



Community Thanksgiving Dinner

Give thanks with a grateful heart! Give thanks to the Holy One! On Thanksgiving Day, November 23, Trinity will host our annual Thanksgiving Dinner for the community. We'll offer two seatings: 11:30 A.M. and 12:30 P.M. The atmosphere is festive, the food is great, the children's activities are fun, and the joy of giving thanks to God is on the faces of everyone!

Last year, we served 450 guests and had more than 100 volunteers serving in many ways. We hope to serve many again this year, and volunteers are necessary across a spectrum of duties: food preparation, carving turkeys, servers, clean-up, and home delivery drivers are only a few of the tasks needed to make this dinner a success.

Are you available and willing to volunteer to serve and/or donate food or funds for this event of service

and fellowship? Watch for sign-up sheets to volunteer and lists of needed food items will be available soon in the lobby, as well as on our website under the "Serve" link. For more information, contact Pastor Peter at peter@trinity-ec.org



Annual Christmas Cantata

On December 17, the Trinity Choir along with instrumentalists will perform the Christmas Cantata "O Magnify the Lord" by Ronn Huff. The choir offers an invitation to singers in every voice section to join us for this seasonal event. Our cantata rehearsals are on Thursdays, during the second half of our weekly choir rehearsal in the choir room and begin at approximately 7:30 P.M. Please walk right in. The cantata is very accessible so, even if you have some scheduling conflicts but can make most of the rehearsals, please join us in performing this enjoyable work. Call Gary Rambo with any questions at 715.832.4429.

Worship Schedule

- **November 5 All Saints Sunday** • All services the week of November 5 give honor to God for the faithful people who have gone before us. In generous love, God has provided us with the saints, and in worship we'll include a visual remembrance of our family and friends who have died in the past year. All Saints is a wonderful festival to recall the people who have died in faith and passed along to us a legacy that will continue into the future.
- **November 22 Thanksgiving Eve** • Come and worship at 6:30 P.M. on Wednesday, November 22. This festive worship includes the Trinity Brass and all choirs. The Lord's Supper is offered, and many children will make their first communion.
- **Christmas Eve** • Join us on Christmas Eve for worship at
 - **11:00 A.M.** Children's Christmas Eve Worship with Children's Choirs (prelude begins at 10:30 A.M.)
 - **4:00 P.M.** Contemporary Christmas Eve Worship led by H.I.S.
 - **8:00 P.M.** Traditional Candlelight Christmas Eve Worship with Trinity Orchestra, Trinity Choir, Bells, Organ (prelude begins at 7:30 P.M.)
 - **11:00 P.M.** Simple Candlelight Christmas Eve Worship with Communion.



Dear Friends and Saints of Trinity,

This past month, we remembered the Reformation and that it was 500 years ago that Martin Luther started a movement whose theological and ecclesiastic repercussions would be felt to this very day. "What if it was all about Grace?" Luther wondered, "and less about what we do, than what God has already done in Jesus Christ?"

Now as we pivot to November, we begin the month with All Saints Sunday. For Luther, all Christians were simultaneously Saint and Sinner. A Saint, for Luther, was a forgiven sinner, and we are called saints not because we change into something different through our actions or righteousness but because our relationship with God changes as a result of God's grace.

That is how we remember those who we loved and who have died this past year or years. On Sunday, November 5, we'll remember them as Saints—not perfect or holier than us, but wholly human with all the blessings and bummers, joys and failings implicit therein. They are Saints because they were and are God's beloved. So, the paraments in the worship center will change from red to white. We'll have extra candles lit. We'll see the faces of those who have died come across the screens. We will remember them, give God thanks for their lives, and more.

See, the unbelievable Christian claim is that somehow, when we gather in Christ's name or share in the meal of bread and wine, when we lift our voices in song or serve the most vulnerable in need, the Saints are with us. And it is in this mystical and mysterious union that, for a moment, we are doing more than remembering—we are relating to those who have gone before us, through the One in whom we all live and move and have our being. "Memories and stories and a million questions, the blessing of eternity be ours" in such moments.

I don't know if you have lost a loved one this year, or in years past, or whether you may be facing your own mortality or that of a family member right now. Whatever your lot, dear friends, may God bless you with a sense of wonder, mystery, and the deep abiding companionship of the Spirit and the ability to believe and trust in "the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting."

In Christ,
Pastor Sarah

The blessing of the common life



Warm and strong,
green and growing,
the blessing of the earth be ours.

Wide and free,
with the wind whistling,
the blessing of the heavens be ours.

Today and tomorrow,
the seasons turning,
the blessing of the years be ours.

Memories and stories
and a million questions,
the blessing of eternity be ours.

We are so small
but we are loved and cherished,
the blessing of the common life be ours.

Ours today and in the days to come.
—Ruth Burgess

Christmas Tree Crew Needed

Our church is decorated by volunteers every year for Thanksgiving, Christmas, and Easter. We rely on the dedication and talent of our volunteers to ensure that the building is ready! This year we are in search of a Christmas Tree Crew. We need volunteers who are willing to help set up, place, and take down our Christmas trees and wreaths.

- Setup Date: Thursday, December 7, at 3:00 P.M.
- Take Down Date: Thursday, January 11, at 3:00 P.M.

Friendship Group

The Friendship Group is coming together to create Homeless Food Bags and Birthday Bags to be distributed through the Food Pantry. The group will meet in the Chapel on Wednesday, November 8, at 10:00 A.M. After the business meeting, our program will be packing the bags. Lunch will be on our own at Country Buffet.

The following items are needed for the bags. Please bring any donations to the office clearly marked "Friendship Group."

- **Birthday Bags/Children** • cake mix, can of frosting, sprinkles/other cake decorations, small plates, napkins, fun items such as paper hats, blow toys, etc., birthday bags.
- **Birthday Bags/Adults** • cake mix, can of frosting, sprinkles/other cake decorations, small plates, napkins, fun items such as coffee mugs, word find books, decks of cards, etc., birthday bags.
- **Homeless Food Bags** • paper plates, bowls, cups; plastic utensils, can openers, paper towels, pkg of wipes, bars of soap, tooth brushes and toothpaste, deodorant, cloth bags.



CREATE

"What Is God Making in Your Life?"

Like you, our family believes that the people and ministries of our congregation are worth an investment with all 5 *Ts*—*Time, Talent, Treasure, Testimony, and Temple*. In 2018, Trinity is invited to be CREATIVE with what God is doing in our lives and how we give back through Trinity. Trinity's financial and ministry commitments deserve our support. We need teachers, mentors, cooks, builders, and people who are willing to CREATE ways to help Trinity live our mission together.

As our children have gotten bigger, our time and money challenges have gotten bigger, too. Being CREATIVE with what we do and how we pay for it all is tough, but also rewarding. I don't have to tell you about all that it takes to make a household run smoothly; you already know.

When you review your 2018 pledge card and consider all that you will share for Trinity's mission, don't think only of the pressures that we all face. Think of how you can CREATE a new reality of giving and sharing. You won't be disappointed—we're in this together!

Pastor Peter



Mavis and I came to Eau Claire in 1971. After doing everything in a little church in Minnesota, we were determined to join a big church and "get lost" in the crowd. On our first Sunday, the couple in front of us turned and said, "We heard you singing. Would you be willing to join our choir?" These were the Nixdorfs, Ron & Yvonne. So much for anonymity! Jack Olson was the senior pastor. I admired him greatly and still do. He convinced me to join committees, serve on the Council, and serve as Council President. His greatest coup was when he convinced this middle school teacher to teach 8th grade Sunday School for a few years! To this day, he and Lois remain two of Trinity's greatest blessings.

This church community is our extended family. Within our extended family at Trinity is the Trinity Choir. When voices join in harmony, the sound is unique. It becomes a living art form. We bring individual voices, yet we give up individuality for the ensemble. And the collective sound can purge the soul. I can come to a rehearsal with weight on my shoulders and dust on my sleeves and leave (even a rehearsal) refreshed and invigorated. The human voice can read prose and/or poetry, but when that message is delivered through music, it adds an emotional element to it. That message can transcend the intellectual and burrow deep into your soul. To me, when voices come together in perfect harmony, it becomes an out-of-body experience. And I want to do it again and again.

In Matthew 28:19, Jesus says, "Go into the world and make disciples of all the nations,..." To me, it's one thing to belong to Trinity for my own personal well-being and growth. But Trinity reaches out and ministers to its members, its community, and people around the world. Trinity is alive and well, and I want to be a part of it!

Warren Hermodson

Received in September Memorials & Gifts

Lutheran Disaster Response

- **In honor of Henrietta Stech's baptism:** Ruth & John Stech

Trinity Choir Fund

- **In memory of Marion Nixdorf:** Warren & Mavis Hermodson, Karen Metzgar

Food Pantry Fund

- **In memory of Marion Nixdorf:** Char Finseth, Lori Juneau, Glen & Bev Tamke
- **In memory of Janine Cook:** Paul & Joye Twesme

Health Ministries Fund

- **In memory of Marion Nixdorf:** Sandra Jacobson, Dorothy Hansen, Phyllis Burrows, Jon & Maureen Homstad, Ann Ayres, Family & Friends

Memorial Fund

- **In memory of Joyce Alcott:** Jack & Lois Olson

Endowment Trust Fund

- **In honor of the workers of Christ:** Mary Wilson

Library Fund

- **In memory of John Dixon:** Bob & Mary Schoenknecht

Noah's Ark Preschool Fund

- **In memory of Maddy Odegard:** Bob & Mary Schoenknecht

Youth Scholarship Fund

- **In memory of Georgi Tastad:** Hans-Dieter & Margot Klink

**Lost: The week of VBS a wedding ring was lost somewhere on the grounds of Trinity. If spotted, please turn it in to the office.*



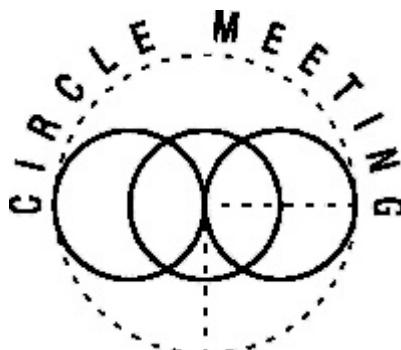
Deborah

Thursday, November 16, 9:30 A.M.

Trinity

Hostess: LaVon Schlenker

Leader: Barbara Johnson



Martha/Mary

Tuesday, November 14, 6:30 P.M.

Trinity

Hostess: Phyllis Grohn

Leader: Kathy Gjesfjeld

Miriam

Wednesday, November 15, 9:30 A.M. Trinity

Hostess: Shirley Anderson & Jan Kneer

Leader: Mary Schoenknecht

Ruth

Tuesday, November 21, 1:30 P.M.

Hostess: Marge Oleson, 875 Windsor Forest Dr., Altoona

Leader:

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! You can email Becky Ragsdale at becky@trinity-ec.org or by phone 715.832.6601 ext 202.

Join the Prayer Team

Prayer is conversation with God that can take place anytime and anywhere. It is a matter of conversing with a very good friend. Typically, the conversation of prayer is about one's own concerns. Hopefully it always includes thanks and praise to God. Prayer is also often for the benefit of someone else. To pray for the needs of another is to lift that person into the caring, healing hands of God.

Trinity has a prayer group called "Prayer Link" that is open to receive your prayer requests (they can be anonymous) so that others are praying along with you. You can submit your request by contacting a Prayer Link volunteer listed in the weekly bulletin or by calling the church office at 715.832.6601.

For more information or to become a part of the Prayer Link Team, email Becky Ragsdale at becky@trinity-ec.org

"Stretch and Pray"

If you are looking for a healthful way to begin your week and center yourself and your relationship with God, this opportunity may be for you. You will find a place where you can fuse Christian faith with the life-giving practice of yoga. On Monday evenings in November, from 6:30 P.M.–7:30 P.M., join others for Yoga and Prayer in our Trinity Room. Cost is free, or you are invited to give a free will donation to the Trinity Women's Giving Circle. No pre-registration is necessary. Invite a friend!

Serve Communion

Because Holy Communion is an important part of our faith life, we need YOU to help serve communion on the first and third Sundays of each month. Simply sign-up on the clipboard near the Lobby drinking fountains for a particular date/service. Arrive ten minutes before worship, and check in at the table near the pulpit with the pastor leading worship to receive instructions. If you have any questions, contact Shirley Sands at 715.832.6601 ext. 214 or shirley@trinity-ec.org

Japan Missionaries

Trinity sponsors missionaries in Japan, and the offerings you make to the Missionary Fund provide the financial support they need. Read about the Benecke family on the Global Mission page of trinity-ec.org and see their latest newsletter. Thanks for your offerings to the Missionary Fund.



ADVENT APPROACHES

Annual Advent Workshop

It's time for one of our most anticipated events of the year! The Advent Workshop will be held on Sunday, November 26, from 2:00 P.M.–5:00 P.M. in the Trinity Room. The Advent Workshop is for people of all ages. Participants will be able to choose from more than 25 activities centered on getting ready for the birth of Jesus. Members are encouraged to invite friends. Delicious treats will be served throughout the afternoon.

We are looking for people to lead an activity. This is a great service project for confirmation students and their leader/mentor. Beginning on November 5, there will be a sign up sheet and display located in the lobby. For more information, please contact Sara Reed at sarar@trinity-ec.org or 715.832.6601 ext. 218.

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

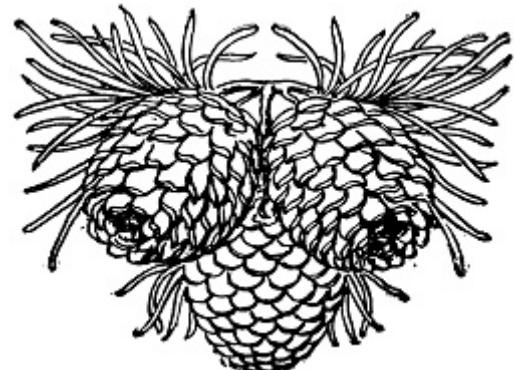
Be sure to save the date for Trinity's Fourth Annual Advent Tea on Monday, December 4, in the Trinity Room from 2:00 P.M.–4:00 P.M. Good food, great fellowship, a sing-a-long, and performances by the Threshold Singers and Trinity's Noah's Ark Preschool children will be the highlights. There is no cost for this event. We will again be looking for people that are willing to share their Christmas dishes, fancy sandwiches, and holiday cookies. Please look for the sign-up board in the lobby starting on Sunday, November 5. You will be able to sign up until Thursday, November 30. For more information please contact Phyllis Grohn (715.836.7055), Sheila Running (715.832.9686), or Ann Nelson (715.836.9495) with questions.

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. Faith Light orders will be received through December 10. Forms are available in the Lobby, office, or at trinity-ec.org. All Faith Light gifts will be acknowledged in the Christmas worship bulletins.

Christmas Wreaths

Trinity youth will be taking orders for Christmas Wreaths and Door Swags from Baroka's Wreaths on Sundays, November 5 and 12, and on Wednesdays, November 8 and 15. A table, along with wreath samples, will be in the lobby. Wreaths and swags will be available for pick-up at Trinity on Sunday, November 26. This fundraiser will assist students in raising money to attend the National Youth Gathering in Houston, Texas in July 2018. A tithe will be taken to the Youth Gathering in Huston, TX.

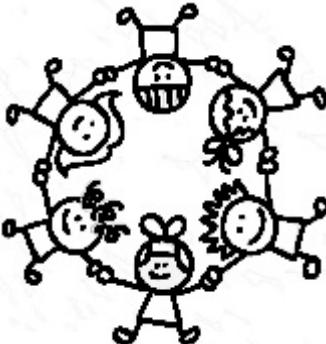




Children's Ministries

Winter/Spring Early Childhood Enrichment Programs

Call in registration for our Winter Spring Early Childhood Enrichment Programs opens on November 1 for Come and Play and Friday Friends only. On November 2, all other classes are open for registration at 8:00 A.M. Registration is call-in on a first come first serve basis. You may register by calling Sara Reed at 715.832.6601 ext 218.



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.

Noah's Ark News

Greetings from Noah's Ark,

We have been enjoying wonderful days at Noah's Ark Preschool this fall. The children are getting into their routines and learning about being in school. They are becoming more and more independent as they learn to make choices, help at clean up time, get ready for their snack, and have fun with friends. It is a blessing for us to be able to guide these children in their start of school.

As I write this article, we are preparing to host our annual Fall Spaghetti Supper. We are expecting it to be a wonderful evening of food, fellowship, and fun! We hope to see many congregational members there to be a part of the Noah's Ark community. I am filled with gratitude for the support for Noah's Ark Preschool and our ministry here at Trinity. I am thankful for the many parents, youth, mentors, and other adults who volunteer their time to help. I am thankful for the generosity of many individuals, families, and businesses who donate food or money to sponsor this event. I am also thankful that, through the tithe chosen by our Preschool Committee, we will be able to share with two Noah's Ark families who have incurred large expenses for cancer treatments for one of their children. This is all peacemaking in action! It is so heartwarming to feel this support. All of you help make Noah's Ark strong.

In October we spent some beautiful days outside in God's world as we observed the many changes that fall brings. We've read and discovered about woodland animals that make their homes in our neighborhoods and nearby woods. We've studied pumpkins by scooping out seeds and slime, cooking them, painting them, and even watching what happens when they rot! As we close out the month of October, we will have fun at our costume party days. Kids love to pretend and imagine, and this is a day made just for that!

We continue to be blessed by the wonderful smiles, peacemaker words and actions, and inquisitive minds of the children of Noah's Ark every day!

In Peace,

Marlee Knickerbocker

Trinity Library

*Give Thanks for the Right to Read!
During November don't forget to look
for books with a Thanksgiving theme in
a specially marked display.*

New to Our Trinity Library

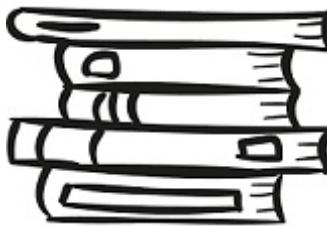
Fiction

- **Lilac Girls** by Martin Hall Kelly. Inspired by the life of an unsung World War II heroine, this remarkable debut novel reveals the power of women to change history. (FIC KEL)
- **The Alice Network** by Kate Quinn. This historical novel is about two women—a female spy recruited to the real-life Alice Network in France during World War I and an unconventional American socialite searching for her cousin in 1947 who are brought together in a mesmerizing story of courage and redemption. (FIC QUI)
- **News of the World** by Paulette Jiles. In the aftermath of the Civil War, an aging itinerant news reader agrees to transport a young captive of the Kiowa back to her people in Texas. This historical fiction tells what it means to care about someone and find your place in the world. (FIC JIL)
- **The Chaperone** by Laura Moriarty. Drawing on the rich history of the 1920s and 1930s and beyond, this captivating novel illustrates how rapidly the world was changing at this time and what a vast difference it all make for Louise Brooks, Cora Carlisle, and others like them. (FIC MOR)
- **Mary Coin** by Marisa Silver. Bestselling author Marisa Silver takes Dorothea Lange's Migrant Mother photograph as inspiration for a story of two women—one famous and one forgotten—and their remarkable chance encounter. (FIC SIL)



A Memoir

- **The Choice** by Dr. Edith Eva Eger. Internationally acclaimed psychologist Dr. Edith Eger—one of the few remaining Holocaust survivors—tells her unforgettable story in this moving testament to the resilience of the human spirit and the power of choice in our lives. (B EGE)



Non-Fiction

- **A Prayer for World Peace** by Jane Goodall. This beautifully illustrated book is rich in colorful artwork by Iranian Feeroozeh Golmohammadi. The prayer is written by world-renowned naturalist, Jane Goodall.

Youth

- **Pax** by Sara Pennypacker. After being forced to give up his pet fox Pax, a young boy named Peter decides to leave home and get his best friend back. (+ FIC PEN)
- **Wonder** by R.J. Palacio. Ten-year-old Auggie Pullman, who was born with extreme facial abnormalities and was not expected to survive, goes from being home-schooled to entering fifth grade at a private middle school in Manhattan which entails enduring the taunting and fear of his classmates as he struggles to be seen as just another student. (+ FIC PAL)
- **Chester and Gus** by Cammie McGovern. Chester hopes to follow in his mother's paw prints and become a service dog. A family adopts him to be a companion for their son, Gus, who has autism. Chester isn't sure how he's suppose to help Gus, but he's determined to figure it out. (+ FIC MCG)
- **Listen, Slowly** by Thanhha Lai. Twelve-year-old Mai can't wait for summer vacation at the beach in Southern California. But Mai's parents have a different plan. They are sending her to Vietnam so she can learn more about her roots and help her grandmother discover what happened to her grandfather during the Vietnam War. Mai barely knows the language, the culture, or the customs and is desperately counting down the days until she can go back home. In this funny and poignant story, Mai will realize that home is not found on a map, but is instead made up of the people she calls family. (+ FIC LAI)
- **Inside Out and Back Again** by Thanhha Lai. Through a series of poems, a young girl chronicles the life-changing year of 1975 when she, her mother, and her brothers leave Vietnam and resettle in Alabama. (+ FIC LAI)
- **Enrique's Journey** by Sonia Nazario. This is the true and heartbreaking story of sixteen-year-old Enrique who sets off on a journey alone, braving unimaginable hardship and peril, to find his mother. (+ B NAZ)

Picture Books for Children

- **It Takes a Village** by Hillary Rodham Clinton. The simple message in this

book for children is as relevant as ever: "We are all in this together." (+ FIC CLI)

- **There's a Monster in Your Book** by Tom Fletcher. A mischievous Monster has broken into this book! Can you get rid of it? (+ FIC FLE)
- **Stick and Stone** by Beth Ferry (+ FIC FER) and **Sophie's Squash** by Pat Zietow Miller (+ FIC MIL). Books that encourage kindness—look for the special labels.
- **Do Unto Otters** by Laurie Keller. A book about manners and keeping the Golden Rule. (+ FIC KEL)
- **Do Princesses Wear Hiking Boots?** by Carmela LaVigna Coyle. When a little girl asks her mother about princesses, she learns that they are much like herself. (+ FIC COY)
- **A Different Pond** by Bao Phi. As a young boy, Bao Phi awoke early, hours before his father's long workday began, to fish on the shores of a small pond in Minneapolis. Unlike many other anglers, Bao and his father fished for food, not recreation. Between hope-filled casts, Bao's father told him about a different pond in their homeland of Vietnam. (+ FIC PHI)

Page Turners Book Club

The Page Turners Book Club meets on Tuesday, November 21, at 6:30 P.M. to discuss *The Flood Girls* by Richard Fifield.

Welcome to Quinn, Montana, population: 956. A town where nearly all of the volunteer firemen are named Jim, where The Dirty Shame—the only bar in town—refuses to serve mixed drinks (too much work), where the locals hate the newcomers (then again, they hate the locals, too), and where the town softball team has never even come close to having a winning season. Until now.

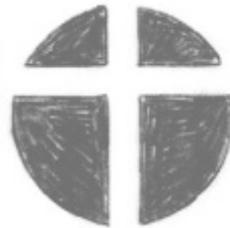
If you haven't attended in the past, or if you haven't attended for awhile, please join us. Feel free to come whether you've finished the book or not. Please RSVP online at trinity-ec.org or sign-up at Clipboard Central. For more information, email Cindy Beck at cindy@trinity-ec.org



Youth Ministries

Luther Park Recharge Club 78 and Club 9 Retreat

The Luther Park Recharge is scheduled for the weekend of November 3 and 4. 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 to offset the cost of registration if needed. Contact Ashley (ashley@trinity-ec.org) or Cassie (cassie@trinity-ec.org).



Cookie Bake

The annual Cookie Bake is scheduled for Saturday, November 4, from 10:00 A.M.–12:00 P.M. in the Trinity Room. Youth will decorate bags and bake cookies. The festive bags of cookies will then be delivered to shut-in Trinity members during Pastoral or Parish Nurse visits, as well as included with the Christmas Sharing Project.

Club 78 & Club 9 Youth and Parent Lesson

On November 29, from 7:15 P.M.–8:30 P.M., all Club 78 and Club 9 students and parents will meet to learn about the Young Adults in Global Mission program. Club 78 and Club 9 families will have the opportunity to hear from a young adult who engaged in a year-long journey in international service. They will share about how they were the hands and feet of Jesus in the world.

Wall of Food Competition

For the month of November, grades 7, 8 and 9 students will be having a competition of which grade can bring in the most food items for our Wall of Food. Please turn in all food items to Ashley so that she can count them and record them for your grade. The grade that brings in the most food items will receive a GRAND SURPRISE!

Milestone Ministry Care Packages

Trinity would like to extend our continued support to all students who have begun their first year of post-secondary education. We would like to send care packages to students to show how God's love at Trinity extends beyond our walls to support them as they finish up their first semester of school. We hope this small token will remind students they are still a valued part of their home faith community. If you would like a package mailed to your child, please forward their mailing address to Cassie at cassie@trinity-ec.org or 715.832.6601 ext 209 by Sunday, December 1.

Social Concerns

Friends of Flynn

- **Giving Thanks and Showing Appreciation** • We give thanks for the staff at our partner school, Flynn Elementary, and all they do for children. During November we will show our appreciation by sharing a treat with them and continuing to offer our support.
- **Weekend Meals** • Also during November we will send in our contribution for weekend meals to Feed My People Food Bank. Feed My People Food Bank supplies the food that goes into the bags; Trinity confirmation students and parents are part of packing teams; and Trinity drivers deliver to the school on Friday mornings. (Please note that we are looking for drivers to help with these deliveries. Contact Ginny Lien to volunteer at 715.832.6601 ext 219.) At this time, over 70 meals are being sent home each weekend.
- **Books for Flynn Children** • As students leave for Christmas break, we want to provide each one with a new book to take home and keep. We have done this for several years now, and the students really look forward to and enjoy this gift from our congregation. Please keep this project in mind as you do your Christmas shopping. A display will be in the lobby beginning Sunday, November 26, where you can pick up book lists and then place your purchased books in a bin.

Thank you members and friends of Trinity for your support of Flynn Elementary School through your donations. You do make a difference for these families in our community.



Serving in Christ's Love Beacon House

Trinity will fulfill a variety of tasks at the Beacon House from November 5–9. 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 the designated sheet at Clipboard Central. Roman & Diane Fritz, Trinity members, will contact you with additional details. Thank you!

Thank You for Winter Boots!

As a part of our "Soles for Special Souls" outreach ministry, we provide vouchers for children to receive new winter boots through our partnership with Payless Shoe Source. Parents visiting our Food Pantry sign up to receive vouchers for their children. In addition, we provide vouchers to school counselors at Robbins Elementary and Flynn Elementary to distribute as needed.

In mid-October, we were able to distribute vouchers to children in need of winter boots. What a joy it is to see children excited to have new boots well before the snow begins to fly! Thank you for your donations to keep children's feet warm this winter!



Lutheran World Relief Load-A-Truck

Various churches from around the region, including Trinity, brought their donations of quilts and kits and loaded them on the truck that then drove the donations to Minnesota. These items will now be shipped around the world to those in need. Lutheran World Relief works to improve the lives of millions of smallholder farmers and people experiencing poverty in Africa, Latin America, Asia, and the Middle East both in times of emergencies and for the long term. Thank you to the great team of youth and adult volunteers who showed up to unload items from vehicles and load them into the LWR truck.

ELCA Good Gifts

Another gift giving option is through the ELCA Good Gifts program. By accessing this website <https://community.elca.org/elcagoodgifts> you can purchase items for that special someone that will benefit many in need throughout our world. For example, \$10 can provide a family with 10 chicks that will bless a family with eggs to address their hunger needs and to sell at a local market!

Health Ministries

Aging Consciously Retreat

Pastor Natalie and I attended a retreat in New Mexico from October 1–October 7 on Aging and Elderhood. It was a time spent in deep self-introspection and discussion on growing older. Some of the topics we delved into and discussed were:

- What distinguishes an "elder" from someone who is "older."
- How can I transform fear of aging into anticipation of the rich possibilities of the elder third of my life?
- What does it mean to become an elder at this time of profound cultural transition?
- How can the elder third of my life be the pinnacle of my emotional and spiritual development?
- How am I called to be of service to the human and earth community as I age?
- What inner work do I need to do to age consciously and prepare to fully claim and embody my elderhood?

On Sunday, November 5, Pastor Natalie and I will share our experiences at the Sunday Adult Forums. This is not just for those of us over 60. Those of you with aging parents may find insight and understanding also. We will also be holding other events on this topic in the upcoming months.

November is a time when we honor and recognize our need to give gratitude to God for our lives.

O, heavenly Father: We thank You for food and remember the hungry. We thank You for health and remember the sick. We thank You for friends and remember the friendless. We thank You for freedom and remember the enslaved. May these remembrances stir us to service, that thy gifts to us may be used for others.

Amen.

Vicki Dueringer
Parish Nurse



Top Priority for this Month

- Red Cross Blood Drive** • Monday, November 13, from 12:30 P.M.–6:30 P.M. I know it gets old, and I wish I could come up with a more original and catchy plea, but the need for blood is greater than ever with all the natural disasters and tragedies that have occurred over the past few months. PLEASE GIVE! Either sign-up online at redcrossblood.org or here at Clipboard Central.
- Prayer Shawl Knitters Needed** • We have a great supply of yarn, but a dwindling supply of prayers shawls! If you knit or have a family member/friend who knits, please contact Cindy Beck at 715.832.6601 and she will get you set up with the pattern and yarn.
- Monthly Healing Service** • Join us for our next Healing Service on Sunday, November 19, in the Chapel. The service begins at 9:15 A.M. and is completed by 9:45 A.M. It is a brief service devoted to prayers for healing and comfort. It is for anyone who is in need of healing in body, mind, or spirit or who knows someone for whom that they would like to pray.



Financial Update

Year End Giving

Your charitable contributions do great things in Christ's name through Trinity and its mission of "Serving in Christ's Love and Sharing the Good News." Thank you for every dollar you share. As we come to the last weeks of 2017, your donations are especially important. Your leaders have held expenses very close to the budget all year and plan a similar approach for 2018. We believe our church can have a strong financial finish to this year, and you are important to achieving it. Please be generous in your year-end giving. Give online at trinity-ec.org

Regular Ministries Income and Expense		
January through September	2016	2017
Income	\$832,342	\$795,420
Expenses	\$830,687	\$833,663
Difference	\$1,655	-\$38,243

A Great Facility!

Like many people who make house mortgage payments, your church also makes a monthly payment. Thus, your offerings to Mortgage Payment are very important because every gift makes it possible for Trinity to make its \$8,413 monthly payment, and often times additional principal payments. Our outstanding loan balance is **\$140,859 (9.30.2017)**. The ELCA Mission Investment Fund holds the note at 4.125%. But the rate expires on February 1, 2018, and the new interest rate will be set. Thank you for your offerings to Mortgage Payment.

Remember you can give to Mortgage Payment online and set up electronic fund transfers on our website.

Electronic Giving

The safe service of electronic fund transfers is available for all your charitable contributions. You can set it up at trinity-ec.org or call Amber for assistance. If you're currently using this service and still receiving envelopes that you don't use, please contact Amber Moltzau to discontinue them. Email her at amber@trinity-ec.org or call 715.832.6601 ext. 203.

Giving Gifts of Stock

A gift of stock or designating a minimum required distribution from an IRA can be one of the best ways to give to Trinity. Gifts of appreciated stock are particularly wise from a tax perspective since there are no capital gains paid and the giver receives a tax deduction of the full face amount. The same is true for your IRA RMD.

For example, if you bought stock for \$1,000 and now it is worth \$5,000, you receive a tax deduction for the entire \$5,000 without having a \$4,000 capital gain. You would benefit in two ways, and Trinity would benefit from the \$5,000 contribution.

Contact your financial advisor for details. Then, to donate stock call your broker or contact Amber Moltzau at 715.832.6601 or amber@trinity-ec.org



Just for KIDS

Thanksgiving and Prayer

When Paul sent a letter to the church at Philippi, he told his friends how he felt about them. Finish this puzzle to read what Paul wrote in Philippians 1:3.

Match words in the list below to the correct word shape. Then write the letters inside each shape. In the circles, draw the faces of people you're thankful for in your life.

WORD LIST: remember time you I God
I my thank every

"

 ."

Answer: "I thank my God every time I remember you."

"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

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

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Ginny Lien Teacher	ginny@trinity-ec.org
Jill Kasmarek Teacher	jill@trinity-ec.org

Children's Ministry Leadership Team

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Food Pantry Coordinator

Sharry Hebert	sharry@trinity-ec.org
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Coordinator of Community Connections

Lucinda Kemmet	lucinda@trinity-ec.org
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Pat Garber Visitation Ministry Director	garberpa@uwec.edu

Worship & Music Ministry

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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—Jesus And Me, Celebration Singers	
Liz Drayton—Totally Joyous Christians	

Building & Grounds Team

Don Peterson
Sheri Buening

Ministry Support

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Becky Ragsdale Communication Ministry Assistant	becky@trinity-ec.org
Cindy Beck IT/Ministry Assistant	cindy@trinity-ec.org

World Missions

Jabneh Christian Academy, Grange Hill, 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 November Newsletter is Monday, November 13..