



Discover Trinity

"Discover Trinity" is the one-time event designed to introduce new people to our congregation's mission and many ministries. If you're looking for a faith community to provide you support, guidance, and growth in faith as well as joyful fellowship and opportunities to serve with people who love God, please join us! "Discover Trinity" is available for you to learn more about our church and become a member. The next Discover Trinity will be held on Monday, April 4, from 6:00–7:30 P.M. Please register online at trinity-ec.org or call Heather Day at 715.832.6601 ext. 202.

Succession Planning Final Report

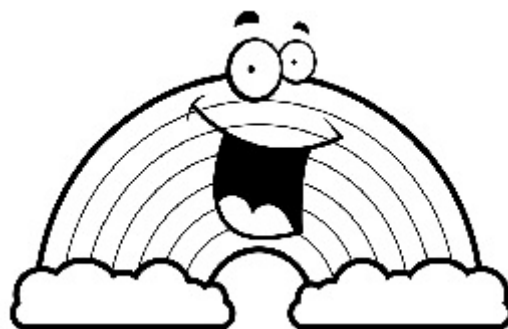
The final report on the Succession Planning Process from Dr. Jim Pence, WalkAlong Consulting, was received by the Council at its March 8 meeting. In it he noted the importance of the organizational insight gathered in the process which needs to be kept in focus during the orientation of a new Lead Pastor. He also encourages the continued integration of the council, Transition Team, Call Committee and Start-Up Team and the Lead Pastor (current and future) to perpetuate the learning and energy that came from the retreats in September 2015, November 2015, and January 2016.

In conclusion, Dr. Pence noted the long-standing large measure of trust, health and vitality present in the congregation. He encourages celebrating closure of Pastor Kurt's ministry and the beginning of a new Lead Pastor. Finally he wrote "I am grateful for the opportunity to have walked with you thus far in the transition journey. You are a blessing to the larger church as you have been to me." You can read the full report on the "Transitions" page of trinity-ec.org

Timothy Brinkman Returns

Singer/songwriter and multi-instrumentalist Timothy Brinkman will be a guest music leader at 8:15 A.M. and 9:45 A.M. worship services on Sunday, April 3. This is a great Sunday to invite a friend to worship with you. Brinkman fuses radiant melodies with bittersweet harmonies and deeply personal lyrics that deal with life's heartbreaks while always coming back to the hope and glory of God. Born in the Twin Cities, Timothy got his musical start on drums at five years old, then later taught himself percussion, guitar, keys, bass, mandolin, banjo, vibraphone, harmonica, and many other instruments. A freewill offering at the door will support Brinkman's music ministry, and his recordings will be available for purchase in the lobby.

Children Leading Worship April 24



A Technicolor Promise

Everyone loves a rainbow! Not only is it a wonder of creation, radiating beauty after a rain, but more importantly as the sign of the covenant, it reminds us of God's overwhelming love and grace. A Technicolor Promise is a re-telling of the events surrounding this promise, sometimes presented in a humorous style, but never forgetting the strong Biblical truths which are ever present. Join us on Sunday, April 24 at 8:15 A.M. & 9:45 A.M. musical worship services when the combined children's choirs of Trinity lead us in worship!



Where is God When Life is Changing?

Dear Friends:

The advent of spring in our part of the world and an early date for the church's high festival of Easter always provide me new enthusiasm for life.

I delight in seeing the changes in nature and the reminders of new life coming forth. I think I would be hard pressed to find anyone who dislikes the transition from winter to spring, from dead to alive. In this change, I see God's presence everywhere.

But there are other transitions in life that we do not like and in them change is hard and painful. In such changes that lack the exuberance of Easter or spring, do we see God?

A major transition is ahead for my life and for Trinity, too. I'm saying farewell this summer after 28+ years with you. My entire pastoral career, indeed nearly all of my adult life, has been spent with you and it has been marvelous. I realize that the transition ahead for me brings many changes upon you and this congregation. But in these changes, I can see God.

Transition is defined as, "The act of passing from one state or place to the next, "or" an event that results in a transformation." One can be certain of this about transition it does not allow you to stay in the same place. We know that

1. Transitions in life are hard.
2. They mean that one part of your life's story is over and a new one is going to unfold.
3. They are the space where faith is tested and fear fights to creep in.
4. They are a temporary "no man's land."

Often in transitions, it seems like the territory ahead is so unknown that we put our attention and focus on the emotions of transition rather than on where we're being transitioned to.

Throughout Jesus' ministry, His God was transitioning people from one state to another. More often than not, people missed Jesus and His goal in transitions.

Consider this encounter:

Another day, a man stopped Jesus and asked, "Teacher, what good thing must I do to get eternal life?"

Jesus said: "Why do you question me about what's good? *God* is the One who is good. If you want to enter the life of God, just do what he tells you."

The man asked, "What in particular?"

Jesus: "Don't murder, don't commit adultery, don't steal, don't lie, honor your father and mother, and love your neighbor as you do yourself."

The man, "I've done all that. What's left?"

Transition is defined as, "*The act of passing from one state or place to the next,*" or "*an event that results in a transformation.*" One can be certain of this about transition. It does not allow you to stay in the same place.

Jesus said: "If you want to give it all you've got, go sell your possessions; give everything to the poor. All your wealth will then be in heaven. Then come follow me."

That was the last thing the young man expected to hear. And so, crestfallen, he walked away. He was holding on tight to a lot of things, and he couldn't bear to let go." Matthew 19:16–22 *The Message*.

How did the young man miss God in the transition Jesus offered him?

A good question to ask yourself is: How does faith enter into the challenge of transition times? I believe there are three challenges:

1. **Lack of a clear picture.** Transitions often don't provide us a clear picture of what's ahead. We want God to give us a clear picture of what our lives will be. There is nothing wrong with this expectation, except God shows us amazing examples of calling people into transitions without showing them all the details. "*Go to a land I will show you,*" (Genesis 12: 1). God didn't say to Abram, *Go to a land I have shown you.*" "*Follow me and I will make you fishers of people,*" (Matthew 4:19). Jesus didn't say "*Follow me because I have already made you into fishers of people.*" The picture becomes clearer as we follow faithfully in the transition period.
2. **The assignment is daunting.** Back to the rich man from Matthew. Notice how he's described to us. To transition him, Jesus reaches to the very core of his identity: to give it all up. Yes, he could have given it up, but that would have meant the risk of being poor and no longer a ruler. The assignment to do such a thing was too daunting, hence he settled, when he was supposed to have transitioned.
3. **The timing is not right.** When you are 100% sure about a change, you are too late. We approach life with an attitude of, "It needs to feel right" before we



can make that change. Occasionally, we have a sense of the timing being right. But how often are we 100% sure? *"In His time, He makes all things beautiful,"* (Ecclesiastes 3:11), not our time.

When those who wanted to follow Jesus needed more time to finish off personal business, Jesus had this to say, *"No one, after putting his hand to the plow and looking back is fit for the Kingdom of God."* Luke 9:62

Why do we miss God in transitions?

- lack of trust
- lack of faith
- holding on to our own sense of timing
- fear of the unknown.

"For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope." (Jeremiah 29:11)

May we not miss God in life's transitions.

Your friend and partner in mission,

Pastor Kurt M. Jacobson



Prayer for you: God, you are the creator of time and you have provided us with the time of our lives. You know well the challenges we have with transitions in life: our own desire to hold to what is familiar and comfortable, our fears and uncertainties about a future that we can't easily see. We live in a world that seems to change all the time and so often not seemingly for the better.

But, you have given us faith. You have taught us through your WORD and you've shown us amazing examples of people who have accepted your call to move through transitions, simply at your command.

So as we face personal transitions and as our congregation faces transitions which are not familiar or common to our life together, remind us of your promise to be with us to guide and provide. Continue to write bigger and better stories of faith among the people of Trinity, ones greater than we would ever choose to write on our own. Bless the conversations and decisions ahead regarding transitions and give us Jesus in all that we say and do. Amen.

Final R.E.A.P.

Pastor Kurt invites readers who appreciate reading authors of progressive Christian thinking to join his final installment of R.E.A.P. (Readers Enjoying Authors who Are Progressive) on Monday, April 11, 6:30–8:00 P.M. in the Fireside Room.

The final book is the latest by Barbara Brown Taylor: *"Learning to Walk in the Dark."* "Christianity has never has anything nice to say about darkness," says the Episcopal priest and professor in her latest book. Taylor charges churches with propagating a "full solar spirituality" that "focuses on staying in the light of God around the clock." But she says the faithful need to discover a "lunar spirituality," which recognizes that humans need both darkness and the divine light.

Taylor delves into her own spiritual darkness, a loss of faith in traditional religion really a mistrust of a "solar spirituality," focused on the false dichotomy between light and dark, good and evil, right and wrong. Instead, Taylor argues for a "lunar spirituality," which places these religious concepts on a continuum that waxes and wanes like the phases of the moon. Ultimately, this is a book about the author's own struggle to believe in God, even when the world turns dark, and to keep one foot moving in front of the other, seeking the answers to these eternal questions. Pick up or download a copy of the book and join Pastor Kurt for R.E.A.P. on April 11.

Theology on Tap

Begin your week with good conversation and a good brew in hand with friends from across Eau Claire. Pastor Jamie of Immanuel Lutheran and Pastor Sarah of Trinity invite you to join them on Mondays this April for "Theology on Tap," where your open-source questions about God, religion, faith and the church will form the content of this four week experience. We begin on Monday, April 11, at 7:00 P.M. at the Lazy Monk Brewery.

Week one, we'll just ask questions! Weeks two through four, we'll address those together. Come one or come all weeks April 11, 18, 25, and May 2. No need to bring anything except curiosity, an open mind, and your own experiences. Please R.S.V.P. at trinity-ec.org.... or contact Pastor Sarah at sarah@trinity-ec.org with any questions.





Beacon House

Trinity will fulfill a variety of tasks at the Beacon House from April 17–21. We have spots available for evening and breakfast hosts, providing dinner, and overnight hosts. If you are available for a volunteer shift, you are invited to sign up at Clipboard Central. Roman and Diane Fritz, Trinity members, will contact you with additional details. Thank you!

Facebook on Trinity

Trinity's Facebook page is an active source of inspiration for your faith develop and information, too. Be sure to "Like" Trinity soon and begin enjoying the benefits of inspiration and news.

Online Prayer Requests

You're invited to share prayer requests at trinity-ec.org. These requests go to our Prayer Link team and then they pray! Consider being a part of the team and receive a monthly update of prayers and some inspiration for your praying. If you appreciate the benefits of prayer and are willing to pray for those who share requests, use the Prayer Request button at trinity-ec.org to indicate your desire to participate.

Synod Women's Organization's Convention

All women are invited to come together to worship, sing, hear marvelous speakers, meet new friends, and renew old friendships on April 29–30 at the Biennial Synodical Women's Organization Convention being held at the Plaza Inn & Suites in Eau Claire.

This year's theme is "Ordinary Women Serving an Extraordinary God." Trinity's own Deb Gilbertson will be a speaker on Friday and Saturday. Deb has lectured for many years on several topics in multiple settings.

Please join us for an exciting, uplifting, and inspiring convention. If you have any questions, please contact Jean Larson at davejeanlarson@tcc.coop

Circle Listings

DEBORAH

Thursday, April 21, 9:30 A.M. at Trinity

Hostess: Joyce Davis

Leader: Vicki Fields

MARTHA/MARY

Tuesday, April 19, 6:30 P.M. at Trinity

Hostess: No info

Leader: No info

No info MIRIAM

Wednesday, April 20, 9:30 A.M. at Trinity

Hostess: LuAnn Miller and Jill Lehmann

Leader: Mary Schoenknecht

RUTH

Wednesday, April 19, 1:30 P.M.

Hostess: Joanne Siewet, 2312 Hayden Ave. Altoona

Leader: Group

Received in February Memorials & Gifts

Food Pantry Fund

- In memory of Carl Higgins: Patrick & Cheryl Godar, Family & Friends, Gregg & Cynthia Dyste, Family & Friends, Mary, Nolan, Larry & Joan Lorenz, Char Finseth, Sandra Jacobson, Rose Sippel, Leatrice Solberg, Jack & Lois Olson, Joseph & Lavonne Rystrom, Clifton & Doris Husberg, Barbara Lee, Gary & Mary Rambo, Dick Cable, Linda Stead & Linda Erickson, Beverly Jean Heike, Morris & Audrey Brumberg, Jim & Lynn Gullicksrud, Arlene Higgins, Barbara Higgins, Lowayne & Sue Rust, Gene & Judith Ranson, David & Joy Fossum, James & Marjorie Oleson, Kermit Walker, Paul Bunyan Logging Camp of Eau Claire, Bob & Mary Schoenknecht
- **In memory of Delos Walker:** Rose Sippel, Barbara Tischer,
- **In memory of Ruth Patzwald:** Ron & Marilyn Thompson, Al & Donna Schultz, Bob & Mary Schoenknecht
- **In memory of Elaine Lonning:** Ron & Marilyn Thompson
- **In memory of Joan Smith:** Bob & Mary Schoenknecht

Endowment Trust Fund

- In memory of Elaine Lonning: Rose Sippel, Jon & Maureen Homstad

Children's Bible Fund

- In memory of Helen Jorstad: Jim & Sherry Jones

Library Fund

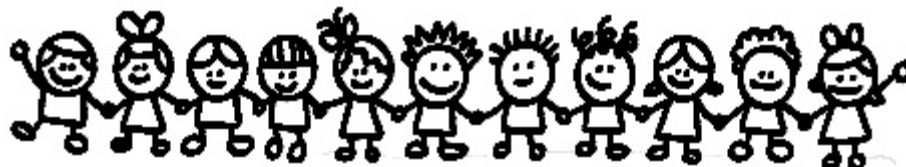
- In memory of Jane Brantner: Ken & Roberta Vance, Barbara Lee

Memorial Fund

- In memory of Jane Brantner: Dale & Dawn Knutson, Jon & Maureen Homstad



Children's Ministries



For more information on any of our Children's Ministry Programming, please check out the Trinity Website www.trinity-ec.org or contact Sara Reed at 715.832.6601 ext. 218 or sara@trinity-ec.org

Summer Fun!

Before we know it summer will be here! It's time to mark your calendar for 2016 Summer Day Camps! The class information is available in the main office, outside of the Children's Ministries Office or online at trinity-ec.org under GROW. Registration will begin on Sunday, April 10, at 8:00 A.M. in the lobby/library area.

This year we will use paper registration only for all classes. Thank you for your patience and understanding.

- Sports Camp: June 13–15
- Camp Discovery: June 20–22
- Camp Come and Play: June 13–15 and June 20–23
- Great Pretenders: June 27–29
- *NEW* Dancing for God: July 6–8
- Camp Cook and Book: July 11–13
- Master Chef: July 11–13
- Camp Tell the Good News: July 11–14
- Vacation Bible School: July 25–29

2016 Vacation Bible School "Friends in God's Word"

VBS is scheduled for July 25–29 from 8:45 A.M.–12:00 P.M. This year, we will see how great and amazing God's friends are! Join us this summer to explore five Bible stories about our amazing God and his friends. Our bible stories will include: Four Friends, Naomi & Ruth, Love Your Enemies, Lazarus and Paul & Silas. You don't want to miss this week! The cost is a suggested \$20 donation per child. VBS is for children who are three by 9.1.15 through sixth grade. The Kick-Off Event is Sunday, July 24, at the 9:45 A.M. worship service. Registration begins on Sunday, April 10, at 8:00 A.M. in the lobby/library area.



Staff Needs for VBS

Teachers and student helpers are needed for all grade levels. Please sign up on the poster in the lobby on Sunday mornings starting April 10 or at the Children's Ministries Office during the week. For more information contact Sara Reed.

High School Counselors Needed!

Trinity's Summer Day Camp Ministry is looking for current high school students (completing grades 9–12) to work as paid counselors during our sessions in June and July. Information and application forms are available at the Youth Tool Bench or Children's Ministries Office. Application deadline is May 4. For more information contact Sara Reed.

Middle School Volunteers Needed for Summer Day Camps

Trinity's Summer Day Camp Ministry is looking for middle school students (completing grades 6, 7 & 8) to work as volunteers during our sessions in June and July. Information and application forms are available at the Youth Tool Bench, Main Office or Children's Ministries Office. The application deadline is May 4. For more information contact Sara Reed.

TGIF (To Gather In Faith)

Our final Wednesday session of TGIF for this school year is on April 27. We will have a picnic followed by games for TGIF students, TJC choir, the Children's Choir, and GLS. There will be a commissioning for the sixth grade students during the 6:30 P.M. worship service. Parents are encouraged to attend the service, with their sixth graders.

Luther Park Bible Camp

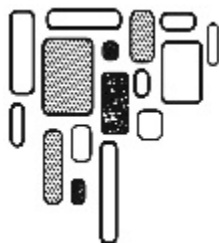
It's not too late to sign up your children for Luther Park Bible Camp in Chetek, WI. Pick up your brochure at the Youth Tool Bench or rack in the lobby or go online at lutherpark.org to learn more. We offer 25% of the registration fee as a partial grant. For more information contact Sara Reed.

Please Save!

Time to think ahead to VBS 2016! We need your ice cream buckets and lids! So treat yourself to a little dessert and then bring the clean bucket and lid to the Children's Ministry office. Thank you!



YOUTH MINISTRIES



Stretch Yourself!

Attention Fifth—Eighth Grade Students

Summer Stretch is for you!

Summer Stretch Day Camp combines community service projects and recreational activities. Beginning on June 9, participants will meet five Thursdays during the summer including a day at Valley Fair. Summer Stretch offers youth an opportunity to contribute to our community along with socializing with their peers. Brochures and registration materials are available at the Tool Bench and at trinity-ec.org. Registration deadline is May 1. Contact Cassie at cassie@trinity-ec.org for more information or with any questions.

Luther Park Summer Camp

Join Pastor Brahm this summer at Luther Park Bible Camp in Chetek. Pastor Brahm is inviting students completing grades 6–8 to attend Camp Pathfinders on June 12–17. These campers stay in cabins and experience the wide variety of fun and activities that are available at Luther Park. Pathfinders experience the heart pounding excitement that is the new High Ropes course and Disc Golf course. Along with swimming, games, and developing community with your new and old friends, you will get to experience amazing and creative Bible Studies, worships, campfire times, and meaningful small group discussions. Check out lutherpark.org to learn more about Luther Park Summer Camps. Trinity offers grants towards Luther Park registration fees. Contact Lisa at lisa@trinity-ec.org or Cassie at cassie@trinity-ec.org for more information about grants.

Scholarship Money for You!

A scholarship program is available to all students of Trinity Lutheran Church. It is our hope that all students have the privilege of participating in any event that will nurture their growth in Christ. Every student in grades 7–12 is eligible for a 25% reimbursement of registration costs for all events at Trinity. If further assistance is needed, arrangements can be made with the Youth Ministry Team. Scholarship forms are located next to the Tool Bench in the blue side bins. We hope this will continue to encourage students to participate in the life changing opportunities here at Trinity!

Club 78 Prayer Friend Event

Meet your Prayer Friend on Wednesday, April 13, at 8:00 P.M. We will meet in the Trinity Room after the large group lesson. Club 78 students and prayer friends meet for the first time...see who has been praying for you!

Teen Study

There are only four Club 78 Teen Study classes left in the school year. Sunday, April 3, 10, 17 and 24. Grade eight meets in Room 208 from 10:30 A.M.–11:05 A.M. Grade seven meets in Room 302 from 10:30 A.M.–11:05 A.M. Club 78 students are asked to attend 10 Teen Study classes each year. Club 9 Teen Study final meetings are Wednesday, April 6, 13, and 20 from 7:15–8:30 P.M. in the Fireside Room. Club 9 students are asked to attend five Teen Study classes during their last year of confirmation.

April Showers You With Good Books

FICTION

- *Circle of Quilters* by Jennifer Chiaverini. This book is part of the Elm Creek Quilt series and a true delight with fascinating characters from all walks of life. (FIC CHI)
- *About Grace* by Anthony Doerr. *About Grace* is Doerr's (*All the Light We Cannot See*) first novel. Goodreads says this has been hailed as one of the most compelling and entrancing novels of recent times. David Winkler sometimes sees things before they happen and when he dreams that his infant daughter will drown in a flood as he tries to save her, he comes undone. He flees his family and home to deny the dream and escapes to a Caribbean island. It is there he is pulled back into the world to search for the people he left behind. (FIC DOE)
- *The Last Runaway* by Tracy Chevalier. Summary: Ohio 1890. For a modest English Quaker stranded far from home, life is a trial. Honor Bright is forced by family tragedy to rely on strangers in an alien, untamed landscape. She is drawn into the clandestine activities of the Underground Railroad, a network helping runaway slaves escape to freedom. Honor befriends two exceptional people who embody the startling power of defiance and eventually, she must decide if she too can act on what she believes. (FIC CHE)
- *Theodore Boone: The Fugitive* by John Grisham. Summary: On a field trip to Washington, DC, Theo spots a familiar face on the Metro: Duffy, who jumped bail and was never seen again. Theo's quick thinking helps bring Duffy back to Strattenburg to stand trial. But now that Duffy knows who he is, Theo is in greater danger than he's ever been in before. (YP FIC GRI)



NON FICTION

- *Bethlehem Besieged, Stories of Hope in Times of Trouble* by Mitri Raheb. Mitri Raheb is a Palestinian Arab and Christian pastor who ministers to his people in Bethlehem, where his family has lived for hundreds of years. (275.6 RAH)



April 10–16 National Library Week

Celebrate by checking out a book in Trinity's Library. We have a committee of 17 people who take care of this great resource and ministry in our church. Members meet regularly to maintain the library, purchase and process new media, and decorate and promote seasonal events.

BIOGRAPHY

- *When Breath Becomes Air* by Paul Kalanithi. Summary: Although Paul Kalanithi dreamed of becoming a writer, he first planned to spend 20 years as a neurosurgeon-scientist. Tragically, however, in 2013—during his last year or residency at Stanford, the nonsmoking 36 year old was diagnosed with stage IV lung cancer. In this memoir, Kalanithi wrestles with life questions and facing death. (B KAL)

CHILDREN

- *Be A Friend* by Salina Yoon. Summary: Dennis is an ordinary boy who expresses himself in extraordinary ways. Some children do show-and-tell. Dennis mimes his. Some children climb trees. Dennis is happy to BE a tree ... But being a mime can be lonely. It isn't until Dennis meets a girl named Joy that he discovers the power of friendship - and how special he truly is! Provided by publisher. (++ FIC Yoo)
- *The Nonsense Show* by Eric Carle. Summary: Ducks growing out of bananas? A mouse catching a cat? What's wrong with this book? Yes, there's something strange, something funny and even downright preposterous on every page of this book. But it's not a mistake - it's nonsense! Provided by publisher. (++ FIC CAR)
- *The Extra Yard* by Mike Lupica. Teddy, a young football player, learns that sometimes bridging the distance in your family can be harder than stretching for an extra yard on the field. BAM (+ FIC LUP)

What you can find on the A Frame Display

- New Books: Since the first of the year over 30 new books have been added to our collection. These newest ones are being identified with stickers (*New*) on the lower front cover.
- Bullying: On the other side of the A Frame, there is a rather extensive display of books that deal with bullying. These too are marked with a special sticker. There are books for all ages, picture books for preschoolers, chapter books for young readers, and helpful books for young people through adults (good for parents and those who work with youth).
- Trinity Page Turners Book Club Selections: These nine books for 2015–16 are also available for check out and can be found on the same side as the bullying books. Look for their special sticker on the front cover as well.

Members of the Trinity Library Committee make ever—effort to keep these items on display for your convenience.

Trinity Page Turners Book Club

The book club meets on Tuesday, April 19, at 6:30 P.M. to discuss *The Boys in the Boat* by Daniel James Brown.

It was an unlikely quest from the start. With a team composed of the sons of loggers, shipyard workers, and farmers, the University of Washington's eight-oar crew team was never expected to defeat the elite teams of the East Coast and Great Britain; yet they did, going on to shock the world by defeating the German team rowing of Adolf Hitler. The emotional heart of the tale lies with Joe Rantz, a teenager without family or prospects, who rows not only to regain his shattered self-regard but also to find a real place for himself in the world. Drawing on the boys' own journals and vivid memories of a once-in-a-lifetime shared dream, Brown has created an unforgettable portrait of an era, a celebration of a remarkable achievement, and a chronicle of one extraordinary young man's personal quest.

There are no special expectations to participate in this group. You should feel free to come whether you've finished the book or not. You can RSVP at Clipboard Central. For more information, email Cindy Beck at cindy@trinity-ec.org





Noah's Ark News

April is Coffee/Biscotti month, so check out the rolling cart in the lobby to order coffee and biscotti from Ms "C" on April 3 and 10. We will have our famous Noah's Ark blend, roasted by Megan, a Noah's Ark alumni. We will also offer Snickerdoodle and Highlander Grogg. All coffee comes from the Coffee Grounds and are available in regular and decaf, ground and whole bean. Biscotti offered this year are: vanilla almond, apricot, Door County cherry, chocolate chunk, and cinnamon raisin. Money raised through this fund-raiser will benefit the



Noah's Ark bathroom facilities fund. We were the beneficiary of a \$1,500 grant from the Women's Giving Circle last fall. If you would like to donate to the bathroom fund for Noah's Ark, donations can be given to Trinity Lutheran in the office, with a notation in the memo line "Noah's Ark bathroom." We estimate the cost of the bathroom to be approximately \$10,000, including sewer and water connections.

Noah's Ark will also be celebrating our 2015–2016 year with our annual Spring Party Programs on Monday and Tuesday, April 25 and 26 in the Worship Center. We are excited to use the brand new risers, purchased through grants from the Endowment Trust and Women's Giving Circle. Our Spring Programs are a wonderful way to share music, movement, and finger plays with our families. It's a fun evening and all are welcome.

April will be a fast month, with our Parent Teacher conferences on April 11, 14, and 15. It will be a joy to celebrate each individual child and our partnership at Noah's Ark.

Noah's Ark welcomes Laurel Studt, council member, as our council representative in the 2016–2017 school year. Laurel is a Noah's Ark alumni, and we are excited to have her join the Noah's Ark Preschool Committee.

At our most recent Preschool Committee meeting in March, Marlee Knickerbocker (Director of Noah's Ark beginning July 2016) presented a tentative calendar to the committee. We also organized our chair people for the 2016–2017 school year.

As I move into retirement, Mary Schoenknecht, Anne Josephson, and I are volunteering to serve on the newest Council Committee, the Safety Committee. This committee was approved at the March council meeting. Our role will be to oversee and implement, under council approval, safety procedures involving our people (all ages), our campus, and our programming. Look for more information to appear as we gather together the 2012–2013 Safety Task Force members to set agendas for many short, medium, and long term goals we presented to the council in September 2013. Some goals have been accomplished, and several need to be reviewed and revisited. We are thankful for the council's approval. Sue Brown will be our council representative.

Thanks so much, Trinity. You are a wonderful congregation! We are blessed as we serve in Christ's love and share the Good News.

Hugs, Ms. C

Health Ministries

Aaaahhh April!! Spring is close (we live in Wisconsin and can't always be sure!) With warmer weather, longer days, and more sunshine, you can almost feel your body's energy return, your mind brighten, and your spirits soar. One of the blessings of Wisconsin winters is that we fully appreciate the blessing of spring.

It is time to shed the winter blahs and those heavy coats. Throw open the windows! Let the fresh air flow into your home. It is a good day to take a walk around the block, or dig in the flower beds, or just stand in the window soaking up the sun. Start moving!

Lenten Soup Lunches: I want to thank all the volunteers who helped with the Lenten Soup Lunches. The lunches would not have happened without your help! I took a leap of faith when I took this over. (Cindy did such a great job for so many years!) So to Dawn, Elaine, Jeanne, Phyllis, Nancy, Sandy, Ann, Mary, Linda, Joan, Shirley, Janice, Bev, Ann, Ardelle, Mary, and Kathy my sincere gratitude. And to Barb, Barb, and Mary.....thank you for helping make soup every Monday evening with me. I don't have the statistics yet for the full six weeks, but attendance has ranged from 36–52 people each week. The money raised is going to Friends of Flynn.

We have lots of things going on this month! Adult Forums:

- Sunday, April 3: Lisa Wells from ADRC will do a presentation on Dementia Friendly Organizations and how we as members of Trinity can make this an even more welcoming place for those with dementia and their caregivers.
- Sunday, April 10: Jeni and Blythe from the Domestic Violence Program of the Family Support Center will speak on domestic abuse, its prevalence and impact on our community. The ELCA has designated a Ministry with the Abused. Join in the discussion.
- Saturday, April 16 (National Health Decisions Day): 9:00 A.M. –11:00 A.M.: Vicki Dueringer, RN (me) will do a



presentation and answer questions on Advanced Care Planning/FiveWishes and help people complete, update or begin their Advanced Care Directives. Meet in the church lobby. Completing an Advanced Care Directive is one of the best gifts you can give to your family.

Financial News

Your Missionary Offerings at Work

Your offerings to the "Missionary Fund" are divided three ways to support

1. ELCA Global missionaries, the Beneckes, in Japan;
2. Our Lutheran partners in Malawi;
3. Maranatha Ministries in Jamaica.

This month these offerings provided new appliances for the kitchen/cafeteria area that Trinity men have recently completed at Jabneh Christian Academy.

Thank you for your offerings to the Missionary Fund. Every dollar you give makes a difference!

Positioned for Sharing Good News

Thank you for your regular offerings which empower a great mission and provide rich opportunities for people to learn of God's love in Christ. Please continue to share your faith through financial contributions for in doing so you impact the world with God's mercy and grace. Thank you for every offering you share. Remember you can give online at trinity-ec.org and set up an electronic fund transfer from your financial institution.

Offerings to Regular Ministries

January and February	2015	2016
Income	\$180,647	\$215,751
Expenses	\$180,850	\$188,625
Difference	-\$203	\$27,126

Mortgage Offerings

Mortgage Payments	\$16,827
Additional Principle paid	\$36,148

Your Church, Your Gift, Your Legacy The Endowment Trust Fund

The Trinity Endowment Trust Fund exists so that your values and legacy of Christian faith will live on and further God's work for generations to come. Gifts now, or through a will bequest to the Endowment Trust Fund become part of a perpetual fund with earnings used to advance Trinity's ministries and global missions.

Grant applications are welcomes semi-annually with submission deadlines of May 1 and November 1. A nine member Board oversees the Endowment and

welcomes grant applications for individual or organizational endeavors that advance the Fund's mission: "Serving God's people in Christ's name by providing financial foundations to the ministries and missions of Trinity Lutheran Church for all generations."

You can read more about the Trust and watch the videos at trinity-ec.org. The grant application is online on the same page.

Trinity's Women's Giving Circle Update

The mission of the Women's Giving Circle, a fund of the Trinity Endowment Trust, is to "demonstrate God's love by positively impacting people's lives through collective philanthropy and awarding of financial gifts."

Mark your calendar! The Women's Giving Circle will hold its annual Spring Meeting on Sunday, April 24, at 5:00 P.M. in the Trinity Room. This event will include hors d'oeuvres and reports from several 2015 grant recipients who will share how they are using the funds provided by the Women's Giving Circle. Everyone is invited to join us to learn more about this group and take this opportunity to join.

The Women's Giving Circle (WGC) invites and encourages all members of Trinity Lutheran Church to become participating members. Membership is open to anyone who wishes to further the mission of the WGC and who makes an annual contribution of at least \$250 to the Endowment Trust designated for the WGC. Membership is renewable on an annual basis. In 2016, members can make their contributions at any time but only funds received by June 30 will be available toward grants awarded in the fall of 2016, so please consider making your contribution before June 30.

Brochures and membership forms are available in the lobby or in the Endowment section of www.trinity-ec.org. Just fill out the membership form and return it, along with your \$250 gift, to the Spring Meeting on April 24, or return it to Trinity's office at any time.

"Serving in Christ's Love and Sharing the Good News"

A Reconciling in Christ Congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
Trinity Lutheran Church, 1314 East Lexington Blvd, Eau Claire WI 54701
Phone: (715) 832.6601 • Fax: (715) 832.6700 • Web Page: trinity-ec.org

Congregational President

Mary Jo Hanson

Pastors

Kurt Jacobson kurt@trinity-ec.org
715.828.5092

Sarah Semmler Smith sarah@trinity-ec.org
715.827.1230

Brahm Semmler Smith brahm@trinity-ec.org
715.827.1220

Noah's Ark Pre-School

Jeanne Cooper, Director noahsark@trinity-ec.org
Ginny Lien ginny@trinity-ec.org
Jill Kasmarek jkasmarek@att.net
Marlee Knickerbocker jknick6054@aol.com

Children's Ministry Leadership Team

Sara Reed sarar@trinity-ec.org
Children's Ministry Director

Alicia Strozinsky alicia@trinity-ec.org
Children's Ministry Assistant

Nursery Attendants

Malissa Dahlstrom
Katherine Awve

Youth Ministry Leadership Team

Cassie Brenden cassie@trinity-ec.org
Youth Ministry Coordinator

Lisa Goetz lisa@trinity-ec.org
Youth Ministry Assistant

Health Ministry

Vicki Dueringer vickid@trinity-ec.org
Parish Nurse

Pat Garber garberpa@uwec.edu
Visitation Ministry Director

Worship & Music Ministry

Shirley Sands shirley@trinity-ec.org
Worship & Music Director

Gary Rambo—Trinity Choir
Ryan Poquette—Trinity Tollers
Kris & Brian Pressler—Worship Music Leaders
Drew Brandenburg—CrossWord Youth Band
Jeanne Cooper—God's Little Singers
Corrine Gransee Paral—Children's Choir, Celebration
Choir
Liz Drayton—Totally Joyous Christians

Building & Grounds Team

Don Peterson
Sheri Buening

Ministry Support

Gail Brian gail@trinity-ec.org
Financial Ministry Assistant

Amber Moltzau amber@trinity-ec.org
Office Administrator

Heather Day heatherd@trinity-ec.org
Web Coordinator/Ministry Assistant

Cindy Beck cindy@trinity-ec.org
IT/Ministry Assistant

World Missions

Maranatha Church in Kingston, Jamaica
Blantyre Lutheran Parish in Malawi, Africa
Jacqueline & Patrick Bencke, Japan

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- Please submit all articles for the Tidings electronically in MS Word, Corel WP format, or in the body of an email. Submit to: cindy@trinity-ec.org
 - All submissions must be your own work. Any copyrighted material (code, images, or otherwise) must include written permission from the original source.
 - Deadline for the May Newsletter is April 19.