair John Ziech at ziechs@gmail.com to discover ways your time and skills can support the fine arts in our church community.**

Stephen Ministry

ARE YOU GOING THROUGH
A DIFFICULT TIME?

OUR STEPHEN MINISTERS
WOULD LOVE TO HELP!

			
LISTEN	CARE	ENCOURAGE	SUPPORT
Our Stephen Ministers are here to LISTEN to you.	Our Stephen Ministers CARE for you and keep everything confidential.	Our Stephen Ministers want what is best for you!	Our Stephen Ministers provide emotional & spiritual SUPPORT.

We strive to be a community where no one has to go through a difficult time alone. Please reach out to a pastor or our faith community nurse to get connected to resources.

Middle School Youth News

Confirmation Kick-Off – September 10 at 3 p.m.

Confirmation Classes kick off for 6th, 7th, and 8th graders on Sunday, September 10. Parents are invited to join us for this first session as we get to know each other, look ahead at the year, and focus on our covenants with one another.

September & October Confirmation Schedule:

September 10 – Class for parents and youth from 3 to 4:30 p.m.

September 17 & 24 – Confirmation Class from 3 to 4:30 p.m.

October 1 & 8 – Youth Group from 2 to 3 p.m.; Confirmation Class from 3 to 4:30 p.m.

October 15 – Service projects at Trinity from 3 to 5 p.m.

October 22 & 29 – Confirmation Class from 3 to 4:30 p.m.

Stay connected with our middle school ministries via Remind! Text @a4ha6a to the number 81010.



High School Youth News

Youth Group Kick-Off – September 10 at 6:30 p.m. High School Youth Group kicks off for 9th-12th graders, their friends, and their parents on September 10 at 6:30 p.m. with a night of fun and information! We will reconnect, have some fun, and hear where we are headed this year/next summer. We will also share a ton of important information for our trips this year. We look forward to you joining us! In the following weeks, High School Youth Group will resume meeting regularly.

High School Bible Study with Pastor Dan – October 1 at 9:15 a.m. Starting October 1, Pastor Dan will host a Bible study in the Youth Room the first Sunday of the month during 9:15 a.m. worship. All high schoolers and their friends are invited to join us in journey through the scriptures. There will also be donuts and juice!

Fun Coming in October! Fun activities are coming up for high schoolers, their friends, and families! On Sunday, October 15 we will be participating in a Bunco fundraiser for Christophe's Children. On Saturday, October 21 we are going to Schwallier's orchard to enjoy the fall! Plan to join us!

Plan for Next Summer!

Next summer we have three amazing experiences for our high schoolers. More information will be shared at our kick-off meeting on September 10. Please put these dates on your calendars now: **Mission Trip to Lincoln, Illinois:** June 15 to 22; **ELCA Youth Gathering in New Orleans:** July 15 to 20; **Stony Lake Camp:** July 22 to 27.

Stay connected with High School Ministries via Remind: For information on our summer trips text @k8dk9d7 to 81010; For general High School Ministry information text @42gefg to 81010.

Mayors' Grand River Cleanup

Families are invited to take part in the Mayors' Grand River Cleanup on **September 9 from 9 a.m. to noon**, with free lunch afterwards! If you are interested or want more information, contact [Kris Baker](#) in the church office and/or see [page 23](#) in this newsletter for more details.

Register here: <https://tinyurl.com/ym7fdytw>

Sunday School: Let's Connect!



Sunday School takes place within the framework of the 9:15 a.m. service. Children three years old through grade 5 are invited to join us in Sunday School this fall. Lessons are taught using a Lutheran curriculum.



Children in preschool through grade 3 will study the same scriptures heard in worship, sing songs, play games, and make crafts. Children start worship with their families and head to class after Children's Time. Students in grades 4 and 5 will have lessons from the New Testament. They will begin class at 9:15 a.m. in "The Lounge" classroom.

All children will return to worship during the "Passing of the Peace." For families attending either of the traditional services, the approximate time of Sunday School is 9:30 to 10:05 a.m. for ages preschool through 3rd grade and 9:15 to 10:05 a.m. for grades 4 and 5.

**Trinity's
Children's
Ministry is
Hiring!**

See [page 8](#) for details.

Sunday School: Important Dates

September 10 at 9:15 a.m. — Special Children's Time & Sunday School Open House

At a special Children's Time, families will hear all about Sunday School. Kids will lead the congregation in the singing and motions of the VBS version of *This Little Light of Mine*. After worship at 10:15 a.m., families are invited to drop by the Sunday School Open House in the Commons. You "DONUT" want to miss it!

September 17 at 9:15 a.m. — First day of Sunday School Classes & Preschooler Blessing

All preschoolers are welcomed to Sunday School with a special blessing in worship. Three-year-olds and children new to Trinity's Sunday School will be gifted a Storybook Bible.

November 5, 12, 19, and December 3 — Christmas Program Practice during Sunday School

Children will prepare for the program and practice songs. 4th and 5th graders will rehearse lines.

Saturday, December 9 from 10 a.m. to noon — Christmas Program Dress Rehearsal

December 10 at 10:45 a.m. — Children's Christmas Program followed by Christmas Cookie Reception



The Trinity Nursery is open Sundays from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Music Ministries

Sound... Silence... Sanctuary

One of the great gifts that Trinity Lutheran Church shares with the community is the "Celebration of Music" Concert Series. In it we experience the gifts of musical sound...notes, rhythm, melodies, and harmonies which stir the soul. We experience powerful moments of silence...the moments between sound which give us time to reflect and breathe. And we experience the gift of sanctuary.... a place to revive our spirit through worship, through concerts, and through community.



As we concluded the 2022/23 concert series, I was struck by the amazing attendance we experienced. Each concert drew an average of 200 people. It was a gift to see so many guests enjoy music and friendship as the series unfolded. It was also a joy to see how many new people entered the sanctuary of Trinity for the very first time.

The Concert Planning Team and I have thoughtfully prepared the new series of events for 2023/24. We are most hopeful that YOU can join us. We also hope that you share this opportunity with those who may not have enjoyed our series yet.

We are deeply grateful for many faithful, generous donors who make an annual contribution to this series. To become a named donor, simply fill out the included Concert Series donation card. It is through all these gifts that we can offer concerts without ticket cost and share amazing music events for the enrichment of all. We look forward to welcoming you to our new series of concerts!

Dr. Darlene Kuperus

Music Director & Organist

Artistic Director of the "Celebration of Music" Concert Series

CELEBRATION OF MUSIC CONCERT SERIES 2023/24

An Outreach to the Church & Community

Sunday, September 24, 2023 • 3 p.m.

FANFARES & FLOURISHES: MUSIC FOR BRASS & PIPE ORGAN

The fall season begins with an afternoon of energetic and evocative music for brass and pipe organ. A guest brass quintet will be joined by Trinity organist Dr. Darlene Kuperus. The concert will feature music styles from majestic ceremonial music to beloved Beatles melodies and some Gershwin classics. From trumpet, to tuba, to organ pipes, the Sanctuary will resonate with powerful sounds of these combined forces!

*Most events
are held in
the beautiful
acoustical
space of Trinity's
Sanctuary!*

Sunday, October 29, 2023 • 3 p.m.

DEBORA DEWITT & COMPANY: MUSIC FOR DUO GRAND PIANOS + VIOLA SOLO & PIANO

Trinity's own Debora DeWitt presents duo repertoire with pianists Justin Colwell and Caleb Wenzel, and violinist Libor Ondras. Enjoy music in many styles including a Brahms Sonata, and contemporary works by Philip Glass and Debora DeWitt. Other selections include works by Piazzolla, Dello Joio, and Bach.

Continued on following page

Tuesday, December 19, 2023 • 7:30 p.m.

VOXMAS: CHRISTMAS CHOIR MUSIC SUNG BY VOXGR

VoxGR has quickly gained an enormous following as one of Grand Rapids's finest chamber choirs. They are conducted by Dr. Christopher Mason. Enjoy VoxGR in a sparkling concert of Christmas music. The audience will also have an opportunity to sing Christmas carols with this stellar vocal ensemble, accompanied by the pipe organ in the Sanctuary.

Sunday, January 28, 2024 • 3 p.m.

VOICES OF EXTRAORDINARY YOUTH: MANDALA, BELLA VOCE, AND CHAMBER CHORALE

Mandala is an ambassador choir from the Grand Rapids Youth Chorus program. It is conducted by Leah Ivory and accompanied by Sean Ivory. This auditioned ensemble of high school girls will amaze you with their exquisite sound and advanced repertoire. They will be joined for several works by two ensembles from Grand Rapids Christian High School, conducted by Candice Sytsma.

Saturday, February 10, 2024 • 2 p.m. • Location: Centennial Hall

AN AFTERNOON AT THE "SILENT" MOVIES:

AN EVENT FOR FAMILIES, CHILDREN, & THE YOUNG AT HEART

Come and watch some short comedy classics with LIVE piano accompaniment by Robert Edwards, an expert in accompanying silent movies. Enjoy favorites such as Charlie Chaplin and the hilarious on-screen antics so popular in these silent films. Popcorn and movie candy will be provided. Be prepared to laugh and enjoy an afternoon at the movies.

Sunday, March 3, 2024 • 3 p.m.

KAREN KRUMMEL, CELLO

Karen is a Trinity Lutheran Church member and former member of the Grand Rapids Symphony Orchestra. Her musical career has been broad and varied. She frequently performs worship services and concerts at Trinity. Karen will present a chamber concert exploring the depth of music written for cello, piano, and music composed for cello ensemble.

Monday, April 15, 2024 • 7 p.m.

ANNAMAE ROTMAN: YOUNG ORGANIST COMPETITION

This local competition is sponsored by the Grand Rapids Chapter of the American Guild of Organists. The 2023 competition was held at the Basilica of St. Adalbert and the 2024 event will be at Trinity Lutheran Church on the 3-manual Letourneau pipe organ. Enjoy the performance of young organists (ages 24 and under) as they compete for the generous prizes given by Dr. Richard Rotman.

Sunday, April 28, 2024 • 3 p.m.

TRINITY MOSAIC: DR. DARLENE KUPERUS, ORGANIST & PIANIST

A tapestry of colors fills the Sanctuary of Trinity Lutheran Church in brilliant stained glass. The last concert in the 2023/24 series celebrates a mosaic of musical colors, sounds, and textures. The concert explores music composed for instruments or voice accompanied by the pipe organ or piano. Musical guests will include some of Trinity's gifted musicians.

Health Ministries

Fall Fitness News

Thank You, Xristina!

It is with great appreciation that we thank Xristina Kuhlmann for her time, talents, dedication, and ground-breaking work in creating a fitness space at Trinity and facilitating classes over the past four years. Everyone who has participated in Tai Chi, Strength & Balance, TRX and/or Somatic Yoga has benefited from Xristina's ability to meet people where they are and foster growth. Xristina is "retiring" from teaching weekly classes, but will still be a supportive presence in our congregation, helping to encourage and promote movement for health!



NEW Fitness Class



Power Bend & Stretch: Reach for the Sky!

Wednesday mornings at 9 a.m.

Starts September 13

This class, led by Trinity member Debra Freeberg, is geared toward anyone who wants to strengthen their core and increase flexibility, which is especially important for long-term health. Debra has been leading warm-ups and exercises throughout her career of more than 30 years in theatre. Moreover, she's been leading a Zoom exercise class since the beginning of the pandemic. Come check out this new offering! Participants need to bring their own exercise/yoga mat. Recommended donation of \$3/class.

Momma Offerings

FIT4MOM provides strength for motherhood. They have prenatal and postnatal fitness classes, with mommy+me or mom-only class options. They also have playgroups, moms nights out, and family events to help connect moms in our community.

Several of the FIT4MOM classes are held here at Trinity.

Contact Fit4Mom coordinator Sarah Greidanus at sarahgreidanus@fit4mom.com for more information.

You can also take advantage of getting your first class free: <https://tinyurl.com/44d5re3u>



Expanded Programming

Do you have a favorite exercise class? A favorite local instructor? Do you teach any fitness classes? Would you prefer daytime, evening, or weekend options? Dream big! We are looking forward to collaborating together to offer more classes with more instructors at more times of the day! Please reach out to Faith Community Nurse [Kristin Bradley](#) with your ideas.



Save the Date for Trinity's Fall Blood Drive

Mark your calendars for our fall blood drive, **happening Monday, September 18 from 10:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.!**

Plan your giving today. Contact [Kristin Bradley](#) to secure your spot or register here: <https://tinyurl.com/3zpm6xdy>.

There are many ways to help out, even if you aren't able to donate. From calls to cookies, there is a place you can plug in. To sign up, visit: <https://tinyurl.com/5h9v6bz7>.

Let's keep our local blood supply strong!

Care & Share: New Sessions Coming this Fall

Our caregiver support group is delving into Henri Nouwen's writings related to *Courage for Caregivers*. Originally designed to be a 4-session day-long retreat, we're breaking things up and focusing on one session a month. We will be exploring the mutuality, challenges, and gifts of caregiving as well as sustenance for caregiving.

Henri Nouwen was a Dutch-born Catholic priest, professor, psychologist and pastor at L'Arche Daybreak, a community for people with intellectual disabilities. Nouwen wrote and spoke with great openness and vulnerability about faith, spiritual formation, prayer, social justice, and caregiving.

Are you a primary support partner for your adult child, your spouse, a sibling, or a parent? Do you work in social services, nursing, medicine, ministry, psychology, education, or have anything to do with caring for others? Please join us!

We'll be meeting monthly on Tuesdays from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m in Centennial Hall. Meeting dates are: September 19, October 17, November 14, and December 12. Study guides will be available at each session. Contact Faith Community Nurse [Kristin Bradley](#) with questions.



Health Ministries (cont.)

Immunization Sunday

Trinity is hosting an Immunization Clinic on Sunday, September 24 from 8:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Trinity Library. Corewell Health's Visiting Nurse team will have FLU and COVID vaccines for our members/guests ages 5 and above. Appointments are highly recommended...well, pretty much needed, to ensure enough vaccines are set aside for us!

Details:

- Register through the eBlast SignUp Genius link or contact [Kristin Bradley](#)
 - * Please indicate whether you'd like a flu shot, covid shot, or both shots
- Both vaccines can be administered on the same day
- Everyone 65 and older will be offered the high dose influenza immunization
- Anyone under age 18 must have a parent or guardian present
- The covid vaccine is Pfizer's newest bivalent formulation

IMMUNIZATION SUNDAY



Please bring your insurance card! Aetna, ASR, Blue Care Network, Blue Cross/Blue Shield, Cofinity, Priority Health, and Medicare will be accepted. All others will be expected to pay a fee of \$58 for the regular dose influenza vaccine and \$86 for the high dose (65+) influenza vaccine. The cost of the covid vaccine without insurance will be known in September. Please note we are unable to take Medicaid at this clinic. We will have same day appointments if there are open slots.

Let's stay well together!

Connect with Faith Community Nurse [Kristin Bradley](#) with any questions.

Opportunities to Support Church & Community

Home Repair Services Outreach Update

Trinity Lutheran Church members answered God's call and gathered together on August 5 to complete a ramp for a disabled man in the Wyoming area. Homeowner Gary became dependent on a wheelchair last year due to diabetic complications and will now have more accessibility to the outside world. Home Repair Services and Michael Guis provided this amazing opportunity for installation. Trinity's volunteers ranged from retired folks to highschoolers and each personally benefited from this amazing ministry.

Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

—Hebrews 13:16



Opportunities to Support Church & Community



Mayors' Grand River Cleanup Saturday, September 9

God's Work. Our Hands.

"God's Work. Our Hands." Sunday is Sunday, September 10. However, the entire weekend is an opportunity to celebrate who we are as the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America – one church, freed in Christ to serve and love our neighbor.

Our activities will kick off with the 20th Annual Mayors' Grand River Cleanup on Saturday, September 9 from 9 a.m. to noon. The Grand River is a vital part of the Michigan community. It only takes a short time for trash on our streets and around storm drains to find its way to the river. The waste that is removed at the Annual Mayors' Grand River Cleanup has a grand impact on our community – please consider participating in this worthy endeavor! For more information, call Bob Dever at 816.304.2015. To sign up, contact Trinity's Office Coordinator, [Kris Baker](#), at 616.949.2510, ext. 110. **You must be signed up to participate as we will register you with our group.**

THANK YOU, THANK YOU to all who donated to the Buy the Book fund. Trinity members answered the call by contributing over \$3,000 to Dégagé, Family Promise, and Samaritas.

Thanks!



God's work. Our hands.

God's Work. Our Hands. Sunday Sunday, September 10

On Sunday, September 10 we will be celebrating "God's work. Our hands." at all three services. This year we will be supporting high risk children in Grand Rapids. Participation in sports has been linked with lower rates of depression and anxiety, along with a reduced risk of suicide and substance abuse. Trinity will be purchasing quality, long lasting basketballs to be distributed in three areas: Kent County Juvenile Detention Center (a 98-bed facility with two full sized gyms), Boys and Girls Club of Grand Rapids (3 after school clubs), and The Grand Rapids Police Department (basketballs will be handed out to children on the streets at police officers' discretion).

The balls will be delivered to Trinity uninflated, so we ask that members are available after each worship service to help inflate the basketballs. If you own a pump, bring it along!

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

In The Image Volunteering

We will **not** be volunteering at In The Image on September 4 due to Labor Day.

See you on September 21, from 1 to 3 p.m. Please call Laura Norton with questions.

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

News Briefs

Communion Class for Young Children to be Offered Three Times in the Fall of 2023

Pastor Linstrom is hoping to hear from Trinity Lutheran Church parents who are interested in a brief class to prepare young children for Holy Communion in the fall of 2023. Children as young as preschoolers are invited to receive the bread and wine of Holy Communion if their parents determine that they are ready to participate in the sacrament in worship. Different families have different preferences regarding the age for their children to receive Holy Communion with some waiting until the four-week class on Holy Communion offered each year to fifth graders during Lent and some waiting even until Confirmation. There is no “right time” to welcome a child to the Lord’s Table, but a growing number of families are embracing the invitation to all the baptized, including very young children.



In the fall each year, Pastor Linstrom has gathered with parents and their children for a brief First Communion class. The wonderful, simple curriculum entitled *A Place for You* provides a meaningful introduction to Holy Communion teaching for young children and their parents. The class lasts about 45 minutes, followed by another 30 to 40 minutes in the church kitchen for those who wish to stay and help with communion bread baking. The bread the children bake (with a bit of help) will be shared the following Sunday morning in worship along with a blessing of First Communion children and their families. In the fall of 2023, Young Children’s Communion Classes will be offered three times:

Sunday, September 10 at 10:30 a.m. • Sunday, October 8 at 10:30 a.m. • Saturday, October 14 at 11 a.m.

Even if your child is already communing, you are welcome to join us for this mini-course. Sign up here: <https://tinyurl.com/mrf4sx69>. If you have difficulty with the sign-up link, be in touch with [Pastor Bob](#).

Synod-Sponsored Adult Theological Education: *Luther’s Small Catechism for Adults* Course Begins October 24 – Register Now!

The North/West Lower Michigan Synod is excited to announce its next theological education course. The synod will offer a six-week Zoom course led by the Rev. Dr. Kit Kleinhans, Dean of Trinity Lutheran Seminary at Capital University, for a study of Luther’s catechisms. When Luther wrote that familiar question, “What does this mean?” he meant it! He wanted Christians to understand their faith and to see how God was at work in their lives, in the church, and in the world.

Before she was Dean at Trinity Lutheran Seminary, Dr. Kleinhans taught religion, including Lutheran Confessions and History of Christianity, at Wartburg College for 25 years. A fifth-generation Lutheran pastor and a brilliant theologian and Luther scholar, Dr. Kleinhans cares about her students, the Church, and what it means to be Lutheran today. She has a pastor’s heart and is capable of both the deeply esoteric and the foundationally concrete.



The class will meet on six consecutive Tuesday evenings – October 24, 31, November 7, 14, 21, and 28 – from 7 to 8:15 p.m. ET. This course is open to all adults, both laypeople and rostered ministers, and is free of charge. Sessions will be recorded and available to registered participants. **Registration is required and will close on October 19, 2023.** To register, visit: <https://tinyurl.com/sfse79hz>. Additional information, including Zoom links, will be sent via email closer to the start of the course. If you have additional questions, please contact communications@mittensynod.org.

Interested in Joining the Schubert Male Chorus?

For 140 years, the Schubert Male Chorus has been providing good male chorus music to the Grand Rapids area. Beginning in 1883 with 16 members, and performing their first concert in 1884, the Schuberts have persisted through both World Wars, cultural changes, the advent of TV, and even the pandemic, with at least one concert every year since their inception.

If you or someone you know would like the camaraderie of other men and the fun of getting together to just sing your heart out, please join them! More men are needed to continue this wonderful Grand Rapids tradition.

The Schubert Male Chorus is thankful and consider themselves blessed to have practice space at Trinity Lutheran Church at 7 p.m. every Monday evening!



The Schubert Male Chorus, 1887



The Schubert Male Chorus, 2023

Trinity & Safe Haven Ministries Partner to Fight Domestic Abuse

Trinity and Safe Haven value the inclusion of all survivors. Through education, empowerment, and community collaboration, we believe all individuals have a right to a healthy relationship. Safe Haven can help. Please call 616.452.6664 for more information.

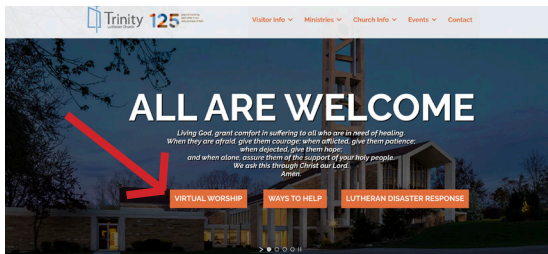


Technology @ Trinity

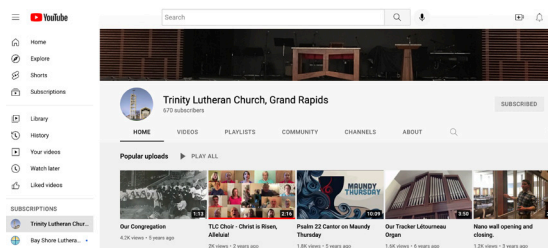
Trinity is Live Streaming Services!

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**.

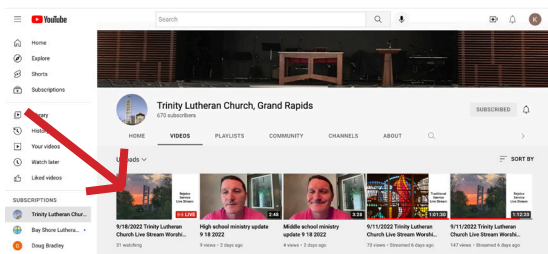


(2) Clicking the Virtual Worship button will take you to our YouTube page:



(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.



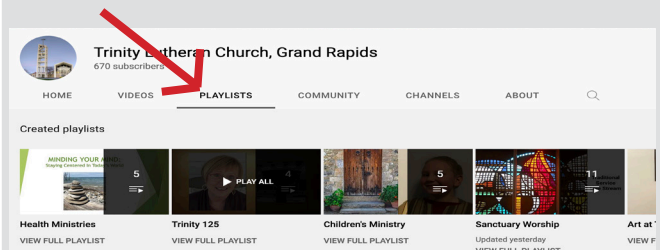
You can also go directly to www.youtube.com and search **Trinity Lutheran Church Grand Rapids** to find our YouTube page.

***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.

September Birthday & Anniversary Celebrations

September 1

David Fox
Hayden Fuger
Pat Johnson
John Leese
Brittany Thompson
Jerry & Fran Anderson
Gene & Pam Gunderson
Jurgen & Becky Luders

September 2

Brooke Giuliani
Audrey Kind
Audrey Korb
Lois McCardell
Luanna Seyffert
Zachary & Jaclyn Abbate

September 3

Kate Schaefer
Brad & Pam Burkle
Dan & Brittney Zielinski

September 4

Nathaniel Hahn
Doug Vander Woude
Brian Vigna
John Ziech
Jim & Marge Willman

September 5

Anna Breaugh
Alexander Hahn
Henry Harrison
John Johnson
Drake Selleck
Andrew Van Hagen
Blake & Samantha Garvey
Wendy & Jason Kroll
Gary & Xristina Kuhlmann
Matt & Kara Seyffert

September 6

John Ashby
Sarah Bernard
Nathan Howard
John Linsey
Nate McCardell
Art Schmehling
Aven Smith
Karen Unruh
Phoebe Yu
Greg & Lori Law

September 7

Addy Black
Bobbie Bollinger
Madison Keller
Katie Knoll
Marilyn Mellema
Greg & Rachele Battreall
Tom & Laura Price

September 8

Eric Bryce
Malena Kind
Lisa Postlewaite

September 9

Terri Greening
Parker Hutchinson
Lily Pardy
Lila Riegling
Cecilia Wood
Doug & Melissa Haneline
Ian & Cheryl Love
Sara & Joseph Robach

September 10

Eric Engblade
Lynn Getzin
Joy Horning
Ryan Huckstep
Frances Maurer
Michael Mulligan
Steve Olson
Mason Skalandis
Jeremy Tesch
Kellee & Liam Donovan
Karen & Don Smith

September 11

Brooke Kendall
Benjamin Sommers
Kyle Teichow
Steve & Brenda Heacock

September 12

Isabella Abbate
Bob Beaudry
Sarah Cannon
Madi Ferguson

September 13

Rosalie Gildea
Brett Ludeman
Roger Marks
Tobias Marks
Dylan Rodriguez
Ryan Severns
Nikoa Wollen Jr.
Gregg & Susan Cothorn
Bill & Kara Day
Mike & Jana Siminski
Nate & Morgan Taylor

September 14

Bill Bruin
Joe Fisher
Doug Haneline
Chad Hansen
Madeline Krueger
Layla Lothschutz
Everett Phillips
Greg & Kristine Lang
Marcella & Kenneth Morrow

September 15

Peter Cannon
John Hall
Melat Lang
Don & Joanne Brouse

September 16

Debbie Duckworth
Winona Mester
Ron Mishler

September 17

Christopher Ashby
Benji Gavranovic
Dave Johnson
Megan Legault
Kathy Noble
Gabby Saum
Andy Tyrrell
Edmund Van Meter
Jennifer & Dustin Hughes

September 18

Andrew Ashby
Jamie Norris
Jacqueline Riegling
Bill & Kim Brock
Dave & Sarah Huckstep
Jeff & Rebecca Ulrich

September 19

Paul DeBoer
Nathan Peters
Tori Shannon
Brian & Sue Bakkila
Brian & Gail Mazurek
Eric & Donna Wollen

September 20

Raymond Cargill
Bill Childers
Elizabeth Derbin
Marilyn Johnson
Jim McKee
Tom & Sarah Cannon
Todd Osbeck & Paula Tibbe

September 21

Steve Bennett
Sammi Blair
John Hagenbush
Logan Juth
Jessica Marks
Chloe McMillan

September 22

John Fox
Levi Havard
Gloria Von der Heide
David Wait
Tobias & Rebekah Marks
Rodney & Sue Stanard

September 23

Sam Colby
Stella Eimers
Joyce McKenzie
Laura & Allan Fawcett
Keith & Diane Flatt
Tom & Connie Helzer

September 24

Violet Bidle
Ian Hall
Cheryl Love
Patricia Terpstra

September 25

Mark Bryce
Ingrid Dykeman
Ethan Hale
Greg Lang
Alyssa Phillips
Scott & Barb Hansen

September 26

Chloe Grooters
Mark Johnson
Karen Krummel
Brienne Olimpo
Amanda Schneider
David & Sharon Flink

September 27

Liz Dever
Jennifer Hall
Mary Hamilton

September 28

Connie Helzer
Caroline Kuntzman
Pam Sellers

September 29

Joshua Braaten
Mary Johnson
Steve Kleiman
Joni Korb
Dorothy Postema
Jenna Potter
Timothy Schau
Michelle Wolner

September 30

Michelle Albaitis
Amanda Cox
Tyler Fredericks
Alexis Panzer
Brianda Sellman
Mark & Kris Baker
Darin & Cami Estep
Vince & Carol Schumacher

If you have a special milestone birthday or anniversary, please contact the [church office](#) at Trinity to let us know!

Please 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. We like to know about it, so we can pray for and support your family. Our ministry to your baby/child begins even before they arrive! Contact [Kris Baker](#) in the church office with your 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.

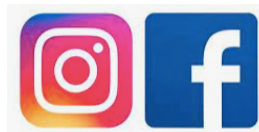


2700 Fulton Street East
Grand Rapids, MI 49506
616.949.2510 tlcgr.org



Follow us on social media!

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



[YouTube.com](#)

Search: Trinity Lutheran
Church, Grand Rapids

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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)

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