



The Greatest Story Ever Told Starting September 13!

The Story

"The Greatest Story Ever Told" is more than just a cliché. God has gone to great lengths to rescue lost and hurting people. That is what *The Story* is all about: the story of the Bible, God's great love affair with humanity. This rendering of the Bible allows its stories, poems, and teachings to come together in a single, compelling read. *The Story* sweeps you into the unfolding grand narrative of the Scriptures, and like any good story, it is filled with intrigue, drama, conflict, romance, and redemption.

From the foreword by Max Lucado and Randy Frazee: "This book tells the grandest, most compelling story of all time: the story of a true God who loves people, who established for them a way of salvation and provided a route to eternity." Each story in these 31 chapters reveals the God of grace—the God who speaks; the God who acts; the God who listens; the God whose love culminated in the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus to show the unbounded length God will go to have us. *The Story* uses the New International Version, a popular modern-English Bible that is easy to understand, yet rich with the detail found in the original languages.

Pick up a copy of *The Story* for \$5/each in the Lobby beginning Sunday, August 2, or in the office on weekdays. A digital edition is available at Amazon.com for \$7.99.

A Great Week at VBS!

What a fun week we had July 27–31. This year over 300 children were engaged under the theme "Animals in God's Word." There were crafts, music, science fun, storytelling, rec activities, and great classroom experiences all week as the kids rallied their spirits and energy to learn how to live each day by God's word. The fruits of VBS each summer result in newcomers to our congregation and a marvelous experience of God's Spirit. Check out our Facebook page to see pictures and video from this great event.

Mark your calendars and join us next summer, July 25–29, for Vacation Bible School 2016.



ELCA Credit Union Forming

The ELCA was recently granted a federal charter to create the ELCA Federal Credit Union and offer products to the denomination's 3.8 million members. The Credit Union is expected to open in early 2016 and will offer a wide-range of services including money market certificates, IRAs, auto loans, online bill payment, and more. Read more at elca.org

Thank You for Serving!

"Whoever serves me must follow me and where I am, there will my servant be also." John 12:26

Members of Trinity have been actively volunteering throughout our community in July as a reflection of our faith in God and our mission statement of "Serving in Christ's love and sharing the good news." We had teams of volunteers serve at the Community Table on Monday, July 13, and Friday, July 17. In addition, a group of volunteers served at the Sojourner House on Friday, July 17. Plus, Trinity volunteers were present in various roles at the Beacon House during the week of July 19. Thank you to all who give of their time and share their gifts to live out their faith to care for many while supporting our partnering organizations in ministry!



Succession Planning News

With the retirement of Pastor Kurt Jacobson in 2016, the Council has retained Dr. Jim Pence of Walkalong Consulting to guide a succession planning process starting in September. The entire process is explained on the "Transitions" page of trinity-ec.org

Last week Pastor Kurt added a letter to the page that details his role in the process and how he will support us in the holy work ahead. In addition, he notes how he will refrain from specific aspects of it including any involvement in the selection of the new Lead Pastor. You can view his letter on our website at trinity-ec.org or there are limited print copies available at the Information Center near the restrooms in the Lobby.



Serving Others with Our Mission Men's Mission Trip

Men! We have an annual January mission trip to a small Christian school on the island of Jamaica, and plans are underway to for the trip in 2016. If you're interested in learning more about this trip, please email Pastor Kurt. An information event will be scheduled soon.

The Story for the Final Year

Pastor Kurt Jacobson has served Trinity since 1988 and will retire in 2016. For his final year, he wants to do something very special to mark a generation of a wonderful partnership with the amazing people of Trinity, and a compelling shared mission that has gone literally across the world.

Pastor Kurt writes: *"My vision for diving into 'The Story' for this final year is to see how God's story encompasses our story as a congregation and as individuals. While my time with you ends in 2016, the story of God's desires for Trinity continues."*

The coming year will involve lots of activities and events in the succession planning process designed to awaken awareness of this church's story which is part of the story of what God has done and will do through this church. "The Story" will help us see the big picture, the grand narrative of God unfolding through history. We'll also see particular events of the Bible that we don't often consider—stories that are perplexing and confusing. Yet, through "The Story" we'll discover the continual thread of God's relentless pursuit of humanity."



Friends of Flynn Ministry

As a reflection of our mission statement of "Serving in Christ's love and sharing the good news," Trinity has a wonderful partnership with Flynn Elementary School to help address the needs of children.

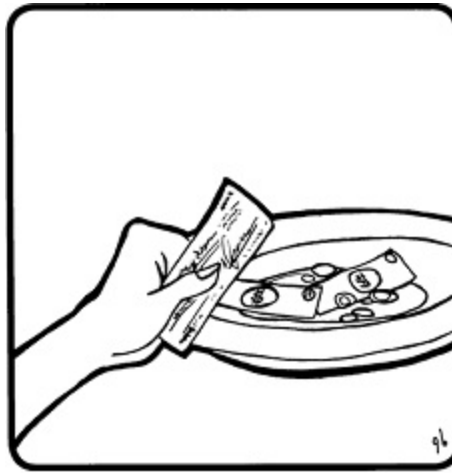
Have you seen the great prices recently on all the school supplies that children need? If so, please consider purchasing some to give Flynn students at the beginning of the school year. They are in need of folders, paper, bottles of white glue, small glue sticks, boxes of Kleenex® facial tissue, child size Fiskar® scissors, eight or ten count Crayola® classic markers, erasers, yellow highlighters, red pens, and colored pencils. Most stores have a printed list near the supplies to help with your selection for Flynn students. If you prefer to make a monetary donation towards the cause, that would also be welcome.

The supplies can be dropped off at Trinity (lobby after worship; office during the week) beginning August 2. Thank you!



Thank You for Your Offerings

Thank you for your offerings to God through Trinity during the first half of 2015. Every offering you share honors God and blesses people here and across the world with the love of God in Christ. Please keep remembering God's work through our church in your charitable giving. Offerings for Mortgage Payment also continue to be strong and allow Trinity to make the monthly payment as well as additional principal payments. Every dollar you give to Mortgage helps us pay off this debt from our 2004 building expansion.



Remember, it's easy to set up automatic offering contributions from your financial institution or a credit card through the Giving page at trinity-ec.org. Contact Amber Moltzau (amber@trinity-ec.org or 715.832.6601 ext. 203) if you have any questions or need assistance.

Your generosity is appreciated as Trinity invests carefully in making a difference in people's lives. Thank you!

Financial Update January to June

Regular Ministries	Income	Expenses	Difference
2014	\$520,412	\$533,085	-\$12,673
2015	\$545,650	\$557,554	-\$11,904

Mortgage Payment Offering

2014	\$111,944
2015	\$106,788

Grants Awarded from Endowment Trust

The Trinity Endowment Trust recently awarded several grants including one from the Marlene and Dick Cable Family Fund to advance the St. John's Bible presence in our worship and beyond. Last year this fund provided the SJB illumination which hangs by the entrance to our Food Pantry.

Another grant awarded was from the Marti K. Nelson Family Fund to provide assistance for children whose parents could not otherwise enroll in our preschool, Noah's Ark.

The Trinity Endowment Trust exists so that your charitable legacy of faith may live on for generations to come. Your will and estate bequests, memorials, and gifts in honor of life events help build the fund to do even greater things to come. Learn more about the Trinity Endowment Trust at trinity-ec.org

Let Your Faith Live on in Legacy

The Trinity Endowment Trust exists so that your values and legacy of Christian faith will live on and further God's work for generations to come. Gifts from your estate, IRA, life insurance, or real estate become part of a perpetual fund with earnings used to advance Trinity's ministries and global missions. Learn more on the Endowment page of trinity-ec.org

When you include the Trinity Endowment Trust in your current giving or through a will or trust, your love for God and the blessings the church offers can live on to influence lives with God's love for generations to come.

To leave a gift to Trinity Lutheran Church, contact your legal advisor or financial planner or learn more at trinity-ec.org

Women's Giving Circle

The Women's Giving Circle is made up of a group of people who have established a donor advised fund within the *Trinity Lutheran Church Endowment Trust*. The mission of the Women's Giving Circle is to "demonstrate God's love by positively impacting people's lives through collective philanthropy and awarding of financial gifts." By pooling our financial resources, we will annually grant available monies to groups and initiatives.

The Women's Giving Circle 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 Women's Giving Circle and who makes an annual contribution of at least \$250 to the Endowment Trust designated for the WGC. Membership is then renewable on an annual basis.



The Friendship Group

The Friendship Group, for senior citizens, will meet on August 12 at 10:00 A.M. in the chapel. After a short business meeting, we will tour St. Patrick's. Lunch will be on your own at Old Country Buffet.

The join us on September 9 for a tour of sites in Clark County. We will leave the church parking lot at 9:00 A.M. Our first stop will be at St. Hedwig's church in rural Thorp. The church is being renovated as a recording studio for the group Fragile. This group does charity work of building houses and purchasing and distributing blankets to homeless veterans. Our next stop will be Nazareth Lutheran Church in Withee. The church houses a collection of paintings by Danish inspired artist Katherine Hansen. We will enjoy an included buffet lunch of ham and hot beef sandwiches, chips and pickles, coleslaw, baked beans, coffee and water. Then we will visit St. Katherine's in Owen. This church was on the site of Eau Claire's Christ Church. We will then travel to Munson Creek Winery where wine, flavored oils, and flavored vinegars are available for tasting. Our final stop will be at award winning Holland Cheese in Thorp to see and sample Gouda cheese. The cost for the trip, including lunch, will be \$40. Please make checks payable to the Trinity Friendship Group and send to Linda McClelland at 3107 Garner Street. Space is limited. and we will be opening it to members of Christ Church so reservations and payment must be received by September 9.

Women's Retreat

The Women's Retreat at Luther Park in Chetek is coming up on August 26 & 27, 2015. The theme this year is "We Are Christian Women." The main speakers will be Barbara Swant and Ruth Anderson, authors of the book *Mary's Story*. There will also be foot soaks, pontoon rides, swimming, card making, and demonstrations. Rachel Funk-Johnson will offer yoga and stretching exercises, with great music and friendship, too.

Each person must fill out a form and prepay. Forms are available on the Women's Bulletin Board across from the nursery or online at trinity-ec.org Registration cost is \$55; the deadline is August 15.

Circle Listings

Deborah

Thursday, August 20, 9:30 A.M. Trinity

Hostess: Helen Mateski Leader: Nancee Burbank

Martha/Mary

Tuesday, August 18, 7:00 P.M. Trinity

Miriam

Wednesday, August 19, 9:30 A.M. Trinity

Hostess: Barb Johnson Leader: Mary Schoenknecht

Ruth: No Meeting

Prayer Link

You are invited to join in praying for others who ask for our prayers and become part of Prayer Link. Each week many people ask for the prayers of the pastors, staff, and members who've agreed to pray for others. When you join Prayer Link, you will receive prayer requests via email or phone message. Then you pray wherever and whenever you can! We'll provide you 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, email Heather Day at heatherd@trinity-ec.org or note your willingness via the Prayer Link on the homepage of trinity-ec.org

Donate Old Cell Phones



Our mission of serving in Christ's love takes on many forms here and throughout the world. It involves being good stewards of our lives, resources, and the grace given to us in Christ. If you have an old cell phone at home, join the mission of Hope Phones and give isolated people in the developing world access to medical care by leaving phones (chargers and cords, too)

in the boxes in the lobby. Hope Phones refurbishes all mobiles (old or broken) to create communication networks for health workers serving in fifteen countries. For more information, go to hopephones.org.



Youth Volunteers Are Needed!

Prayer Friend

Being a Prayer Friend is a powerful way to connect with God, and it is an extra-ordinary blessing to have other people praying for you. The Youth Leadership Team once again invites adults to be Prayer Friends with our seventh and eighth grade confirmation students. This partnership will be anonymous until it is revealed in a celebration at the end of the school year. Students will be able to use email (myprayerfriend@trinity-ec.org) to direct prayer requests to their adult partner. The Prayer Friend Administrator will relay requests to the prayer friend. Please volunteer to pray for a student this year. You'll be providing a great ministry to our youth. Sign up at Clipboard Central in the lobby. Contact Lisa or Cassie at 715.832.6601 ext. 209 or youthministry@trinity-ec.org with any questions.



Club 78: Group Guides Needed!

This is a wonderful opportunity to grow in faith while leading a small group of enthusiastic students. Confirmation Club 78 Group Guides are responsible for leading a small group of 8-10 students. Group Guides participate with their group in the large group lesson taught by the Pastors and then lead a small group follow-up lesson in their classroom. Club 78 meets during the school year on Wednesday evenings, following worship, from 7:15–8:30 P.M. It is a great opportunity to serve in Christ's love and share the Good News! A sign up form is located at Clipboard Central. Please contact Pastor Brahm Semmer Smith at 715.832.6601 ext. 213, or brahm@trinity-ec.org with any questions.

Volunteer to be a MENTOR!

The best way to define the word mentor is simply "being a friend." A mentor is someone who models the way of faith and offers support and caring for our Club 9 students. Youth Ministry is looking for adults to mentor 9th Grade students in our Club 9 confirmation program. Mentors are responsible for attending large group lessons, led by a pastor, with their student and then participating in a follow up discussion with their student. Club 9 meets every other Wednesday, September through April, from 7:15–8:30 P.M. following worship.

This is a great opportunity to serve in Christ's love and share the Good News! Sign up at Clipboard Central or contact Lisa or Cassie at youthministry@trinity-ec.org or 715.832.6601 ext.209 with any questions.

Received June Memorials & Gifts

Women's Giving Circle Fund

- In memory of Viola Berg: Rose Sippel

Library Fund

- In memory of Viola Berg: Anna Trullinger

Memorial Fund

- In memory of Viola Berg: Jane Serino, Donald & Sharon Southard, Orville & Shirley Anderson, Robert & Erna Tietz, Leatrice Solberg, Agnes Strand, Robert & Roxanne Berg, Bob & Judy Pielhop, Jack & Lois Olson, Marvin & Mary Hanson, Barbara Johnson, Richard & Rebecca Roginski, Mildred Timm
- In memory of Lawrence Ziehme: Jeff & Jane Cote

Children's Ministries Fund

- In memory of Patrick Noll: Bev Hill

St. John's Bible Fund

- In memory of David Duax: Dick Cable

Food Pantry Fund

- In memory of Marie Rudolphson: Kenneth Rudolphson
- In honor of Tom & Sheila Zahorik: The Noreen Family, The Ryan Poquette Family

Endowment Trust Fund

- In memory of Lawrence Ziehme: Partner Comm. Inc., Mike & Sharon DeRusha, Bob & Mary Schoenknecht, Avis Grambo, Jon & Maureen Homstad, John & Annie Sovic, Phyllis Burrows, Glen & Beverly Tamke, Chuck & Sue Nyberg

Trinity Choir Fund

- In memory of Duane Braaten: Bob & Mary Schoenknecht
- In memory of Jerry Jacobson: Jeff & Jane Cote

Health Ministries Fund

- In memory of Jack Garber: Jeff & Jane Cote



Summertime

It's time to read, relax, read! Come to Trinity's Library to find these new books and many others.

New Biography

- *A Lucky Life Interrupted* by Tom Brokaw. In this powerful memoir, the best-selling author and former NBC anchorman chronicles a year spent battling cancer and reflects on his long, lucky life. (B BRO) Other books available in our library by Tom Brokaw: *Boom ! Voice of the Sixties* (973 BRO); *The Greatest Generation* (940.54 BRO); *The Times of Our Lives* (973.927 BRO)



New Children's Books

- *My Bible Stories* by Sasha Morton includes three books—*Jonah and the Whale* (+ 220.9 MOR), *Joseph and His Coat of Many Colors* (+ 220.9 MOR) and *The Good Samaritan* (+ 220.9 MOR).
- *My First Bible Stories* by Katherine Sully includes three books—*The Birth of Jesus* (++220.9 SUL), *The Baptism of Jesus* (++220.9 SUL), and *The Last Supper* (++220.9 SUL).
- *Peace is an Offering* by Annette LeBox. Illustrations and simple, rhyming text show different ways that peace can be found, made, and shared (++ FIC LEB).
- *Good Night Baseball* by Michael Dahl. With rich illustrations and careful rhythm, this is the perfect bedtime book for every little sports fan (++ FIC DAH).
- *Henry Holton Takes the Ice* by Sandra Bradley. Henry Holton comes from an ice hockey-obsessed family, but despite his comfort on the ice, his aspirations lead him to pursue another sport, ice dancing (++ FC BRA).
- *Magic Little Words* by Angele Delaunois. Children are taught when and where to say the magic words. But what do these expressions really mean? This book answers questions through delightful lyricism and whimsical collages (++ FIC DEL).
- *Here is the World* by Leslea Newman. This book looks at a year of Jewish Holidays and includes holiday recipes and crafts; a great parent/child activity book (++ 296.4 NEW).
- *Cinders, a Chicken Cinderella* by Jan Brett. Summary: Cinders, the most picked upon hen in the flock, becomes the most loved by Prince Cockerel when she arrives at his ball looking so beautiful that even her bossy sisters do not recognize her (+ 398.2 BRE).

New Who Was ... Biographies for Youth

- Titles include *Who Was Maria Tallchief?* by Catherine Gourley (+ B Gou); *Who Is Stan Lee?* by Geoff Edgers (+ B EDG); *Who Was Helen Keller?* by Gare Thompson (+ B THO); *Who Was Anne Frank?* by Ann Abramson (+ B ABR); *Who Was Steve Irwin?* by Dina Anastasio (+ B ANA); *Who Is Michelle Obama?* by Megan Stine (+ B STI); *Who Was Robert Ripley?* by Kirsten Anderson (+ B AND).

Page Turners Book Club

Our completed book list for 2015–2016 is available online at www.trinity-ec.org or you can pick up a brochure by the Book Club bulletin board across from the nursery. We have no special expectations to participate in this group. You should feel free to come whether you've finished the book or not.

Our September book is *The Dovekeepers* by Alice Hoffman. The book takes place nearly two thousand years ago. Nine hundred Jews held out for months against armies of Romans on Masada, a mountain in the Judean desert. According to the ancient historian Josephus, two women and five children survived. Based on this tragic and iconic event, Hoffman's novel is a spellbinding tale of four extraordinarily bold, resourceful, and sensuous women, each of whom has come to Masada by a different path.

We will meet on Tuesday, September 15, at 6:30 P.M. in the Trinity library. So, are you ready to start reading in September? We're happy to have you join us! For more information, email Cindy Beck at cindy@trinity-ec.org



Noah's Ark News

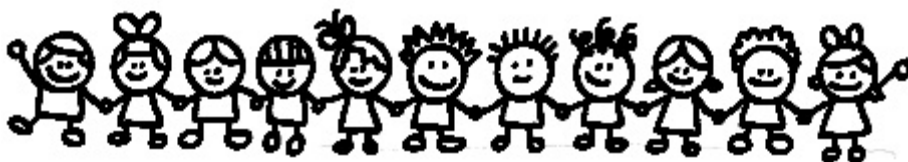


Hey, Hey . . . school is just around the corner! Noah's Ark is about to set sail for its 35th year. What a celebration!

Our current openings for children at Noah's Ark include: T/Th, 12:45 P.M.–3:15 P.M. for children who turn three before September 1, 2015; and M/W/F, 12:45 P.M.–3:15 P.M. for children who turn four before December 31, 2015. We're getting excited to begin the new year with wonderful families and friends. Please pass the word so that we can begin the school year FULL! Look for our ads in the Queen of the Castle magazine, Volume One, and the Family Times.

I'm just coming off a wonderful Vacation Bible School week. What a privilege to watch the 300+ children each day in worship! I'll be singing the songs for a while, and that is so good. God's blessings will continue into the next weeks. I give thanks to Trinity Lutheran Church for this special thing we call Vacation Bible School that lifts us up and sends us out with praise and JOY!

Hugs to you all...see you soon on "the ark!!" Jeanne Cooper



Children's Ministries

Experiencing God Through Summer Day Camps!

This summer Trinity had over 190 kids participate in summer day camps. Each camp was unique in the way it allowed the kids to experience God through different activities.

- **Sports Camp** kicked off the summer with a total of 68 kids! During camp, children played hockey, golf, basketball, volleyball, ran through an obstacle course, and much more. It was wonderful to see so many kids with smiles on their faces and enjoying some physical activity.
- During **Discovery Camp** children traveled to Irvine Park in Chippewa Falls as well as Phoenix and Owen Parks in Eau Claire. At Irvine Park the children played at the playground, visited the animals, and ended their time at the splash pad. They also enjoyed exploring God's world and looking at the beautiful nature and animals that God created! At Phonix Park the kids had an opportunity to explore the farmers market.
- **Great Pretenders** was an amazing week for the younger children at Trinity. They learned to love themselves and understand who God created them to be. They used drama, props, and songs to incorporate the love that God has for them.
- **Come and Play** had two sessions throughout the summer where children

interacted with stories, made finger paintings, rode their bikes, had a water day, and much more! The children learned to play with other kids and ate delicious snacks!

- **Cook and Book** was a large camp this year. The children learned about different foods, made cookbooks and crafts, as well as participated in morning worship through song and dance.
- **Master Chef** was a new camp this year in which the older children were given an opportunity to cook. They made a variety of different foods like quesadillas, homemade salsa, pancakes, and much more.
- **Lights, Camera, Action! Tell the Good News** wrapped up the Summer Day Camps. The children memorized scripts, used props, and made special videos that were used at Vacation Bible School. It was a great camp for children to use their spiritual gifts. They are excited to see themselves during worship at Vacation Bible School.

Thank you to all the leaders, counselors, volunteers, and all those who helped in many ways, big or small. It is greatly appreciated.

Vacation Bible School "Animals in God's Word"

As I write this article, we are a week and a half away from the busy time of VBS. Many leaders, teachers, and volunteers have been busy planning and setting up the church for VBS week. This year's theme was "Animals in God's Word." Kids explored five Bible stories about what it means to care for all of God's creatures and live in peace. I am excited for all the children that experience VBS, and I pray that it was an enriching and eye opening experience. Thank you to all the families, volunteers, teachers, leaders, quilters, and many more who have helped VBS become what it is today!



What's Coming Next!

You are invited to be part of the team that shares the Good News with our children. We need volunteers to lead Sunday school and Camp T.G.I.F. classes—teaching materials, supplies, and support are provided. You are invited to be part of the team! Rally Sunday is September 13 with Rally Day Sundaes. In the Trinity Room. We begin Sunday lessons on September 20 and our Wednesday lessons on September 16. Consider job sharing; find a partner or ask to be assigned one. There are two separate orientations for teachers. At each orientation, you will receive your teaching materials, important procedures and schedules, and you will help generate class lists! Camp T.G.I.F. Teachers will meet on Wednesday, September 9, from 6:15 P.M.–7:15 P.M. and Sunday School Teachers will meet on Thursday, September 17, at 7:00 P.M.

Qualified teachers include adults and youth (youth teachers must be in high school and have completed grade nine). Students that are participating in Confirmation (7th, 8th, and 9th grades) can be helpers when they aren't participating in confirmation classes). They must be committed to sharing the Good News of Jesus with our young people.

To volunteer, please sign up on the chart located in the hallway by the Children's Ministries office or at the display in the lobby on Sunday mornings, call, or email Sara Reed, Children's Ministries Director, at 715.832.6601 ext. 215, sarar@trinity-ec.org Thank you for saying "YES" to teaching our children about God's love.

Sunday Morning Teaching Positions:

- Session 1 (8:55 A.M.–9:30 A.M.): Two year olds–Grade 6
- Session 2 (10:30 A.M.–11:05 A.M.): Two year olds–Grade 6

Wednesday Evening Camp T.G.I.F. Teaching Positions

- There are teaching spots for Grade 3, 4, 5, and 6.

Important Dates

- Wednesday, September 9, Registration Event for Sunday School, Camp T.G.I.F., and children's choirs beginning at 5:00 P.M. Come with your family for a pizza supper.
- Sunday, September 13, is Rally Sunday. Bibles will be distributed to three year olds and third grade students.
- Wednesday, September 16, choir and T.G.I.F. schedule begins.
- Sunday, September 27, Education Staff Installation at 9:45 A.M. worship service.



Early Childhood Enrichment Programs for Fall 2015

Music & Movement • Children move and grove as they explore music with songs, dance, and instruments. The class includes free play, story time, and guided music instruction, with new themes explored each week. Music & Movement begins Monday, September 14, and runs for 15 weeks.

- Session One 9:05 A.M.–9:50 A.M. A 45 minute class for children who are one by 6.1.15 through those who are three by 9.1.15. This is a parent/child class. Cost is \$80.
- Session Two 10:00 A.M.–11:30 A.M. This hour and a half class is for children who are two by 6.1.15. New this year: Children experience this class independently. Cost is \$190.

Creative Arts • Spend Mondays engaged in a variety of creative activities! Children will dance, sing, and experiment with art processes. Children will also hear stories and Bible stories and enhance language learning through finger plays. This class is for children who turn three by 9.1.15. Creative Arts begins Monday, September 14, from 1:00 P.M.–3:00 P.M. and runs for 15 weeks. Cost is \$200.

Readers, Authors, & Artists • Immerse your child in literature and early oral and written language experiences. Weekly themes will explore books, authors, and illustrators through discovery, music, play, and art. All activities will encourage students to become authors and illustrators of their own books, with a focus on nurturing a child's natural readiness for reading, writing, and creating. This class is for children who turn four by 1.1.16. Readers, Authors,



and Artists begins on Tuesday, September 15, from 9:00 A.M.– 11:15 A.M. and runs for 14 weeks. Cost is \$190.

Great Pretenders • Let your child's imagination run free. This class uses drama, art, and creative games to enhance and expand great children's literature and Bible stories. Children will create story props, costumes, and puppets and then use them to retell stories. Children will explore new vocabulary, story structures, and build literacy skills. This class is for children who turn four by 1.1.16. The Great Pretenders begins Tuesday, September 15, from 12:45 P.M.– 3:00 P.M. and runs for 14 sessions. Cost is \$190.

Come and Play • A great precursor to preschool! Children are provided a warm and safe Christian environment to play with other children and to practice spending some time away from parents or caregivers. They will hear Bible stories and other books, participate in art and music activities, and take time out to share a snack together. This class is for children who turn two by 6.1.15. Come & Play begins on Wednesday, September 9, from 9:15 A.M.– 11:15 A.M. OR 12:15 P.M.–2:15 P.M. and runs for 14 weeks. Cost is \$190.

Thrilling Thursdays • Spend Thursdays engaged in a wide variety of preschool activities in a Christian environment. Emphasis will be on science and cooking but will also include language, music, math, and art activities. A hands-on discovery approach will be encouraged with observation, predicting, investigating, and other creative thinking. This class is for children who turn four by 1.1.16. Thrilling Thursdays begins on Thursday, September 17, from 9:00 A.M.– 11:15 A.M. OR 12:45 P.M.– 3:00 P.M. for 13 weeks. Cost is \$180.

To register or for more information on any of our Early Childhood Enrichment Programs, please check out the Trinity website at trinity-ec.org where you will find a link to the registration form. Please drop your registration form and payment in the box located in the hallway by the Children's Ministries Office or mail to Sara Reed at 1314 E. Lexington Blvd, Eau Claire, WI 54701. Please call Sara Reed ahead of time to verify openings. If you have any questions, please call Sara Reed at 715.832.6601 ext.218 or sara@trinity-ec.org

Youth Ministries

Mark Your Calendars

Please note there will be NO special "kick-off night" and no separate orientation nights as in previous years.

- Club 78 Student and Parent/Guardian Orientation: Wednesday, September 9, from 7:15 P.M.–8:30 P.M. in the Trinity Room. Service Fair to follow.
- Club 78 Group Guide Orientation: Wednesday, September 16, at 7:15 P.M. in Room 208.
- Club 9 Student, Parent/Guardian, and Mentor Orientation: Wednesday, September 16, from 7:15 P.M.–8:30 P.M. in the Trinity Room. Service Fair to follow.



CrossWord Youth Band

Calling all high school students who love music! Trinity's high school praise band, CrossWord, led by Drew Brandenburg is preparing for another year of music, worship, and fun. Our first meeting date with pizza will be September 9 at 5:30 P.M. in the Fireside Room. Contact Lisa at 715.832.6601 ext.209 or youthministry@trinity-ec.org with any questions.

Faith Plan and Pastor Visit

Confirmants (2014–15 Club 9 students): please contact your assigned Pastor via email immediately if you have not scheduled your Pastor visit. If you have any questions regarding your Faith Plan or Pastor visit, contact Lisa at 715.832.6601 ext. 209 or lisa@trinity-ec.org

Incoming Club 9 Students

Don't forget to call in or email the name of your mentor to Lisa or Cassie at 715.832.6601 ext. 209 or cassie@trinity-ec.org If you need suggestions, please let us know. The Youth Ministry staff will be happy to offer you names of people who are willing to be a mentor, but we do not select or contact mentors. We ask you to make that connection.



Back From the Gathering

RiseUp! This was our theme for the ELCA Youth Gathering this year in Detroit. RiseUp! speaks to the reality of resurrection in our lives. What does Jesus' resurrection have to do with our daily living and the life of Detroit, a city that has seen more downs than ups the past decades? I'll let Makayla Moen, one of our youth on the trip, put it to words:

"There are several stereotypes about people and places, and Detroit is one of them. When society thinks of Detroit, they think of drugs, alcohol, violence, and gangs. I'm sure Detroit has their problems, but who's to say these things don't happen anywhere else in the world? The people of Detroit were a pleasure to meet. Every restaurant and every store had people blessing us and thanking us for coming to their hometown to worship God. At the Saturday worship, a speaker talked about the chains of life that tie us down from worshipping God. One chain that I thought about was stereotypes. Knowing that the Youth Gathering would be in Detroit made me a little nervous; I'll be honest. However, I am coming back to Eau Claire with more faith and less chains. Not once did I feel threatened while walking through Detroit. It's a great city with great people and amazing faith."



We had fun. We worshipped. We didn't get enough sleep. We served. We explored. And we took time to let God challenge us through our speakers and experiences. Thank you to all who kept us in prayer and helped support these youth in their fundraising efforts this past year.

In Christ, Pastor Brahm and the 2015 Youth Gathering Participants.

Health Ministries



How can it possibly be August already? August is an interesting month as it doesn't have a special holiday. But there are some special Awareness Topics for August. My favorite is Family Fun month. What a great thing to focus on for the month of August! Most of my topics for the summer have been focused around play, both adults and children. Nothing could be healthier than fun with your family.

Another topic for August is Children's Eye Health and Safety. It is a very timely topic with school just around the corner. Some suggestions for keeping

your child's eyes healthy:

Use this month to discuss the importance of eye safety with your children. More than 12 million children suffer from vision impairment, and eye injuries are one of the leading causes of vision loss in children. There are an estimated

42,000 sports-related eye injuries each year, and the majority of them happen to children. Talk to your child's pediatrician if you suspect your child has any of the eye diseases below:

- Amblyopia (lazy eye)
- Strabismus (crossed eyes)
- Ptosis (drooping of the eyelid)
- Color deficiency (color blindness)
- Refractive errors (nearsightedness, farsightedness, and astigmatism)

Children should:

- Wear protective eyewear while participating in sports or recreational activities.
- Play with age-appropriate toys. Avoid toys with sharp or protruding parts.

One of the best ways to ensure your child keeps his/her good vision throughout life is to set a good health example!

Vicki Dueringer, Parish Nurse

When You Are Hospitalized

The pastoral care team of Trinity makes frequent trips to visit hospitalized Trinity members. But to know about your hospitalization, they depend upon the hospitals having your admission coded into their system. This will not result in your name being shared with anyone beyond the staff. So, when you or a family member are admitted, please inform them of your church affiliation. Better yet, share information about planned or unexpected hospitalizations directly with us by:

- ✓ Calling 715.832.6601 or emailing trinity@trinity-ec.org in advance of or at the start of hospitalization.
- ✓ Asking the hospital chaplain to call Trinity's office.

If you wonder if a pastoral care team member is going to call on you, that's the time to call the church office! Thank you.



Trinity as a Dementia Friendly Business

You may have heard in the news the past few months about the Dementia Friendly Business initiative started by the ADRC. With the dramatic increase in dementia, the State of Wisconsin has started a statewide initiative to make our communities more "dementia-capable." Lisa Wells from the ADRC will be leading a class in October for Trinity members and staff to help us understand how to better interact and provide a safe environment for those with dementia in our church. Watch for more details in the future.

Blood Pressure Screening

One of the ongoing activities of Trinity's Health Ministry is free Blood Pressure Screenings offered the second Sunday of the month between worship services. These screenings are presented to increase awareness and knowledge of prevention, detection, and management of hypertension (high blood pressure). Because it is possible to have high blood pressure without any symptoms—and because untreated high blood pressure can cause serious problems, even death—it is often called the "silent killer." Come to the next free blood pressure screening to help you monitor and control your blood pressure.



Final Affairs Seminar

A guide to arranging your personal and legal affairs will be held on Thursday, August 27, from 8:00 A.M.–3:15 P.M. at Dove Healthcare West, Community Room, 1405 Truax Blvd, Eau Claire. Topics include: Do Not Resuscitate Decisions, Health Care Power of Attorney, Hospice/Palliative Care, Funeral Planning, Medicare vs Medicaid, Organ Donation, Legal Matters. You can register online at adrcevents.org or call the ADRC at 715.839.4735.

Sponsored by ADRC, Dove Health Care, Mayo Clinic Health System, and HSHS St Joseph's Home Health and Hospice.

Free Car Seat Check

Did you know that 70% of children are improperly restrained! Have your car seat checked on Saturday, August 8, from 1:00 P.M.–4:00 P.M. at Mega East, 1201 S. Hastings Way, Eau Claire. Sponsored by Mayo Clinic Health System.

ADRC Sunday Transportation Program

The ADRC offers Sunday transportation for seniors age 60+ and adults with disabilities from 7:00 A.M.–2:00 P.M. The cost is going up from \$3.00 to \$5.00 per one way trip starting August 1. This raise in co-pay will allow ADRC to continue to offer Sunday transportation.

From Farm to the Table

Farmers' markets are a great place to find the freshest sweet corn; the reddest, ripest tomatoes; and the most fragrant, flavorful strawberries.

Good cooking starts with good ingredients. Make the most of your bumper crop with this recipe in which fresh vegetables play a starring role.

Herbed Sweet Corn and Tomato Salad

Ingredients

- 6 medium ears sweet corn, shucked
- 4 medium tomatoes, as ripe as possible
- 1/4 cup (or small handful) fresh mint leaves
- 1/4 cup (or small handful) fresh mixed herbs — like Italian parsley, basil, rosemary, sage
- 1 tablespoon olive oil
- Kosher salt and fresh black pepper, to taste
- 3 ounces soft goat cheese, chilled and crumbled

Directions

- Bring a large pot of water to boil over medium-high heat. Add the corn and boil for 5 minutes. Drain and let cool.
- Chop the tomatoes in quarters and scrape or squeeze out the juices and seeds. Chop the seeded tomato quarters into a rough dice. Pat dry with a paper towel to remove any extra moisture.
- When the corn has cooled, stand each ear up in a wide, shallow bowl and slice the corn kernels off with a chef's knife. Toss the corn with the tomatoes.
- Finely mince the mint and herb leaves and toss with the vegetables, along with the olive oil. Season to taste with salt and pepper, then crumble in the goat cheese and toss gently. Serve and enjoy!



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

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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 September Newsletter is August 18.