



trinity

Lutheran Church



Christmas Worship Schedule

December 17 Christmas Cantata

On December 17 the Trinity Choir will perform the Christmas Cantata "O Magnify The Lord" by Ronn Huff at the 8:15 A.M. and 9:45 A.M. Worship Services. The cantata celebrates with choir, soloists, brass ensemble/timpani, and congregation the "Grand Miracle" of the birth and life of God the Son, the Christ, whom we magnify. Please note that there will be no 10:30 A.M. service on December 17.

In 2017, Christmas Eve falls on a Sunday. As such, we've taken this year to "experiment" with the times of worship. However, the theme will always be the same: the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ! We hope you'll join us and invite your friends and family!

December 24, Christmas Eve

- 11:00 A.M. Family Christmas Eve Worship with Children's Choirs and Tangled Blue • Prelude begins at 10:30 A.M.
- 4:00 P.M. Contemporary Christmas Eve Worship led by Harmony in Spirit
- 8:00 P.M. Traditional Candlelight Christmas Eve Worship with Organ, Orchestra, and Choirs • Prelude begins at 7:30 P.M.
- 11:00 P.M. Taizé Candlelight Christmas Eve Worship with Communion.

December 31, Lessons & Carols of Christmas

Sunday, December 31, at 9:45 A.M. (One service this day). A festive celebration of the birthday of Jesus with Trinity Brass and Organ.

Children's Ministries Inclement Weather Policy

During the winter, there are times when we cancel children's programs due to snow or ice storms. Please check our website for updates, or call the church office if unsure. It is our policy to close if the public schools are closed.

Moving or Going South?

If you're moving or heading south for the winter, Trinity can change your address. Let us know when you're leaving and how long you'll be away, and we'll be sure to get Trinity mail to you in a timely fashion. Whenever you change address, please let Trinity know! Contact Becky at becky@trinity-ec.org or 715.832.6601 ext 202.

Generous Giving Blesses Many

Your year-end offerings are so important to our church and its mission of "serving in Christ's love and sharing the Good News." Please remember Trinity in your charitable goals as 2017 ends. Thank you for every dollar you share that blesses thousands through our church. You can give anytime online at trinity-ec.org and set up the service of electronic fund transfers there, too.





Advent



The new church year begins with a wake-up call: Christ is coming soon! We are challenged to wake from sleep for we know neither the day nor hour of the Lord's coming. Isaiah proclaims the day when God will gather all people on the holy mountain, and there will be no more war or suffering. We vigilantly watch for the promised day of salvation.

Angel Breakfast

Preschool and kindergarten age children and one adult guest per child are invited to the Annual Angel Breakfast on Saturday, December 2, from 8:30 A.M.–10:00 A.M. Children and adults will participate in activities, have breakfast together, and hear the Christmas Story. The cost is \$10.00 per couple along with two non-perishable food items for the Wall of Food. Registration forms are available outside the Children's Ministries Office. Reservations are required.

Advent Tea

Be sure to save the date for Trinity's Fourth Annual Advent Tea on Monday, December 4, in the Trinity Room from 2:00 P.M.–4:00 P.M. Good food, great fellowship, a sing-a-long, and performances by the Threshold Singers and Trinity's Noah's Ark Preschool children will be the highlights. There is no cost for this event. We will again be looking for people that are willing to share their Christmas dishes, fancy sandwiches, and holiday cookies. Please sign up in the lobby by Thursday, November 30. For more information, please contact Phyllis Grohn (715.836.7055), Sheila Running (715.832.9686), or Ann Nelson (715.836.9495).

Faith Lights

The Christmas season is a special time to remember Jesus, the Light of the World. It is also a special time to remember the people who have shared faith in Jesus. This Christmas, the Trinity Endowment Trust Board invites you to honor and memorialize relatives and special friends by dedicating Faith Lights in their name. These lights will adorn Christmas trees in the Trinity Lobby this season. For a small donation, you can dedicate a white light to memorialize a loved one; or a blue light to honor a living relative or friend, or simply to express the joy of faith this Christmas. All Faith Light gifts will be acknowledged in the Christmas worship bulletins. Faith Light orders will be received through December 10. Forms are available in the Lobby, office, or at trinity-ec.org

Caroling Party

Sing noel! Lift your voice on Sunday, December 10 to celebrate the coming of Baby Jesus at a Caroling Party. We will meet at the church at 4:00 P.M. near the preschool area to car pool and visit several of our shut-in members at area facilities where we will share Christmas songs. This is a wonderful family activity, and people of all ages are invited to participate in and enjoy the season's festive music. Participants are invited to enjoy a light meal at the church following caroling.

Mitten Tree

Each year a Christmas tree in celebration of Jesus' birthday is put up in the hallway by the preschool room. If you would like to help decorate the tree with mittens, hats, or children's sleepers sizes 0–six, hang them on the tree. These items will be included in the Christmas Sharing Project. Thank you!

Birth of the Baby

All families and friends of Noah's Ark children are invited to attend the Noah's Ark Party/Programs on either Monday, December 18, or Tuesday, December 19, at 10:00 A.M. or 1:45 P.M. in the Trinity Room! We invite all of you to a BIG birthday party/program for Jesus!

Christmas Sharing Project

Again this year, Trinity will provide food, outdoor clothing, household items, and gifts for kids to 25–30 families in the Eau Claire/Altoona area. Gift tags are available in the lobby. You can also help build the Wall of Food with non-perishable items in the lobby through Wednesday, December 13. Members are also able to support this ministry by making donations which will be used to purchase turkeys (checks payable to Trinity Lutheran with memo: Christmas Sharing Project) or by delivering the gifts to the families on Sunday, December 17. For more information, please contact Lucinda Kemmet at lucinda@trinity-ec.org or 720.272.6743.



Wreath Fundraiser Thank You

The Trinity Youth thank the congregation for supporting the Wreath Fundraiser. The youth will use the monies raised to put toward the High School Summer Trip to the ELCA Youth Gathering in Houston, Texas in June 2018. A tithe from the proceeds will be given to the ELCA Youth Gathering's Blast-Off for Books. Thank you again for your support.

In Search Of

We're looking for people with a heart for hospitality to serve as luncheon coordinators for families and friends who have been bereaved and come to Trinity for a funeral service and a lunch or reception afterwards. We have volunteers who provide this care, but we want to expand our coordinators as the frequency of funerals increases. We currently have only four coordinators, and last year we had over 30 funerals. As a luncheon coordinator, you will to call and recruit workers from a list provided and supervise the kitchen the day of the funeral. Please contact Cindy Beck at 715.832.6601 ext. 201 or cindy@trinity-ec.org for more information. Thank you!

Funeral Planning Guide

We plan for many important events in our lives; yet, many people resist planning for the reality of their death. To assist you in planning, Trinity provides a "Funeral Planning Guide and Worksheet" which walks you through numerous topics and provides options so you can develop a plan. Doing so assists your family in a tangible and profound way.

Thank You

The Quilters are starting their new year. Thank you to all who donated time, materials, their sewing, and funds. This year they finished 24 school bags for Lutheran World Relief; 50 Health Kits for Lutheran World Relief; 90 Health Kits for local veterans; 28 quilts for Lutheran World Relief; 112 quilts for local veterans; 16 quilts for the Eau Claire homeless; 28 quilts for Jamacia Mission Trip; and one quilt for the Luther Park Quilt Auction.

We would also like to thank: Bob Jacobson for organizing Load A Truck for Lutheran World Relief for the local area; Ashley, Cassie, and Trinity Youth for getting all of the Trinity boxes out for Lutheran World Relief; Sheri, Mike, and Don for setting up our tables and making us coffee; and Cindy for always getting our announcements and publicity out.

Peter Eide Concert to Benefit the Homeless

You are invited to enjoy an evening of good music for a good cause. On Sunday, December 10, Good Shepherd Lutheran in Eau Claire is hosting musician Peter Eide to raise funds to support the ECASD Homeless Youth Program. Come at 5:00 P.M. for a dinner with a free will offering. The concert begins at 6:00 P.M. Individual ticket suggested donation is \$10. Family ticket suggested donation is \$25. Come hear some wonderful sounds of the season and give honor to the reason for the season at the same time.



Dear Trinity Members,

2018 marks the 64th birthday of Trinity Lutheran. Just one more year to retirement, right?!

I don't see Trinity retiring any time soon. There is lots of life in this congregation and much more to offer the Eau Claire Community, the Chippewa Valley, and beyond. One of those offerings is the wisdom that comes with age. Like many of our members whose age has given them wisdom to share, Trinity has the opportunity to be a spiritual elder in our community. We're not the oldest congregation by any measure, and we're not the largest or the smallest. But Trinity is just right to do what it is called to do.

We can be a leader in deep, authentic spiritual lives, living out our spiritual gifts on behalf of others. We can be a leader in hospitality—continuing to welcome and engage anyone who comes to our door. We can be a leader of diverse and inviting worship practices throughout the week. We can be a leader in educating our members and the community about ideas that matter and how to think about those things with Jesus in mind. We can be a leader in sharing our many resources to bring new life to Trinity and communities around us. We can be a leader in using our service to seek solutions for troubles around us.

I guess there is a theme there. 2018 will present us with many chances to be leaders—individually and as a congregation. 2018 will be a year when we put to use all that we've learned and experienced in our 64 years together. I don't see us retiring any time soon.

In Peace,

Pastor Peter

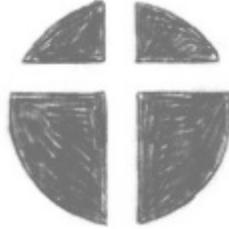




Youth Ministries

Friends of Flynn Weekend Meals

On Wednesday, December 13, from 4:00 p.m.–5:00 p.m. Club 78 and Club 9 youth and adult volunteers will assemble weekend meals for Flynn Elementary and other elementary school students in the Eau Claire district. Please meet at Feed My People Food Bank, 2610 Alpine Road, on Eau Claire's west side.



Luther Park Recharge Club 78 and Club 9 Retreat

The next Luther Park Recharge is January 5–6. This retreat is 24 hours of camp to recharge faith through faith discussion, music, friends, and activities. This year's theme is Lifeline. The registration cost is \$80 and includes programming from 7:00 p.m. Friday until 7:00 p.m. Saturday, meals, lodging, and a Recharge t-shirt. Sign-up at the Toolbench. Register online at www.lutherpark.org or call 715.859.2215. Scholarships are available if needed. Contact Ashley at ashley@trinity-ec.org with any questions.

No Teen Study or Wednesday Night Programming

There will be NO Sunday Teen Study on December 24 or 31 and no Wednesday night programming on December 27. Have a blessed Christmas and a Happy New Year!

ELCA Youth Gathering 2018

Every three years, 30,000 high school youth and adult leaders from across the ELCA gather for a week known as the Gathering. Through days spent in interactive learning, worship, Bible study, service, and fellowship, young people grow in faith. Twenty-five students and five chaperones from Trinity will attend the Gathering this June in Houston, Texas. This is the largest group Trinity has taken to the Gathering! The Youth Team is super excited to bring our high school students on this amazing experience of faith formation. Over the next seven months, our group will prepare for the Gathering through meeting regularly and fundraising.

Godstock 2017 – “Pray More...Worry Less”

The weekend of November 10–12, Trinity sent 19 high school youth and 5 adults to Godstock, a high school youth gathering held at the Metropolis in Eau Claire, centered around Philippians 4:6. Youth participated in worship, attended workshops, swam, played at Action City, and jumped at the trampoline park. They also elected new youth to the ELCA Synod Youth Board. Our own Leah Myhre was elected as a youth representative, and Ashley Olson was elected as an adult representative. They will be representing the Chippewa Valley Conference.

Circle Listings

DEBORAH

Thursday, December 21, 9:30 A.M.
Trinity

Hostess: Group/Leader: Group

MARTHA/MARY

Tuesday, December 19, 6:30 P.M.
Trinity

Hostess: /Leader:

MIRIAM

Wednesday, December 20, 9:30 A.M.
Trinity

Hostesses: Marsha Arnette and Sheila
Running/Leader: Group

RUTH

Tuesday, December 19, 6:30 P.M.
Trinity

Hostess: Group/Leader: Group



Trinity Page Turners Book Club

The Page Turners Book Club meets on Tuesday, December 19, at 6:30 P.M. to discuss *Kitchens of the Great Midwest: A Novel* by J. Ryan Stradal. When Lars Thorvald's wife, Cynthia, falls in love with wine—and a dashing sommelier—he's left to raise their baby, Eva, on his own. He's determined to pass on his love of food to his daughter—starting with puréed pork shoulder. As Eva grows, she finds her solace and salvation in the flavors of her native Minnesota. From Scandinavian lutefisk to hydroponic chocolate habaneros, each ingredient represents one part of Eva's journey as she becomes the star chef.

If you haven't attended this book club in the past, or if you haven't attended for awhile, please join us. Feel free to come whether you've finished the book or not. Please RSVP online at trinity-ec.org or sign-up at Clipboard Central. For more information, email Cindy Beck at cindy@trinity-ec.org



Received October Memorials and Gifts

Page Turners Book Club

- In memory of Warren Saetre: Ron & Cindy Beck

Memorials

- In memory of Sandra Blexrude: Winnifred Joos
- In memory of Gary Schultz: Linda Schultz
- In memory of Jack Dixon: Morris Brumberg
- In memory of Alyce Bertelson: Morris Brumberg, Bruce Peterson & Susan Anderson, Roger Rude, Dean & Ann Zickert, Sandra Pfahler

Health Ministries

- In memory of Marion Nixdorf: Anne Finseth
- In memory of Gary Schultz: Linda Schultz

Friendship Group

- In memory of Alyce Bertelson: Shirley Freeberg, Ann Ayres

Quilters

- In memory of Alyce Bertelson: Family and Friends, Leatrice Solberg, Orville & Shirley Anderson, Barb Vorhes, Carla Brandrup, Barbara Tischer

Food Pantry

- In memory of Alyce Bertelson: Ardy Nystuen, Phyllis Burrows, Bob & Mary Schoenknecht
- In memory of Arnold Talford: Ann Ayres
- In memory of Karen Brown: Tom & Sheila Zahorik
- In memory of Warren Saetre: Mark & Marti Hofer, Mike & Michelle Richards, Jeff & Lisa Goetz, Dale & Mary Erickson, Bob & Mary Schoenknecht, Maridale Jacobson

Library

- In memory of Alyce Bertelson: Barb Lee, Family and Friends
- In memory Joyce Alcott: Family and Friends

Endowment Trust Gerald & Helen Amundson Fund

- In memory of Alyce Bertelson: Family and Friends, Geraldine Miller, James & Marjorie Oleson, Nathan & Shanna Hoffman, William & Jane Sayre, William & Shirley Schultz, Donald & Susan Marx, Janet Anthony, Dale Peterson, Michael & Juleen Klawiter

Children's Ministries

- In memory of Wally & Jean Wheeler: Tim & Amy Benedict
- In honor of Emelia, Eli, and Asher: Tim & Amy Benedict
- In honor of Emma Sue Strangfeld: Beverly Hill

Bed Nets

- In memory of Richard Fox: Marjorie Satre

God's Work. Our Hands.

- In memory of Lillian Copstead: Lee-Ellen Kirkhorn

Children's Bibles

- In memory of Karen Brown: Bob & Mary Schoenknecht

Social Concerns

Collecting Books for Flynn Kids

The Friends of Flynn Committee believes that putting books in the hands of children not only encourages a love of learning, but also increases self-confidence. For many Flynn families, the purchase of books is a luxury they cannot afford. As the students leave for Christmas break this year, we want to provide each one with a new book to take home and keep. While Christmas shopping this year, please consider buying a book appropriate for K-grade 5. There is a display in the lobby with suggested book titles that you can take shopping with you. Then bring your purchased books to the collection bin in the Trinity lobby. Financial donations should be made out to Trinity with a notation of "Friends of Flynn."

Hunger Appeal Goal Surpassed!

We are thrilled to share that we surpassed our goal. Your generosity will further Trinity's

Food Pantry ministry with strength and vitality! This also qualified us for the \$5,000 food credit match from Feed My People. Our annual Hunger Awareness Month focuses our attention on the hunger needs in our community and how we, as a congregation, join together in addressing those needs as a fixture of our mission. Thank you!





Financial Update

Mortgage Update

Each week your offering to mortgage allows Trinity to make its \$8,413 monthly payment, plus additional principal payments, to the ELCA Mission Investment Fund that holds our note with a rate of 4.125%. The rate will be adjusted in January 2018. With your continuing generosity, this mortgage will be retired next year. Help your church reach this milestone through your ongoing support. Thank you for every offering you make to Mortgage Payment.

- Loan Balance as of October 2017: \$130,325
- Loan Balance as of October 2016: \$304,078

Ending the Year with Gratitude

Thank you for your charitable giving to the mission of Trinity in 2017. Your giving has supported Trinity's mission and ministries to thousands, and these last weeks are very important! Please respond by December 31 to the blessings of God in your life, and give to God as God has given to you. Thanks for your support of the mission of Trinity. Remember you can give online at trinity-ec.org

Offerings to Regular Ministries

January through October	2016	2018
Offerings	\$929,767	\$887,996
Expenses	\$919,540	\$923,624
Difference	\$10,227	-\$35,628

Women's Giving Circle

The Women's Giving Circle, a fund of the Trinity Endowment Trust, is excited to announce that they recently awarded nine grants totaling \$6,500. The funds will be used for the following:

- Trinity Food Pantry
- Trinity Thanksgiving Dinner
- Chippewa Valley Street Ministry
- Soles for Special Souls
- Caregiver's Dementia Support
- Bonnie Boxes of Love
- Aging with Intention
- Chippewa Valley Free Clinic
- Trinity Advent Tea

The Women's Giving Circle is proud to support the good work being done to improve the lives of families and children within our church and our community. We invite all members of Trinity to join the Women's Giving Circle. For more information, visit Trinity's webpage at www.trinity-ec.org and click on the Endowment menu.

Noah's News

Greetings from Noah's Ark Preschool,

As I write this article, the preschool children have been giving thanks to God for our many blessings including families and food! Before our Thanksgiving break, we will be celebrating with a Thanksgiving stone soup feast. Each child is sharing an ingredient that by itself does not provide a lot. However, when we share what we have with each other, we can make a delicious, bountiful soup to enjoy together. It is a celebration of peacemakers as we share and come together around our table.

We quickly follow our Thanksgiving celebrations with advent preparations and the telling of the birth of Jesus. The Noah's Ark children will hear the story through books, songs, dramatic play, creative art processes, and their playtime with numerous Nativity sets. It is our hope that these children will learn the story, feel the love that comes from Jesus, and then have the opportunity to share that story and love with the people in their lives.

Congregational members are invited to join us in the Trinity Room as the Noah's Ark children share the Christmas story through song at our annual Christmas Party/Programs. The four/five year old programs will be on Monday, December 18, at 10:00 A.M. and 1:45 P.M. The three year old programs will be on Tuesday, December 19, at 10:00 A.M. and 1:45 P.M. These party/programs are the highlight of the Christmas season for me! We will close out the month of December with a class birthday party for Jesus. We have so much to celebrate!

In peace,
Marlee
Knickerbocker
Preschool
Director

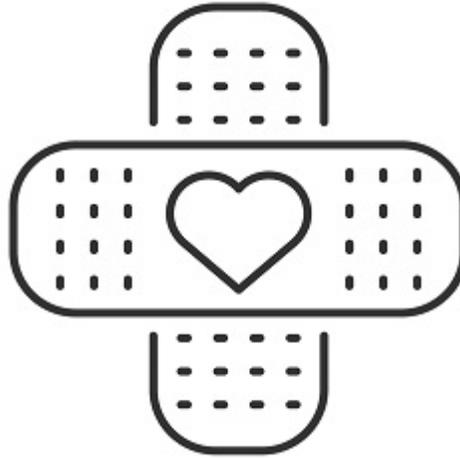




Health Ministries

Monthly Healing Service

Trinity offers a Healing Service the third Sunday of each month in the Chapel starting at 9:15 A.M. This service is for anyone who seeks healing in body, mind, or spirit. We will offer time for personal prayers for healing, for anointing, as well as time for reflection and peace.



Thank You!

Doctors and surgeons rely on blood donations to carry out life-saving and life-enhancing treatments every day. Blood donation is the act of giving life. To all our blood donors, we thank you for your support in our medical mission through your blood donations. We collected 31 units. And to our volunteers, we thank you for supporting our November Blood Drive.

Dear Trinity Community,

The Christmas Season is here! When you read that statement, does your heart beat faster? Do you start to feel stressed? Do you feel sad because a loved one won't be a part of Christmas this year or you will be alone? Do you wonder how you will pay for gifts, and get the cookies baked? Even though we KNOW that Christmas is about Jesus' birth, about joy and blessing, about peace and love, our commercial world keeps hammering at us to buy more, be better, decorate more, just do more.

The following comes from Mayo Clinic Integrative Medicine Program; Stress Management and Resilience Daily Intention:

- As I begin this day, I will be reminded to pay joyful attention to each moment.
- I will pay kind attention to all those I meet.
- I will be grateful for all my blessings.
- I will cultivate compassion for others and toward myself.
- I will accept anything that come my way today and focus on what is important that I have control over.
- I will find meaning and purpose in my work and relationships.
- I will forgive the past and forgive for the future.
- May I be present to what the day has to offer and have grace in my opportunities to be in service to others and myself.

Vicki Dueringer
Parish Nurse

Hope Phones

Throughout the year, we collect used cell phones that go to the Hope Phone World Mission. Medic Mobile safely recycles your phone or tablet to fund healthcare programs in Africa, Asia, and Latin America. Each smart phone donated and recycled funds up to 10 new phones for health workers in 21 countries around the world. Health workers use the phones to register pregnancies, track disease outbreaks faster, monitor essential medicine stock, and communicate about emergencies.

We have collected 62 phones so far this year and I would like to have 100 phones by the end of December. You may drop them off in the white boxes in the narthex and the preschool hallway, or turn them in at the office.

Prayer Shawl Ministry

We are in need of knitters to make prayer shawls. We provide the yarn and the pattern. We need your hands. The prayer shawls are given to people (members, friends, family members) who are facing a stressful life situation (medical, spiritual, mental, divorce, etc.) and need the comfort of God's presence around them. Please contact Cindy Beck at cindy@trinity-ec.org or 715.832.6601 ext 201 if you or someone you know can help. Thank you!



The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and they will call him Emmanuel, which means, GOD WITH US. Matthew 1:23. May God be with you this Christmas season.



Children's Ministries



Winter/Spring Early Childhood Enrichment Programs

Call-in registration for our Winter/Spring Early Childhood Enrichment Programs continues. Classes are subject to cancellation due to low enrollment. You may register by calling Sara Reed at 715.832.6601 ext 218.

Music & Movement

Children will move and groove as they explore music with song, dance, and instruments.

- Session Two: 10:00 A.M.–11:30 A.M. This class is for children who turn four between 9.1.2017 and 8.31.2018. Children experience this class independently. Cost is \$190.

This 17 week class meets on Mondays beginning January 8. There will be no class on January 22, February 26, or March 19.

Creative Arts

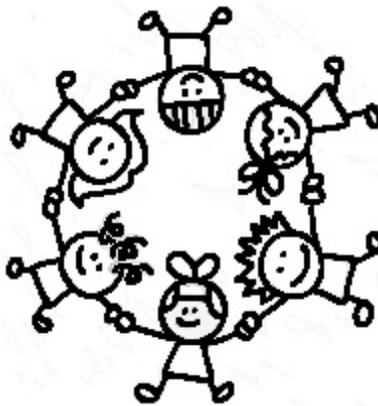
Spend Mondays engaged in a variety of creative activities! Children will dance, sing, and experiment with art processes. They will hear stories, Bible stories, and enhance language learning through finger plays. This class is for children who turn four between 9.1.2017 and 8.31.2018.

This 17 week class meets on Mondays from 12:30 P.M.–2:30 P.M. beginning January 8. There will be no class on January 22, February 26, or March 19. Cost is \$190

Come and Play

In this great precursor to preschool, children are provided a warm and safe Christian environment to play with other children. Art and music activities and snack are included. This class is for children who turn three between 9.1.2017 and 8.31.2018.

This 20 week class meets on Wednesdays in Trinity's Nursery from 12:15 P.M.–2:15 P.M. beginning January 3. There will be no class on March 21. Cost is \$260.



Friday Friends

Friday Friends is for children who would benefit from an additional day of experiences. Children will hear Bible stories, other books, and will participate in art and music activities. This class is for children who turn three between 9.1.2017 and 12.31.2017.

This 17 week class meets from 9:00 A.M.–11:15 A.M. beginning January 5. There will be no class on February 23, March 23, April 20, or May 18. Cost is \$180

Open Gym Tuesdays

On Tuesdays, beginning January 2 through March 13, from 10:00 A.M.–11:30 A.M. the Trinity Room will be open for parents and their young children (toddlers–preschool) to come in and use our equipment in a large safe space. We offer a story time and snack during the last half hour. Members, friends of members, and non-members are welcome to attend. No registration is required for Open Gym. The cost is \$3 per child, per session.

Volunteer in the Nursery

If you like to help care for young children and would be willing to help out in our Nursery during the 9:45 A.M. service 1–3 times a year, we would greatly appreciate it. We do have a full time nursery attendant, so your responsibility would be to assist. We will be making a new schedule of volunteers for January–May, 2018. If you are interested in being a part of ministry helping young families, please contact Sara Reed at 715.832.6601 ext 218 or sarar@trinity-ec.org

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 sarar@trinity-ec.org



Our Library

Journey to Christmas with Our Good Books!

Come to Trinity's Library on Sunday morning, December 10. Many Christmas books will be on display and ready to check out. Committee members will be on hand to assist and distribute prizes to children and Sunday school classes.



Non-Fiction and Biography

- *Sisters First* by Jena Bush Hager and Barbara Pierce Bush. Former first daughters Jenna Bush Hager and Barbara Pierce Bush take readers on a revealing, thoughtful, and deeply personal tour behind the scenes of their lives as they share stories about their family, their unexpected adventures, their loves and losses, and the sisterly bond that means everything to them. (B HAG)
- *Sting-Ray Afternoons* by Steve Rushin. This memoir by the award winning Sports Illustrated writer Steve Rushin is his fun and wild account of growing up in fast-growing Bloomington, Minnesota in the 1970s. (B RUS)
- *Suzanne's Children* by Anne Nelson. Nelson recounts the dramatic tale of Suzanne Spaak who risked and gave her life to save hundreds of Jewish children from Nazi deportation to Auschwitz. (B NEL)
- *The Last Castle* by Denise Kiernan. This is the fascinating true story behind Biltmore, the magnificent Gilded Age mansion and the largest, grandest residence ever built in the United States.
- *My Two Elaines: Learning, Coping, and Surviving as an Alzheimer's Caregiver* by Martin J. Schreiber. Former governor of Wisconsin Marty Schreiber has seen his beloved wife, Elaine, gradually transform from the woman who had gracefully entertained in the Executive Residence to one who sometimes no longer recognizes him as her husband. In this book Marty candidly counsels those taking on this caregiving role and shows how love continues for his Second Elaine.

Fiction

- *The Chilbury Ladies' Choir* by Jennifer Ryan. As England becomes enmeshed in World War II and the men are away fighting, the women of Chilbury village forge an uncommon bond, finding courage through the chaos of war. (FIC RYA)
- *Turtles All the Way Down* by John Green. Green, the acclaimed, award-winning author of *The Fault in Our Stars*, shares a new story of love, resilience, and the power of lifelong friendship. BAM (YP FIC GRE)

For Youth

- *Dork Diaries #12: Tales from a Not-So-Secret Crush Catastrophe* by Rachel Renee Russell. Nikki must face a big decision. (+ FIC RUS)
- *The Baby-Sitters Club: Kristy's Great Idea* by Ann M. Martin & Raina Telgemeier. This graphic novel follows the founding members of the Baby Sitters Club. (+ FIC MAR)
- *Ella Enchanted* by Gail Carson Levine. In this novel based on the story of Cinderella, Ella struggles against the childhood curse that forces her to obey any order given to her. (+ FIC LEV)
- *I am Sacagawea* by Brad Meltzer. Sacagawea was the only girl, and Native American, to join Lewis and Clark's Corps of Discovery which explored the United States from the Mississippi River all the way to the Pacific Ocean in the early 1800s. This book is one in a biography series that inspires kids to dream big. (+ B MEL)
- *My Journey to the Stars* by Scott Kelly. Astronaut Scott Kelly shares what it was like to spend a year commanding the International Space Station which set the record for the longest spaceflight by an American. (++) B KEL)
- *Rosie Revere, Engineer* by Andrea Beaty. A beautifully—illustrated tale of a girl and her dream to become a great engineer. Where some people see rubbish, Rosie Revere sees inspiration. (+ FIC BEA)
- *Ada Twist, Scientist* by Andrea Beaty. This book is a celebration of STEM, perseverance, and passion. Ada has a boundless imagination and has always been hopelessly curious. (+ FIC BEA)

"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

Pastors

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715.471.0574
Sarah Semmler Smith sarah@trinity-ec.org
715.827.1230
Brahm Semmler Smith brahm@trinity-ec.org
715.827.1220
Pastor Natalie Leske natalie@trinity-ec.org
715.829.8324

Noah's Ark Pre-School

Marlee Knickerbocker marlee@trinity-ec.org
Director
Ginny Lien ginny@trinity-ec.org
Teacher
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Teacher

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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 January Newsletter is Monday, December 12.